



Racial Equity, Inclusion and Belonging  
149 Church Street  
Burlington, VT 05401  
M: 802-503-2513

**March 15th 2022**  
**Start time: 5:35pm**

Attendees

Councilor Ali Dieng; Councilor Joe McGee; Laura Wheelock; Olivia Darisse; Yona Chung; Stephen Gray Phet Keomanyvanh

Draft Minutes

**Motion to approve the Agenda**

Councilor Dieng motion to approve the last meeting minutes from 2/15/21 and Councilor McGee second. Minutes approved

**Public Forum**

No Discussion

**Ensuring Equity - Main Street Redevelopment, Olivia Darisse, Laura Wheelock DPW Engineers, Stephen Gray and Yona Chung Grayscale Collaborative.**

Great street initiative public engagement update and schedule moving forward. Greyscale Collaborative is helping with consultancy. Project is Main street, Battery to S. Union street. Work will be done on raven sawyer. Goal is to improve Main street function of storm water, accessibility, interface of transportation, pedestrians and current business owner usages. Engagement of this project kicked off in Feb. 2022, which consisted of presenting at NPAs, putting together focus groups of youth, immigrant/refugees, BIPOC, seniors, and business owners. Created survey and will be collecting feedback until April. Also will be working with city departments from BPR&W, DPW, and Church Street Market. Found that Main street is home to major center of organizations and people's relationship to Burlington to hang out. People often drive through Main street to get to where they need to but not so much get out and walk. Make sure everyone can feel safe and comfortable and take care of homeless. People want to have place to hang out and meet. Church Street has a city feel so how can we create to have Main feel like a city too with more affordable food. People do not want to feel like they need to buy something in order to hang out. Want a city to celebrate cultural diversity with more translation of signs and banners to recognize different holidays. Also talked about how whole families using instead of individual. Will have summary post card from these focus groups.

At the moment construction constraints is minimal, the roadway needs to stay open for vehicles and pedestrians, access to businesses needs to be maintained. Will have ongoing



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conversations with businesses to best accommodate their needs and concerns during construction.

Next sept using concepts until May and then May to summer will be the design and permitting. Fall 2023 construction will begin with minimum of 2year. Construction management plan is that main street needs to be open and looking at the constraints are present above ground and below. Looking to stay in budget and at the most cost effective way. Preliminary cost estimate of worst-case scenario is 6 million

### **Open Forum Discussion**

Councilor Dieng shared about Declaration of Inclusion. Declaration already received and need to put declaration in City council of next month. Since it is not a controversial item should not see it as a problem for approval for the agenda.

Councilor Dieng asked mayor to attend the future of REIB Committee meeting. Want to understand why 3 people left and why the Opiates position is in the REIB. Hope that the REIB department will be back to full capacity.

### **Date of next meeting**

Date of next meeting TBA announced after organizational day.

### **Adjourn**

6:29pm

Minutes by Phet Keomanyvanh, REIB Acting Director