City Council - Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee

Tuesday, December 19, 2023, 4:30 PM,

Virtual attendance is strongly encouraged for this month's meeting due to limited seating:
Join via Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/84603122855
To call into the meeting, including to speak during public comment:
Phone: 312-626-6799, Webinar ID: 846 0312 2855

Join in Person: Fletcher Free Library, 235 College St, Burlington, VT 05401, 3rd Floor Admin Conference Room

1. Agenda

1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda.

2. Adopt Minutes

2.1. Minutes of 11/28/23.

3. Public Forum

4. Deliberative Agenda

4.1. Winooski Bridge Replacement Update

4.2. Carbon Pollution Impact Fee

5. Director's Report

6. Councilor Items

7. Next Meeting

7.1. Next Meeting - 1/23/23

8. Adjournment

CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

c/o Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Suite A
Post Office Box 849
Burlington, VT 05402-0849

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Councilor Mark Barlow, **Chair,** *North District*
Councilor Gene Bergman, *Ward 2*
Councilor Hannah King, *Ward 8*

Inquiries:
Madeline Suender
802.735.5324
msuender@burlingtonvt.gov

Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council
Tuesday November 28th, 2023 – 5:00PM

Front Conference Room
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT 05401

–DRAFT MINUTES–

Chair Barlow calls meeting to order at 5:02PM

1. **Agenda**

Councilor Bergman moves to approve the agenda. Councilor King seconds. All in favor, passes unanimously.

2. **Minutes of 10.26.23**

Councilor Bergman moves to approve the agenda. Councilor King seconds. All in favor, passes unanimously.

3. **Public Forum**

No one present.
Closes at 5:03PM

4. **Bird Bikeshare Update**
   - Julia Ursaki (DPW), Katie Martin and Emily Adams (CATMA), Jeremy Lynch (Bird)
   - Information

Jeremy Lynch goes through presentation.

Councilor Gene Bergman – If there are recurring problems in the same locations, can we look to add racks or something to address them. Encouraged by innovations Bird is looking into. Want to increase low-income ridership, N Winooski community in particular. Bird should partner with developers. Winooski and South Burlington links are difficult with lacking infrastructure but within 10 years there will be better connections.

Councilor Hannah King – Emails to folks who have had issues, what has response been? Could text messages be better received?
JL – We will have better idea in spring as we didn't start emails right away. Most people respond positively.

Chair Mark Barlow – Can a phone number be used to report improperly parked bikes? Can SCF be used to route issues to Bird?
JL – There is a number on the bikes and website. We can work on getting SCF integrated.

Eliana Fox – Supportive of Bird bikes and all efforts they have made to be a good partner.
Item ends 5:48 PM

5. **Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) Briefing**
   - Megan Moir, Emily Piersiak (DPW WR)

Megan Moir – Provides overview.
Emily Piersiak – Goes through presentation.

Councilor Gene Bergman – In terms of messaging, we should show that we care about this important cause, not just reacting to EPA.

Chair Mark Barlow – Are there any other tests that aren't magnetic that can be sent to people? Can we incentivize people to do it by a certain date?
Megan Moir – Can look into tests. Looking into certain deadlines being met resulting in a drawing for random gift card.
Gene Bergman – Think we can do an incentive based on level of response if lacking.
Item ends 6:13 PM

6. **North Winooski Ave Update**
   - Phillip Peterson (DPW), Chapin Spencer (DPW)

Phillip Peterson – Goes through presentation.
Gene Bergman – Occupancy numbers show a significant parking demand. Need more TDM work and connectivity in greater Winooski Ave area.

Chair Mark Barlow – Are there any immediate DPW actions that were informed by survey?
Chapin Spencer – Continuing to work with Community Health Center (CHC) on their off-street parking for all day parkers. Working on grant for CHC to continue their scoping for off street parking.
Chair Mark Barlow – Would like to know if businesses have been impacted. Majority of folks think it is safer which is encouraging.
Phillip Peterson – Want to keep line of communication open with businesses so we can react to parking needs as they change or issues arise.
Item ends 6:29 PM.

7. **Director's Report**

Solid Waste Generation Tax Payment Compliance (See Report).
Chapin Spencer – Online there is a memo to provide an update. Haulers are current.
Gene Bergman – Compost haulers not shown on list. Need to check if cost should be adjusted.
Chapin Spencer – Will confirm with attorney.

Chair Mark Barlow – Where do these funds go?
Chapin Spencer – General fund, DPW recycling program. It is not a special revenue or standalone fund. We do evaluate the cost vs revenue and seek to make sure we are covering cost and overhead.

Chapin Spencer – Champlain Parkway winter shut down Dec 1st. Minimal work through winter. We are setting up a public meeting form Main St businesses mid Dec.
Item ends 6:53 PM

8. **Councilors' Update**

Councilor Bergman – Requested to have list of items as part of committee packet that we have requested to bring to TEUC. Wants to add GMT Fare and Funding.

Chair Barlow – Would like to schedule a scheduling meeting with councilors.
Item ends 6:54PM

9. **Next Meeting 12/19/23**

645 Pine Front Conference and Bushor Room booked – Place to be determined.

10. Adjourn

Councilor Bergman moves to adjourn. Councilor King seconds. All in favor. Meeting Adjourns 6:42 PM

Burlington TEUC Meeting

Burlington-Winooski BF RAIZ(2)
Burlington STP 5000(29)

December 19, 2023

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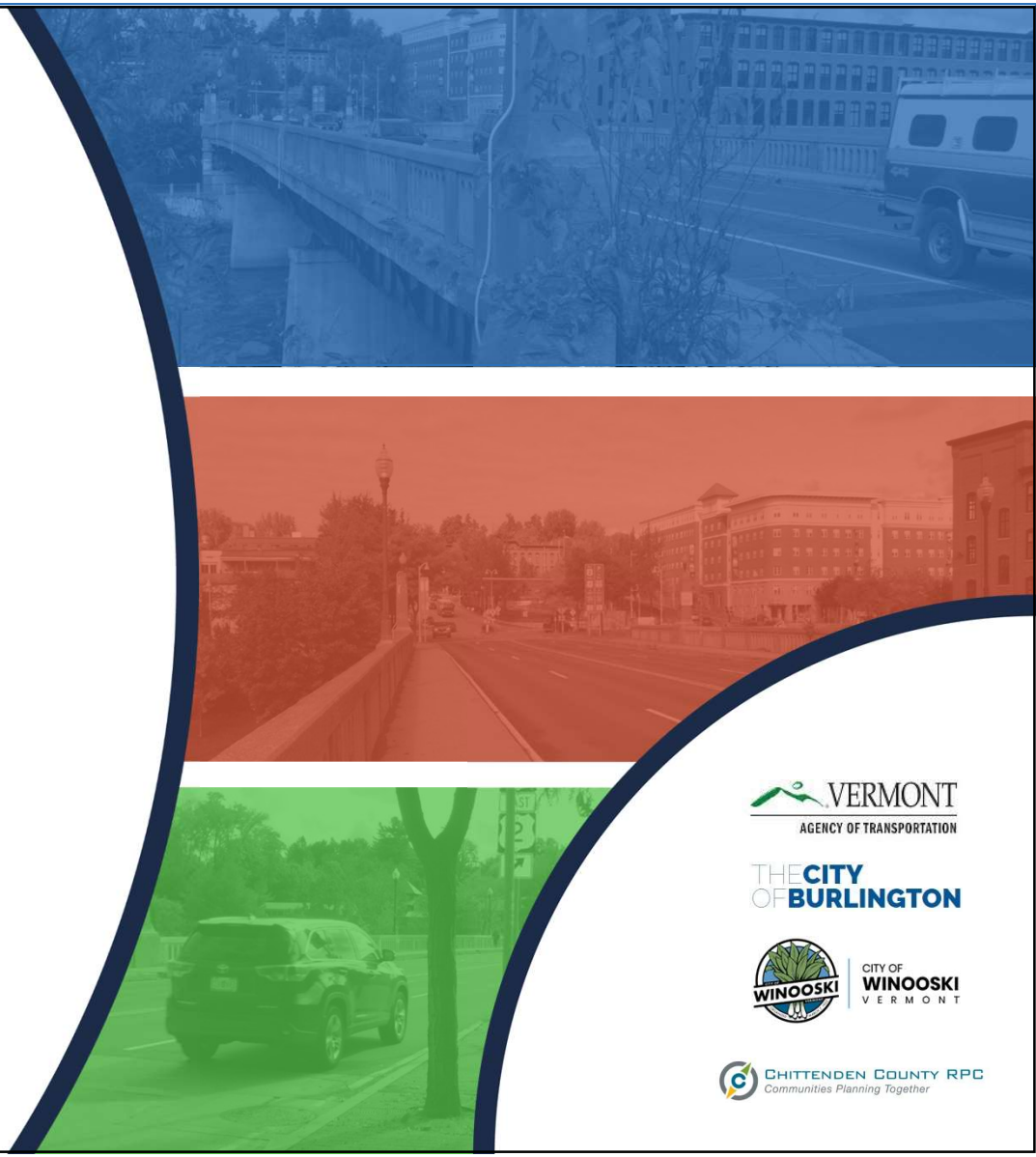
BRIDGE



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THE CITY OF BURLINGTON

CITY OF WINOOSKI VERMONT

CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC
Communities Planning Together

Introductions

- **Bob Klinefelter** – VTrans Structures Project Manager
- **Mike LaCroix** – VTrans Roadway Program Manager
- **Josh Olund** – HNTB Structures Project Manager
- **Steve Spear** – HNTB Roadway Project Manager

VERMONT AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION

BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Agenda

- [x] Project Location
- [x] Past Efforts
- [x] Current Efforts
- [x] Future Efforts
- [x] Project Delivery

