



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &
NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401
802-865-7144 VOX • 802-865-7024 FAX • www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

Councilor Adam Roof, Chair, Ward 8
Councilor Sara Moore, Ward 3
Councilor Karen Paul, Ward 6

Wednesday, October 18th, 2017

5:30 – 6:30 PM

City Hall Conference Room 12 (CR 12)

Proposed Draft Agenda

1. Review Agenda (5 minutes)
2. Public Forum (10 minutes)
3. Approval of Minutes – 9/21 (5 minutes)
4. University of Vermont – Update on Quality of Life Partnership and data collection efforts. The University will provide a report on data collection efforts related to the number and location of students that reside off campus. The University will also update the Committee on its ongoing commitments to related “town-gown” quality of life issues. (35 minutes)
5. Plans for November Meeting (5 minutes)

To: Burlington City Council

From:

Burlington Police Department
Burlington Code Enforcement
University of Vermont

Re: The University of Vermont/City of Burlington
Quality of Life Working Group

Background

For several years the University of Vermont and City of Burlington have worked collaboratively to promote safety and contribute positively to the quality of life in Area C. Data collected for the past year shows a 42% drop in calls for service related to quality of life issues.

Since 2012, the University has contributed financially to a program which increases the presence of officers in student neighborhoods at times when infractions related to alcohol use and noise are highest. During the same time period the working group – the Burlington Police Department (BPD), UVM, and Code Enforcement – began mapping calls for service related to alcohol misuse and noise in these areas, using that information to strategically respond to properties, streets, and neighborhoods with higher numbers of service calls.

This report summarizes this data for Area C grouped by lease year, with 2016-17 lease year data compiled through 2/28/17. Area C houses a large number of college students, and historically has a high number of calls for service to BPD relative to other areas of the city. Incident types tracked within the calls for service are intended to capture events related to high risk drinking behavior in the area and include Noise, Intoxication, and Disorderly Conduct.

Specific Collaborative Interventions

- As mentioned above, BPD, Code Enforcement and UVM collect and analyze data related to the quality of life in Area C, a BPD patrol area which includes the Hill Section and all or a portion of Wards 1, 2, 3, 6, and 8. Calls for service are analyzed by unit, neighborhood, and student affiliation on a real-time basis.
- The University of Vermont/City of Burlington Working Group meets quarterly to review problem addresses and neighborhoods.
- For properties that have accrued three or more calls for service and received at least one ticket during a lease year the following actions are taken:
 - A written notice from the Code Enforcement Office is sent to property owners.
 - A coordinated visit is made to the property by Code Enforcement and BPD.
 - When a UVM student is involved, UVM staff (Student & Community Relations) visit the property as well. These visits are educational and restorative in nature and are intended to improve relationships within the household as well as between the household and the neighborhood.

Partnership members

This diverse partnership fosters a multi-pronged approach to challenges that are often complex.

City of Burlington:

- Mayor's Office
- Code Enforcement
- Burlington Police Department
- City Council
- Neighbors

University of Vermont:

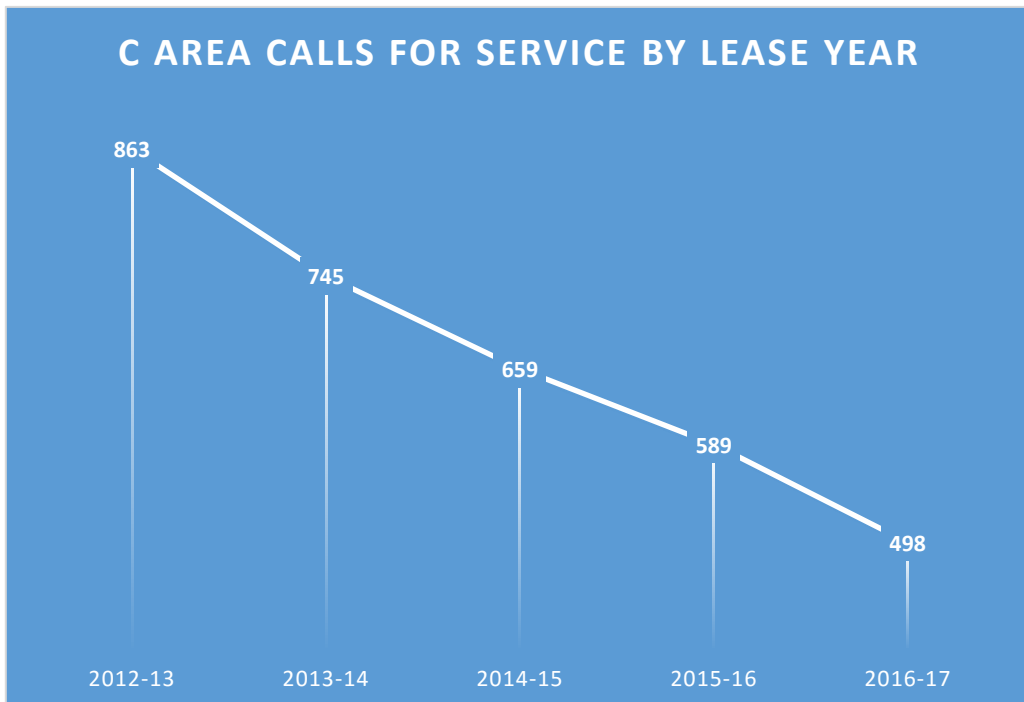
- Student and Community Relations
- Center for Health and Wellbeing
- Student Government Association
- University Relations
- Campus Planning Services
- Community Coalition
- Dean of Students Office

