



December 1, 2016 at **7:00 Morgan Room, Aiken Hall**, Champlain College

Facilitator: Peter Keating; Minutes: Charles Simpson; Treats: Clare Wool;

Videographers: Matt McArdle and Julia Leonard

- 6:45 Social time food and refreshments
- 7:00 Agenda overview and approval of November 3, 2016 Minutes
- 7:05 School Board Update - Stephanie Seguino and Miriam Stoll
- 7:20 City Councilor Update – Joan Shannon and Karen Paul
- 7:35 Presentation from the Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association (CATMA) – Sandy Thibault
- 8:05 Champlain College Update – John Caulo and Sandy Yusen
- 8:15 Great Streets Initiative – Meagan Tuttle, Planning & Zoning
- 8:45 Seeking CDBG volunteer/Other Members Items/Open forum
- 9:00 Adjourn

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For information on accessibility, alternate forms of the agenda, including something on the agenda, etc., of the Ward 6 Neighborhood Planning Assembly, contact any of the Steering Committee members listed above. The Ward 6 NPA strives for flexibility in planning before and during the meeting. Accordingly, the specifics of the agenda and the allocated times may change.

Draft

Meeting of NPA 6, Aiken Hall, Champlain College, Dec. 1, 2016

Approximately 13 people attended plus Steering Committee Peter Keating, Clare Wool, and Charles Simpson with Phet Keomanyanh, representing CEDO. Videographers from Champlain College were Julia Leonard and Mathew McArdle. Clare provided snacks.

1. Keating opened the meeting at 7:05 at which point the minutes from the Nov. 3 meeting were approved.
2. Miram Stoll gave an update on School Board issues. While universal pre-K was now in effect, that isn't fully funded by the state so budget consequences can be expected. The Board is uncertain whether federal funding under the new administration will change the grants available for special needs and New Americans. State funding in this area could also be cut. The Board has embarked on a multi-year strategic planning initiative which has included community forums. The plan's priorities will be presented in the spring. See the School District website for details. Marty Spaulding, capital planning director, will be visiting NPAs to present the capital plan early in the new year. Studies indicate \$65 million in unmet maintenance needs. The high school portion of those needs is being held in abeyance for the time being leaving \$38 million in needs to be addressed. The Board will likely ask the voters in March for approximately \$20 million to address those needs this coming year. We usually bond \$2 million a year in facilities maintenance. A bond request in 2018 will target the remainder of the need. Question (Q): The fate of Board member David Kirk? Answer (A): He remains on the Board but has been reprimanded. Q. The new national Secretary of Education supports vouchers and charter schools. What does the Board expect here? A. We haven't faced that yet. We will increase of lobbying in Montpelier and we are using a Policy and Governance model giving us more ability to do so. Comment (C): It is used in Winooski and is a success there. A. We have a larger board than is usually the case. We wanted to make the board smaller but City Council wasn't in favor of that. Perhaps that will change. C: we have a pre-K mandate with insufficient state resources. We do well with what we have. Q. Is state money available for building maintenance? A. No. That is a local responsibility.
3. Joan Shannon reported on City Council business. The TIF vote has been challenged in court and the city is contesting this. Council supports an increase in pay for council members which will come before the voters in March. It would raise pay from \$3,000 to \$4500 per year. There has been no pay increase since 2001 despite more work and inflation. The city is discussing sanctuary city status but the definition of this is uncertain. We are looking at policing practices so that we can prevent anyone from feeling so vulnerable or fearful that they don't call the police when necessary. A Council committee is looking at this. We are prepared to welcome Syrian refugees but sending them is a federal decision. It is important to let them know they would be welcome here. Approving this was almost unanimous in Council. We are planning for the Railyard Enterprise Zone looking at three options. We may avoid federal bureaucracy and funding by going ahead on our own in conjunction with the Southern

Connector project. Q. Doesn't sanctuary city status add pressure on school budgets? A. We are involving the school board in these discussions. School board member are not paid and should be. (Stoll): This means that only some people can afford to participate. But I don't know how to change this. Q. Fate of New Moran? A. No decision yet but could be in the next few months. How many want it torn down? (half the audience raised their hands.)

