Commissioners Present: Commissioner Barr, Commissioner Bose (arrived 6:40), Commissioner Hogan (Chair), Commissioner Munteanu, Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco (Vice-Chair), Commissioner Overby

Commissioner Absent: Commissioner Kennedy

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Hogan called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

ITEM 2 – AGENDA

Commissioner Barr made a motion to accept the agenda
Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco seconded
Unanimous Approval

ITEM 3 – PUBLIC FORUM

Jason Stuffle stated he was looking forward to the changes on Main Street to keep up with the city’s goals. He also stated that cycling infrastructure should not be compromised for parking, and there should be separate bike lanes the length of the corridor.

ITEM 4 – CONSENT AGENDA

A – Approval of Draft Minutes 4-27-22
B – Old North End Car-Share Spaces
C – CY22 Street Reconstruction Program Complete Streets Forms
D – Plattsburg Avenue Bike Lane Proposal

Commissioner Barr made a motion to accept the consent agenda
Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco seconded
Unanimous approval

ITEM 5 – MAIN STREET CONCEPT

Senior Engineer Laura Wheelock stated we are continuing to track public input and inquiries revived and issue project updates to email contacts. The project website
provides up to date information regarding project concepts and upcoming project events. The project team held a Neighborhood meeting on April 28th and a business owner meeting on May 6th to present concept alternatives to the general public and collect feedback. We also attended the Parks and Rec Commissioner meeting as well as the Marketplace Commission meeting to seek support to bring the concept to City Council.

We are returning to Public Works Commission this month to provide a final overview of the proposed Main Street concepts, take in additional feedback from the Commission and respond to questions. We are seeking the Commission’s support as we bring the proposed concepts to the City Council on May 23, 2022 for approval. Commissioner Barr supports complete streets and supports to keep bike lanes. He also supports looking at a parking study and what the options in the winter would be if reduced cycling.

Vice Chair O’Neill-Vivanco concerns are the kids from Edmunds Elementary and Middle School. Would like to look at curb-to-curb width and evaluate a protected bike lane on Main Street between Winooski and Union.

Commissioner Overby had concerns with the intersection evaluation matrix. She does support roundabouts and would like to have proper evaluation done. She stated roundabouts are 24-7 traffic calming; avoid greenhouse gas emissions, signals induce drivers to speed up at yellow light, pedestrians are vulnerable to being hit and roundabouts.

Senior Engineer Laura Wheelock stated that the items that Commissioner Overby felt like were being missed but are not CO2 items can be added, there will be an environmental evaluation, change the diagonal parking to parallel will be drastic. There is still a lot of designing to do.

Commissioner Munteanu asked what is in it for the Public Works Commission in the future. Senior Engineer Laura Wheelock stated there will be permits, meter parking on each side of block. In the future, we will be working with businesses and how Appendix C will be, there will be changes to turning lanes. Commissioner Munteanu is a hundred percent in favor of dedicated bike lanes.

Commissioner Bose appreciates what has been done already. Concerns with the shared use proposal and the loss of parking. He is comfortable with what has been proposed so far.

Senior Engineer Laura Wheelock stated we have been in contact with the bike/walk council, business groups. This is a community full of bike groups. We never proposed shared use path, many concerns over parking loss. A proposed shared use path is an option.
Commissioner Bose stated we should ask for feedback. He supports the amended motion.

Commissioner Hogan supports the proposed amended language.

Mr. Miller stated the great danger to focus on making a street a great street we need a great city. Make decisions to find and have excellent signage to find parking in this block of development. Make use of parking within this great street and make a plan to help people find parking.

Jason Stuffle likes the update.

__________ is in support of the project but has concerns about shared use path, low value parking spaces. A shared use path is not right at this location with the steep street, a shared use path put pedestrians at risk.

Public Information Manager Robert Goulding stated he had a letter from North Star Sports who had concerns about his customers who brings bikes in for repair as some of them are older people and if they have to walk six blocks carrying their bikes or heavy bags it will make it difficult. He does not want to see reduced parking on Main Street.

Vice Chair O’Neill-Vivanco made a motion to approve the proposed amended motion to include a proper scoping study that Commissioner Overby requested.

Commissioner Barr seconded

Commissioner Overby stated the scoping study is being done after the fact the commitments are made.

Senior Engineer Laura Wheelock stated the intersections are being reviewed to see about signalized or roundabouts would work. Commissioner Overby is not comfortable with that information. Would have specific plans in dealing with these four intersections.

Commissioner Barr stated he is open to a friendly amendment friendly to us.