- Landlords are contacted by Burlington Parallel Justice when party social tickets are issued.
- UVM Police Services participates in joint patrols in neighborhoods with BPD.
- Using funding provided by the University of Vermont, BPD continues to provide a visible officer presence during known high traffic weekends to deter noise and other offenses.
 - During times of the year when neighborhood life is more likely to be affected by unwanted behavior and activity, BPD officers patrol earlier in the evening (before 9 pm), reaching out to homes hosting events or to residents outside.
- Understanding that students on campus have a role in the quality of life off campus, the University of Vermont has focused on this population in the following ways:
 - Increased communication to students and parents throughout the academic year.
 - Continued response to all reports of violations of Burlington laws and ordinances through a tiered system which includes letters, in-person meetings, or a formal conduct hearing, depending on the nature of the violation. Our program is described here in greater detail: <http://go.uvm.edu/offcampusexpectations>.
 - President Sullivan's Committee on Alcohol, Cannabis, and Other Drugs continues to address the impacts of alcohol and substance misuse within our campus community. A number of specific interventions have resulted in a decreased monthly prevalence of high risk drinking in the last thirty days among UVM undergraduates from 59% six years ago to 43% in the 2016-17 academic year.

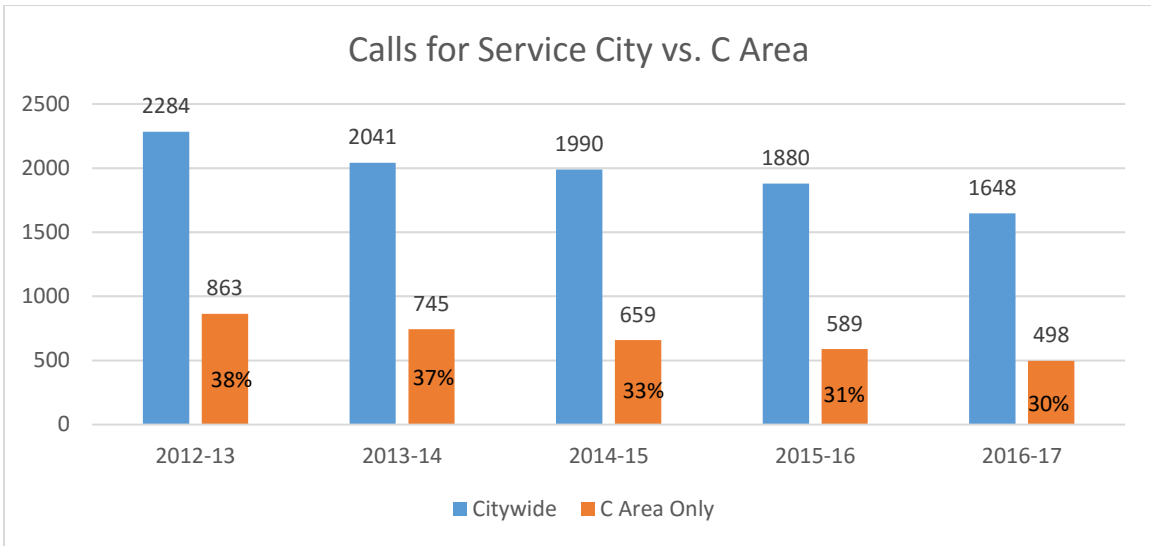
Outcomes

Since the 2012-2013 lease year, the following changes have been documented in Area C. Incident types tracked are Noise, Intoxication, and Disorderly Conduct.

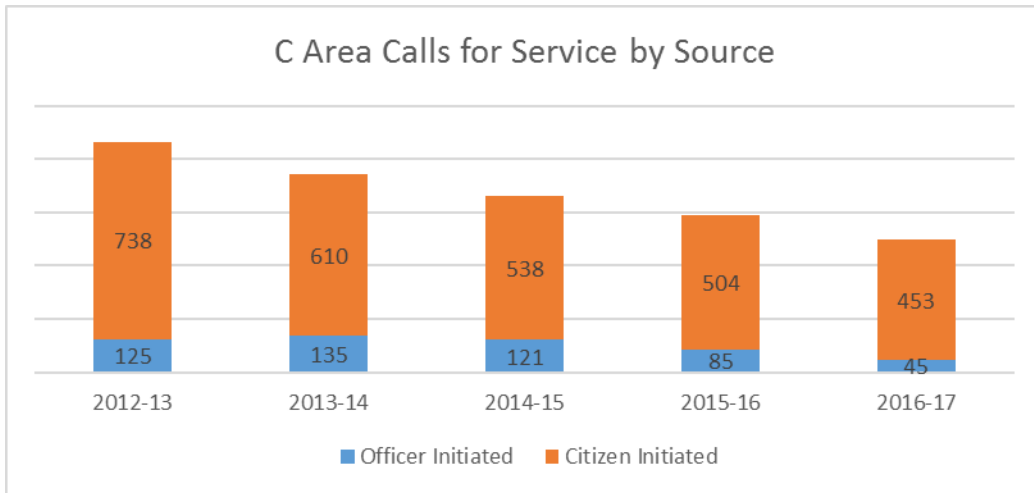
1. C Area calls for service 2012-13 to 2016-17 have decreased.



