



Wards 2 and 3 Neighborhood Planning Assembly

Thursday, October 13, 2022, 6:30-8:30pm

HYBRID MEETING! In person at ONE Community Center, 20 Allen St.

and via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85860854764>

COMMUNITY DINNER: 5:30-6:30pm

Moderator: Mollie Klepack Flanigan

Notetaker: Roxanne Meuse

6:30 pm Announcements | 10 min

- Introduction of Steering Committee members
- Agenda suggestions / Request time slot via [CEDO's submission form](#)
- **Next meeting:** Thursday, November 10
- Recordings can be found on [youtube](#) or [CCTV's website](#)
- **Community Grant Applications extended!** The new application deadline is Oct. 31. Info and application form at: <http://wards2and3npa.weebly.com/community-grants.html>
- **NPA Community Input Survey:** Please fill out this survey to share your thoughts on the role of the Ward 2&3 NPA: <https://forms.gle/9QDyEhx7kY8uZzxU7>
- **Steering Committee members from Ward 2 needed!** If interested, email wards2and3npa@googlegroups.com
- **Reminders:** When speaking, please identify yourself by name and ward, and follow the NPA ground rules (see next page).

6:40 pm Public Forum | 10 min (2 minutes max per person)

6:50 pm Updates from city council, school board, state reps, and state senators | 25 mins
Including presentation on [All Legal Resident Voting](#) (Gene Bergman, Ward 2)

7:15 pm Police Commission presentation and Q&A | 15 min
Melo Grant, [Burlington Police Commission](#)

7:30 pm Updates on North Winooski Avenue and Q&A | 30 min
Rob Goulding, Department of Public Works. [Winooski Ave Study webpage](#)

8:00 pm Updates on development of CityPlace and Q&A | 30 min
Dave Farrington (Farrington Construction Company), Patrick O'Brien (SD Ireland), and Brian Pine, CEDO. [CityPlace website](#)

8:30 pm Adjourn

APPENDIX 1: ZOOM INFO

When: October 13, 2022 6:30 PM

Join the webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85860854764>

WebinarID: 858 6085 4764

Or iPhone one-tap: US: +19292056099,,85860854764#

Or Telephone: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833

About the NPAs:

A section of Burlington City Council resolution first adopted in 1982 establishing provisions for a Neighborhood Planning Assembly in each City ward.

...Neighborhood Planning Assemblies shall... help provide citizens with information concerning city programs and activities; help obtain citizen views of city needs; help provide citizens with the opportunity to participate in making recommendations with respect to governmental decisions including the allocation of revenues.

...Assemblies shall also be encouraged to provide advice to the appropriate commission or this council with respect to community development, housing programs, this City's Comprehensive Plan and its waterfront planning activities, and the city's budget among other issues....

NPA GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- Operate through democratic principles and democratic procedures;
- Provide a safe and welcoming forum where residents can actively share their voices about issues that matter to them, and where they can learn from the voices of others;
- Cultivate involvement by a diverse spectrum of community members through active outreach and through eliminating barriers to participation;
- Operate in a manner that models respectful, inclusive, culturally, and economically aware practices; and
- Be a fun, creative, and vital organization that provides value and benefit through the multitude of perspectives shared by those who participate.

NPA GROUND RULES:

- Meetings should have clearly defined Agenda & Roles.
- Honor Time limits: A best effort must be made to start on time, follow the agenda, and finish on time.
- Listen to others: Make efforts to be an open-minded member of the group.
- Respect the agenda and the process: Try to remain focused on the issue at hand.
- Share your opinion respectfully: Speak out, but not over, others' comments.
- Treat people how you would like to be treated: Be respectful of everyone, including guests.

Wards 2 and 3 NPA Steering Committee:

TO EMAIL FULL STEERING COMMITTEE: wards2and3npa@googlegroups.com

Andrew Champagne	Ward 2	802-540-0717
Mayumi Cornell	Ward 2	mayumi.cornell@gmail.com
Patrick Johnson	Ward 2	superdogirie@gmail.com
Mollie Klepack Flanigan	Ward 3	mollieklepack@gmail.com
Charlie Giannoni	Ward 3	charliecpg@gmail.com
Chris Haessly	Ward 3	haessly@adelphia.net
Jessica Hyman	Ward 3	jessicahymanvt@gmail.com
Barbara McGrew	Ward 3	bmcgrew@aol.com
Roxanne Meuse	Ward 3	rtmeuse@gmail.com

Burlington City Elected Officials Wards 2 and 3

Mayor Miro Weinberger	Democrat	802-865-7272	mayor@BurlingtonVT.gov
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City Councilors:

Central District (Wards 2 & 3)	Perri Freeman	Progressive	203-623-9490	pfreeman@burlingtonvt.gov
Ward 2	Gene Bergman	Progressive		gbergman@burlingtonvt.gov
Ward 3	Joe Magee	Progressive	802-279-5513	jmagee@burlingtonvt.gov

School Board Members:

Central District (Wards 2 & 3)	Jean Waltz	802-355-7856	jwaltz@bsdvt.org
Ward 2	Faizo Hassan	802-578-1259	hassanfaizo@gmail.com
Ward 3	Polly Vanderputten	802-578-8653	pvanderputten@bsdvt.org

Vermont State House Representatives

Chittenden-6-3	Jill Krowinski	Democrat	802.363.3907	jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us
Chittenden-6-3	Curt McCormack	Democrat	802.318.2585	cmccormack@leg.state.vt.us
Chittenden-6-4	Brian Cina	Progressive/ Democrat	802.448.2178	bcina@leg.state.vt.us
Chittenden-6-4	Selene Colburn	Progressive	802.540.0546	scolburn@leg.state.vt.us
Chittenden-6-2	Emma Mulvaney Stanak	Progressive/ Democrat	802.828-2228	emulvaneystanak@leg.state.vt.us

Vermont State Senators (Chittenden County)

Philip Baruth	Progressive/Democrat	802.503.5266	pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us
Thomas Chittenden	Democrat	802.879.0054	tchittenden@leg.state.vt.us
Ginny Lyons	Democrat	802.863.6129	vlyons@leg.state.vt.us
Chris Pearson	Progressive/Democrat	802.860.3933	cpearson@leg.state.vt.us
Kesha Ram Hinsdale	Democrat	802.881.4433	kram@leg.state.vt.us
Michael Sirotkin	Democrat	802.999.4360	msirotkin@leg.state.vt.us

Notes from October 13 Wards 2&3 NPA at ONE Community Center

Notetaker: Roxanne Meuse

Steering committee members present: Charlie Giannoni, Jess Hyman, Mollie Klepack Flanigan, Roxanne Meuse

6:30 - Announcements

See agenda

6:35 - Public forum

- **David (Burlington resident):** Need the city to get needle boxes for churches. Maybe support the police dept. Crime is a bit thick these days. Want to make our community clean and support our unhoused - pod housing is going well.
- **Carol (Myrtle St):** Is there a landlord's handbook (like there is a tenant's handbook)? There maybe was one for students but not for the general populace. We should have one if not. Things are going on in my area that seem to be against ordinances. And that info is so buried on the city's website - is inaccessible. Could we have a booklet or pamphlet that goes out to city taxpayers? If people knew what was and wasn't allowed, it'd be less work for everyone and we'd have happier neighbors. I'm interested in working on something like this if anyone wants to help.
- **Jeannie Walz (Cedar St):** Consider the [Ramble](#) as a chance to do your community grant project! Also, [Ooky Spooky at Rock Point](#) is a fundraiser for COTS coming up.
- **Chris (Decatur St):** Wants people to be aware of an issue I've had on my small street: housing being shifted from rental to airbnb. My neighbors and I have met about this. Anyone else seeing that and can we come together? Trying to clarify what's legal and not legal.
- **Infinite Culcleasure:** running for state senate. Have lived in this neighborhood for 30 years. Have done a bunch of organizing in Burlington and Winooski schools. Want to clear a rumor that I wasn't in support of building the new school. To be clear, I support it with lots of reservations. I've worked in the school district for a decade and the new building is just the tip of the iceberg; a lot needs to be worked on with Burlington schools. I hope we go deeper than state of the art shiny building.
- **Brian Pine (Crowley St & works at CEDO):** There's a volunteer day this Sat and Sun and maybe the following weekend to make the Elmwood pod shelter village more welcoming. Email CEDO or go to [CEDO's website](#) to volunteer. We'll paint the pods to make the pod village more colorful.
- **? (Ward 2):** This Saturday is the [repair cafe](#) - 12 North St this Saturday 12-3. Anything you can carry in, we'll help you repair. And free food for volunteers. Every third Saturday.

6:45pm - Representative updates

- **Jeannie from School Board:** Burlington School District is suing Monsanto. The idea came up a couple years ago. A couple schools in MA had tried and didn't win. BSD found a legal firm, and it won't require payment till after they win. Legal counsel feels

confident we have a good case. Good case because displacement of students and cost of replacing PCBs. This case will take years. We still need to vote yes on the bond. We don't have money to start construction until we have the bond.