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BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Project Location

Project Location

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BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Project Site

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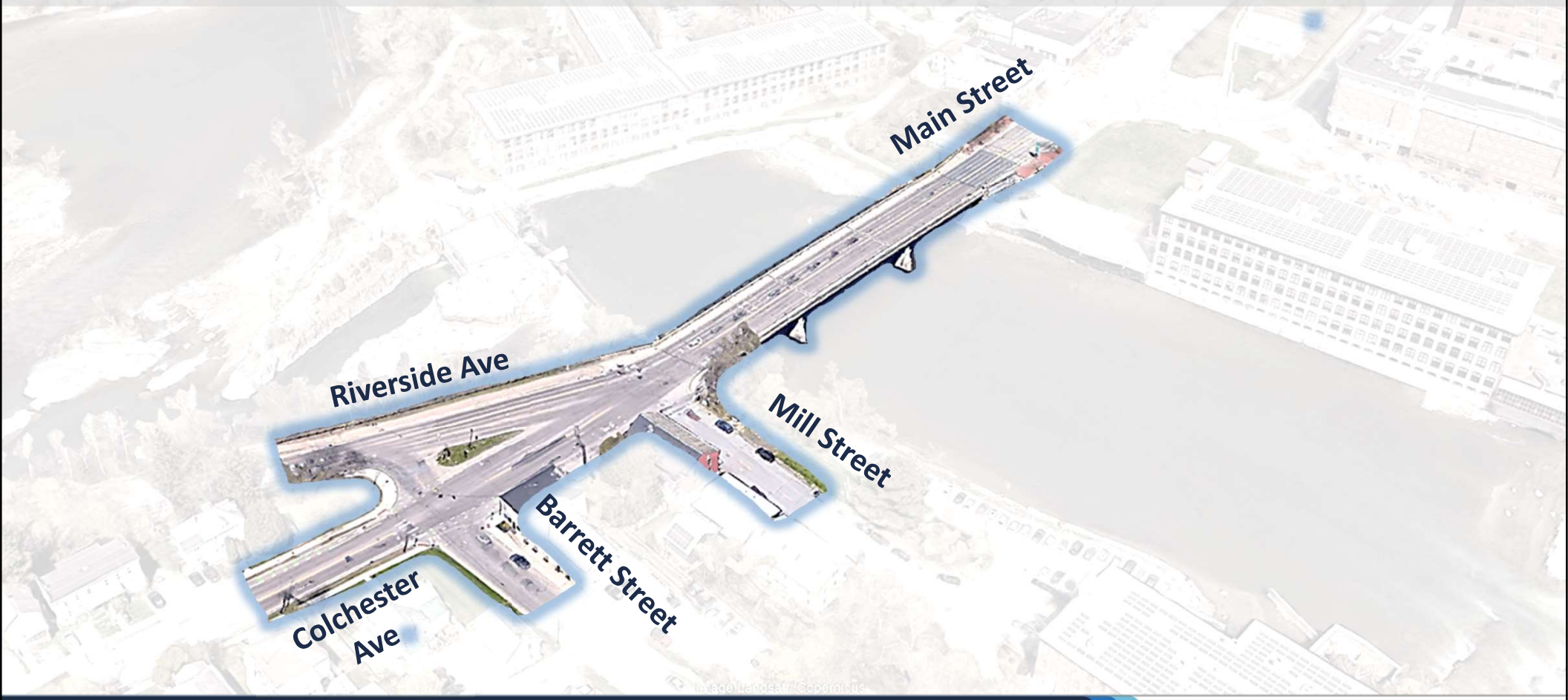
BRIDGE

Project Area



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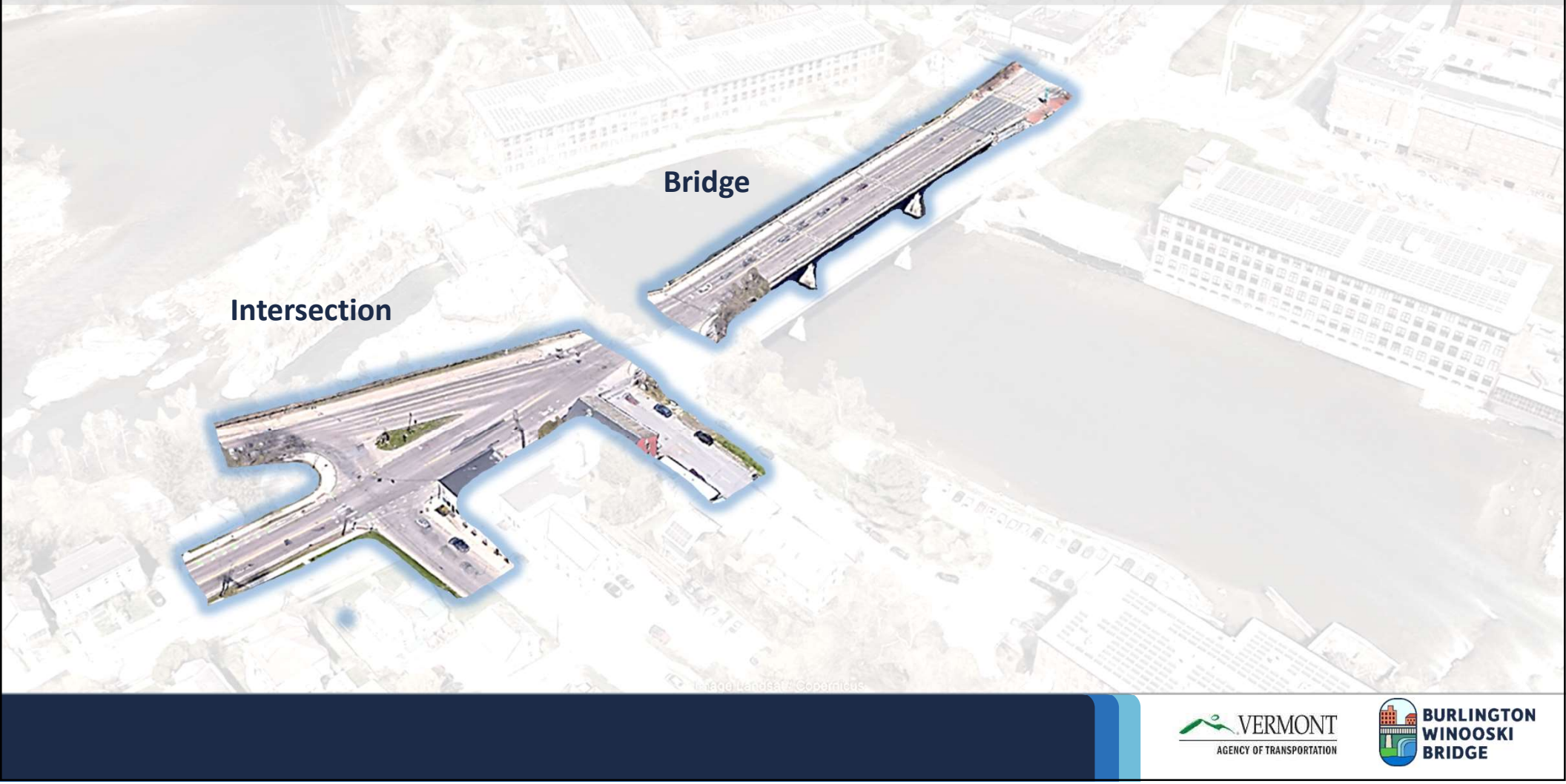
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Project Focal Points



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Past Efforts

Project Definition

April 2017 – May 2019

- Purpose and Need Established
- Public Meetings
- Project Advisory Committee Meetings
- City Council Meetings
- Traffic Study
- Alternatives Evaluation
- Preferred Alternative Defined

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BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Project Reports

- Bridge Scoping Report
- Intersection Scoping Report
- Bridge Grant Application

Bridge Scoping Report (2019)

- Recommended replacement
- Focus on bike/pedestrian accommodations
- Conceptual construction methods

CHITTENDEN COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

SCOPING REPORT

FOR

MAIN STREET BRIDGE (US ROUTES 2 & 7) OVER THE WINOOSKI RIVER

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Communities Planning Together

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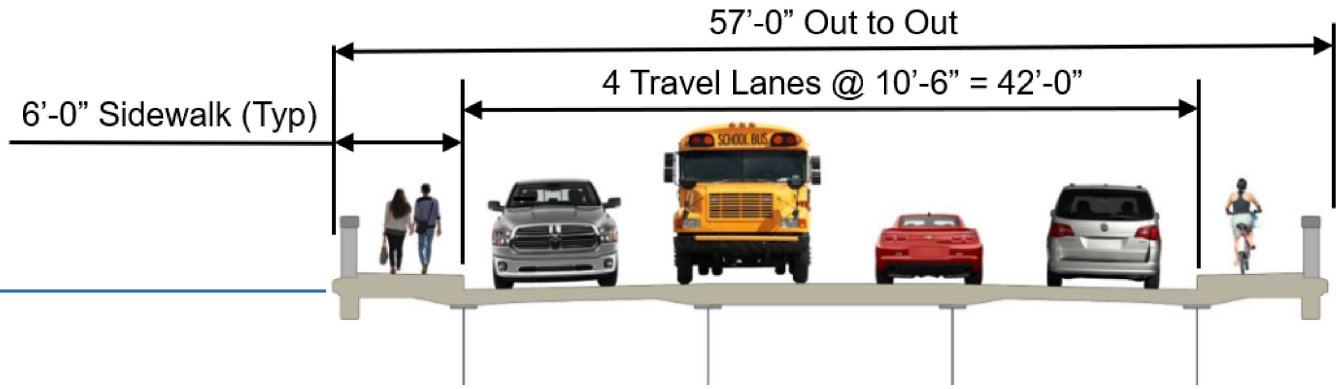
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Bridge Features