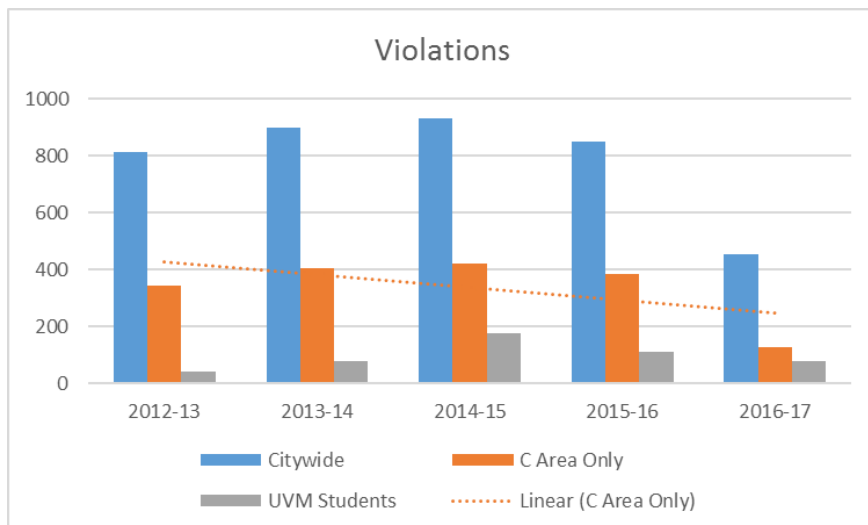
- City-wide calls for service have dropped by **28%** since 2012-13.
- C Area calls for service have dropped by **42%** during the same period.



2. The proportion of calls for service initiated by citizens (as opposed to police officers) has decreased.



3. The number of violations issued for Noise, Alcohol, and Disorderly Conduct has decreased in C Area.

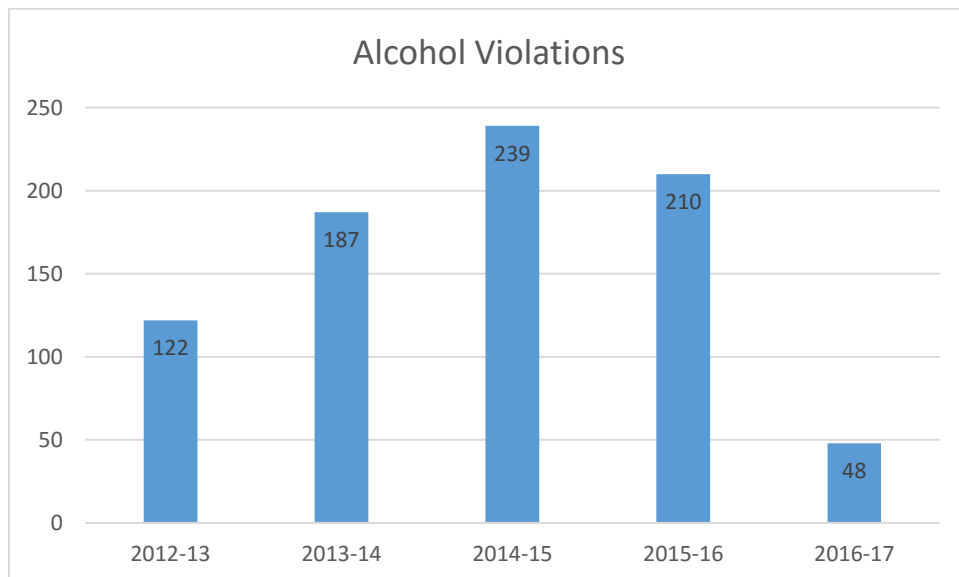


	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Violations					
Citywide	815	900	933	850	454
C Area Only	342 (42%)	405 (45%)	423 (45%)	385 (45%)	127 (28%)
UVM Students	40	78	176	112	76

(Note: Data from BPD was not complete due to a change in the ticketing process. During 2013-14, the Center for Student Conduct did not receive information regarding alcohol tickets)

