

Wards 4 and 7 NPA  
September 28, 2016  
6:45-9pm  
The Miller Center, 130 Gosse Court, Burlington  
Draft Minutes

Start of meeting: 7:00pm

Steering Committee Member present: Matt Cropp- Ward 4, Liam Griffin-Ward 7, Martha Molpus-Ward 7, Chris Trombly-Ward 7, David Kirk-Ward 7, Michael McGarghan-Ward 7

**Announcements**

Wards 4 and 7 Steering Committee meeting happens the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month, 7:30pm Miller Center on 130 Gosse Court. The Steering Committee needs more Ward 4 members to join on. Steering Committee members are looking into bringing back sandwich boards and posting on Front Porch Forum to warn residents of NPA meetings.

North Shore residents shared concern on the water of vagrancy and fire in the woods. There was a fire that burned 150ft of drift wood. There is also a lot of trash on the beaches and it's getting worse every year. Beaches are becoming a dog park and resident streets are becoming a parking lot. There should be some signs to prevent this.

**Burlington Police Lieutenant John Young**

Been with the force for 18 years. Charge with traffic safety and assigned to Wards 4, 7 and 5. In the North End there are a lot issues of bikes, speed, transients. Looking into Leddy Park on vagrancy. Have being work with Fire Department and will continue send police on foot. It's getting colder and hoping that this will minimize the issues. Any time there's a concern don't hesitate to call the police. Neighborhood Watch is not a program that BPD has but if neighbors puts one together, the department will support this. Police Department have covered the cost of two sign for bike safety. This has been supported through a grant to come into neighborhood support on traffic safety. Also under this grant, 80+ hours of overtime will come to write warnings and educate people on what they are doing wrong in traffic safety. Not looking to give out tickets. Due to North Ave. Pilot traffic stop are up and written warnings are up but accidents are down. There are 6 BPD bike officers. Can't send all them all the time to patrol the bike paths unless there an incident call. Working with locomotion to do bike safety, pedestrian safety to do education and give out helmets. In doing education will communicate that bikers need to have lights on bikes at night. If there's an emergency call 911 but can call directly Lt. Young directly on his cell 497-8218.

**North Ave. Pilot-Chapin Spenser**

Had a good forum on the 20<sup>th</sup> at Miller center but back to do a quick update. Currently at 1<sup>st</sup> phase of round 2 of public engagement. 1<sup>st</sup> survey will end on Sunday 10.2.2016. So far there are 1700 responses, 69% from Wards 4 and 7. The survey takes 6min to do. Survey accessed mostly through Front Porch and City's website. A second survey will be done in the spring. In the spring will put out a paper survey. Raw data is provided and has been added on the project website. <https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/dpw/north-avenue-pilot-project> In second round will consider in adding demographics question to include race and translation of surveys. There are places to look at design options at key turning options. DPW is not collecting crash data, RPC is doing this. Two metrics looking at

are crash and travel time. Will be reporting to City Council on the 17th and there will a public comment section.

### **Elected and Appointed Officials**

City Councilor Dave Hartnett-North District, Voters of Burlington will be able to vote on Charter Changes on the Zoning Changes. Most of the councilors support Burlington Town Center (BTC). Have responsibility that the downtown neighborhood streets connect and bring a vibrancy back.

City Councilor Kurt Wright-Ward 4, The City has put BTC, Tax Increment Financing (TIF), Zoning Changes and also Capital Plan on the ballot. A lot of people are having difficult time keeping up with taxes. They don't want services to be cut but can't keep up with taxes. The solution is to grow the tax base. BTC project will bring housing and some of it will be Champlain College student housing. This is not bad because the College will manage their students and this will take students out of the housing stock. The mall is dying and if the project does not happen then another developer will not come to drop 200million.

Representative Gene O'Sullivan-House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development Agree with zoning changes and bond. The mall is dying and the TIF district needs approval. The infrastructure bond avoids our city looking like Flynt MI. If we are going to do a bond, then now is the time to do this. If strip out students, then the City is looking at 23k full time residents. This is not enough to keep the City going. Need more families to live here. With these two developments this will make our City appealing. Also working on a package for small business called "fair for financing" that will bring business to banks to help them get capital.

Representative, Chittenden 6-1- Joanne Cole-Agree that we don't want sprawl in the N. End. Development should stay in the downtown area where the density of the city should be. Think it will be great to open up the streets again and it will also be an economic boost.

City Councilor Tom Ayers-Ward 7, Support BTC and agree on all the same points other have brought up. BTC will provide 1900 new jobs and affordable housing. Tomorrow will vote on overlay and to put on ballot. Being today will begin in a public process to heat down town. This is why should vote for TIF and operating bond.

Police Commissioner-Bob Simpson-Newly appointed Police Commissioner. Had a meeting last night. Learned that the department is awaiting a grant to receive new officers. Also Dept. is spending a lot of time to dealing with mental illness issues.

School District Dave Kirk-Ward 7. Working on capital bonding and will come out soon on a sizable bond to go out. Next Month Superintendent Yaw Obeng and Director of Property Services Marty Spaulding will come to NPA to talk about this. Taking middle out the middle out of the contract is about not having other communities set our teachers salaries. To take out is to ensure that the school board has control and not determined by other school boards. Teachers' salaries will still be in the middle of the middle. This contract is only good for one year.

Minutes Submitted by Phet Keomanyvanh-Community Development Specialist-CEDO  
Meeting End: 9pm

