



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &
NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401
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Councilor Selene Colburn, Ward 1
Councilor Jane Knodell, Chair, Ward 2
Councilor Bianka Legrand, Ward 7

June 5, 2014
5:30-7:00 PM
City Hall CR 12

Draft Minutes

Councilors: Selene Colburn, Jane Knodell
Staff: Brian Pine, Kirsten Merriman Shapiro, Erik Hoekstra, Lisa Kingsbury

1. Review Agenda

Agenda amended to include Sales Tax Reallocation application to the VT Downtown Program for public infrastructure associated with the Redstone hotel project on the TD Bank lot.

2. Public Forum

There were no comments from the public.

3. Sales Tax Reallocation Application

Kirsten explained that municipalities and the developer of the qualified project may jointly apply to the Downtown Board for a reallocation of sales taxes on construction materials. Qualified projects located within a designated downtown district may be eligible for a reallocation of sales taxes on construction materials. Reallocated taxes must be used by the municipality to support the qualified project. The Downtown Board reviews and awards applications as part of a competitive process for all downtown programs.

The municipal project may include infrastructure improvements such as sidewalks, curbs, new street trees, utility system upgrades, storm-water system upgrades, lighting and public art installations and these infrastructure improvements are eligible for funding with the reallocated sales tax funds.

Erik Hoekstra from Redstone described the hotel project and the specific project elements that would be eligible for the reallocated funds – these are the same as listed in the paragraph above.

Councilors Colburn and Knodell agreed to sponsor the resolution supporting this application.

4. CEDO overview

CEDO staff provided a brief overview of the programs and projects that are the focus of CEDO's efforts. For more information on the work of CEDO, go to www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

5. Housing Study Forum planning

CEDO and the CDNR Committee will hold a joint forum to include: a summary of the findings and recommendations of the Downtown Housing Strategy Report by Aaron Kurtz, HR&A consultant; a chance for the public to ask questions about the report, and make comments about the direction of the upcoming Housing Plan. Public comments can be viewed at <http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CEDO/Downtown-Housing-Plan>

6. Action Plan for CDBG and HOME

Marcy Krumbine, CEDO Assistant Director for Community Development, explained the 2014 Annual Action Plan for allocating CDBG and HOME dollars. The Annual Action Plan for 2014 can be viewed on the CEDO website at <http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CEDO/CDBG-Program-Overview>

7. Center City Neighborhood Revitalization

City, University and community representatives have met in the past months to discuss ways to work together in identifying and implementing actions to promote a high quality of life for all residents in our neighborhoods as well as a healthy mix of owners and renters. This work is complementary to that of the Community Development and Neighborhood Revitalization Committee of the City Council. The goal has been to have neighborhoods remain vital, safe, affordable, and attractive places to live. There has been agreement that a complex challenge like this will require multiple approaches to encourage positive change, including gathering data about neighborhood composition, enhancing quality of life initiatives, enforcing municipal regulations, and identifying tools to promote healthy neighborhoods.

Lisa Kingsbury from UVM, explained several joint UVM/City initiatives to help improve and stabilize areas with large concentrations of students. For more information on the initiatives, go to the Supporting Documents for this meeting on the CDNR Committee web page. The letter from UVM VP Gustafson, contains data about UVM student enrollment, number of students living in community housing, plans for replacing and developing more housing and possible ways to fund a **Center City Neighborhood Revitalization** initiative.