Wards 1 & 8 Neighborhood Planning Assembly (NPA)
Agenda
June 10, 2020 6:45-8:40 p.m.

Zoom online meeting
Please click the link below to join the webinar:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83884669194
Webinar ID: 838 8466 9194
Or Telephone: 1 929 205 6099
Or iPhone one-tap : +13126266799,,83884669194#

Facilitator: Caryn Long Tech support: Hannah King Host: Sydney Hinckley (CEDO)

6:45 Sign on to Zoom online meeting Waiting Room (See below if you have problems)

7:00 Announcements: email list; mandatory composting; where to find masks; Steering Committee updates

7:05 Speak-out

7:20 City Councilors: Jack Hanson, Zoraya Hightower, Jane Stromberg

7:40 School Board Commissioners: Kathy Olwell, Aden Haji

7:50 Lake Monsters: Joe Doud; Minor league baseball status for 2020 season

7:55 UVM: Gail Shampnois, Joe Speidel; Move-in; Fall Semester UVM opening

8:10 Colchester & East Ave CCRPC Study: Dave Cawley; Updates from study group on this next leg of the Colchester Ave improvement project

8:15 DPW: Rob Goulding; Construction plans for sidewalks and road paving

8:30 Riverside Ave Multi-Family Development: Mark Furnari; Plan presentation

8:40 Adjourn

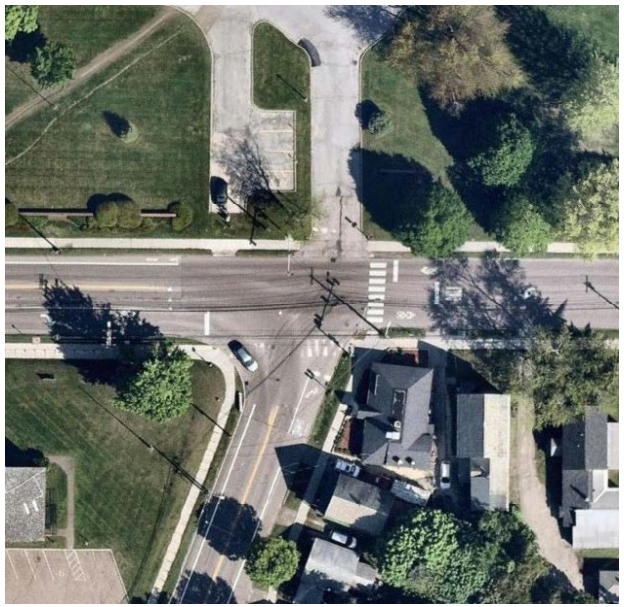
If you have any difficulties accessing the meeting before, during or after, please feel free to contact Hannah King at (978-333-0769) or kinghannah190@gmail.com and she will walk you through the process, and troubleshoot any issues.

Want to watch the meeting but not be in direct attendance? Watch on Channel 17 YouTube. You will be able to watch the livestream, without logging into the Zoom. And, if you're unable to tune in during the Wednesday meeting you can access the recording there, too!
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLljLFn4BZd2Pa3H8l30gy_gZ3NL6orXcN

NPA Steering Committee
Cindy Cook (Ward 1) ccook@adamantaccord.com, Jonathan Chapple-Sokol (Ward 1) chapplesokol.npasc@gmail.com, Carol Livingston (Ward 1) carol.livingston1951@gmail.com, Caryn Long (Ward 1) carynlong@burlingtontelecom.net, Hannah King (Ward 8) kinghannah190@gmail.com, Linda Rizvi (Ward 8) linda.rizvi.npasc@gmail.com

