City-Wide Assembly on the Future of:

Memorial Auditorium

Sponsored by the all-wards N.P.A. (Neighborhood Planning Assembly)

Memorial Auditorium requires repairs due to decades of deferred maintenance, and the City has recently discussed tearing it down, selling or renting it to a private entity. The Community will gather to share, listen and weigh in on ideas for Memorial’s future in a town-meeting style discussion.

The Assembly is in response to an N.P.A. resolution calling for Community participation in envisioning the future of Memorial Auditorium, a historic publicly-owned building which has been a center for the visual and performing arts, Burlington’s largest civic meeting space, a locale of the winter farmers’ market, a memorial to local war veterans, and much more, for nearly 100 years.

The N.P.A.s from all wards of the city have come together in the role described in their 1982 founding resolution: “...help obtain citizen views of city needs; help provide citizens with the opportunity to participate in making recommendations with respect to governmental decisions including the allocation of revenues...” Assemblies shall also be encouraged to provide advice to the appropriate commission or this council with respect to community development, housing programs, this City’s Comprehensive Plan and its waterfront planning activities, and the city’s budget among other issues.

Two short presentations will begin the evening: Tom Visser, Chair of UVM’s Department of Historic Preservation, and Alan Abair, property manager of Memorial Auditorium (early 1980s to mid-1990s) before the open discussion, moderated by Chris Trombley, Ward 6/7 Steering Committee Member. For historical background on Memorial Auditorium view research by Emma Haggerty of the University of Vermont: www.uvm.edu/~hp206/2016/pages/haggerty/default.html

Tuesday, Sept. 26th, 6:30-8:30 pm
Contois Auditorium, City Hall

Everyone is invited to join this community-led conversation!