- Complete replacement
- Wider lanes and shoulders
- Separated multi-use paths



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BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Intersection Scoping Report (2019)

- Recommended 4-Way intersection
- Focus on bike/pedestrian accommodations, mobility, and safety

COLCHESTER AVENUE/RIVERSIDE AVENUE
Burlington, Vermont

Final Scoping Report

Prepared by: Stantec

Prepared for: Chittenden County RPC; Burlington, VT Public Works; Vermont Agency of Transportation

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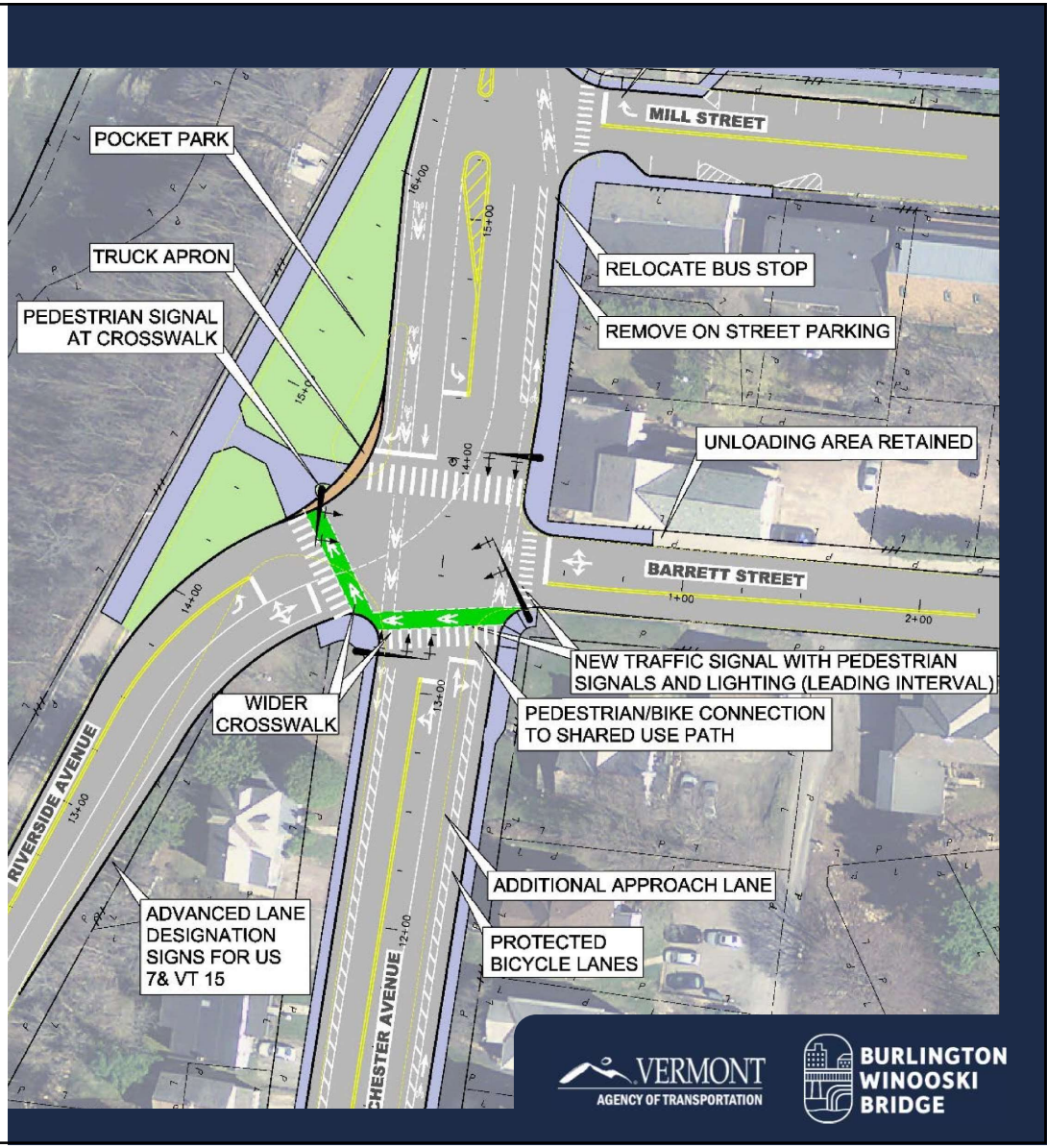
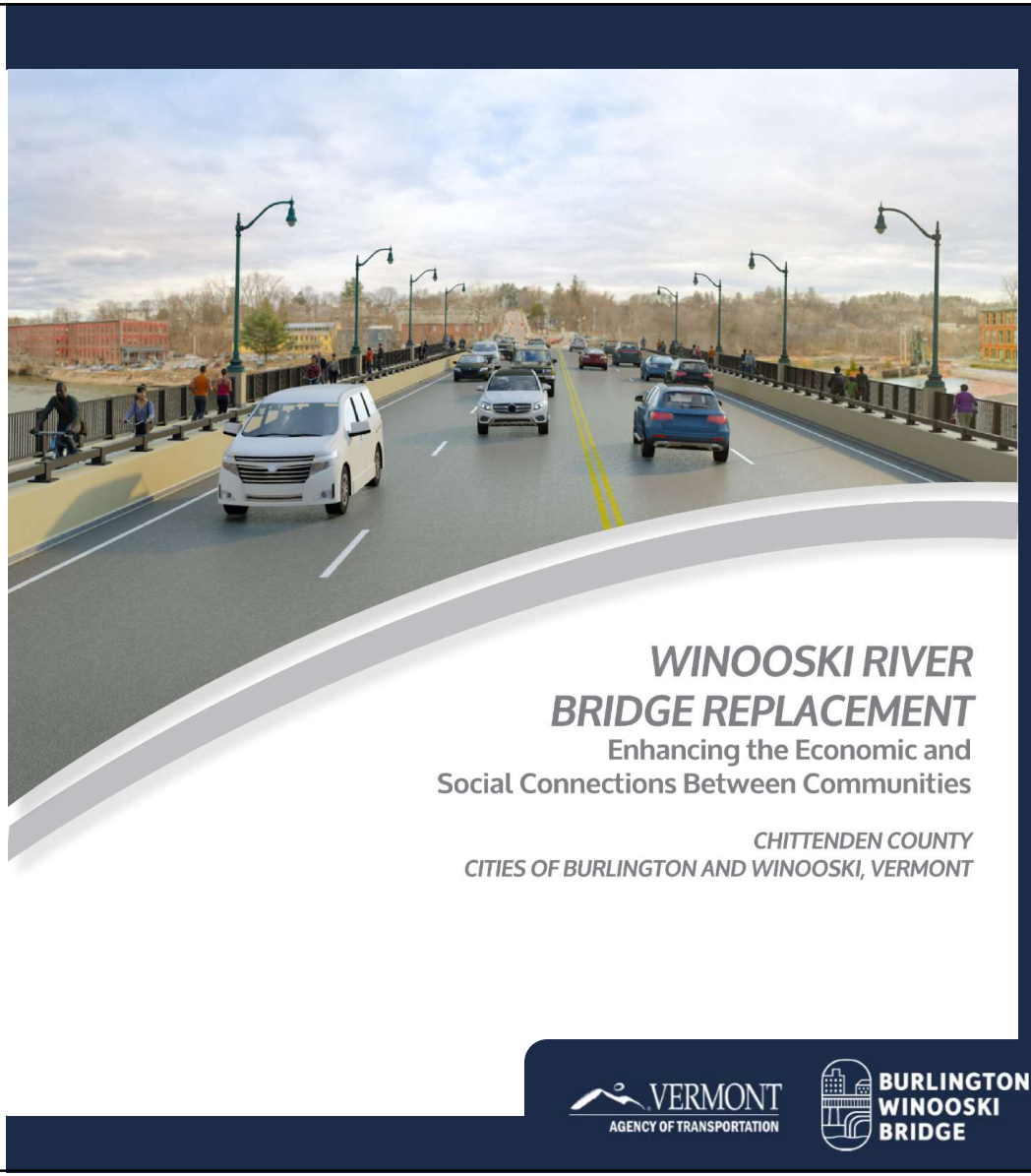
Intersection Features

- Consolidated intersection
  → Improved safety and mobility
- Emphasis on Bike/Pedestrian improvements



