MEMO

Date: April 12th, 2022
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O’Daniel, Community Garden & Parks Outreach Coordinator
RE: BCA Programming in City Hall Park, Summer of 2022

Request for waiver at City Hall Park to allow amplified sound for BCA events and programming throughout the summer of 2022.

Burlington City Arts is pleased to continue their activation of City Hall Park through the arts, with support from our underwriters and partners, for the summer months of 2022. This programming ensures that the park remains a vibrant public space, increases accessibility to the arts, and creates a sense of belonging for community members across a spectrum of ages, races, abilities, and incomes. City Hall Park’s programming will also create economic opportunity for artists who have been hit hard by the pandemic, and will attract people to downtown Burlington to aid local businesses, restaurants, bars, and clubs in their recovery. In addition, this programming will allow community members to come together safely and outdoors for much-needed joy, social connection, and creative release after a year of extraordinary hardship. Finally, through this programming, the City directly supports Vermont artists, paying out $22,000 in artists fees in Summer 2022.

There will be weekly events and programming organized by BCA throughout the summer at City Hall Park, both with and without amplified sound. They do not exceed the parameters surrounding park usage stated in the City Ordinance. Weekly programming includes the BCA Summer Concert Series, The Twilight Concert Series, Splash Dance, Flicks in the Park, Listen Up, Community Spotlight and the new Burlington Market. Programming will run from June 4th to October 1st.

BCA staff contact is Zach Williamson.

Staff Recommendations:
Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.