



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

c/o Department of Public Works
645 Pine Street, Suite A
Post Office Box 849
Burlington, VT 05402-0849

802.863.9094 VOX
802.863.0466 FAX
802.863.0450 TTY
www.burlingtonvt.gov

Councilor Mark Barlow, Chair, *North District*
Councilor Gene Bergman, *Ward 2*
Councilor Karen Paul, *Ward 6*

Inquiries:
Madeline Suender
802.735.5324
msuender@burlingtonvt.gov

Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council
Tuesday March 28, 2023 - 5PM

DPW Front Conference Room
645 Pine St, Burlington, VT 05482
Masks Optional

–DRAFT MINUTES–

Call to order at 5:07PM Councilor Paul not present for start of meeting.

1. Agenda

Councilor Bergman moves to adopt agenda. Seconded by Chair Barlow. All in favor. Passes unanimously.

2. Minutes of [2/22/23](#)

Councilor Bergman moves to approve minutes. Seconded by Chair Barlow. All in favor. Passes unanimously.

3. Public Forum

Catherine Bock – F35 – Traumatic to experience noise and sight. Basing in a large city is not appropriate. Have heard the City of Burlington could change this location and would like that to be done.

Andy Simon – See supporting documents from meeting for public comment regarding support for naming roundabout after Tony Redington.

Andrew Champagne – Ward 2/3 NPA – Testament to Tony Reddington's life and work. Tony always had an interest in roundabouts and was always pushing roundabout and bike lanes. Lived simply and cared about the people. Tony was the catalyst to getting funds for food for NPA Meetings from the City. The Reddington Roundabout would be fantastic.

Erica V – F35 and emissions issues. Can hear them from Hinesburg and UVM when working. Traumatic to experience. Causing violence and emission with environmental impacts. Anti-war. Impacting environment and children.

Dan Castrigano – Concerned with F35s. Report was not posted with enough advance of meeting. Airport commission planning for decades of expansion. Report does not include all impacts from jet emissions. Would like to have a number on biofuels and comparison to how much biofuel is used vs all fuel. Need to degrow aviation sector. City Council should address that the Net Zero Road map does not include airport emissions.

James Leas – Airport report relies on fuel that is dispensed at the airport which is not standard way aircraft emissions are measured. We don't know the fuel used for each of the categories of air travel. Type of air craft milage, distance to destination and number of flights can go into calculating gallons of gas used. This report should be rejected.

Councilor Paul arrives at 5:28PM

Public comment closed at 5:29PM.

4. VPSP2 – Colchester Pearl Intersection

- Laura Wheelock/Phillip Peterson
- Action
- [Memorandum](#)

Laura Wheelock provides overview of memo – VPSP2 process and history of project.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Questions regarding specifics of roundabout vs preferred alternative.

Laura Wheelock - The preferred alternative is alternative 1. The process was before my time. For Roundabout, the volume of pedestrians related traffic will lock up the traffic pattern and promote other bad behavior. Also concern with how close the roundabout comes to historic buildings. Alternative 1 was preferred over the others as it has slightly smaller footprint with shorter crossing distance. Also, best for signal timing, smaller intersection is more efficient.

Councilor Karen Paul – Minor vs major collector and categorization. Will forward email with specifics about correction in the memo.

LW – We have time to do that in advance of Council meeting in mid-April as this is just a draft. We can review this with CCRPC.

Councilor Bergman moves to accept staff recommendation for alternative one with the change in the memo reflecting Barbra Hedricks' request in her email. Seconded by Councilor Paul all in favor passes unanimously.

Item closes 5:44PM

5. VPSP2 – Colchester Barrett Intersection

- Laura Wheelock/Maddy Suender
- Action
- [Memorandum](#)

Laura Wheelock provides overview of memo – VPSP2 process and history of project.

Laura Wheelock – Alternative 1 is preferred alternative. Roundabout didn't work with geometry, grade, pedestrian and vehicle volume. This project is very specifically the intersection. Separate from RAISE Grant for Winooski bridge.

Director Chapin Spencer– Some of the challenges with roundabout alternative were the large amount of retaining walls, likely taking the residential structure and multi lane roundabouts which do not have safety improvements for pedestrians.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Support a roundabout here and would not support either of the other two alternatives.