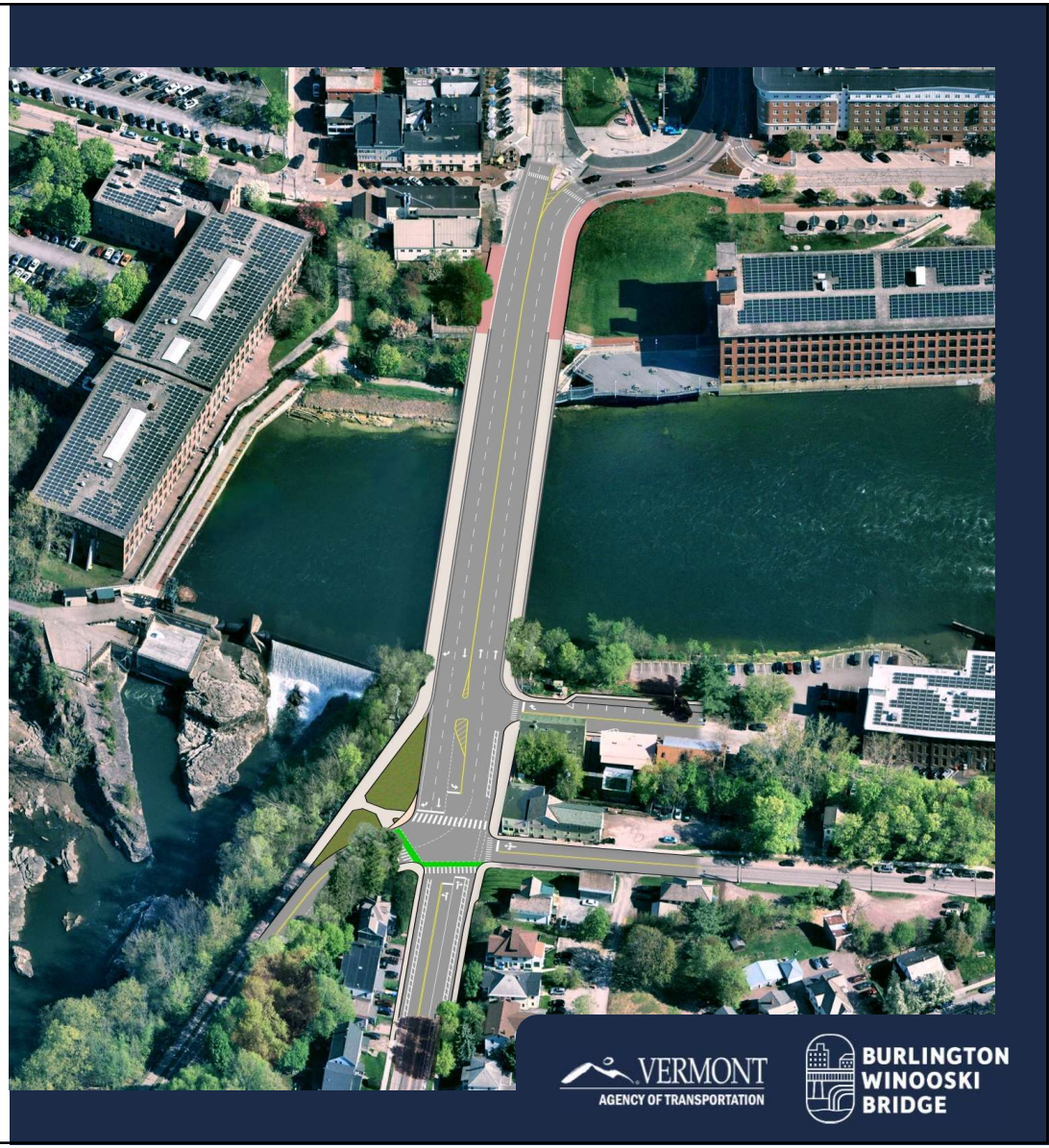
Bridge Grant Application (2022)

- Obligated to:
  - Improve safety
  - Address bike/pedestrian accommodations
  - Complement the natural and cultural environment
  - Provide appealing bridge



Project Compilation

- Concept Plans complete
- Need to combine recommendations of intersection and bridge project



Current Efforts

Project Design

Feb 2023 – June 2026 *(est)*

- Preferred Alternative Refinement
- Preliminary Design
- Traffic Control
- ROW Process
- Utility Relocation
- Environmental Permitting
- RFQ and RFP Development
  (Design-Build Contracting)

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BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Project Design

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BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Preferred Alternative Refinement

- Public Outreach
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Property Owner Meetings
- Initial Utility Coordination
- Initial Environmental Coordination

Traffic Calming

Aesthetics

Bike/Ped Safety

Construction Congestion

Mobility

Business Impacts

Construction Costs

Contaminated Soils

Historic Significance

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BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Preliminary Design

- Ground Survey
- Combining Bridge and Intersection
- Reviewing Constructability

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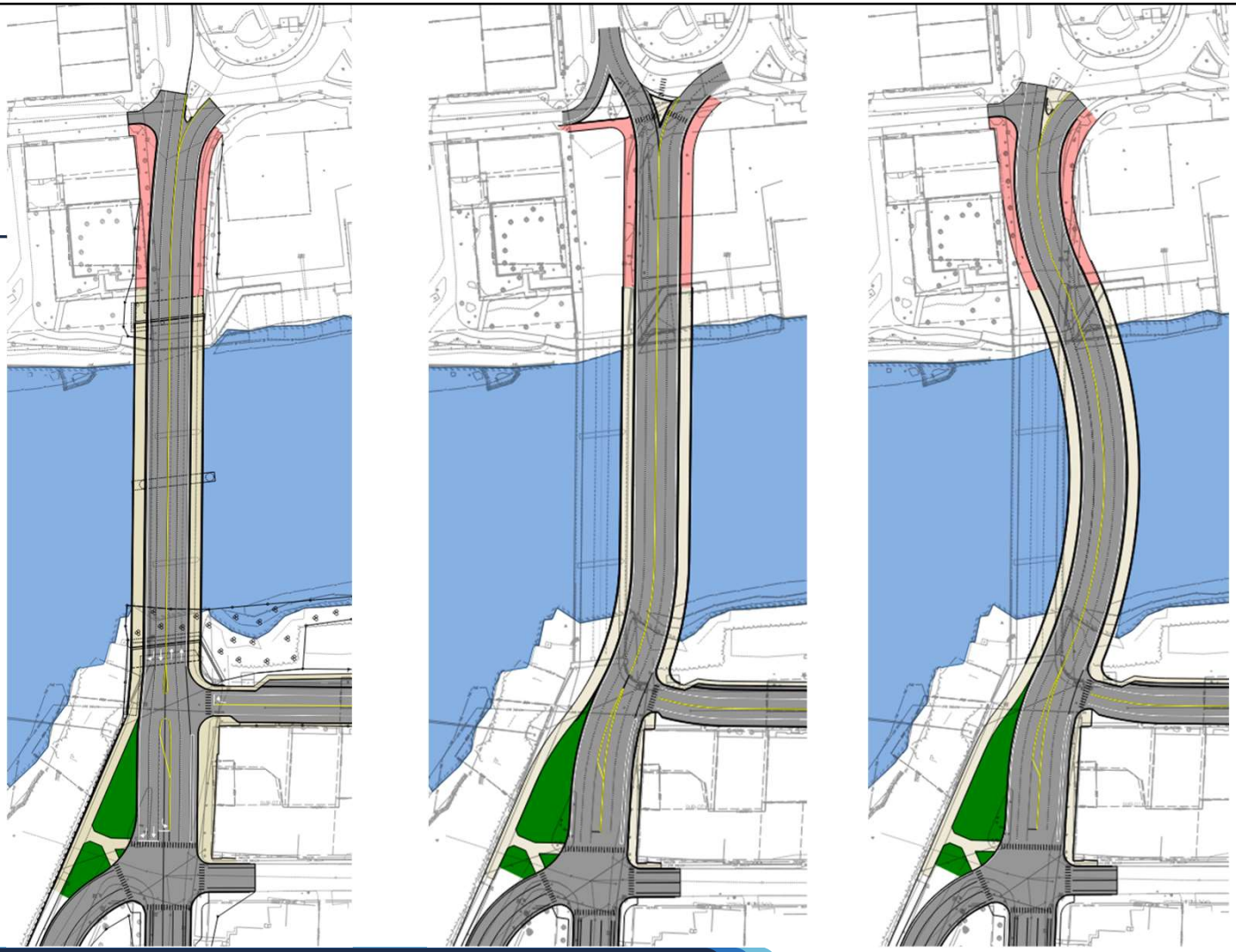
Alignments

- Multiple Variations Explored
- Different Phasing, Traffic Control



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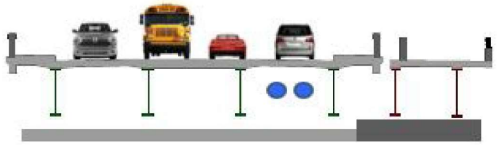
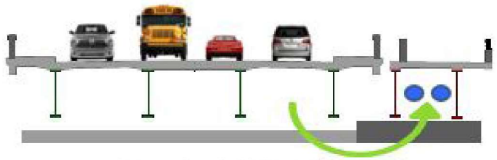
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Bridge Phasing

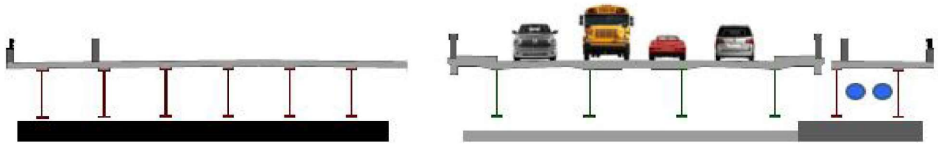
- Build new bridge, next to existing bridge
- Transfer Pedestrians and utilities
- Temporary 4 to 6 week closure for demolition and sliding new bridge together



Phase 1 – Widened Portion of Substructure Units and Superstructure Constructed

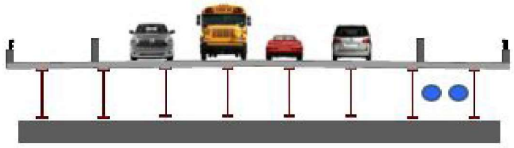


Phase 1a – Utilities Relocated



Phase 2 – New Bridge Superstructure Built Adjacent to Existing Bridge on Temporary Supports

Phase 3 – Bridge Closed to Traffic, Existing Bridge Superstructure Removed, and New Bridge Superstructure Slid to Final Location



