



**CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT**  
**CITY COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY & UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

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**Councilor Maxwell Tracy, Chair** *WARD 2*  
**Councilor Jack Hanson,** *East District*  
**Councilor Franklin Paulino,** *North District*

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**Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council**  
**Tuesday, December 17, 2019 5:00 PM**

**Burlington Department of Public Works – Front Conference Room**  
**645 Pine Street – Burlington, VT**

**–AGENDA–**

1. **Councilor Tracy called the meeting to order at 5:09 pm.**
  - a. Motion to move item 8 to item 4.
  - b. All in favor.
2. **Minutes of 11/19/2019**
  - a. Motion to accept – all in favor.
3. **Public Forum**
  - a. **History of the Burlington Waterfront DVD shared during public forum.**
    - i. Melinda Moulton, we want to protect the waterfront for the people.
  - b. Vermont Rail Service (VRS) is on a dangerous track with their proposal on developing rail on the waterfront. I appeal to the city to understand the two locations are not the same. The city of Burlington should be opposed to the development along the waterfront. The city needs to go on record that McNeil is a good place to service the train. We do not want to see the reindustrialization of the waterfront, and this is what will happen.
  - c. Carl Fowler comments, see attached.
  - d. Rick Moulton comments, see attached.
  - e. Main Street Landing will be providing a communication to City Council. The Vermont Rail Council, has unanimously decided the main street landing plan is the worst choice.
  - f. Laura Allen, I love the train, I am excited that Amtrak is coming. There is no uncoupling or coupling on the stretch of track where people think, that work takes place in the actually yard. The freight service that would come through would be once a night, it's not as big of a deal as what people think.
  - g. Burlington Segway, we do not support any of the changes VRS proposes. I am very much opposed to a second track for VRS.
  - h. Nicole Losch, there will be an I89 study, [www.envision89.com](http://www.envision89.com), see attached.
4. **Waterfront Rail Update**
  - a. Chapin Spencer, DPW presenting, see attachments.

- b. Councilor Paulino: Would VRS agree that the McNeil solution Mr. Fowler illuminated is a possibility? This is discussed in the letter from VRS to VTrans. Is VRS willing to assist financially to the relocation of the bike path? This would be on the Cities dime. Have they considered a second track within their own railyard? The different systems will not allow this. It seems like VRS is going to do what they want. It is as if you get to lease a one-bedroom apartment and then change it into a two-bedroom place without the owner's consent? This doesn't make any sense.
- c. Councilor Tracy: my concern is the location of rail close to residential housing. There should be discussion around environmental justice for this issue. We can ask the state regarding this review; sound evaluations have been done. We have not received any communication which does not indicate a disproportionate amount of residents affected by this change; this is a good questions and we will follow up with VTrans. The city should do outreach regarding environmental impact; sound, vibration, air pollution etc. There are several stakeholders, do we have any sense of how they feel? The city is not aware of any public outreach VTrans and or VRS has done.
- d. Councilor Hanson: What are the funding sources? The city is managing the bike path, however we are unsure what the split is between state and feral funds. It would make sense that the TEUC would sponsor any resolutions to deal with this project. The city should take a positon against the second track at Union Station. We need to perform outreach in the Intervale area; we need to engage with those folks. I don't think we can guarantee that the second track at Union Station will be prevented, it's obviously not within our control.
- e. What's the anticipated cost for the relocation of the bike path removal? Chapin Spencer: The city is not going to have to take on that cost. Cindi Wight: we are not sure what the total cost will be for the relocation for the bike path.
- f. Who from the City is communicating with VRS? The mayor's office has been the primary source of contact for VRS.

#### 5. 2019 Snow and Ice Plan

- a. Lee Perry, DPW presenting, see attachment.
- b. Councilor Hanson: Has implementation begun? Yes. How is the feedback from snow crews? Good, it's just as efficient as before. It would be great to have another update in January.
- c. Councilor Tracy: The old sidewalk plows kept breaking down. Was there an experiment with liquid deicer? It did not seem to work out.
- d. Councilor Paulino: I am impressed with the new sidewalk plows.
- e. Chapin we are looking at being able to track plow locations and when streets get plowed. We are working through it, but there are several details which need to be worked out.

#### 6. Traffic Calming Program Update

- a. Phillip Peterson, DPW presenting, see attachment.
- b. Councilor Paulino: Plattsburg Ave and North Ave, it is a tough intersection. Are there things that can be done? Ethan Allen Pkwy and North Ave needs work. DPW and Parks are working together on plans for this intersection. DPW Staff are planning on having a neighborhood meeting sometime in January.
- c. Councilor Hanson: Are there any plans for North Prospect? Nicole would know. Mansfield and Loomis, what is going on? There is a meeting for the neighborhood this evening. What do we want to do with the existing quick builds? There are some which will become permanent.
- d. Councilor Tracy: Residents do not like the way the quick builds look. We need to make sure we collaborate on stormwater projects with the bump outs and curb extensions. Streamlining the traffic calming program should be done in parallel with Vision Zero. We are using a data driving approach. We are looking at how we can collect data from the hospital as well as the police. Manhattan Drive, the radar sign is up. Intervale Ave and Archibald. There are plans in the works. There are safety concerns from residents at Archibald and Intervale.
- e. Action: Informative, no action needed.

#### 7. Asset Management Resolution

- a. Martha Keenan, DPW presenting, see attachment.
- b. Councilor Hanson: I fully support this resolution. I see the value and the potential. We need as many specific examples to provide to the public.
- c. Action requested, TEUC vote to sponsor for City Council.
  - i. All in favor, this resolution has been approved. This will be presented to the 1.6.19 City Council meeting.

#### 8. Climate Change Resolution

- a. TEUC Led discussion, see attached.
- b. Councilor Hanson: If we can get more people out of cars and into mass transit we can reduce greenhouse gasses. We need to subsidize mass transit, and this will shift behaviors. We need to take the science seriously, we need to take every opportunity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The main intention would be to open up the gates to be able to open up funds to use toward reducing greenhouse gasses.
- c. Councilor Paulino: I support this, I have reservations about how this will support these revenues.
- d. Councilor Tracy: Can DPW bring a study forward by February? Chapin Spencer: we would appreciate more time, perhaps March or April 2020. Tracy: I support this resolution as well.
- e. Action requested, TEUC vote to sponsor for City Council.
  - i. All in favor, this resolution has been approved, with an amendment that DPW can have the traffic financial report by the March TEUC meeting. This will be presented to the 1.6.19 City Council meeting.

**9. Councilors' Update**

- a. Councilor Paulino: Briefing on potholes, is there technology we can use?
- b. Councilor Hanson: Can Channel 17 come to the TEUC, we will present financials at the next. Can we do Facebook Live? The Halloween mudslide, I would like a briefing on that; can we discuss that situation. Norm Baldwin will provide an update in January. Who is in charge of outreach for the Vermont Rail situation? Can BHA follow up with residents on Riverside?
- c. Next TEUC meeting; 1.16.19

**10. Adjourn**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.