



Office of Mayor Miro Weinberger

MEMORANDUM

To: City Councilors
From: Mayor Miro Weinberger
Date: December 10, 2013
Re: Contingency Funds for the Sustainability Coordinator Position

This memo proposes City Council action to re-invigorate and fund the City of Burlington's sustainability program, which works toward community-wide environmental goals. The Sustainability Coordinator position has existed in different forms since August of 2007, but funding for it has never been based on a clear strategy and has contributed to Community and Economic Development Office (CEDO) deficits that have occurred almost every year since 2008. We are pursuing solutions to this that will make the position more meaningful and create a stable funding strategy. With this intent, my staff has had encouraging conversations with partners, including UVM and Fletcher Allen, about their participation in a re-invigorated the City of Burlington sustainability program.

The attached communication outlines the draft proposal for that partnership, and its connection with the City's additional sustainability work. In addition to the work outlined with the partnership, the Sustainability Coordinator would be charged with developing a comprehensive energy savings plan for the City during the second half of FY14, to be implemented beginning in FY15. To fund the Sustainability Coordinator position – essential to coordinate the partnership and to pursue cost-savings for the City through energy efficiency measures – it will be necessary to request no more than \$39,603 from the FY14 contingency fund. Partner contributions to the re-invigorated sustainability program may ultimately result a smaller ultimate use of contingency funds, but those discussions are not yet fully resolved.

I respectfully request that the City Council consider this request during its December 16, 2013 meeting. The request was unanimously approved by the Board of Finance on December 9, 2013.

Thank you.