- **Joe Magee (Ward 2 city council):** This Monday's city council meeting will cover the Railyard project and redistricting. Will post on FPF soon. **Redistricting:** considering two 8-ward options. All original options had issues. Board of Finance met recently and discussed the airport and decided on funding for State troopers to support BTV police downtown. Still support mental health supports / alternatives to policing.
- **Gene Bergman (Ward 3 city council):** 3 major charter changes making their way through the charter change committee of which he's the chair. All of the charter change languages must be adopted by December 12. Vote in March. Charter change committee meeting on Oct 19 next.
 - **1) All resident legal voting.** Adopted in Winooski & Montpelier. Have withstood two constitutional challenges. We adopted a proposal that's basically the same as Winooski's and Montpelier's. Any person living here on a permanent legal basis would be allowed to vote in local elections (like for mayor, city council, school decisions). The US Constitution and state law do not prohibit municipalities from letting residents vote in local elections.
 - **2) Flexibility of deciding polling locations.** Right now required to have polling locations within the wards. But there are only so many possible polling places. We want polling places that are within close proximity to a ward be allowed as well. So for example, wards 4 and 7 could both have a polling place in Miller Center or BHS. Decisions would be made with ward clerks.
 - **3) Ranked choice voting.** Last year, the city overwhelmingly adopted it for city council elections. Proposal to be expanded to the mayor and to the school board.
- **Emma Mulvaney-Stanek (Chittenden 6-2 state rep):** Everyone should have received their ballot by now. If sending back in mail, get in by Nov 1. Election is Nov 8.
 - Ways to return ballot: Can use a dropbox. Can bring it right in on election day. If you lose your ballot or make a mistake, bring it with you on election day.
 - If you have any issues with your ballot, call the clerk's office or go there with any issues. And a new thing: If you messed up on how you sealed/signed your mail-in ballot, you get another chance now. Clerks should contact you.
 - You can always go to the [secretary of state's website to check your voting status](#).
 - If you want to vote on the CSWD issue, you need to request that separate ballot or go in person on election day.
- **Brian Cina (Chittenden 6-4 state rep):** I'm meeting with people whose housing support is being reduced. Public safety workforce does not feel valued. The rent is too high. How can we make it so people charge a fair amount for rent? And people with disabilities, people of color, and queer people get it worse. Look up [S.210](#) and [S.226](#). Reality is that what we call affordable isn't affordable. Housing is a big determinant of health. We need to react to pain with compassion, not punishment. Agrees with at least the premise of the governor's plan. Will be pushing for us to use the Norway model. Happy about the pod village. Work towards a society where everyone belongs and has a chance to recover.

- **Thomas Chittenden (Chittenden state senator):** Things for the upcoming session I want thoughts on: Make sure there's not a separate ballot for things (like the CSWD vote). Childcare. And there's the issue that your zipcode (being just over the line) can mean you can't get into childcare. Bonding question: there's so much deferred maintenance on schools and wants the schools with the most need get access to more capital. Wants to see a statewide rental registry.
 - Question from audience: where's the accounting? Where's the money going?
 - Response from reps: go to the [state auditor's website](#) for some great insights.

7:35 - Melo Grant, Police Commission mgrant@burlingtonvt.gov

- Melo is 2 years into a 3-year term on the PC.
- PC meets monthly in Contois Auditorium + on zoom and can watch later on [Town Meeting TV](#).
- Use [SeeClickFix](#) to report needles found.
- If you see dealing going on and you call dispatch, an officer won't come, but the incidents need to be reported. Submit [online](#) at City website > Police Dept. [Drug tip form](#). That info helps them track activity in the city.
- PC meetings themselves: review crime and causes, reviews chief's report, looks at oversight projects, have speakers and presentations, review use of force incidents (though most of those are in the executive sessions), review commendations (positive feedback to the police force).
- [Police commission's annual report](#): Please read it!
- One of the recommendations: we needed a mental health summit - and had one. Overall, crime numbers are down, but certain incidents are up. Really excellent event. Took a look at how our system is working and not working, and how coordination between groups needs to change.
- Read [VT Interfaith Action report](#)
- [Monthly chief's report](#) reviewed at each meeting. Melo shared the [September](#) one.