4. C Area Alcohol Violations Table

Lease Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Tickets					
Minor procuring or in possession of alcohol (16A, 16B, 16C, 21038c)	96	143	154	115	32
Open Containers in Public (21038b)	26	44	85	95	16
Alcohol Related Tickets Total	122	187	239	210	48



Successful efforts to increase community education continue

- The University of Vermont continues to work diligently to address the impact of high risk drinking on campus and in the Burlington community. UVM was one of three institutions of higher education whose work to address high risk drinking and other substance misuse was honored with a Prevention Excellence Award at the ninth annual Campus Prevention Network Summit in Boston in June of this year.
- The working group continues to focus on educating students about the importance and value of creating a healthy neighborhood community as a fundamental part of this work. Optimizing relationships between police officers, student residents, permanent residents, and the involvement of UVM's Office of Student and Community Relations has resulted in student residents who are better educated about the importance of being a good neighbor.
- Pro-active approach: In mid-August, Code Enforcement sent an informal letter to landlords of problem addresses from the end of the previous lease year, to make them aware that their properties continue to be on notice.
- UVM Office of Student and Community Relations (OSCR) coordinates the *Have a Heart Campaign* to educate students about the impact of late night activity on families and permanent residents in the off campus area. This is just one of several OSCR programs designed to help build community and improve quality of life in Burlington. Others include: *Neighborhood Clean-Up*, *Off-Campus Living Workshops*, the *Community Coalition Street Strategy*, and the *Spring Move-Out Project*.
- Quality of Life Patrols: UVM provides funding for additional BPD shifts starting in August when students return, as well as on problem weekends throughout the year when party noise is increased. The purpose is to deter noise and also build positive relationships with residents.

Summary

While challenges around quality of life issues in neighborhoods remain, effective collaboration between the University of Vermont and the City of Burlington has yielded a substantial improvement in a number of measures.