Phase 4 - New Bridge Opened to Traffic

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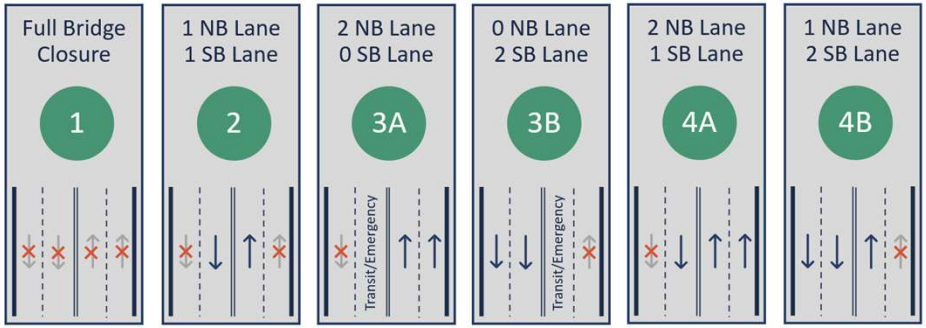
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Maintenance of Traffic

- 25,000 Vehicles & 300 Pedestrians per day
- Need to balance:
  - Minimize impact to traveling public, and
  - Safe, sufficient construction site
- Utilize combination of:
  - Temporary lane closures
  - Temporary bridge closure



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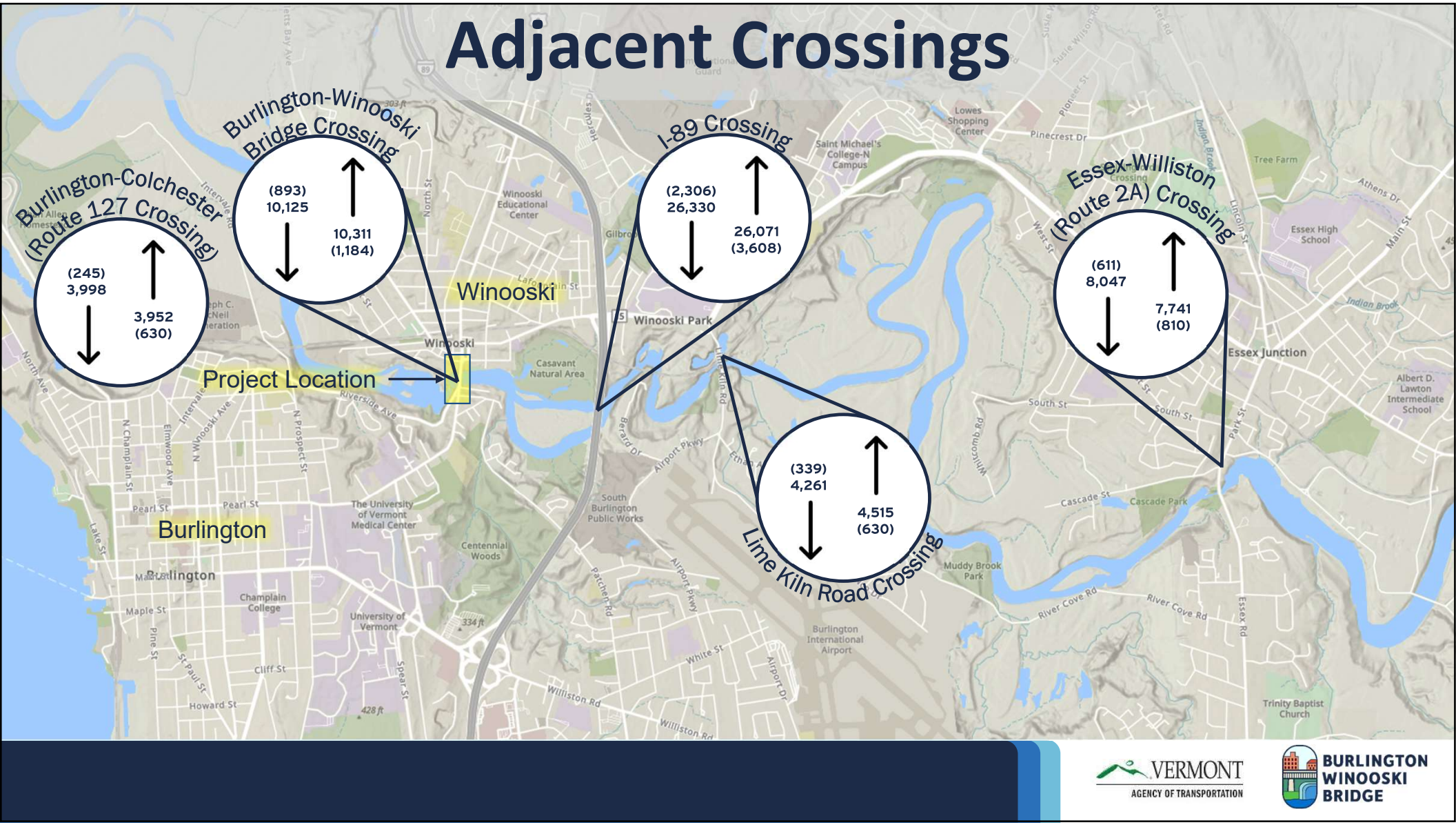
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Adjacent Crossings



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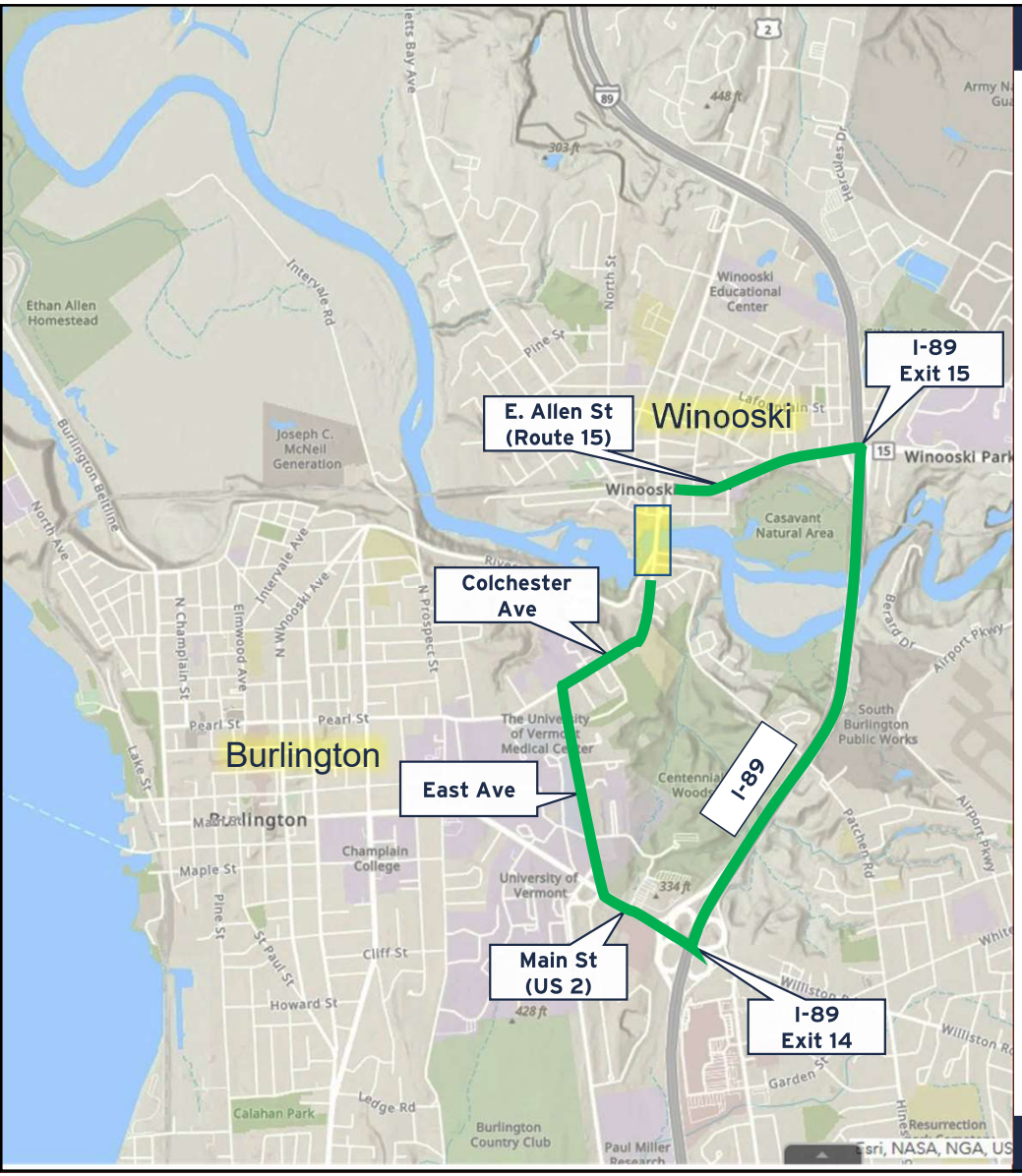
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE



Temporary Detour

- Shortest vehicular detour
- Effects on adjacent roads and intersections
- **All Pedestrians Maintained On Site!**