7:45pm - Chapin Spencer - director of DPW - North Winooski Ave updates

- Thanks for patience during paving season. Next year N Winooski Ave is on state paving list
- [The Winooski Ave transportation study](#) began some years ago. Implementation started on other blocks, but there was concern over parking loss on N Winooski Ave. Parking management plan began.
- The segment in question: Pearl St to Riverside Ave
- A committee voted not to proceed with the study and had a list of things they'd like to see. City council decided to 1) wait a year, talk with constituents. 2) start a grant program with businesses to help with transition, 3) make GMT bus fare-free if it starts fares again, 4) maximize parking.
- DPW working to provide shared off-street parking. They're working with business owners along that street.

- A lot of employees and clients of CHCB park on street on N Winooski and that area. DPW is working closely with them. They're looking at developing off-street parking.
- Deciding loading, long-term, accessible spaces etc. Could be shared - like loading in AM and public rest of day.

Questions from the public:

- Will they be planting more trees along it?
 - We work closely with the Parks Dept. They'll be planting trees.
- Railyard Enterprise Project: concerned if the current estimate includes cost of remediation. What's the cost? Can we afford it? And is it coordinated with the Connector?
 - Short answer: yes coordinated with the Connector.
 - Total est \$20 mill.
 - 90% fed 10% local funding doesn't apply to soil remediation
 - Won't be much more bonding since school is using much of our bonding limit
 - Proposing the simplest build alternative. Grid streets will not be included; they'd add additional cost esp for going over barge canal.
- Jane Knodell: If we can't identify a significant number of new off-street parking spaces, this project will inflict a lot of hardship on people and businesses. CHCB's plan sounds good and important. Can the City help? It's a private entity, but the problem has been created by the City in my view.
 - We are seeking to find money to support CHCB in their efforts. Working with CEDO on that.
- Liz Curry pt 1) Can bike racks be provided by the City? Instead of businesses asking to use their grant money for it?
 - Yes they will.
- Pt 2) Could the city work with CHCB to create a new public parking garage at that end of town?
 - Quick answer: DPW has offered engineering help to CHCB but they found their own engineering firm. City doesn't own land in that area. If they or another business asks the city about this, he's open to the conversation.
- Pt 3) Timeline at which the city will stop working to resolve parking or can it continue?
 - Will keep working on this. I want this to be a success and want to be a partner in this.
- Christine Hill: Plz talk about the whole bike plan
 - This project is the last missing link of bike facilities on Winooski Ave. And the City just got a grant for a new bridge over the Winooski which will extend bike facilities into Winooski.

8:05 - CityPlace update - Brian Pine (CEDO), Dave Farrington (partner), Al Senecal (partner) (third partner not present), and Patrick O'Brien (one of the project managers)

- Brian: City's role: re-establish street connections. Emphasis on bicycle connections, cars to some extent, and deliveries. City is not the developer. But financing is through tax-increment financing (TIF). The developers are all local and very invested in the

project. The city has not borrowed any money for this. These three developers own “the pit.”

- Dave: We parted ways with Sinex for this. Still partners with him for other things like the LL Bean lot and other projects.
- Dave: This fall we'll do site work, facilities. Will get development agreements and permits in place. Working with CHT to manage the affordable housing component. There will be 85 units of a total 427 units that will be perpetually affordable.
- Patrick: This is not the originally approved 14-story building. It'll be a 10-story building. [Showed a rendering of the building.]
- Patrick: In the next 2-3 years expect a lot of noise, trucks, employee traffic, smelly, etc. It's a big project. That's what it takes. But we're experienced; not our first rodeo; have dealt with major construction and traffic pretty much our entire careers.
- We have a comprehensive traffic management plan [showed traffic management plan].
- Noise: 7am-7pm. No Sundays or national holidays. Will probably have to break that once in a while when dealing with something unexpected.
- Larger trucks will not be crossing Church St.
- All the plans are publicly available at the CEDO office and [online](#).
- Building this project as permitted by the Design Review Board.
- 427 units total, grouped into 3 buildings. 87 CHT units. The rest of the north building (Cherry St) 207 market rate apartments. South building was originally going to be a hotel but now is just housing.
- Street level retail stores.
- Parking garage
- They're setting up a website and there will be an email address specific to this project.

Questions from the public:

- Afraid of the bus schedule being impacted on Cherry St. It's easy to underestimate and undervalue bus schedules being messed up but it has a huge impact. Please keep buses at the forefront.
 - We have coordinated that. We've done our best to address it. Did have discussions with the bus company about once it's done (like coordinating new trash pickup spots with the bus route).
- Can you talk about why affordable housing isn't mixed in with the rest of the housing?
 - Brian: To do CHT's financing, their part needs its own building.
- Construction affecting the downtown high school?
 - Studies of noise and vibration were done that satisfied the developers and the school.
 - Dave's company built out the downtown high school and they put things in place to reduce noise.