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**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CITY OF BURLINGTON EMPLOYEE WINS GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE**

***Jessie Frank Leads Implementation of Environmentally Preferred Purchasing Policy***

**“Green Purchasing” Cost Effective; Reduces Truck Traffic with Consolidated Purchasing**

Burlington, VT – April 19, 2010. Burlington Mayor Bob Kiss announced today that Jessica Frank, Executive Secretary to Burlington’s Chief Administrative Officer Jonathan Leopold, will receive a Governor’s Award for Environmental Excellence for her work to implement the City’s Environmentally Preferred Purchasing (EPP) Policy. Ms. Frank will receive the award on May 3 in a ceremony at the House Chamber of the State House. Governor Douglas and Jonathon Wood, Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources, will present the award.

Ms. Frank will attend the ceremony with several city colleagues also working on EPP implementation and a representative from W.B. Mason, the City’s paper and office supplier who has worked collaboratively with the city to make “green” purchasing cost effective while centralizing and coordinating deliveries, minimizing truck traffic and pollution.

In June 2009, Burlington Mayor Bob Kiss enacted an Environmentally Preferred Purchasing (EPP) policy. Drafted over several months by the Mayor’s Burlington Sustainability Action Team (BSAT), this policy reflects the city’s commitment to human and environmental health, and effective use of city funds for all its operations. At the suggestion of several purchasers and BSAT members, Ms. Frank was identified as the right person to be in the role of coordinating the environmentally preferable purchasing plan.

During the first few months after the EPP went into effect, Ms. Frank guided City Hall departments to collectively purchase a myriad of green office products. She also negotiated cost effective pricing, saving the City money on Forestry Certified Paper and other products. By late summer 2009, Ms. Frank devised a system with the vendor, by which departments could order

supplies every two weeks, ultimately reducing truck deliveries to City Hall by 75%. Then, in late 2009 Ms. Frank completed an RFP process to secure a long-term vendor contract. W.B. Mason won this contract, launching a relationship ensuring the City can buy the most environmentally benign products at the most competitive prices for years to come. Ms. Frank is working with W.B. Mason to pilot a “returnable tote” project, so that supplies are not delivered in cardboard boxes with bubble wrap, but in plastic totes that can be returned and reused for other deliveries instead.

“Environmentally preferable purchasing is an important part of the City’s efforts to promote clean air and water, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase efficiency in City operations,” said Mayor Kiss. ““The Governor’s recognition is well-deserved. Congratulations to Jessie and all the City staff who have worked so hard to implement this policy,”

A copy of the EPP Policy can be found at: <http://burlingtonclimateaction.com/files/2009/09/EPP-policy-ADOPTED.pdf>. Comments can be directed to Joe Reinert, Assistant to the Mayor at [jreinert@ci.burlington.vt.us](mailto:jreinert@ci.burlington.vt.us) or 865-7275. More information about Burlington’s Climate Action Plan can be found at: <http://burlingtonclimateaction.com/>.