Vice Chair O’Neill-Vivanco is also friendly to the adjustment. The final motion for this project now is Recommend the City Council approve the Great Streets Min Street concept design’s proposed curb-to-curb width of 40 feet, reducing from an existing widths of 50-70 feet and effectuating the conversion of the on-street parking configuration from diagonal to parallel – with strong guidance to evaluate all options to 1) continue the eastbound dedicated, separated and protected bike facility on the block between Winooski Avenue and Union Street; 2) relocate any impacted parking spaces to other locations along the corridor, adjacent to the corridor or removed as a last resort, and 3) have DPW staff return to the Commission and City
Council with updated plans later this year. 4) the intersection evaluation matrix include, identifying the safest, most functionally efficient, most environmentally sound and most long-term cost-effective intersections for Main Street in this “generational” redesign and rebuild of the Main Street.

Commissioner Munteanu “aye”; Commissioner Bose “aye”; Commissioner Barr “aye”; Commissioner Overby “no”; Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco “aye”; Commissioner Hogan “aye”.

ITEM 6 – BSD SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN FINAL DRAFT

Director Spencer introduces the newest Engineer at DPW Julia Ursaki will be helping with the Transportation planning. Julie worked for Dubois and King prior and has authored this travel plan.

City Engineer Philip Peterson stated that there has been much community engagement, several surveys, walk audits and conversations with the principals of each school in Burlington. Our recommendation are transit related (BSD&GMT) – crossing guards – ROW infrastructure – programming

Julia Ursaki stated there were quarterly meetings with GMT and there were problems with adjusted school schedules, behavioral issues of the children on the bus, need to assign BSD staff on the buses to help with the behavioral issues.

Commissioner Munteanu stated this is an awesome report, asked about winter mode usage if there are specific recommendations about the use paths. City Engineer Peterson stated no not at this time.

Commissioner Bose stated this was really interesting and questioned longer term planning around the bus stop

City Engineer Julia Ursaki stated it was to move it closer to the school and Hunt Middle School will be one door down.

Commissioner Overby stated she was looking forward to looking at the material.

Commissioner Barr stated he was pleased with the collaboration of the three departments in looking at a way of getting the kids to school safely.

Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco asked if it was going to be in effect on South Union Street. I have received so many emails. Was there any notification from the school.

Commissioner Hogan suggested in list of bus service include general information.

ITEM 7 – MARKETPLACE GARAGE ASSESSMENT

Division Director Jeff Padgett stated there are major renovations coming to the Marketplace Garage – short term fixes are just band aids. We are going to repair beams, patch the decks, the brick façade is decaying. During the work we will take 80 spaces of parking but the garage will stay open. Bids will be going out this week and by the next meeting, the bids should all back to us.

Commissioner Barr stated this was a long time coming plan to make it safe
Commissioner Munteanu stated this was a good presentation and this is critical work
Commissioner Bose stated this was compelling and sobering
Commissioner Overby also stated this was compelling and sobering
Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco stated this would be three to five years to get garage in a
more suitable state.
Commissioner Hogan asked if the F^23 budget planning process for this half million is
here.
Assistant Director Padgett stated we have the money for this now and we hope to have
it done by October

ITEM 8 – DIRECTOR’S REPORT

We will have two opening for this commissioner come July applications are due by
Friday
City Council approved the award of the initial construction contract for the project. We
are on target for a late June construction start. There are some past litigants who have
indicated that they will be filing a motion for an injunction. We are confident in our
position are are proceeding with our preparatory work for construction.
There was a chlorination incident that occurred at our plant. We are looking into this
and working through the issues.
Nicole Losch has left Public Works and has a new position at the Clerk’s Office to secure
grants for the entire city. We wish her well.
Budget Development is attached.
Construction has started.

ITEM 9 – COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION

Commissioner Overby asked about the Intervale Road path and ramp. Director Spencer
stated that there will be installed shared use paths on the west side of the road from
Riverside to the end of the paved road. Commissioner Overby stated a concern for
pedestrian safety in that area as many people use that road to go down to the farm
fields.
Commissioner Barr stated streets are in good shape and as far as cleaning. Also want to
make everyone aware of the service for Bob Alberry, a long time commissioner with this
department and a long time employee of BED is next Saturday, May 28th.
Commissioner O’Neill-Vivanco stated she had concerns about Institute Road going down
to North and the speed in which some cars travel to the park entrance. Was wondering
if there was any way to put out tickets to people for parking in theBHS lot who go to the
beach so they don’t have to pay to go down to North Beach. Director Spencer stated
that Parks and the School District are in talks about doing that.
Commissioner Hogan thanked us for the update on the chlorination issue.

ITEM 10 – EXECUTIVE SESSION – DIRECTOR & CITY ENGINEER ANNUAL REVIEWS
Motion to move to executive session.
Commissioner Bose made a motion to adjourn to executive session
Commissioner Barr seconded
Unanimous approval

ITEM 10 – EXECUTIVE SESSION – DIRECTOR & CITY ENGINEER ANNUAL REVIEWS

ITEM 11 – ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING – JUNE 15, 2022