Councilor Karen Paul – Removing a house would be a large, time-consuming effort.

GB – Roundabout is twice as expensive. What would Burlington's share be?

LW – Costs are from 2019. At the moment there is no cost share. Would need to reopen the scoping study to look at a different alternative.

Christine Forde, CCRPC – VTrans requires a cost benefit analysis and this would have to be reevaluated if roundabout is chosen. VPSP2 process has accepted this project but it does not account for going back to scoping so it is unsure what would happen if we switched alternatives.

GB – Question about where alternatives came from.

LW – Come from concluded scoping study. March of 2019 City Council accepted alternative from study where we then applied to State for grants. If we want to pull this then we need to reopen scoping, have new public process and then reapply to VTrans.

CF – All of these documents came from original scoping study and have been made available originally.

MB – Concerned with this being in progress and having preliminary approval. If we reopen, we introduce uncertainty around future of project. Is there info we can get on impacts of this from VTrans before we make a decision?

LW – VPSP2 project is new to VTrans and this is first pilot year for intersections. In theory if this piloting project is successful, there will be future opportunities but since program is new, we don't know. Winooski Bridge project proximity to this intersection has allowed both projects to work together to allow designs to inform each other and be constructed alongside each other which has been in our favor thus far.

Andy Simon – In support of roundabout here.

KP – Staff find out what is involved and get more info to TEUC. Would like to know current costs.

LW– Staff will come back in April for TEUC with more info from VTrans.

Councilor Paul makes a motion to postpone to April TEUC. Seconded by Councilor Bergman. Passes unanimously.

Ends 6:07PM.

6. Airport Emissions

- Nic Longo
- Information
- [Presentation](#)

Overview of slides by VHB by Donny Goris-Kolb and Meghan Wrenn, VHB - Next steps are to go into details of make-up of emissions for each source.

Nic Longo – Airport's goal is to finish Sustainability Plan. Get actionable policies in place, and continue to work with partners on scope 3 deductions. We cannot be alone in this endeavor; airlines need to be involved. Focusing on scope 1 and 2 since this is what we can control.

Councilor Karen Paul – Questions about timeline for getting other info and next steps. Data collection and a report? Breaking down airport emission by group?

NL – Hope to finish Sustainability Plan this summer concurrently with Greenhouse gas emissions. Plan shared and updated as it changes.

KP – Would like info and percentage of emissions by group. Would like to see military impacts.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Should take criticism heard seriously. Getting info sooner that may not be fully complete may be helpful and keep momentum. Would like to know more about policies that we have in place, are in the process implementing, possible policies, and some out of the box thinking for all three scopes.

KP – Sustainable aviation fuel, is the reason why we don't have it at BTV cost or equipment or both?

NL – Both and supply. Not yet scaled largely, no supply on east coast.

KP – Is there any fuel at larger airports that we can give an incentive to an airline to encourage them to take fuel with them if there is any advantage to this?

NL – Can look into incentives written into contracts.

KP – Car rental approach was creative in dealing with airlines, which worked 4 years ago. Think this should be a priority.

NL – Currently negotiating with airlines. Incentivizing not just fuel use but also ground support equipment and electric alternatives, recycling plants and deicing.

GB – Forwarded email from Pike Porter and would like it addressed after the meeting.

Chair Mark Barlow – Thank you for update and incorporating input into plan. Had indicated some airports do include scope three emissions, can you speak to how many are?

Donny Goris-Kolb – As you advance through levels of Airport Carbon Accreditation Program (ACA) they do require tracking this. Many airports don't report specifically the cruise. Scope 3 reporting is not consistent across airports. The profile for Burlington is different because Scope 1 and 2 are so much smaller which makes Scope 3 so much larger as a percentage. Scope 3 emissions at 80% is what we typically see for other airports.

MB – Why doesn't ACA include military?

DGK – It might be so they can compare their airport reports more easily but just a guess.

MB – Sustainable aviation fuel – is this biofuel?