Update Regarding

Colchester Avenue: Bikeways, Parking, and Intersection Safety Study



Presented to NPA Ward 1 & 8

June 10, 2020

Dave Cawley

Participants

- Project Team

Chittenden County RPC
Communities Planning Together

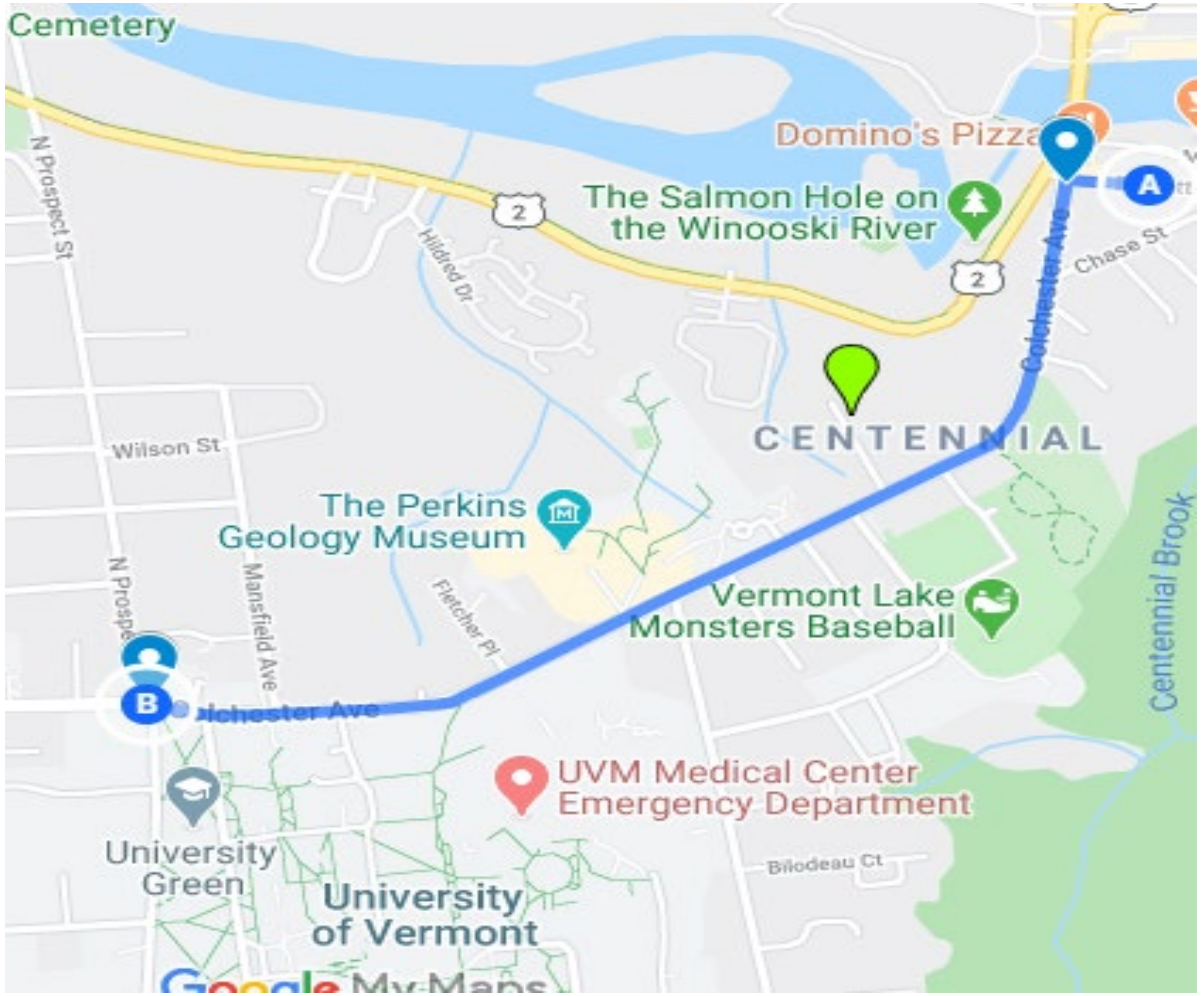
Burlington, VT Public Works

Third Sector Associates

vhb

- **Advisory Committee**
- **City of Burlington** | Will Clavelle
- **UVM Medical Center** | Ashley Bond
- **UVM** | Jim Barr
- **Green Mountain Transit** | Chris Damiani
- **Burlington Walk Bike Council** | Jason Stuffle
- **VTrans** | Mario Dupigny-Giroux
- **NPA Representative** | David Cawley
- **NPA Alternate** | **Vacant**
- **City Council** | Jack Hansen
- **City Council Alternate** | Zoraya Hightower