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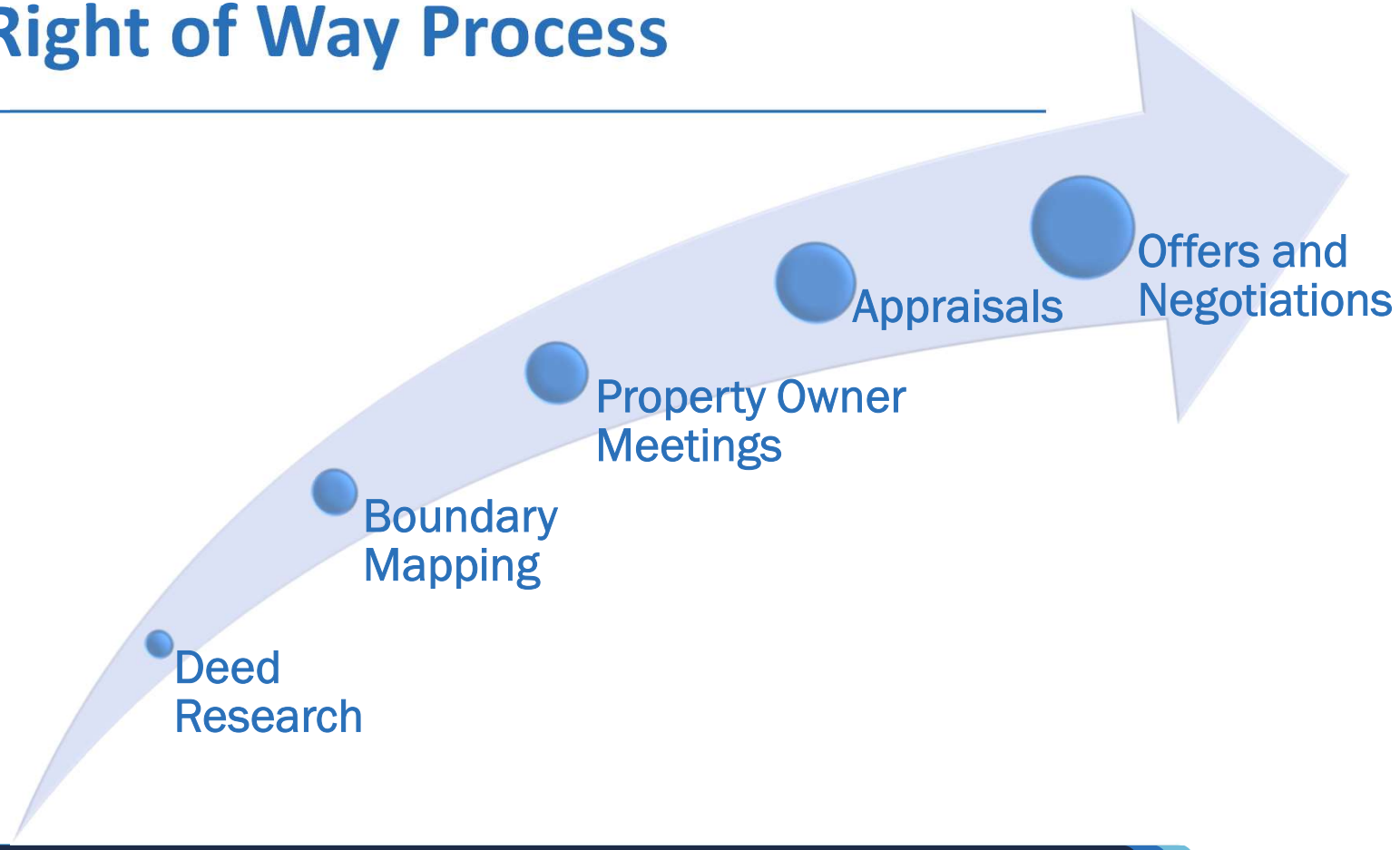
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Right of Way Process



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BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Future Efforts

Project Design

Feb 2023 – June 2026 *(est)*

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  (Design-Build Contracting)

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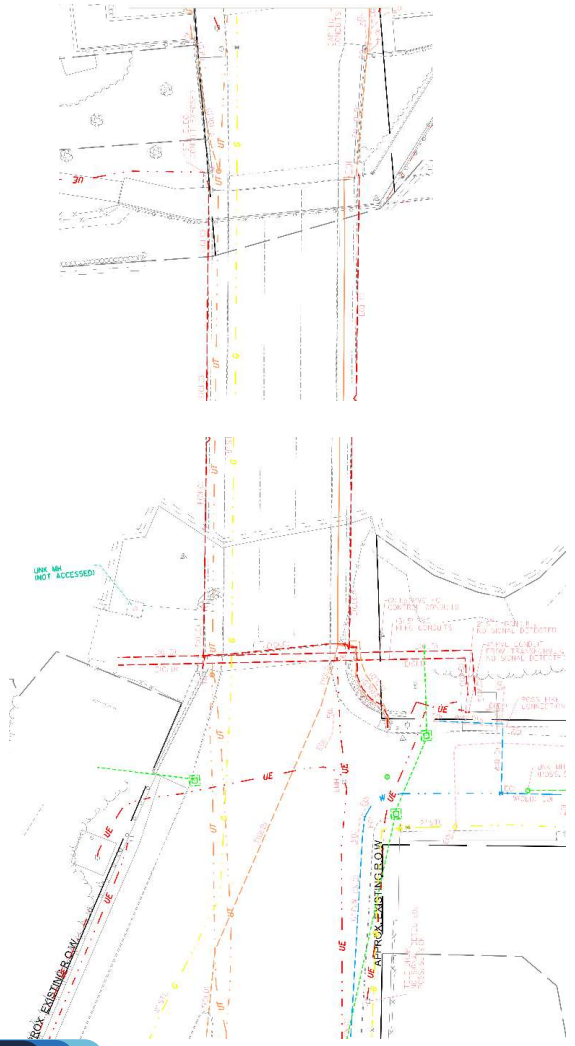
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Utility Relocation

- Test Pits
- Relocation Plans and Construction Sequencing
- Utility Agreements
- *Municipal Utility Relocations are Project Reimbursable*



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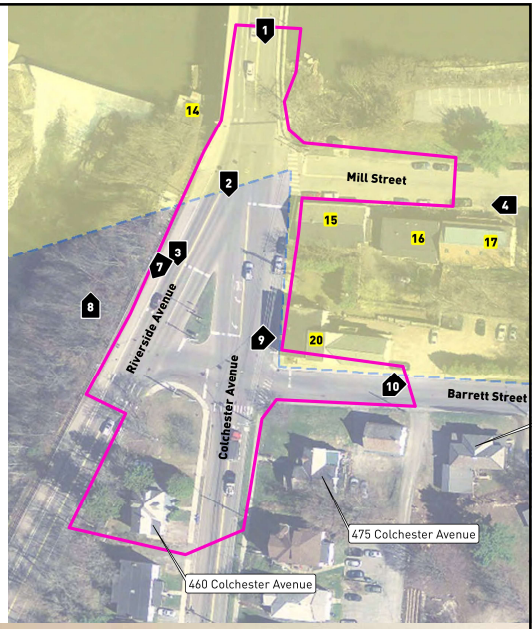
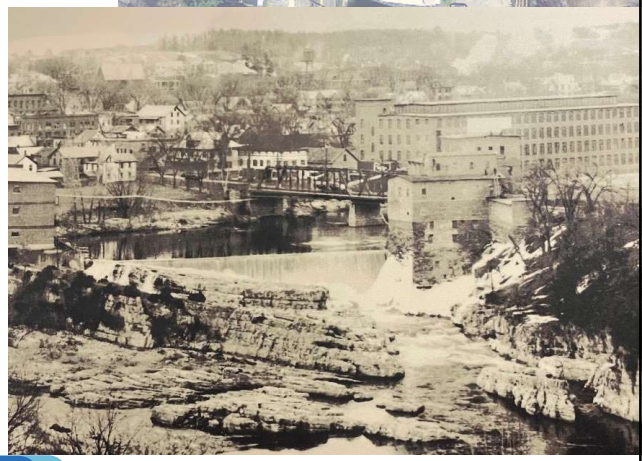
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Environmental Permitting

- Permitting Restriction Commitments
- Historic Process (Section 106)
  - Bridge is listed on National Historic Register
  - Replacement will be an Adverse Effect
  - Consultation process for mitigation
  - Winooski Falls Historic District
  - Multiple Historic Properties





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What is Design-Build Contracting?

Project delivery method that:

- Incorporates final design and construction into a single contract.
- Places increased responsibilities on the Contractor in an attempt to reduce risks and costs to the State.

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Why Use Design-Build Contracting?

- Promotes Innovation
- Improves Design/Construction Efficiencies
- Reduces Construction Costs
- Reduces Construction Schedule

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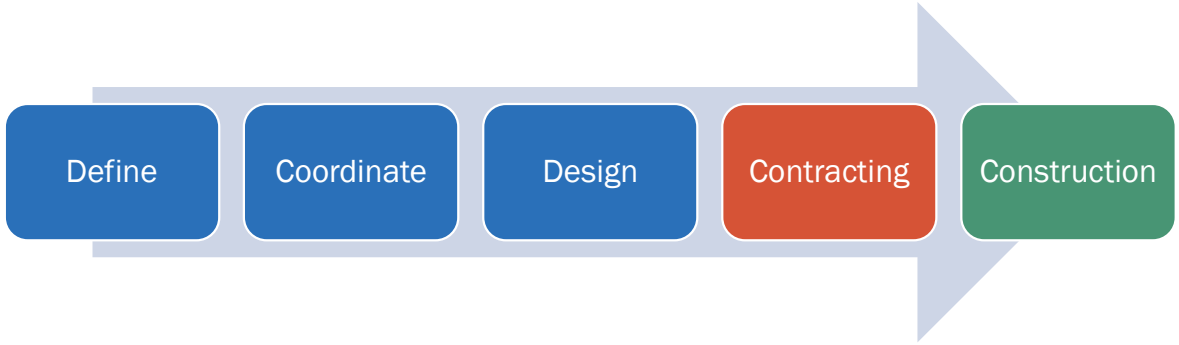
Design-Bid-Build (Traditional) Contracting

VTrans

- Preliminary Design
- Environmental Coordination
- Final Design
- Right of Way Process
- Permitting
- Utility Relocation
- Construction Contracting
- Public Outreach
- Construction Inspection
- Construction Oversight