DGK – Yes, it is about 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Jodie, Safe Landing BTV – Sustainable aviation fuel is not enough. Safe Landing BTV looking for 50% reduction from all airport emissions. Fewer flights is the only way we will address airport emissions. Amsterdam is the only airport in the world that is reducing flights now. BTV should be the first airport in the US to make that pledge. The airport being the engine of growth is not substantiated by data if that is our goal. Important to have breakdown of all types of flights in reports. 2019 data does not include F35. Hope the TEUC asks the airport for that kind of breakdown to see what we can reduce across all those categories.

Chris – Ward 5 resident – F35s didn't start flying in earnest until 2020. Think more recent data would be helpful. Wanted to flag problems on relying on sustainable aviation fuels, have to grow hundreds of thousands of acres of crops and it isn't sustainable. Don't think that should be relied on. Need to reduce

flights. Equitable and just ways to do that by reducing private jets and cargo jets. Economic growth can't be tied to airport.

Dan Battan – Bristol resident – Appreciate motivation to reduce emissions in all scopes. This is within our control. Reducing new flights is key.

Item closes at 7:12PM

7. Roundabout Renaming

- Councilors
- Information

Councilor Gene Bergman – Would like to understand the process by which this is named. In support if it's feasible.

Director Chapin Spencer – Reached out to VTrans and FHWA for info. They talked about naming the street vs a specific piece of infrastructure. Forwarded to City attorney, a dedication would likely be more appropriate than a naming if the council wanted to go this route. Need more time to determine options. Federal aid adds complexity.

GB – Historic markers on Battery St around Little Italy or plaque on Winooski Bridge could be models. Would like more info from VTrans on that.

Chair Mark Barlow – If we do this without a naming policy we will set a precedence. Would be good to develop one regardless of this. What do the southend'ers think? Appreciate the sentiment. Request DPW keep inquiring with VTrans, time/staff permitting.

Councilor Paul – Not in favor of naming things after people without a policy.

GB – Not of the opinion that we need complete policy before we move ahead. It is odd to be naming a particular infrastructural element after somebody. Support idea of historic marker here to honor his work.

CS – Challenges to work out with this. Think a naming policy would need to be Committee led. We can provide more info from city attorney.

Ends at 7:27PM

8. Written Reports:

- [N Winooski Ave Update](#)

Chair Mark Barlow - Is there still ongoing work with private lot owners for off street parking?

Director Chapin Spencer – One nonprofit on corridor is saying they will open their lot on off peak hours to adjacent uses without us managing, free of charge. Still communicating with corridor and looking for solutions.

Councilor Gene Bergman – One lot partnership working could show others this is possible. Hope that we would be able, if asked, to put in additional TDM money to continue to foster the self-organization happening. If there were neighborhood hubs for bikeshare along this corridor would be really good. Need to be affordable and accessible, maybe not needing a phone to use.

- [Bike Share MOU with CATMA Update](#)

MB– there has been a change for a request about fee structure that has been stricken. How did this 2-hour comment come in?

Julia Ursaki, DPW– South Burlington Planning Director said their community wants to encourage hour long rides. Bird does not have easy way to implement escalated pricing.

MB – Do we think local bike shops will agree with this? Is this still substantiative?

CS – We can share this with local bike shops. Heard from Winooski and So Burl that this would meet their needs.

GB – Removal provision is not good enough. See nothing about deposit or money held in escrow in case they leave. We will end up eating the cost. Might want to get a deposit. “Shall have the right to remove such equipment and be reimbursed from that cost by the operator and or CATMA” added to section 3.b.

CS – We can only ask for so much but this is CATMAs MOU. We are willing to take a risk knowing impacts were easily managed previously.

Item closes at 7:41PM

9. Director’s Report

Director Chapin Spencer - Construction portal up and running by mid-April.

Ends 7:42PM

10. Councilors’ Update

Chair Mark Barlow – Met to go through questions we developed around McNeil. Have provided updated questions to Councilor Bergman who will edit and craft invite. Looking into series of forums, first focused more intently on emissions and defer other questions. Last meeting of the TEUC for this council year. Intention is to stay here. Would like to continue emissions work.

Ends 7:44PM

11. Next Meeting 4/25/23

Will stay as placeholder but can reschedule as needed once committee is staffed.

12. Adjourn

Passes Unanimously.

Meeting ends 7:45 PM