Project Study Area



High Crash Area 2014-2018

- **347 Total crashes**
- **14 Bike Crashes**
- **9 Pedestrian Crashes**
- **47 Injury Crashes**

Area Often Identified for Improvement:

- 2011 Colchester Ave Corridor Plan
- 2017 Walk/Bike Plan BTV
- High Crash location by VT Agency of Transportation
- 2018 Highway safety Improvement Program
- Dec 2019 Public Concerns meeting

Key Improvement Needs

- **Improve Intersection Safety**
- **Improve Corridor Safety for all Users**
- **Enhance Mobility for Bicyclists**
- **Manage Parking while Supporting Local Businesses, Employers, and Residents**

21 specific issues identified from local concerns meeting in Dec 2019

- 4 pedestrian
- 9 bicycle
- 2 car
- 2 parking
- 4 public transit

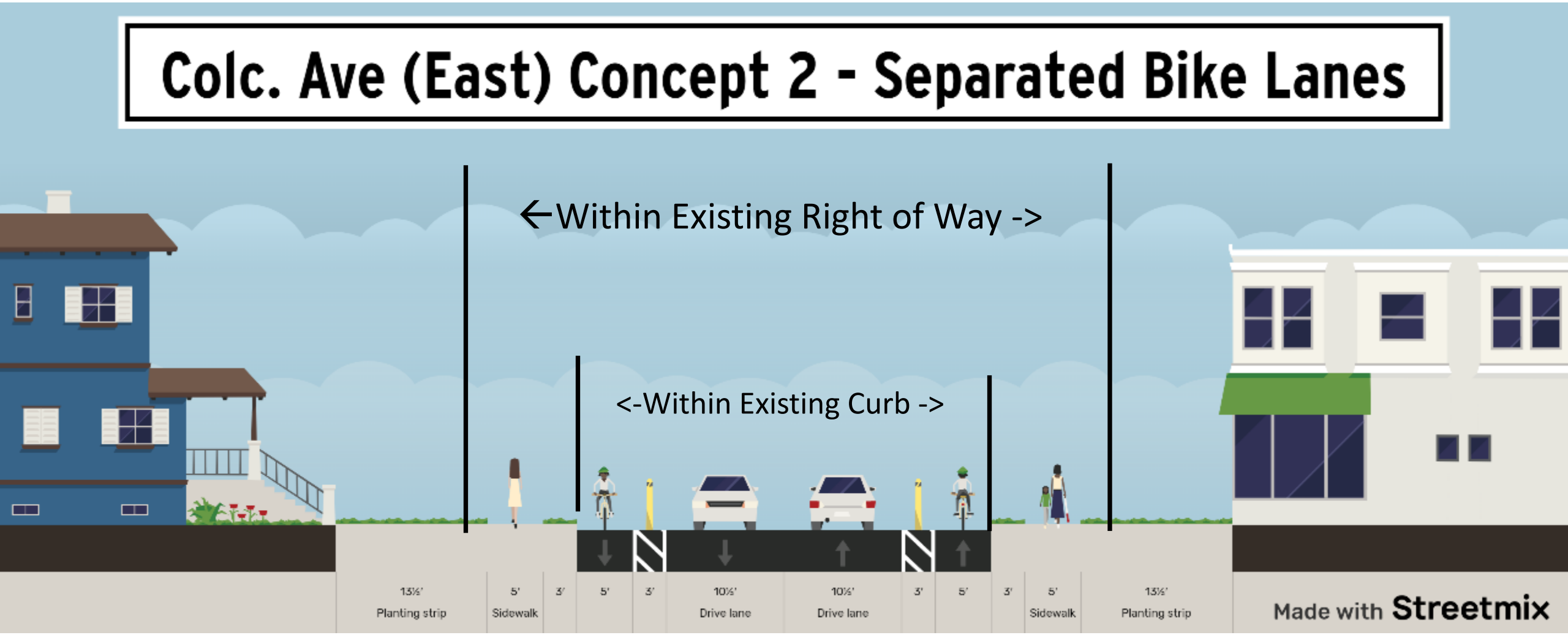
Project Purpose

to identify and prioritize improvements that align with the City's vision for sustainable transportation infrastructure and enable a continuous and connected multimodal transportation corridor.

