Draft Agenda
Ward 6 NPA Meeting
September 5, 2019 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Greek Orthodox Church, 600 South Willard Street

6:00 - 6:30
Community dinner provided by Pizza 44

6:30 - 6:40
Public comment

6:40 - 7:20
City Place Update
Brookfield Asset Management representatives

7:20 - 7:55
Burlington Schools Update
Superintendent Yaw Obeng

7:55 - 8:30
Mayoral Update
Mayor Miro Weinberger

All presentations on the agenda will include time for questions/discussion with community members attending.

The Steering Committee Members for Ward 6 are:

- Michelle Mraz, michelle.mraz@gmail.com
- Matt Grady, matt7631@gmail.com
- Gail Rafferty, gailraff8890@gmail.com
- Mary Riley, rileyburl@burlingtontelecom.net
- Joel Fitzgerald. joel.fitzgerald@mausd.org

For more information about Ward 6 NPA Register for the Ward 6 NPA e-newsletter http://eepurl.com/c9pQlL

*Parking entrance off of Ledge Road on the east side of the Rotary. Overflow parking at foot of Willard St, or even Christ the King School, and walk up paved walkway from Willard directly to church.

Draft Minutes
Ward 6 NPA Meeting
September 5, 2019 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Greek Orthodox Church, 600 South Willard Street

Steering Committee Present: Matt Grady, Joel Fitzgerald, Michelle Mraz, Mary Riley, Gail Rafferty

Start: 6:30 PM

Public Comment:
Charles Simpson comments on F-35s. (Statement attached.)
Greg Epler-Wood comments on block party on South Union St. and noise levels of F-35s including report from Harvard (https://dash.harvard.edu/handle/1/37945140).

CityPlace Burlington/Brookfield Asset Management with Aanen Olsen; Chelsea Ziegelbaum
The project as designed is too expensive; figuring out how to make it work.
Question: What is the budget? Brookfield: We are figuring it out.
The building is equipped to handle fires on all floors.
UVM Medical Center is still committed as a tenant.
Other tenants cannot be announced until there are executed leases.
Until construction commences the barricades will be decorated and parking spaces will be opened up.
Bank of Ozarks still funding projects. Construction lending is their niche.
This project will take time to develop; when the next design is final it will be revealed to the public.
Question: Burlington has lost parking and retail because of demolished mall. Will the new project have enough parking? Original plan had more than required amount of parking.
Karen Paul asked if there would be shovels in the ground within a year. Brookfield will try its best to make that happen.
Costs accrue at the site monthly. It's painful for Brookfield.
Question: Will the building be 14 stories? Brookfield is considering the height and amount of parking.
Brookfield will come back when there is more information to share.

Yaw Obeng; Superintendent of Schools
Entering 5th year of his position with the district.
There were budget issues and race issues and unresolved contract negotiations when he arrived at the district.
There have been many successes in the past 5 years: union contracts negotiated; expanded learning; improved student supports (special education); parent university; improved communication with parents and community; early ed/pre-K, celebrating scholastic achievements—students succeeded at a national level and were recognized; over 48 languages spoken in district—programs for support and collaboration have been implemented; faculty and administrators have been recognized for their performance; curriculum innovations—including City and Lake Semester; closing the achievement gap and raising the bar for academic performance; capital improvements including Edmunds Campus; food services director at BHS makes sure students have food to eat on days when schools are closed due to weather; restorative programs in the schools; and reading to end racism.
Two elevators at Edmunds now.
Suggestion: open schools so residents can tour them.
Act 46/Consolidation—it occurs at the state level, no decisions made for Burlington district.
Comment: Yaw did not accept proficiency-based grading, kept letter grades, parent is appreciative.

Comment: Champlain has new principal, parent is very appreciative.

Miro Weinberger; Mayor of Burlington
Affordable housing:
Work this issue goes back to Sanders administration.
We have a supply problem with affordable housing.
Renters spending 44% of income on housing.
Rate of inflation rising faster than housing costs, which is good.
BTV Housing Summit has identified housing issues and solutions.
Inspections and code enforcement are improving rental unit conditions.
City working with UVM on student housing—it's the leading issue.
City working to make sure tenants are served better.
5 strategies for housing: 3 focus on code enforcement and affordable supply; 1 addresses de-regulation of parking built by developers—would assess an impact fee to support alternative transportation; and 1 addresses erosion of supply of rental housing by short-term rentals (like Airbnb).
A penny increase in property tax for affordable housing may be proposed.
City wants to improve air, ceiling and insulation standards.
Threshold will be established for heating fuel use and will trigger need to improve construction.
Proposing ordinance changes to allow accessory dwelling units on propeties.

CityPlace:
City protected from costs of development so far; Reliance Letter ensured construction would continue once commenced.
Question: How has lack of construction affected taxes? Paying less of TIF because of delay; key metrics show that city is still performing economically at levels before construction; sales tax revenue has stayed strong even without mall.
City engaged with developers and is working very hard to push the developers and keep delay as short as possible.
Mayor says Brookfield and Sinex must be using lots of money every month--not a disaster for the city; he questions whether City should have waited till all details were sorted out for the project before giving go-ahead, but is glad City allowed them to go forward because the mall is gone at developer's expense.
There is no going back, site will be developed; mayor is frustrated that Brookfield is not sharing more and can't answer questions.

F-35s
Comment on afterburners and EIS.
Mayor is hearing a lot of concern about the EIS. He hears that a much greater number of homes will be removed, only a few more homes will be removed.
He wants future federal funds to be used to protect homes from F-35 impacts rather than removing homes.
Mayor believes F-35 has financial and employment benefits and doesn't want to see the National Guard leave the area or have the mission greatly reduced.

