

Burlington Planning Commission

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Andy Montroll, Chair
Bruce Baker, Vice-Chair
Yves Bradley
Alexander Friend
Michael Gaughan
Emily Lee
Brynne Martin

Burlington Planning Commission Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 6:30 P.M. Remote Meeting via Zoom, with City Hall In-Person Option Minutes

Members Present	A Montroll, Y Bradley, A Friend, M Gaughan, E Lee, B Martin
Staff Present	M Tuttle
Public Attendance	A Simon, R Perry, B Headrick, S Bushor, D Goetz

I. Agenda

Call to Order	Time: 6:34pm
Agenda	No changes to the published agenda.

II. Public Forum

Name(s)	Comment
A Simon	Presenting a petition to preserve the land at 453 and 501 Pine Street. Request time for Save Open Space Burlington on an agenda in the coming months to discuss, including a review of the Barge Canal Site's history.
R Perry	Requesting that the Commission enter a partnership with the Save Open Space Burlington group to remediate the Barge Canal site as a working laboratory to manage the remediation of the site through nature based climate solutions.
S Bushor	Want to make sure that if we don't build parking we are not strangling our city. How is handicap parking provided under a scenario where we eliminate minimum requirements, and remove on-street parking? Are we creating a city for aging-in-place and welcoming people with disabilities.
B Headrick	Opposed to changing policy, not sure where cars will park if we don't have on-site parking. How does this coordinate with goal to have bike lanes, street trees? Unreasonable to expect that everyone will give up cars. Propose requirement that all streets are resident-only to push commuters to use transit, and ensure that UVM events are not using city streets.

III. Chair's Report

A Montroll	No report.
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IV. Director's Report

M Tuttle	Next week Council will discuss several zoning items including two amendments referred by the PC, short-term rentals, and the parking amendment before the Ordinance Committee. Mayor will soon be announcing new housing initiatives, including and elevating three of the zoning amendments on the Commission's radar- South End Enterprise District, Trinity Campus, and Missing Middle. City staff
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	is participating in Citywide Racial Equity Training; opportunity may be extended to Commissions in the future.
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V. Discussion: Proposed CDO Amendment- Minimum Parking & TDM

Action: Communicate to Council Ordinance Committee that: "the Commission is requesting the Committee refer the draft parking amendment to the Commission for proper vetting for public input, review, and to make a recommendation about the amendment back to the Committee with the understanding that time is of the essence."		
Motion by: Y Bradley	Second by: E Lee	Vote: Approved Unanimously
Type: Discussion	Presented by: M Tuttle	
M Tuttle indicated that some Commissioners had attended a meeting to hear about and discuss the proposed amendment. Staff introduced this on the agenda to provide another opportunity for additional comments and questions that staff can refer to the Ordinance Committee next week.		
Commission discussion:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - M Gaughan indicated that policy needs more study to find a TDM solution that can be implemented on a neighborhood scale, possibly run by the City, to recognize the unique needs of residential areas. - Y Bradley indicated strong concerns with how the Commission was circumvented on an issue that deserves a lot of thought and discussion, and the feeling that being asked to rubber stamp this process. Acknowledged the urgency of the climate emergency, but felt that it wouldn't be impacted by taking a few months to get public input and get the policy right. A number of Commissioners agreed, expressing concerns about minimizing Planning Commission role and power. - E Lee indicated that parking is one of the most controversial and emotional issues, and at the same time there is a need to shift away from SOV, which is the biggest source of emissions in VT. Concern about city policies that give away free street parking, when that resource could be monetized to support a city-wide TDM program. Indicated general support for eliminating the minimum parking requirements, but noted that TDM needs a lot of focus and energy to get right. - B Martin indicated full support for the policy, due to climate emergency and need to make more climate and housing friendly policies regarding parking. - A Friend indicated concern that this is not a small issue, and that a lot of people care about getting this policy right. Also asked for information about the economics of parking as part of housing cost. - A Montroll expressed a concern that there isn't a deep level of focus on the amendment and making sure the details are right. 		

Letter of Support- Planner Position

Action: Approve Letter of Support with edits		
Motion by: M Gaughan	Second by: A Friend	Vote: Approved Unanimously
Type: Discussion, Action	Presented by: M Tuttle	
M Tuttle shared a draft letter of support for creation of a new position based on Commission's past discussions about department resources. M Tuttle answered a questions about future staffing and about the department's role in applying for and managing work through ARPA and Infrastructure Bill programs		

VI. 2022 Meeting Schedule

Action: Approved 2022 Regular Meeting and Executive Committee meeting schedules		
Motion by: A Friend	Second by: M Gaughan	Vote: Approved Unanimously
Type: Action	Presented by: M Tuttle	

VII. DRB Representatives to Committees

Action: Approve nomination of DRB representatives to committees		
Motion by: B Martin	Second by: A Friend	Vote: Approved Unanimously
Type: Action	Presented by: M Tuttle	

VIII. Commissioner Items

- Next meetings are January 11 and January 25, 2022.
- Next Executive Committee is January 25, 2022.

IX. Minutes and Communications

Action: Approve the minutes and accept the communications		
Motion by: A Friend	Second by: B Martin	Approved Unanimously
Minutes Approved: November 9, 2021		
Communications Filed:		
• Documents included in agenda packet: https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CityPlan/PC/Agendas		

X. Adjourn

Adjournment	Time: 8:05pm	
Motion: E Lee	Second: M Gaughan	Vote: Approved Unanimously



Andy Montroll, Chair

Signed: January 11, 2022

Respectfully submitted by:



Meagan Tuttle, Director