Specifically, the study will evaluate improvements:

- along Colchester Avenue in its entirety which will enhance mobility and safety for all modes and include solutions for parking demand of businesses, employers, and residents;

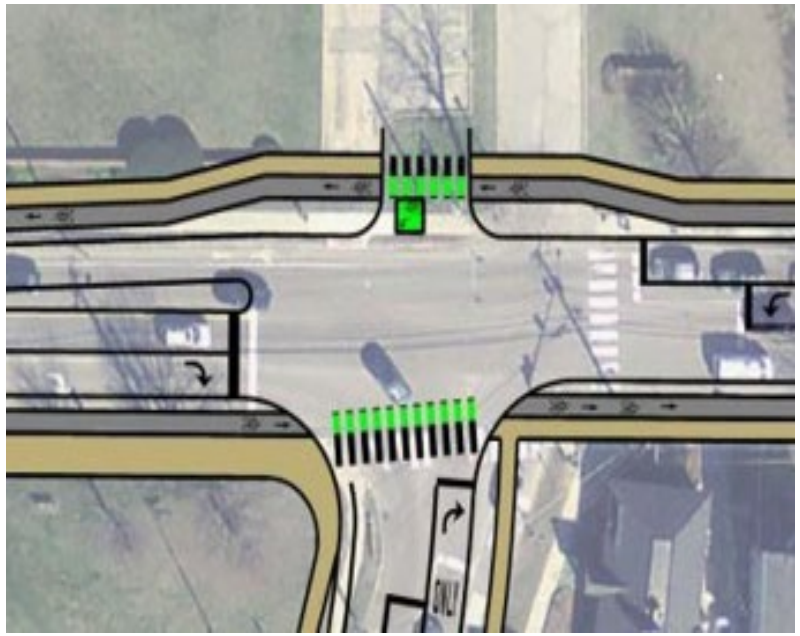
- at the intersection of Colchester Avenue and East Avenue which will improve safety for all modes of transportation.


Colc. Ave (East) Concept 2 - Separated Bike Lanes
←Within Existing Right of Way ->
<-Within Existing Curb ->
13½'
Planting strip
5'
Sidewalk
3'
5'
3'
10½'
Drive lane
10½'
Drive lane
3'
5'
3'
5'
Sidewalk
13½'
Planting strip
Made with Streetmix

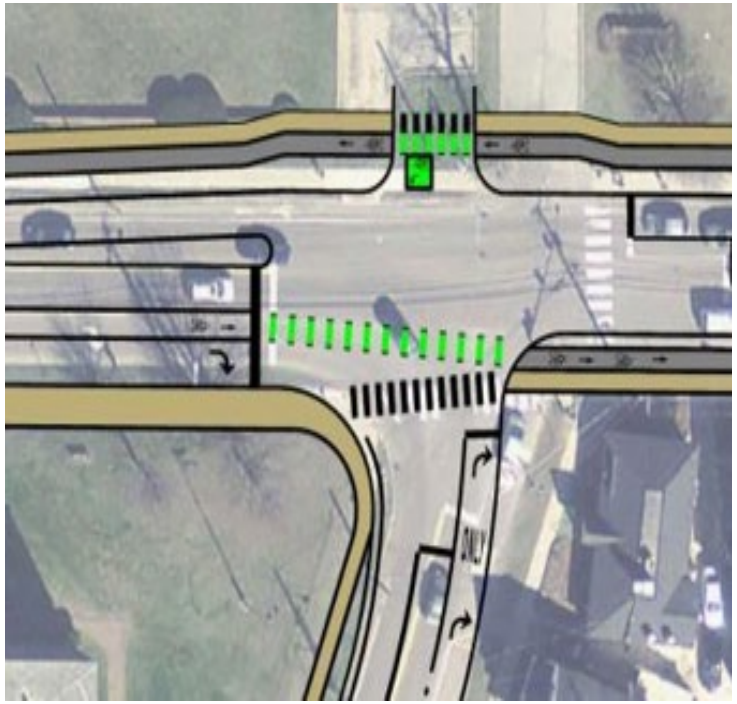
Colchester Ave - Major Improvements Under Consideration