CDNR

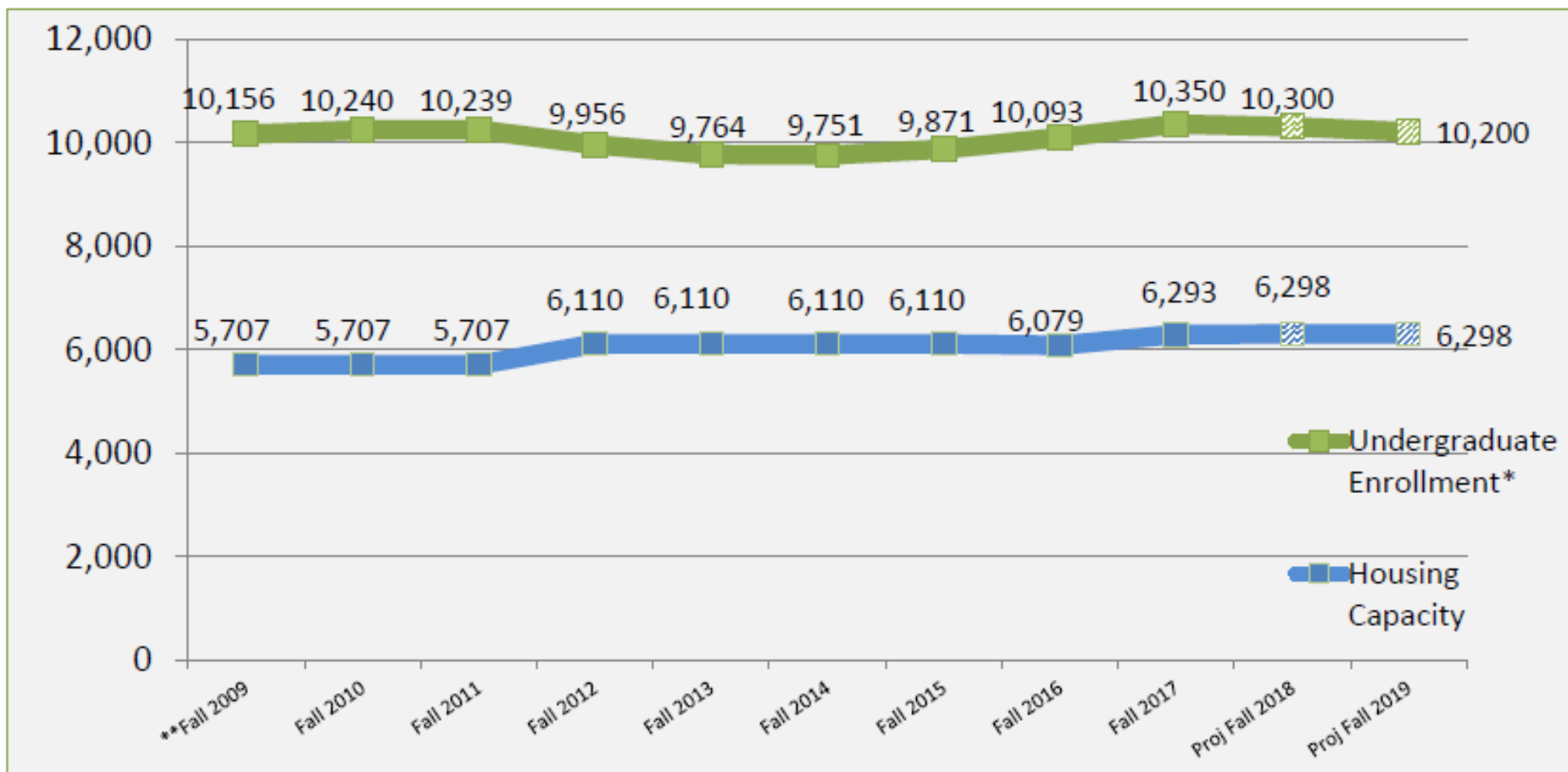
Oct. 18, 2017



The University of Vermont

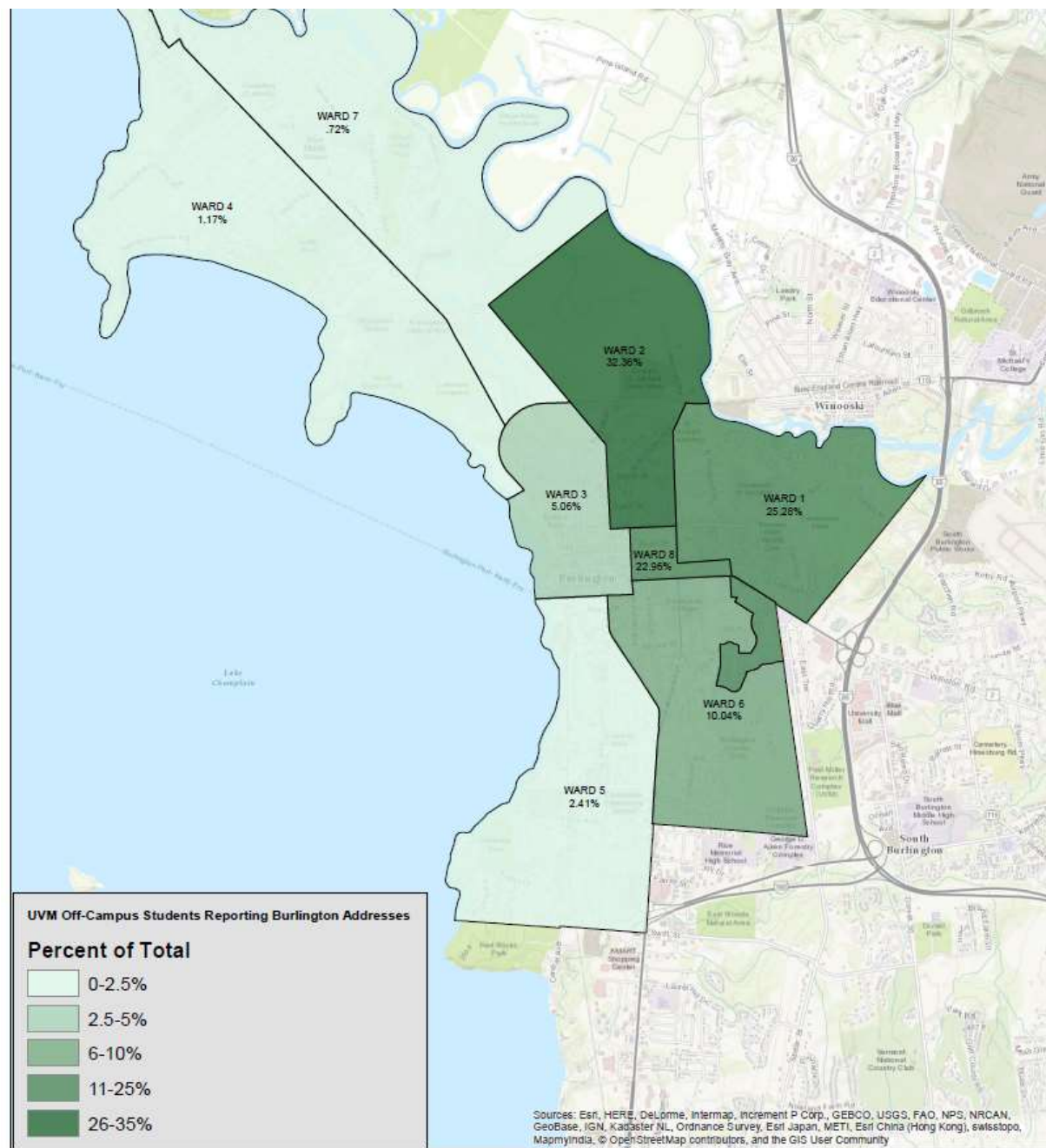
UVM/City of Burlington Agreement on Housing

Undergraduate Enrollment and Housing Capacity Changes 2009 (Base Year) to Fall 2019 (Projected)



*Undergraduate Enrollment calculated per the terms of the City Agreement on Housing as follows:
"For the purposes of this agreement, undergraduate students are defined as those who are enrolled in an undergraduate degree program for at least 9 credit hours per semester and have not yet earned a baccalaureate degree.