4. Sandy Thibault and Katie Martin presented information on CATMA, Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association. Formed in 1992 by the three Hill institutions, it now is expanded to include the county area and addresses TDM, Transportation Demand Management. It does outreach and education and is now open to county businesses and has about 30 business members. One component provides free rides to Hill institution students and employees. (Lisa Kingsbury): the UVM shuttle is open only to UVM students and staff and to Ruggles House residents. But we are open to expanding that. (Sandy Yusen): Champlain College shuttle serves the Lakeside lot and we too are open to others using it. Thibault and Martin: We offer a suite of programs that include care share and bike share. See www.catmavt.org. Our goal is to reduce the number of vehicles coming into the Hill area through incentives and disincentives. Now 21% of Hill employees are enrolled in one or another program. According to our surveys, 59% of UVM employees drive alone to work but that was 65% in 2003. 77% of students walk or bike, up from 65% in 2003. At CC, 32% of residential students have a car in 2016, way down from 81% in 2003. At UVM, 24% of residential students now have a car, down from 51% in 2003. We are looking for more parking intercept sites. Q. Is running a bus along So. Prospect from the Redstone campus to the main campus sustainable? A. (response unclear.) Q. Are buses free to employees of these businesses? A. CATMA is a membership organization and employers must join and can provide such service if they wish.
5. Sandy Yusen gave an update on Champlain College. Eagles Landing is moving ahead and construction could start as soon as next week. It is multi-use with 5200 sq. ft. of commercial space and 105 apartments containing 314 beds. It is in line with our master plan to house all students on or near the campus. Construction includes Saturdays from 8 to 5. Q. Is that permitted? A. Yes. We will build 66 parking spaces, up from the present 42 on Browns Court. We aim for a Fall 2018 opening. Generator, the incubator space, is moving from Memorial Auditorium to Sears Lane this week. Our winter break is from 12/19 to 1/13.
6. Meagan Tuttle of Planning and Zoning presented the Great Streets plan for Main Street and City Hall Park. The presentation is on <http://greatstreetsbtv.com>. This planning process integrates various initiatives including Plan BTV. The four guiding values are walkability/bikeability, sustainability, functionality, and vibrancy. The three specific projects are to create standards for the redesign of downtown streets generally, the Main Street concept plan for the blocks from Pine to Church, and the Park plan. We aim to reduce paved surface on Main from 73% to 51%, in part by changing from diagonal to parallel parking thus allowing for stormwater gardens and terraces. We seek to connect the Main Street edge with the park. A concept plan was created in 2012 and the public surveyed. While the majority loved the farmers market, it has a major impact on grass areas, compacts soil, and generates erosion so we advocate placing it around the park in the streets. We are still taking input to our

concept plan. We have a splash fountain, performance space, and coffee pavilion. We are considering bathrooms but they are controversial. Q. Is green space measured and expanded? A. We will be measuring it. By organizing the elements we will create larger open spaces. We are asking for feedback. Q. Timeline? A. We will present the plan to the public in spring 2017 after meeting with the boards and commissions. Construction would begin in spring 2018.

7. Lynn Martin and Carolyn Bates representing Coalition for a Livable City presented an alternative plan for City Hall Park. Using a European model, their pathways are curved, flowers and shrubs emphasized, the central fountain kept, chess boards and children's game tables added under awnings, a children's play area added, there's an art exhibition area, and access to the existing bathrooms in City Hall is called for. The park is to be staffed with bathroom attendants and information guides who provide maintenance. Excluded are large events like the jazz festival, the cafe, the stage area in front of City Hall steps, and the "squirty" stone water feature in the City's concept plan. Farmers market is moved to the street as is an artists sales area. Skateboards and bikes must be walked or carried. While there's chess tables and a "talking area", solitude and history are emphasized as values. Curved walkways are said to sooth strollers, flowers attract visitors and birds, and attention to children's needs serve a growing downtown population. BCA is integrated via exhibit space. Further information at <https://coalitionforalivablecity.blogspot.com/p/city-hall-park-renovation-news-articles.html>. Also keepcityhallparkhistoric.com. Q. Security in the park? A. It will be provided by staffing the park and attending to maintenance. C. The park is a sanctuary. I like the curved paths. It gets you away from the roads. That's the strength of this design. A. In the past behavior issues were dealt with by removing the benches and neglecting maintenance. Q. Is the historic pattern respected? A. Yes, in the fountain, in the lighting. We also call for free Wi-Fi. Q. You have no straight walkways. I cut through the park. How will you keep people on the paths when they want to go straight? A. We want this to be a quiet, gentle oasis. But the path routes could be altered. Q. You have the farmers market on St. Paul? A. Yes, as does the initial design, and on Main and College. We've added art sales area long College and that street, like St. Paul, could be closed for the day of the market. C. The sanctuary aspect is good. But we do cut through it and use it as a corridor. A. It is less then two acres; people can easily walk around it.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Charles Simpson



Neighborhood Planning Assembly Attendees

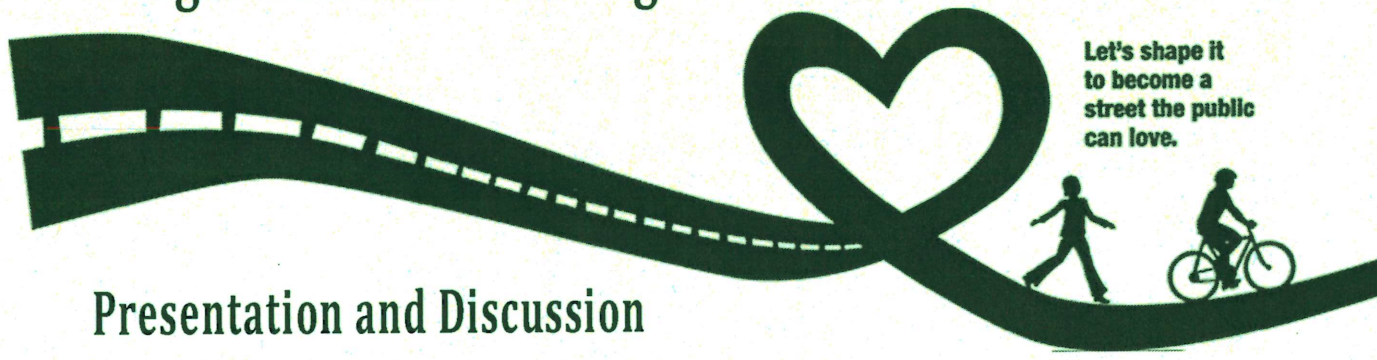
NPA (choose one)	Wards 1 & 8	Wards 2 & 3	Wards 4 & 7	Ward 5	Ward 6
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Date of Assembly : Dec 1st 2016 Location: Aiken Hall