	Concept 2 - Within Existing Curbs	Concept 4 - Within ROW	Concept 4A Within ROW & parking/bus spaces	Concept 6 Within ROW with shared use path uphill
Major Feature	Bike lanes separated from traffic	Raised and separated bike lanes	Raised & separated Bike Lanes & provision for parking	Same as #4 with shared use path on North side of Colchester Ave from Barrett St to East Ave
Other enhancements	Enhanced left turning for bikes	Enhanced left turning for bikes; better sidewalks	Enhanced left turning for bikes; better sidewalks	Enhanced left turning for bikes; better sidewalks
Vehicle Safety	Reduced conflicts with bikes	Reduced conflicts with bikes	Reduced conflicts with bikes	Reduced conflicts with bikes

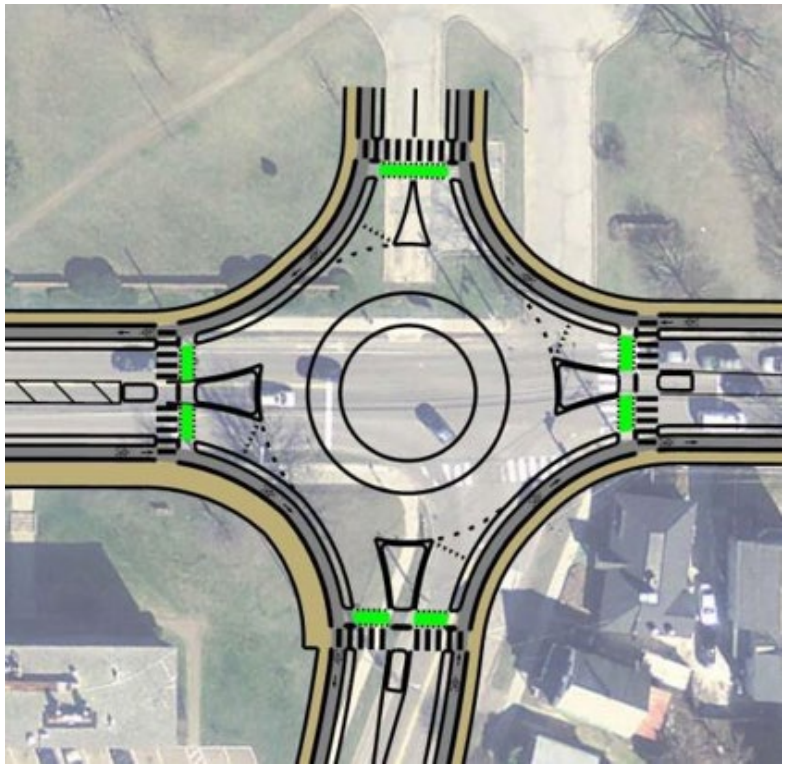
Colchester Ave & East Ave Intersection - Major Improvements Under Consideration



#2 – Separated Bike Lane



#2A – Bike Through Intersection



#3 – Roundabout

All concepts are being assessed for:

Benefits

- Level of enhanced safety
  - Pedestrian
  - Bicycle
  - Vehicle
- Increase in mobility
- Ability to contribute to long-term City sustainability goals
- Ability to meet community & businesses needs
- Enhancement to the community

Costs

- Level of construction costs
- ROW issues
- Greenbelt / tree issues
- Parking issues
- Utility impacts

Next Steps

- Alternatives Presentation Public Meeting -TBD
- Alternatives Refinement - TBD
- Advisory Committee Meeting #3 –TBD
- Draft Scoping Report – TBD
- City Council Presentation – TBD
- Final Scoping Report - TBD

Stay Connected with the Colchester Avenue: Bikeways, Parking, and Intersection Safety Study!