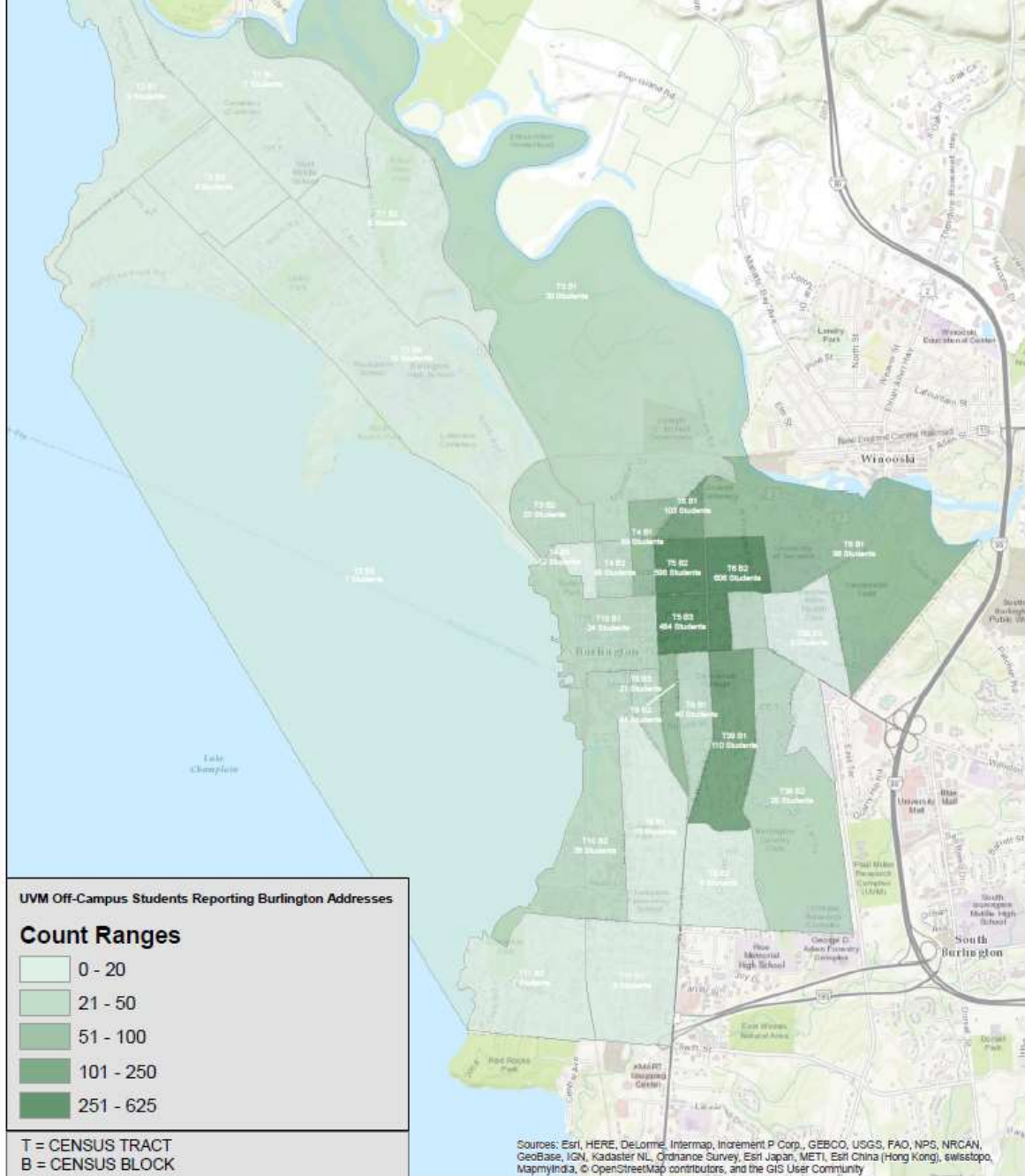
**Fall 2009 Base housing capacity includes the 163 beds added to McAuley Hall which opened in Fall 2009.



2016 OFF-CAMPUS STUDENTS REPORTING BURLINGTON ADDRESSES BY WARD
 Map Produced by UVM Campus Planning Services

Date Saved: 10/11/2017 2:57:32 PM





2016 OFF-CAMPUS STUDENTS REPORTING BURLINGTON ADDRESSES BY CENSUS TRACT & BLOCK
 Map Produced by UVM Campus Planning Services
 Date Saved: 10/4/2017 4:01:14 PM