Please return to your convenor, Phet Keomanyvanh
or email to cedofd@burlingtonvt.gov

1	Mary Esther Treat	21
2	Sandy Gnsen	22
3	Sandy Thibault - Catma	23
4	Carolyn Boates Ward 5	24
5	David Schein Ward 4	25
6	Linda Ayer	26
7	Nel Groby	27
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Join us for a *Champlain Parkway* Neighborhood Meeting



Presentation and Discussion
led by the Pine Street Coalition

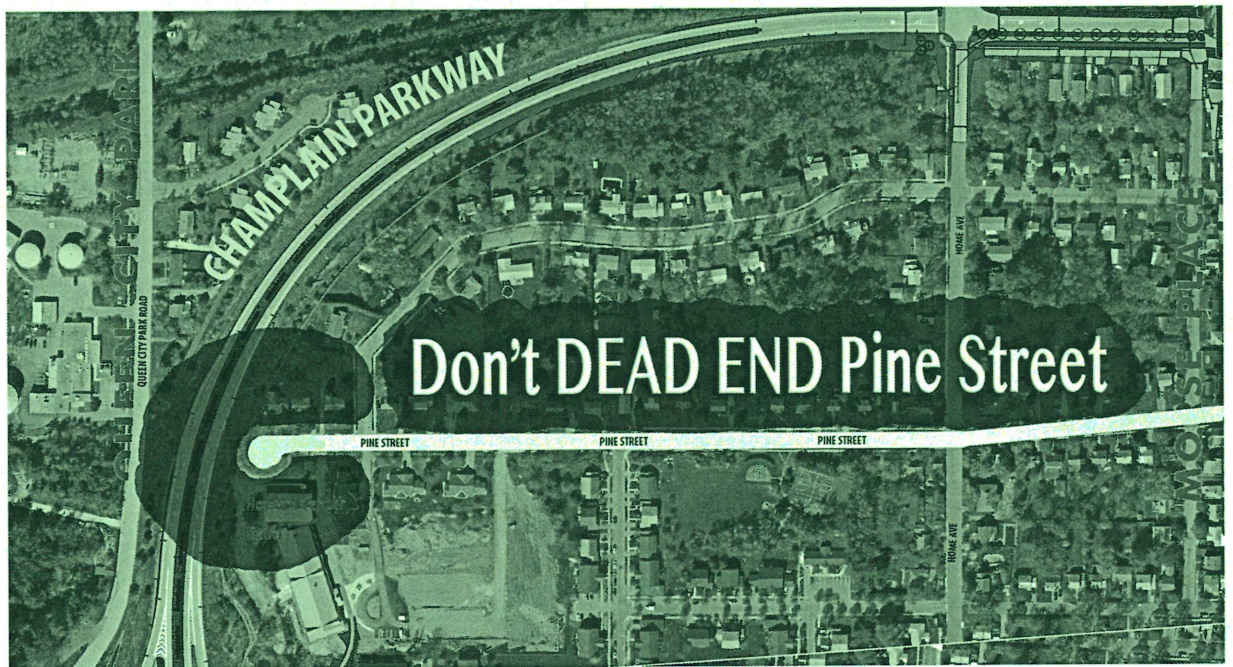
Thursday Dec. 8, 2016

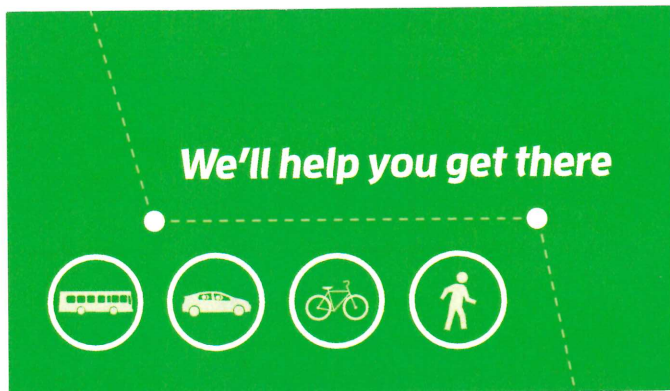
7-9 PM

Dept of Public Works
645 Pine Street

- Don't DEAD END Pine ST.
- Improve Street Connectivity
- UpGrade Pine St. Corridor
- Improve Safety
- ReGain 4 Acres of Land

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