Contractor

- Construction



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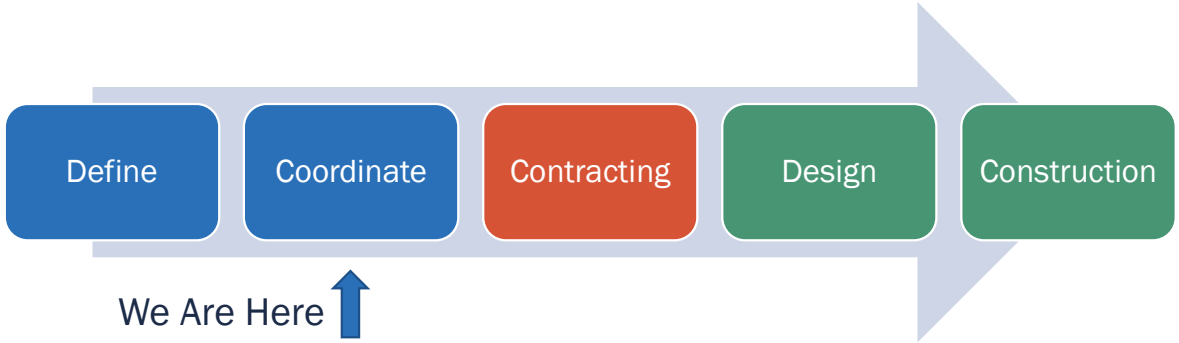
Design-Build Contracting

VTrans

- Preliminary Design
- Environmental Coordination
- ~~Final Design~~
- Right of Way Process
- ~~Permitting~~
- Utility Coordination
- Construction Contracting
- Public Outreach
- Construction Inspection
- Construction Oversight

Contractor

- Final Design
- Utility Relocation
- Permitting
- Public Outreach
- Construction



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BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

What Does This Mean?

- VTrans will develop design and construction *guidelines* – need to provide leeway for innovation to occur
- Final features (number of bridge girders, site restoration, etc) may be the decision of the Contractor
- Checks and balances with VTrans maintained

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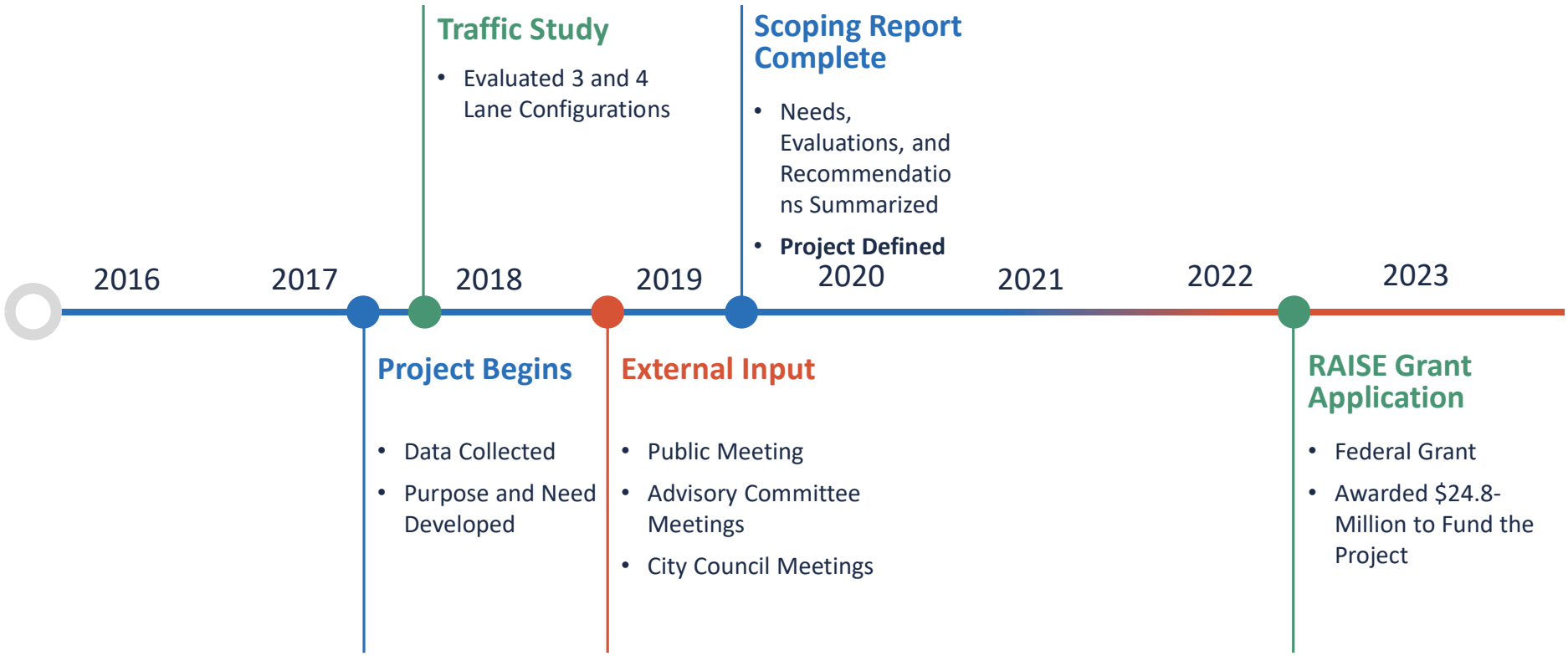
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Project Delivery

Schedule – Past



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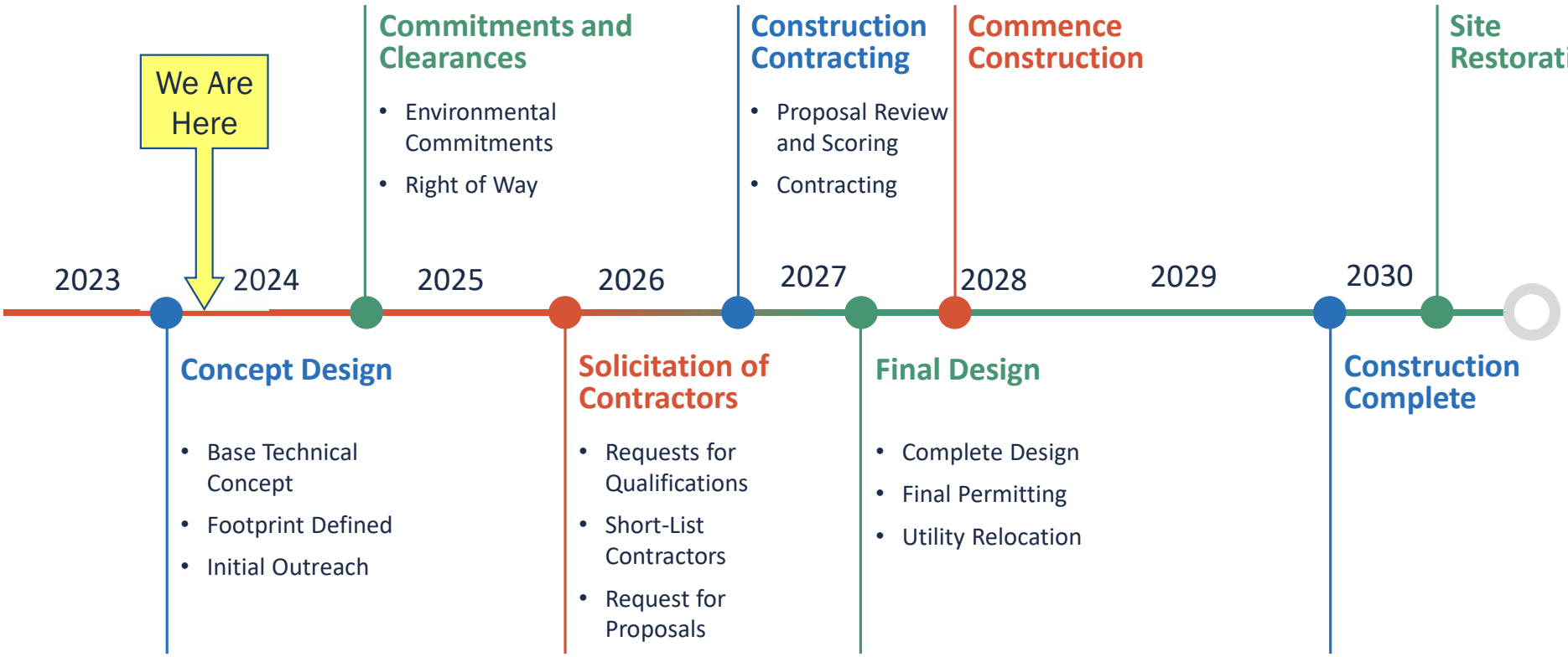
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Schedule – Current and Future



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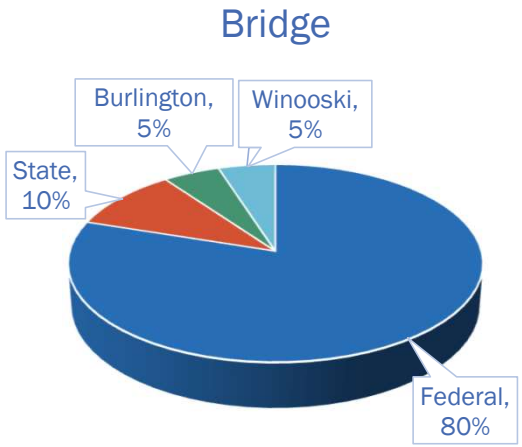
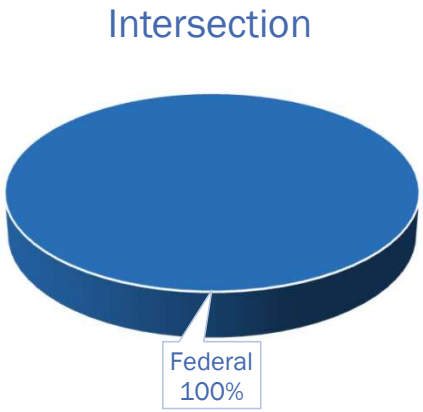
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Project Costs and Funding

