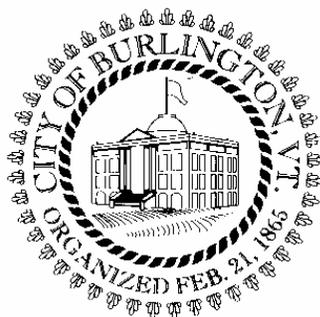


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BURLINGTON ANNOUNCES CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGIES TO REDUCE GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

July 20: Community Members Invited to Join Citizen Action Groups to Move Plan to Action

Burlington, VT. Burlington city government has announced the release of key climate action strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help meet the City's emissions reduction target. A new website devoted to the City's Climate Action Plan -- www.ci.burlington.vt.us/cap/ -- also includes an analysis of how waste, transportation, and energy use in Burlington impact green house gas emissions. The City will kick off an effort to involve the public in greenhouse gas and waste reduction at a community meeting on July 20.

Thirty-six key strategies are identified on the new website, the result of a comprehensive effort started in 2008 by eight working groups composed of public, business, non-profit, and government representatives -- and Spring Hill Solutions, a Burlington-based, carbon-management, clean-energy consulting firm. Over many months, these eight groups generated over 200 greenhouse gas emissions ideas. These were later analyzed, distilled and eventually prioritized based on financial cost and savings, green house gas reduction potential, and the cost/savings per ton of avoided emissions.

While many of these strategies will require government action and leadership, several of the top strategies can be lead by members of the community. These include reducing community

vehicle miles traveled, eliminating or reducing the use of plastic bags, and diverting organic material from the waste stream. **To encourage community action around these and other strategies, community members are invited to join Burlington Mayor Bob Kiss, staff from the Community and Economic Development Office, and Department of Planning and Zoning staff on Wednesday, July 20, 6:00-7:00 in at the Fletcher Free Library to form citizen action teams.**

Mayor Kiss encouraged the public to attend the July 20 meeting. “Climate change is a major challenge of this generation and generations to come,” said Mayor Kiss. “We need to work together to address greenhouse gas emissions and energy use. I invite the public to be part of this important process.”

To learn more about the event, or the Climate Action Plan in particular, please visit <http://www.ci.burlington.vt.us/cap/> or contact Jennifer Green (jgreen@ci.burlington.vt.us) or Sandrine Thibault (sthibault@ci.burlington.vt.us).