Project Website:

http://bit.ly/colchester-ave

Contact Info:

Jason Charest, CCRPC
802.861.0127
jcharest@ccrpcvt.org

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7:00 Announcements: email list; mandatory composting; where to find masks; Steering Committee updates

City ordinance is that we use masks, can be picked up at the library. Call 802 755-7239 if you want someone to deliver a mask to you.

Composting curbside will start July 1.

Steering Committee welcomes help if you are interested. Liv Pena is no longer able to be on the SC.

New curbside signs posted to alert people to upcoming NPA meetings.

7:05 Speak-out

Sophie - At mtg with Parks & Rec - have priced out everything to work on barn this summer. Please contact Cindy Wight to encourage this work, cwight@burlingtonvt.gov.

Erhard - Would like to see everyone's faces. Announcing his run for the Chittenden County Senate. Focusing on housing, economic, social, racial justice. Website:

erhardforsenate.com Phone: 233 2902 cell phone. Democratic primary is August 11.

Jason - with Regional Planning Commission; here to support David Cawley's update.

Carol - for Nancy Kirby: concern about Handy development on Riverside Ave. & watch for ticks when walking through cemetary

Patricia - clarified Handy's development

Cindy - On next call, would like to be able to see everyone on the screen.

CEDO is using a different meeting platform in the effort to protect members' privacy and discussions. Zoom has been problematic, so CEDO is asking that we use this format.

7:20 City Councilors: Jack Hanson, Zoraya Hightower, Jane Stromberg

Jack - resolution to decarbonize housing stock, starting with new development, then developing policy around existing buildings - particularly weatherization. Continued discussion Champlain Parkway Project - impact on the neighborhood. UVM working on student moves. AFCME union concerns about budget. City budget is still being worked on, not ready for vote. Required to pass budget by 6/29. Mayor discussing layoffs, now off the table, does include removal of temporary postions in city depts. Perry Freeman moved for Charter change offerings about taxation beyond current policy, targeting people with higher incomes; looking at minimum wage, and just-cause evictions - long process with citywide vote & State legislature approval. Changes in streets - opened to more biking and closing more to parking. Going to open up downtown streets for easier use for pedestrians and shoppers and restaurants. We are in watershed moment for racial justice and fair policing - large turnout of attendees at city mtg, as well as police commission meeting: speakers wanting removal of police officers in several arenas; expanding capacity of equity office and greater role in city - minority-owned businesses.

Zoraya - Thank you to Nancy Kirby for mowing and others for cleaning up gravestones in the cemetary. Several projects on Riverside Ave - by Hildred St., by car wash, by E & E. Working on Housing Board of Review to expand its work to include more focus on tenants rights.

Jane - (phoned in from emergency road trip). Impressed by community helping each other. Face masks required for all customers at retail places. Voted to remove or cover within 90 days the mural downtown. Resolution by Ali Deng, condemning police violence, urging fair policing practices. Jane proposed amendment to strike language

praising the police dept as part of the fair policing practice.

Q & A:

Outreach to community members about student moves currently? Jack - take advantage of free testing being offered - best way to box in the spread. Waterman and Old North End Comm Center. Urging students to take advantage of this opportunity. Zoraya - discussions about congregation of students, need more work with UVM about norming.

Caryn - watched Miro's Tuesday press conf: Miro's letter to Brookfield: $10,000 monthly payments Brookfield owes - now behind 3 months? Stops end of this month. Getting back right of way on Bank & Cherry. Jack: Brookfield response to Miro's letter - 5 commitments they're making. Looking at right of way plan by 6/30. Jeff Glassburg payments through June, are now caught up. Caryn concerned about lost tax dollars & good will. Jack thinks we need a firmer approach but not taken up by the mayor. Brookfield scheduled to come to City Council in August

Erhard - 30% cut of police - investing in minority businesses, but is it being invested in social workers? Yes - channeling funds to social & community workers, looking at partnership with Police not instead of police. Calls from community & council members not yet the mayor about this shift of funding. Monday's city council meeting will have this as agenda item. Question about militarized equipment - no resurgence of this as far as Zoraya & Jack know - not done this for some time - this is true of BPD but may not be true of Vt state police.

