



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

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**Councilor Karen Paul , Chair**  
WARD 6  
**Councilor Bill Keogh, WARD 5**  
**Councilor MARRISA S. CALDWELL,**  
Ward 3

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Minutes of 9/10/2009 meeting of the City Council Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee

Members present: Chair, Karen Paul, Bill Keogh, Marissa Caldwell

City Staff Dan Bradley, DPW  
Larry Kupferman, CEDO  
John Irving, Tom Buckley, BED

Others Jared Wood, resident Henry St  
Roger Cole, resident College St

Chair Paul called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### Agenda

The committee approved adding miscellaneous updates to the agenda.

### Public Forum

Roger Cole asked the committee to pass the transportation plan.  
Jared Wood asked the committee to add Colchester Ave to the streets recommended in the transportation plan to be changed to 25mph.

The committee discussed the speed limit recommendation from the plan and advised staff to pass its recommendation for a consistent 25mph limit on neighborhood streets with arterials subject to review during a scoping or design process on to the Public Works Commission.

### Minutes

Minutes of 8/31/09 were approved as presented.

### Clean Energy Assessment District

Tom Buckley, BED provided background on the Clean Energy Assessment District (CEAD) concept, reporting that a project team with representatives from Assessor's Office, Planning and Zoning, CEDO and BED had been meeting to develop program to take advantage of CEAD enabling legislation adopted by the VT Legislature.

CEAD offers property owners a new way to install renewable energy and energy efficiency upgrades with little or no upfront costs.

CEAD is a voluntary mechanism allowing individuals wishing to make major energy improvements to opt in to a special assessment “district”. Energy efficiency and / or renewable energy improvements are funded by some form of municipal debt, repaid over a 20-year period as an additional line item on the participating property owners’ tax bills. The longer payback period makes it more likely that these projects can produce a positive cash flow on a monthly basis, in comparison to the 5-year loan products that are typically available in the commercial market.

The project team is looking to the TEUC to provide some guidance during the process of developing the program, helping to identify the source of seed funds, how the loan funds would be administered, how much money to provide in an initial authorization and other policy related issues.

The project team will return to the committee in October with a draft resolution supporting forming the district and with some of the initial questions more fully fleshed out. The project team would like to move to the full council before the end of the year.

#### District Energy

John Irving, recapped the history of the District Energy initiative, whereby excess energy developed at the McNeil Plant would be distributed through the city. This has always been a capital intensive project with high estimates ranging to \$35M. It has always been difficult to make the economics work. BED has applied for a \$100,000 Department of Energy grant to revisit the concept and determine whether there were opportunities to revisit the project. They will be notified of the grant status in mid-October.

Councilor Keogh asked for an update on the Southern Connector and Bradley reported that FHWA had set October 16 as the final date for submitting the EIS. And that city staff, VTrans and FHWA had been working on the document and should have it completed before then. With that October date in mind FHWA should issue their record of decision (ROD) by the end of the year or sooner.

Keogh also complimented DPW crews on the work they had done this summer – paving, sidewalk improvements and water improvements and would like to thank them in person. Bradley will advise as to when would be a good time.

Keogh also asked that the committee devote one more meeting to the transportation plan discussion of parking.

the final date to submit the EIS established by FHWA was October 16, 2009

#### Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday October 6, 2009 at 5:30PM in the main conference room at 645 Pine Street. The committee will complete its review of the Transportation Plan and make its recommendations to the Planning Commission. Tom Buckley will provide further information on the CEAD.

**The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.**