- Project Received a Federal RAISE Grant worth approximately $24.8-million
- Total Project costs are *conceptually* estimated to be approximately $60-$80-million





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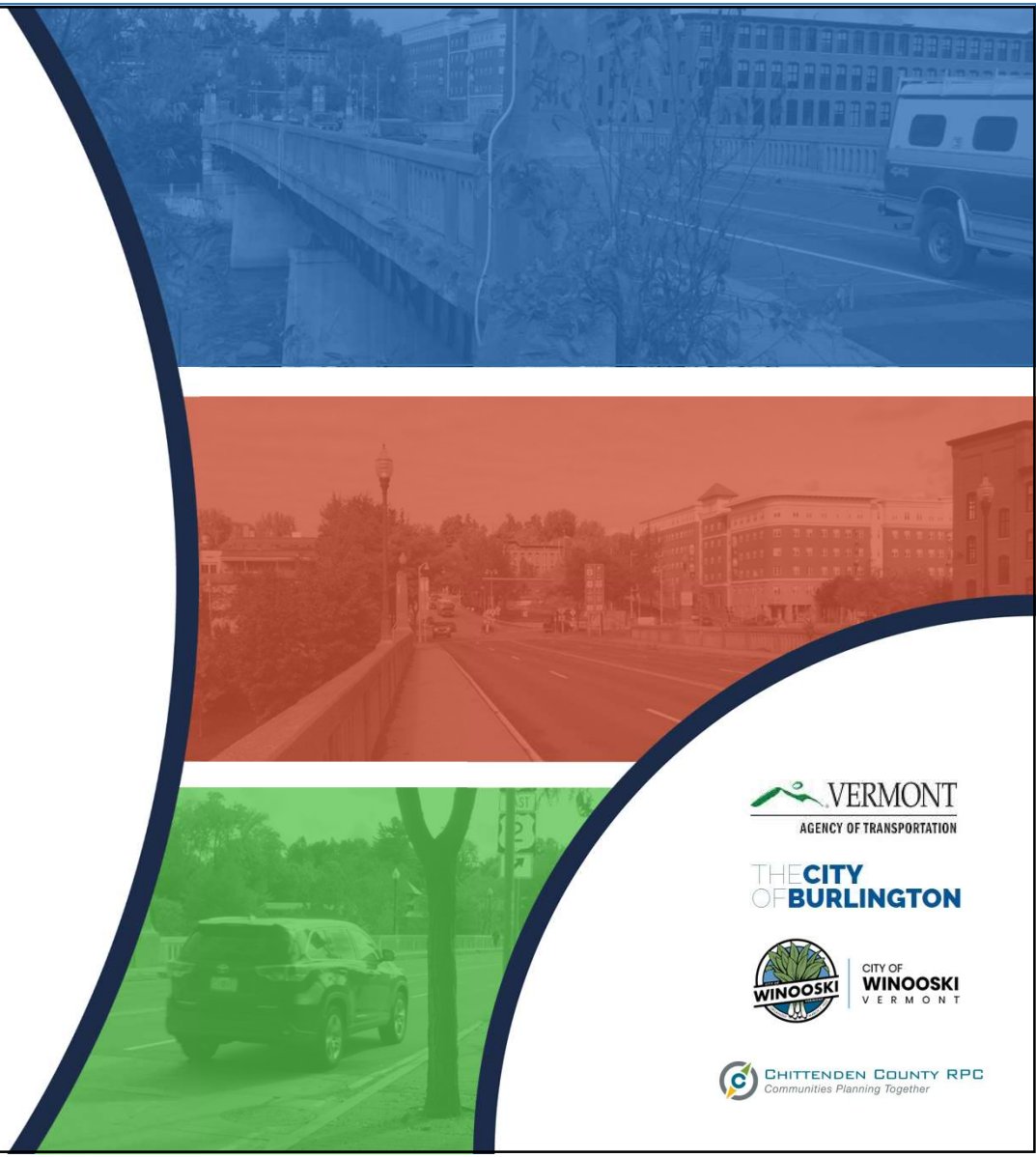
BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

Questions?

BURLINGTON WINOOSKI BRIDGE

https://burlingtonwinooskibridge.vtransprojects.vermont.gov/



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THE CITY OF BURLINGTON

CITY OF WINOOSKI VERMONT

CHITTENDEN COUNTY RPC Communities Planning Together

City of Burlington
Vermont

OFFICE OF THE CLERK/TREASURER

City of Burlington

City Hall, Room 20, 149 Church Street, Burlington, VT 05401

Voice (802) 865-7000
Fax (802) 865-7014
TTY (802) 865-7142

MEMORANDUM

TO: Transportation, Utilities and Energy Committee Members

FROM: Lori Olberg, Licensing and Records Coordinator

DATE: December 13, 2023

SUBJECT: 12/11/23 Resolution: Implementation Of A Carbon Pollution Impact Fee For New Construction and Large Existing Commercial And Industrial Buildings 25,000 Square Feet or Larger

Enclosed please find a copy of the resolution that was referred to your Committee for consideration at your next meeting. Please keep this as part of your records.

Thank you.

Resolution Relating to

IMPLEMENTATION OF A CARBON POLLUTION IMPACT FEE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND LARGE EXISTING COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS 25,000 SQUARE FEET OR LARGER

RESOLUTION_____
Sponsor(s): Councilor Bergman
Introduced: _____
Referred to: _____
_____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: _____

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Three.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That WHEREAS, the City of Burlington has declared a climate emergency exists, and on September 5, 2019 the City and its Burlington Electric Department issued the Net Zero Energy Roadmap ("the Roadmap") to guide progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in buildings and ground transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Roadmap identified emissions from buildings as the second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the city; and

WHEREAS, the City enacted new ordinances in 2021 to address rental weatherization standards, and require primary renewable heating systems in new construction; and

WHEREAS, in 2022 Burlington's neighboring community, the City of South Burlington, adopted a similar primary renewable heating system ordinance and also include requirements for renewable domestic water heating as well, aligning the two cities in both requiring the use of renewable systems and fuels for new construction; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2021, Burlington voters approved a proposed change to the City charter that would allow the City to create policies to regulate greenhouse gas emissions in buildings, and an advisory ballot question focused on providing equity in the development of such policies; and

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2022, the Governor signed the charter change into law after it was approved by the Vermont Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the charter change approved by voters in March of 2021 and subsequently approved by the Legislature and signed by the Governor requires the City to seek additional voter approval when it proposes to utilize a carbon impact or alternative compliance payments; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2023, the voters of Burlington approved, with over 67% voting in favor, a ballot item allowing the City Council to implement a carbon pollution impact fee of up to $150 per ton for new construction buildings and existing commercial and industrial buildings 50,000 square feet or larger that install new fossil fuel thermal energy systems; and

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2023, the City Council approved an ordinance requiring, beginning January 1, 2024, newly constructed buildings either install non-fossil fueled thermal energy systems or pay a

fee of $150 per ton and requiring existing commercial and industrial buildings 50,000 square feet or larger who are seeking a permit for a new thermal energy system to either install a non-fossil fueled thermal energy system or pay a fee of $150 per ton; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned ordinance is expected to lead to some reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, but is limited in scope and will not on its own reduce greenhouse gas emissions substantially enough for the City to meet its Net Zero Energy Roadmap commitments, necessitating the adoption of stronger policies to reduce emissions in the building sector;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby requests, pursuant to the City Charter Section 48(66), that the following question be placed before the voters on the ballot of the Annual City Meeting to be held on March 5, 2024:

"Shall the City Council, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the City, be authorized, starting January 1, 2025, to implement a carbon pollution impact fee of up to $234 per ton, with the fee to be set by resolution, for:

- new construction buildings that install thermal energy systems that emit carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases;
- existing commercial and industrial buildings 25,000 square feet or larger that fail to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with City policies requiring them to do so; and
- the fee proceeds to be primarily used to support energy efficiency and clean heating technology installations for low to moderate income Burlington households and renters?"

December 19, 2023

Dear Councilors Barlow, Bergman, and King,

I write in support of today's deliberative agenda item 4.2, the Carbon Pollution Impact Fee, which would add a question to the March ballot which, if approved by voters, would authorize the city to impose a fee on currently exempt carbon emitting heating sources, as well as impose a fee on commercial or industrial buildings of 2,500 feet or greater.

The Thermal Energy Ordinance, approved on Nov 20th exempts several polluting heating sources, namely, "green" hydrogen, "renewable" natural gas, " advanced" wood heat, and biofuels. Each of these heating sources come with additional environmental and health related harms beyond greenhouse gasses of which you are by now aware thanks to prior detailed submissions. If passed, the ballot question would give voters the opportunity to correct the problems with the ordinance as well as broaden its impact, while directing proceeds to assist low and moderate income Burlington residents with efficiency and clean heat.

Burlington voters have made it clear they are looking for action on climate. I ask that you honor the will of voters by continuing to make meaningful progress. You can do this today by passing the resolution as written. Additionally, I hope that you will consider far more bold and visionary steps in the future to transition to carbon free buildings, including changes to the building code such as Passive House or PHIUS which would not only reduce carbon pollution, but result in improved health outcomes. I offer links to additional information and inspiration:

https://www.phius.org/passive-building/what-passive-building/passive-building-faqs

https://www.nbcboston.com/climate/passive-house-design-is-on-display-in-bostons-affordable-housing-portfolio/3151292/

https://www.nbcboston.com/climate/designed-for-comfort-with-climate-in-mind-exploring-passive-homes/3151413/

Thank you for your work.

Best regards,

Ashley Adams

Burlington