

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

MAYOR BOB KISS

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BURLINGTON COMPLETES MAJOR STORMWATER MITIGATION PROJECT

The City's Department of Public Works recently completed \$1.3M in combined sewer stormwater mitigation projects and wastewater aeration energy efficiency improvements funded through the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

While most of the work has been underground and therefore not visible to the public, the project has a significant impact on water quality in the Lake Champlain Basin, as well as operational energy consumption within the City's largest wastewater treatment plant.

Initial evaluations of the project impact include a reduction of several hundred thousands of gallons in stormwater runoff previously draining to the combined sewer through both runoff reduction and runoff separation projects. Substantial savings have also been realized through more energy efficient technology at the Main

Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Congratulations to DPW managers and work crews on completing this important project!

More information about the City's stormwater program: www.dpw.ci.burlington.vt.us/stormwater/ and about the City's wastewater treatment program: www.dpw.ci.burlington.vt.us/water/.



Mayor Kiss with Public Works Director Steve Goodkind and Stormwater Engineer Megan Moir

USAT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS COMING TO BURLINGTON FOR 2ND YEAR

After a tremendously successful first year, Burlington will again host the USA Triathlon National Championships in 2012—on August 18 and 19. For more information go to <http://www.usatriathlon.org/>. Below, Mayor Kiss attends the kick-off for the 2012 event at the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce.



GREEN INITIATIVES UPDATE

- The Mayor's "Green Team" continues to work with city staff on the various governmental initiatives described in the Climate Action Plan. This includes the implementation of a transportation survey for city staff. Results of the survey will help in the design and implementation of better alternative commuting modes.
- BED, through its energy efficiency services and with assistance from AARA funds, has completed HVAC and lighting system upgrades to the Fletcher Free Library. These improvements will allow the buildings to be more efficiently managed during unoccupied periods and to respond more efficiently to changes in occupancy, levels of day lighting and changes in temperature, saving the city money and energy while reducing GHGs.
- Want to learn more about the Climate Action Plan and get involved? Go to <http://www.ci.burlington.vt.us/cap/>!

..... **FROM MAYOR KISS**



Occupy Burlington

As many residents know, a group called Occupy Burlington established an encampment in City Hall Park about 3 weeks ago. The group is related to Occupy Wall Street efforts in New York City which has spawned protests and similar encampments in cities across the country.

The City initially took a wait and see approach towards the encampment and the enforcement of a camping prohibition in City Hall Park. The self-inflicted shoot-

ing and death of an individual in the encampment on November 10 is a tragic event that also raised significant safety concerns around continuing the encampment.

Through continued dialogue with Occupy Burlington participants, all the tents have been removed from City Hall Park, and the City has made clear that it cannot allow camping in the Park due to safety concerns.

Unlike many cities that are currently facing similar situations, this was accomplished without violence or sustained confrontation, and in fact with the cooperation of most Occupy Burlington participants.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the Burlington Police Department and its officers in responding effectively to these issues, as well as the strong support of the Burlington Parks and Recreation

Department, City Attorney's Office, Fire Department, and other departments.

As Mayor, I appreciate the significance of issues underpinning the Occupy Wall Street movement — the concentration of wealth and economic inequities nationwide are issues that deserve attention. The City must balance the rights of assembly and free speech with its responsibility to maintain public safety and public access to public areas. These are the priorities we will continue to have in approaching events such as the one involving Occupy Burlington.

With best regards,

Bob Kiss, Mayor

Contact Mayor Kiss:

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BURLINGTON WINS \$2.4M FOR LEAD PROGRAM

The City announced last week that CEDO has secured a \$2.475 million grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Burlington Lead Program. The funding will support the program's efforts to reduce lead-based paint hazards and address other health and safety hazards in the homes of low-income residents of Burlington and Winooski. CEDO will use \$2,475,000 to make 135 eligible homes safe from lead-based paint and other health and safety hazards. Mayor Kiss joined CEDO's Housing Director Brian Pine and representatives from Vermont's Congressional Delegation at the announcement, with a Burlington family that had gone through the Burlington Lead Program. Senator Leahy, Senator Sanders, and Congressman Welch signed a joint letter in support of CEDO's grant application.

Congratulations to the Burlington Lead Program on this great news. For more information about the program, go to: <http://www.cedoburlington.org> or call 865-LEAD. The program is open for new applicants.



Mayor Kiss with CEDO Housing Director Brian Pine at the announcement of the Lead Program grant