Resources

\$1.2 million

\$200,000

Joint patrols

Up to \$100,000

Policing and Mapping

Education and enforcement

Data

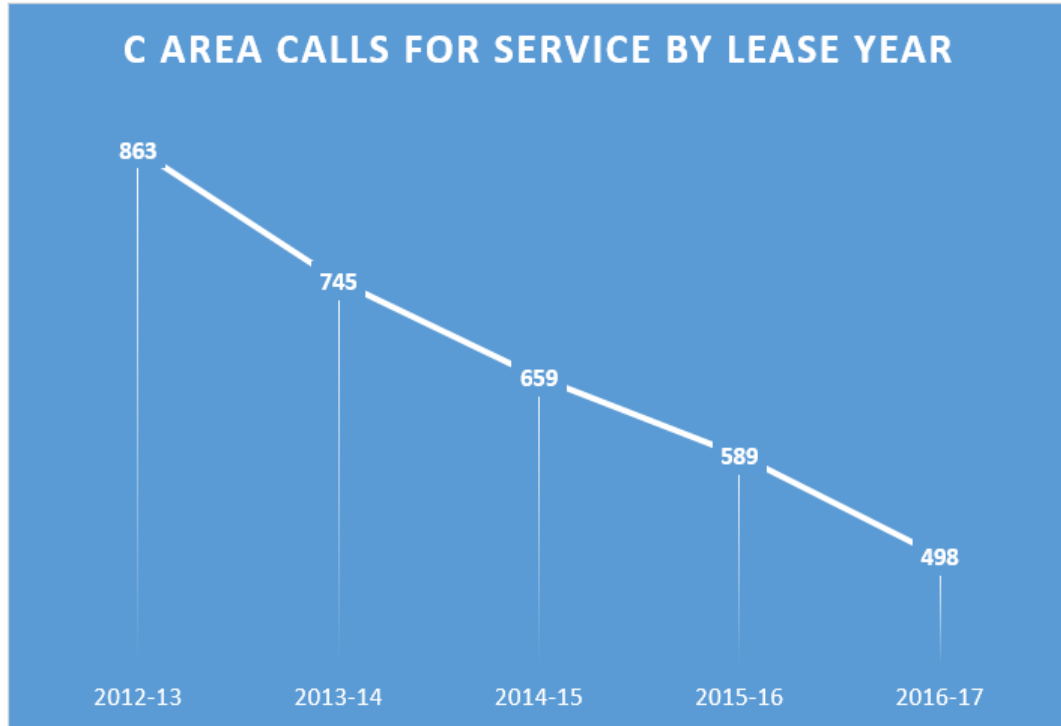
Coalition

Landlords, problem houses



Fletcher Place block party

Area C



- City-wide calls for service have dropped by **28%** since 2012-13.
- C Area calls for service have dropped by **42%** during the same period.

Fewer calls

Noise, alcohol, disorderly conduct down

Prevention

Letters in Fall and Spring

Have a Heart

Welcome bags – 500

OCL workshops & news



Community



"Thanks so much. It is really nice to see the systems you all have established working."

Brookes Avenue neighbor after a collaborative UVM-City response to a house of concern.

"It's really exciting to see the data. And, it's been a good fall for our street. I thank you for all the efforts and to see the change is exciting."

Adsit Court resident at the Ward 1/8 Neighborhood Planning Assembly meeting on Sept. 13.

"Thank you for your letter indicating there have been several noise complaints from that unit... I am addressing the issue today with a site visit and documentation to all the tenants.

I will be having a hands-on meeting with them Sunday evening to go over the City ordinances to further clarify the rules."

Landlord response



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
**CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &
NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401
802-865-7144 VOX • 802-865-7024 FAX • www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

Councilor Adam Roof, Chair, Ward 8
Councilor Sara Moore, Ward 3
Councilor Karen Paul, Ward 6

Attendance: Chair Adam Roof, Councilors and Committee Member Sara Moore and Karen Paul, CEDO Assistant Director Gillian Nanton, CEDO Staff Ian Jakus, Joe Speidel (UVM), Lisa Kingsbury (UVM), Sandy Wynne, Caryn Long, Ibnar Stratibus, Stephen Marshall, Gabrielle Sealy

Thursday, October 18th 2017
5:30 – 6:30 PM
City Hall Conference Room 12 (CR 12)

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

1. Review Agenda (5 minutes)

- Meeting called to order 5:35
- Councilor Moore moved to approve the agenda, Seconded by Chair Roof and Karen Paul

2. Public Forum (10 minutes)

- Ibnar Stratibus asked about the status of the micro housing summit that had been discussed last year as part of the Housing Action Plan.
- Chair Roof responded that a summit had been postponed due to former Committee members Tom Ayers and Selena Colburn's departure. He added that CEDO is currently composing an ADU whitepaper that is expected for review in the winter.
- Caryn Long provided feedback on the 'Neighborhood Project' tour that she participated in. She stated that parking issues and the 'four unrelated' ordinance were the two biggest factors to focus enforcement on. Henry Street demonstrates that it is not the number of rentals but holding landlords accountable that makes the difference. Trash and unmanaged recycling issues

continue to be widespread. She felt that the consultant was not too enthusiastic during her tour, and that she would have preferred spending the project money on an enforcement officer and not an out of state consultant.

