

Sponsor: Keogh

RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR DOWNTOWN GRANT FUNDS

In the year Two Thousand Eleven be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Downtown Development Act (24 V.S.A. Chap. 76A) provides various benefits for communities whose downtowns receive designation as Designated Downtown Districts, including income tax credits for rehabilitation of older or historic buildings, reallocation of sales tax receipts for building materials and financial assistance from various programs specifically for Designated Downtown Districts; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to enhance pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular access with transportation improvements to the downtown waterfront in the designated downtown district; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to make a variety of transportation related improvements in the vicinity of the Moran Plant, including rebuilding the end of Lake Street, realigning and upgrading portions of the bike path, storm water management improvements, parking, new street lighting and new sidewalks along with pedestrian and bicycle amenities in the downtown waterfront in the designated downtown district; and

WHEREAS, the City also desires to underground the electric utility and telecommunications lines in the downtown waterfront in the designated downtown district; and

WHEREAS, the Waterfront Access North Project (Phase 1) is within Burlington's Downtown District; and

WHEREAS, the City has received Federal Highway grants in the amount of \$3,250,000 which will provide a portion of the resources needed to construct these improvements; and

WHEREAS, CEDO is seeking additional resources needed for construction; and

WHEREAS, there is a March 7, 2011 application deadline for the next round of grants to the Downtown Transportation Improvement Fund and the companion VT Downtown Clean and Clear program grants; and

WHEREAS, municipalities with designated downtowns can apply for up to \$75,000 in this fiscal year from the Downtown Transportation Improvement Fund; and

WHEREAS, VT Clean and Clear provided the VT Downtown Program with limited funds for Low Impact Development (LID) storm water projects that are planned in conjunction with a Downtown Transportation Improvement fund project; and

WHEREAS, given that this project is appropriate and in keeping with the revitalization goals of the Burlington's Downtown District and all other municipal plans, these additional benefits for Burlington's Downtown District should be sought; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Community and Economic Development Office is authorized to apply to the Downtown Transportation Improvement Fund administered by the State of Vermont for a grant of \$75,000 and an additional \$25,000 from the VT Clean and Clear VT Downtown Program to cover a portion the remaining costs for the construction of the Waterfront Access North Project in Burlington's Downtown District.