7:40 School Board Commissioners: Kathy Olwell, Aden Haji

> Aden: update: conversations about superintendent transition from Yaw Obeng to Tom Flanagan, who joined School Bd mtg yesterday. Support for multilingual liaisons' incredibly hard work during shut down - bridging the needs of families. Limited summer programs, more info forthcoming. Schools opening in the fall - procedures forthcoming. COVID testing sites now have more interpreters - 6-7 speaking different languages. Aden's concern: how to keep kids engaged this summer after being inside for so long during the shutdown. Please contact Aden with questions & concerns: ahaji@bsdvt.org
>
> Kathy: summer programs: middle school 6/29 - 7/23, 9 to 3:15, kids in pods of 10 where not mixed. Academics in am and sports in pm. Only 150 kids being served rather than 300. Elem school program at Flynn. Sarah Holbrook also running limited program at SA. ESL program in schools and Sara Holbrook

7:50 Lake Monsters: Joe Doud; Minor league baseball status for 2020 season

Very limited information to announce: major league baseball in negotiations between owners and players assoc. Debating # games and locations. LakeMonsters waiting for results of these meetings. Have heard nothing from anyone. Supposed to open 6/18 but given negotiations, not expecting to open on time. Don't know what season will look like - resume with shortened season, prolonged into fall, different number of games?? Don't know anything for certain. King St offices available online for residents to support the team.

7:55 UVM: Gail Shampnois, Joe Speidel; Move-in; Fall Semester UVM opening

Slideshow available **** Gail Shampnois - recognizing pain shared among community members. Office helps students transition to off-campus residences and helps facilitate relationships between students and non-students. Can provide funding for neighborhood activities. Using surveys to get info about off-campus students: who living in Burlington. Not easy for students to make the decision whether to stay here or go home. Surveyed needs of students - paying for food, rent, utilities, other issues - UVM took action & developed resources for students, putting community coalition members in touch with students. UVM office nformed selves around tenant issues; food delivery; working on zoom get-togethers. Newsletteer accessed a lot by students. Move-out - many students staying in rental from June on. Some students had to vacate old rental before moving into new rental - financial hardship. Fewer summer subletting this year. Students understand quarantining in VT. Families & students appreciate UVM help with quarantining.

Joe Speidel -

The UVMStrong - Fall 2020 Advisory Committee was created to coordinate planning efforts for the fall semester.Tasked with developing strategies and protocols for a safe return to on-campus operations. Chaired by Vice President for Operations and Public Safety Gary Derr.Four working groups, more than 50 representatives (faculty, staff, students). Work with faculty experts in public health and medicine, the Vermont Department of Health, Governor Phil Scott and the Vermont Legislature, and Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger.Guided by a focus on the health and safety of the entire UVM and surrounding communities.

Some measures being explored include:

a) Testing protocols, contact tracing, quarantine and isolation strategies.
b) Residence options that reduce density and provide for quarantine facilities.
c) Revised class schedules.
d) A modified campus calendar.
e) Multiple modes of instruction, including enhanced online options.
f) Ongoing telework/remote options for some employees (to ensure lower concentrations of individuals on campus and to protect the more vulnerable).
g) Adequate stocks of supplies required to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Student testing and treatment options coordinated with the Center for Health and Wellbeing, and the Vermont Department of Health.

The committee and its working groups will develop strategies for multiple scenarios.Will have a strong framework of options to meet emerging and evolving needs.More information should be available soon, in the committee's first report.

Q & A: specific measures regarding student activities & sporting events, coordination with local gathering places? Sporting events decisions will be made by governor & mayor - not happening right away. Burl & VT doing well following guidelines. When outbreaks, finding quick responses with testing & contact tracing. Need to limit gatherings of many people at one place.

Hannah: important to have conversations with one another and students moving into residents and residents need to work on developing the relationships for understanding and more communication. Joe: people working on having conversations with one another rather than outside enforcement.