- Councilor Roof responded that the Neighborhood Project was funded by the Universities, Preservation Burlington, and the City, and was mandated through a court settlement, and therefore using it to hire an enforcement officer was not possible, but it could be included as part of the recommendations if that was founded.

3. Approval of Minutes – 7/20 (5 minutes)

- Councilor Moore moved to approve the minutes, Chair Roof seconded.

4. University of Vermont – Update on Quality of Life Partnership and data collection efforts. The University will provide a report on data collection efforts related to the number and location of students that reside off campus. The University will also update the Committee on its ongoing commitments to related “town-gown” quality of life issues. (35 minutes) – Joe Speidel, UVM, Director of Local Government and Community Relations and Lisa Kingsbury, UVM, Planning Relations Manager

- Mr. Speidel began by stating that UVM was grateful for efforts by City code enforcement and police officers as well as city councilors.
- Mr. Speidel explained UVM has created 754 beds since 2009 when they signed the agreement with the City (includes the 163 beds that is McCaulay Hall conversion from administrative to Residential in 2009). This agreement is the latest agreement and is still active.
- Mr. Speidel discussed that in terms of undergraduate admissions that they will hold at the same level for the next 5 years but as admissions is an art and not a science there may be slight fluctuations.
- Mr. Speidel explained the efforts to track off-campus student data. When first collecting addresses, the registrar’s office added a pop up box during online student registration for students to verify and update their address. Then they made it mandatory to verify the address many were just verifying whatever address was there. Starting in Fall of 2016 they wiped the address field so it would have to be re filled. Therefore this data is the most accurate to-date.

[SEE UVM STUDENT DATA PRESENTATION](#)

- Note: Compared with 2015 – Ward 3 had a large increase (13%) however we think that's a function of removing permanent addresses. The % is of the total students living off campus in Burlington.
- Note: Number of students who are using the local address option is 2800-2900 in the last year.
- Note: Given that there are 4,000 who are living off campus, the others are not living in Burlington, and are in neighboring towns or are studying abroad.
- Councilor Moore asked if in ward 8 Redstone lofts are taken out, Mr. Speidel confirmed this is the case.
- Councilor Paul asked if someone is living with their parents in Ward 3 how UVM accounts?
- Lisa Kingsbury responded that students only count if the local address and permanent address is different. This year they are only using local addresses.
- Ibnar Stratibus asked to add the total number of off campus students to the map.
- Councilor Paul stated that the map shows if students can't live right near campus then they want to live near downtown.
- Lisa Kingsbury states that in surveys Juniors and Seniors have said that they want to be near downtown.
- Caryn Long responded that the houses closer to downtown are cheaper and generally are in worse condition.
- Sandy Wynne stated she had an issue with the term downtown. That students define downtown as a much larger area than what we actually define as downtown. The survey results are probably not totally accurate because of that.
- Mr. Stratibus asked if UVM is involved in policing opiates?
- Mr. Speidel responded that UVM is doing our best on educating for opiate use. Also part of this whole effort is to work with the Burlington police department on data collection and analysis. The police departments share information and efforts to prevent sexual violence.
- Caryn Long stated that often neighbors don't bother to call, or there is nobody left to complain and that skews the data. A lot of older people are afraid to call and are afraid of retribution.
- Councilor Paul confirmed that she has had reports of fear of retribution by constituents.

- Mr. Speidel explained that in terms of prevention the University does the following:
 - letters in Fall and Spring
 - Have a Heart program to remind people to be quiet
 - Welcome bags to renters
 - Off campus living workshops
 - Off campus news
- Councilor Moore asked with the increase in officer initiated responses, do they know where these issue areas are? If there are concerns about retribution could those police officers patrol there?
- Mr. Speidel responded that if there is a hotspot then the police will go and check that area. He could get in touch with Matt Sullivan if there are areas they need to pay attention to.
- Councilor Moore posed the question that for those afraid of retribution, what steps those people comfortable taking?
- Mr. Speidel suggested that a coach, landlord, parent are all possible ways of redressing.
- Caryn Long said she had a bad experience in calling a landlord and the response was 'I am not their parents'.
- Sandy Wynne asked if everyone has to take the off campus living workshop. We have been trying to find a way to require it for a long time. She would be happy to teach them. That in cases of calling the landlord, management companies will interfere and that there are places that do more public shaming.
- Councilor Paul said hats off to UVM for finding out where the students are living. Finally we have reasonably reliable data. The students come and go, but landlords are always there, and if they improve their properties then they approve their tenants.
- Gabrielle Sealy stated that Councilor Roof has been helpful in addressing these issues and getting to know landlords and calling them. Last year SGA students went to neighborhood meetings which she felt was a success. The bus drop off location at the liquor store is an issue.
- Chair Roof stated that things are getting better but we can always do more. He's had great results calling landlords and the Mayor has made calls in the past. To address enforcement concerns he explained the City has 5 inspectors on staff. The biggest inhibitor to enforcement

isn't budget or staffing but is state statute that allows a period of time for landlords to fix the issue before inspection.

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:35

DRAFT