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RESIDENTIAL PARKING MANAGEMENT PLAN

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PREPARED FOR:
CITY OF BURLINGTON

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Burlington started its residential parking program in the 1990s to regulate on-street parking in the neighborhoods around Centennial Field. Since then, streets with resident parking restrictions have expanded to over eight miles of curbside parking, located predominantly in neighborhoods adjacent to high parking generators such as the University of Vermont (UVM), the UVM Medical Center, and portions of downtown.

The 2013 Burlington Municipal Development Plan (PlanBTV) recommended that a Residential Parking Study be conducted to formally review the existing program and recommend revisions to management, administration, and enforcement of on-street parking in residential areas. The Study is jointly sponsored by the City and the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC), and consisted of the following tasks:

- Analysis of the current residential parking streets, regulations, and trends;
- Review of residential parking practices in comparable cities;
- Comprehensive analysis of parking supply and demand in three representative Burlington neighborhoods;
- Extensive public outreach, including two public meetings, four Advisory Committee meetings, Neighborhood Planning Assembly meetings, and online comment tools.
- Recommend approaches and strategies that allow for flexibility to improve residential area parking management.

The Plan strives to achieve the following objectives to improve parking in residential areas:

- Balance parking needs of residents, visitors, and commuters.
- Account for neighborhood need and quality of life.
- Administer a program that is fair and transparent.
- Consider the highest and best use of the public right-of-way.
- Streamline the administrative process.
- Apply a data driven approach.
- Utilize market-responsive feedback.
- Address the need to maintain city transportation infrastructure.

The Plan recommends the continuation of eight general parking management approaches, in which the City is currently engaged, and recommends eight strategies that are new or important modifications of the existing residential permit program (RPP). The over-arching goal is to achieve an optimal parking management approach that preserves the livability of Burlington neighborhoods while finding the best use of the public Right-of-Way.

Prior to initiating this study and throughout this process, a number of concerns were expressed about impacts to quality of life in residential areas that were beyond parking and transportation issues. It is important to note that the strategies and tactics contained within

this report aren't meant to provide solutions to address all issues that result from the competition for limited parking supply in Burlington, nor alleviate all problems that generate demand for it. While the recommended strategies outlined in this Plan are intended to directly improve parking in residential areas, the issues beyond parking and transportation or beyond the City's control are recommended for evaluation through other city department or other agencies.

These RPP strategies have been prepared at a unique time for the City – one in which studies have recently been completed or are underway regarding many community planning initiatives that impact parking demand. This Plan is not meant to provide strategies for the full range of parking, land use and alternative transportation issues that will ultimately lead to a well-managed parking system City-wide. It does present a number of opportunities for strengthening the RPP program to meet the foremost goal of neighborhood quality of life, and includes references to other studies and initiatives that will compliment this program.

To improve parking in residential areas, this Plan recommends a menu of strategies that can be used in-lieu of or in addition to residential parking permits. General parking management strategies can be implemented at any time. **None of the strategies proposes removing existing resident-only parking restrictions.**

To improve the residential permit program, eight strategies are recommended for implementation over the short-term (0-1 year), mid-term (1-3 years), and long-term (3+ years). The table below provides a summary description of the residential parking toolbox with seven General Parking Management Approaches and nine Strategies for the residential permit program, the time frame for implementation, and the City departments (or other agencies) responsible for spearheading and supporting the strategies.

		Description	Responsible City Department / Agency		
			Lead	Supporting Department / Agency	
General Parking Management Approaches	Strategic Approaches	Improve Sustainable Transportation Modes	DPW	CEDO, Planning, CATMA, CCTA, CCRPC, CarShare VT, Institutions	
		Expand Satellite Parking and Incentivize Parking in Remote Lots	DPW	CEDO, Planning, CATMA, Institutions, CCTA	
		Improve Signage and Wayfinding	DPW		
	Tactical Approaches	Install Parking Meters / Paystations	DPW	BPD	
		Implement Parking Time Limits in Non-RPP Areas	DPW		
		Stripe Parking Stalls	DPW	BPD	
		Improve Lawn Parking Ban Enforcement	BPD	Code Enforcement, DPW	
		Share Off-Street Parking	DPW	CEDO	
	Short-Term Residential Permit Program Strategies				
	0-1 year	1	Provide Online Resources: Downloadable Application and Renewal Documents	BPD	DPW
2		Establish Residential Parking Permit Periods Based on Supply and Demand	DPW	BPD	
3		Evaluate Residential Parking Areas Rather Than Streets	DPW	BPD	
4		Streamline the Petition Process	DPW	BPD	

	5	Establish a Process for Removing or Reallocating Residential Permit Parking	DPW	BPD
Mid-Term Residential Permit Program Strategies				
1 – 3 years	(1)	Provide Online Resources: Comprehensive Program Information	BPD	DPW
	6	Revise Program to Incorporate Fee Structure and Allocate Maximum number of Permits per Dwelling Unit	BPD	DPW
	7	Establish Construction Permits	BPD	DPW
Long-Term Residential Permit Program Strategies				
>3 years	(1)	Provide Online Resources: Online Payment of Permits and Fines	BPD	DPW
	8	Improve Enforcement and Technology	BPD	DPW

The Study recommends that the City review the residential parking program every five years to determine whether modifications are necessary to better address community goals.