8:10 Colchester & East Ave CCRPC Study: Dave Cawley; Updates from study group on this next leg of the Colchester Ave improvement project

***Presentation slides sent. Colchester Ave safety study underway. High level overview of options being considered. NPA alternate member on Advisory Committee position is vacant for Ward 1. Prospect St to Barrett = high crash area. Needs safety at intersections, protection for all users, managing parking, mobility for bicyclists. Looking at longer term improvements. Considering: staying within existing curbs or expanding to right of way - greenways & sidewalks. Also looking at options for improving safety at intersection of

East Ave & Colchester Ave. Project on hold, not clear when restarting - Looking at ways to get public input. If you are interested in this project, go to Regional Planning /website - look up Colchester Ave safety for all options and details.

Erhard: question about roundabout, issues of rights of way - UVM Med Ctr property & India House - detail designs not reflective yet. Barrett Street intersection - options? Much is linked to Winooski Bridge so not clear yet what next steps are for this section because of the bridge. Funding is an issue as well Erhard: concern about backups in traffic from that intersection all the way to Bayberry = safety issue and access for neighbors. Zoraya: important to get this info to project designers. Hannah: we can use new NPA email to disseminate info. Jason Charest - Dave excellent advocate on council. Any planning for the corridor - 2 different completed studies for each end of intersections - both projects studies completed, ready to go ahead when funding is available. Roundabout would avoid India House corner and cut health bldg - less of a right angle.

8:15 DPW: Rob Goulding; Construction plans for sidewalks and road paving and Olive Darisse, engineer

Presentation online and FPF - overview of projects for this year. Ongoing construction - being mindful of public health protocols. Sidewalk work - feedback & city funding has helped and increased short-run sidewalk repairs - much in Wards 1 & 8. New sidewalk assessment this year for all of city's sidewalks - for long-run and short-run. Contractors do long-run, city does short-run - list in slides. Schedule is in flux, some delays due to pandemic. Major work includes Colchester Ave sidewalk in front of hospital. Mansfield Ave sidewalk changes in design phase. Mansfield will happen next summer due to utility work. Public meetings upcoming. Ongoing email list from previous meetings. Can reach out to Olivia for mtg dates. A lot of paving this season, coordinated with water projects. A lot in Wards 1 & 8. Delaying water main upgrades, with pandemic concerns. Clean water upgrade projects funded through state - several projects this year. Transportation improvements: East Ave Traffic calming - hired consultant to update 10 yr old evaluation to develop updated traffic - calming project. Q & A: line painting will happen next week or later - will be FPF announcement.

8:30 Riverside Ave Multi-Family Development: Mark Furnari; Plan presentation - Stephen Smith, Mark Furnari, Laurie Smith - Presentation slides

Focus is to get input from us. 237 Riverside Ave land. Residential rental currently. Looking at multi-family housing, affordability, energy efficient, carbon neutral. 325 sq ft each - studio

apts on second, third & fourth floors, retail on first floor. Between car wash and waste water treatment plant. Good connection between UVM, Winooski, Burlington. Path between Trinity campus and Riverside Ave. Site 245 feet from river; most of site will remain natural; adding attractive area on Riverside Ave. Attractive to many different people. Looking for feedback - highest & best use of this property. Back of property and connection to the river. 1st floor - day care? Commercial?

Q & A: Sophie - smell from plant = issue; may be closing down digester at the plant & can mitigate smell. City open to working on.

Erhard - has worked in the past to help create the River Walk. Great potential. Concern about the hillslides and the risk of building, history of slides. Team: have done studies, foundation recommendations. Once get down to 10 feet the slope becomes much more gentle. Geotechnical studies. State archeological site 150 feet from the road - still preserved. Have similar concerns. Very willing to take anyone on a walk on the property.

Team eager to re-present at another meeting to engage neighbors in fuller discussion of uses of building. Goal of 70-80 units, 1,000/month

Laurie Smith wlbsmithvt@gmail.com 8023638070

Mark Furnari mark.furnari@gmail.com 802-233-9395

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