End: 8:45 PM

Minutes by Michelle Mraz

Neighborhood Planning Assembly Attendees

NPA (choose one)		Wards 1 & 8		Wards 2 & 3		Wards 4 & 7		Ward 5		W

Date of Assembly : 9-5-19 Location: Greek Orthodox 6005 Willo

Please return to your convener, Phet Keogh,
or email to ***pkeomanyvanh@burlingtonvt.gov***

1	James Lee	20	Anita Daniels
2	Anne Gerski	21	Nick Dagnigelis
3	Eric Milano	22	Claire Gurdin
4	Brenda Hinton	23	Jay Ashman
5	Deirdre Dimmick	24	Martha Fitzgerald
6	Kathy Schulte	25	Mary Gale
7	Alan Matson	26	Lee Keelan
8	Dale Crees	27	Meg Ashman
9	Dan Cunningham	28	Anna Grady
10	Amy Mellencamp	29	Richard Mueller
11	Janet Hamilton	30	Victoria Mackenzie
12	Brian Boardman	31	Bob Leidy
13	Ellen + George Terry	32	Colleen Horgan
14	Charles Tuttle	33	Marlene Bird
15	Olivia Hollenbeck	34	Stefan Hillemann
16	Susan Skalka	35	Steve Lipkin
17	Andy Barker	36	Katrina Hillemann
18	Jessica Blackman	37	Lisa Thompson
19	Pat Robins	38	Cathy Scofield
20	Mary Ellen Mannick	40	Mary Porterfield

41 Beth + Andy Golub
42 Anita Rapone
43 Charles Simpson
44 Mark Freudenberger
45 Suzanne Sugar
46 JB Sugar
47 Christina McCaffrey
48 Peter Kreisel
49 Jerry Manock M.E. Manock
50 Gail Raffesty
51 Mary Riley
52 Michelle Mraz
53 Joel Fitzgerald
54 Matt Grady
55 Rossi Gowdey
56 Fran Mount
57 Steve Mount
58 Meg McGovern
59 Janet Kahn
60 Hans van Wees
61 Fran Cohen
62 Connie Krasney
63 Susan Kuntz
64 Jeff Wakefield
65 Eileen Underwood
66 Anni Van Dorsal
67 Mary Helen Hyde
68 Grey Eplee Wood
69 Sue Burton
70 Sandy Yngsen
71 Raven Flint
72 Amanda Hannaford
73 Tim Johnson
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Recent storms from Katrina to Dorian have made us familiar with the drama of a major hurricane: houses demolished; persons injured or killed; economic activity depressed. Imagine, if you would, a hurricane bearing down on Chittenden County. Reporters might say i n hushed tones that the leading edge of this storm had already demolished 200 homes, filling their cellar holes, erasing even their curb cuts. "It is as if these homes never existed," reporters might say.

Now the eye of the storm is approaching, threatening 2640 additional homes in three cities--Winooski, South Burlington, and Burlington. As many as five public schools or universities are in the path of this storm. The National Weather Service would advise residents that with the eye making landfall before the end of September, it is too late to sell their property and move. Their only recourse is to shelter in place.

This exercise of the imagination is not mere fiction. It is happening. This hurricane is the noise, pollution, and threats to health and the environment of military aircraft starting with the F-16 in afterburner mode. The eye is 18 F-35 fighter/bombers designed to deliver nuclear payloads. There would likely be discussion in the media about what to name this storm.

"Hurricane Miro" would be one candidate. Named for Burlington's mayor, the name is apt because as chief executive of the city-owned airport, he set the lease terms--no rental costs assessed; no noise caps--that facilitate the basing of the F-35. And when his own city council and residents voted in opposition, he assured the Air Force that he was happy to see this storm sweep through and demolish our neighborhoods.

Others, however, might prefer a name that corresponds to a far more powerful political figure, a man that involved himself 54 times in the Air Force base selection process to misrepresent the record so that these nuclear-bomb platforms would come to Burlington. That's right. According to Air Force Administrative Records, Senator Patrick Leahy mischaracterized conditions on the ground and the degree of public support, personally pressuring the Air Force to overrule its expert-based evaluation process which had selected not Burlington but McEntire ANG as the "environmentally preferred alternative."

In the process, Leahy disregarded a Burlington-wide vote against the basing; disregarded three city council resolutions against the basing/ refused to meet with local elected leaders; refused to meet with any opponents of the basin; refused to attend any public meetings on the F-35, ignored two letters from 60 local clergy, and said that his constituents' concerns were exaggerated. Despite the fact that according to the Air Force, the F-35 will be 17-20 decibels louder than the F-16 and there is little pilots can do to affect this. This increased noise will result in an up to 2.3 % decrease in property values. Add to this the social justice implications of destroying the livability of 2,600 homes occupied in large part by lower-income and immigrant residents, the cognitive impairment of their children at home and in school, the impact on tax revenue as property values fall and schools have to be relocated.

Then there's the lost opportunities. One F-35 at $89 million would pay for our new high school and all the staffing for several years. No F-35s might mitigate the risk of poisonous PFAS in our drinking water originating with fire-fighting foam. No F-35s anywhere would take off the table a risk factor associated with the usability of tactical nuclear weapons.

So there's a good case for calling this storm Hurricane Patrick. The question then becomes, are we just going to "shelter in place". Or raise our voices?