

General Comments

Source	Comment	Recommendation	Change in Substance or Meaning?
PC Member Public Hearing & Public Comment	In Burlington Today section, include more details about Burlington's racial/ethnic diversity. In Burlington Today section, include a more explicit chart/discussion about population change and related change in enrollment at UVM/Champlain. Related question from Public Hearing: Are the projections regarding students accurate?	Add a chart based on 2010 Census or 2016 ACS Data. Add a chart based on Census/ACS Data & audited enrollment data from institutions	Add Context Add Context
PC Member	Add a note that this plan is the Municipal Development Plan in a more obvious location at the front of the plan	Add a note to the cover.	N/A
BTV Fire Chief Public/Website	Minor edits to the discussion of the Fire Department Services Missing references for citations	Update text to reflect Chief's corrections This appendix was inadvertently not updated before posting. This will be corrected.	Correct existing context Add Context
Public	Map colors are hard to read in printouts, particularly the difference between the green colors on the "Planning to Conserve" map, and the map of institutions' influences on page 98.	Make the colors more distinguishable using more contrasting colors/patterns.	N/A
PC Member	Consider changing type/presentation of the icons which represent the cross-reference to plan topics for each action item. They all run together as-is and make it hard to distinguish	Make changes to the icon/how they are distinguished from one another to help with readability	N/A
PC & Conservation Bd Members	Regarding discussion of existing land use, "Significant Natural Areas & Open Space", two comments: 1) talk about the importance of these lands for amenities like ball fields, trails, boating, peace/solitude, etc. 2) Discussion of public vs private land in this category is confusing; work with BPRW naturalist to help rework.	Will update to reflect these comments.	Clarify existing info
Conservation Bd Member	On the Current Land Use Map, places like Rock Point & Leddy Park are categorized as civic. This is one of the most significant natural resources in the city, and this designation doesn't recognize this value.	Change the classification for this large parcel from a parcel based classification to better reflect the civic & natural uses on this site.	Clarify existing info
Resident	Property on S. Prospect St & Maple incorrectly labeled as "institutional" use.	Correct categorization error to reflect the property's residential use (residential condos)	Correct map
PC Member	In existing Facilities & Services, add a discussion of the importance of the city's recreational amenities in addition to the discussion of what's existing.	Add statement about importance.	Add Context
Staff	Missing from transportation infrastructure is discussion of the train station, freight and special event rail service.	Add a discussion of these transportation services to the existing "Utilities & Transportation" section	Add Context
PC Member	In "Challenges & Opportunities" section, regarding changes in transportation, add "reducing congestion and parking demand" to potential results of new modes/technologies. Additionally, add discussion of potential to restore commuter rail, and add "rail" as a Technology in the graphic on page 25.	Add discussion of potential impacts of commuter rail service to this section.	Add Future Consideration
PC Member	In "Challenges & Opportunities" section, regarding hazards to natural environment, add other invasive plants like bush honeysuckle and buckthorn, which are serious hindrances to natural ecology of open spaces in the city.	Add a statement that recognizes invasive species as a hazard more explicitly.	Add context
Public Public Hearing	Change photo that represents Inclusive Theme on page 54 per artist copyright. How to align individual projects with goals, and hold projects accountable to the plan's goals? I.e. what is our 3-year action plan?	Change photo. Elaborate on how this plan can/should be used to inform future decision-making in "How to Use this Plan" section on page 8 and "How to Read this Plan" section on page 29.	N/A Add context
Public Hearing	PlanBTV is not a hashtag.	PlanBTV 2019 update is a modernization and reorganization of the city's long-standing policies for land use and development. It is grounded in the major principles that have guided policy, but is presented in a more engaging template to be more user-friendly and easy to read.	No change
Misc	Correct typos & make minor text clarifications that don't change substance or meaning on pages 8, 9, 11, 14, 27, 33, 45, 55, 57, 58, 67, 71, 77, 79, 89, 91, 96, 98, 112	Incorporate minor edits to correct typos & missing words.	No substantive change

Distinctive Theme

Source	Comment	Recommendation	Change in Substance or Meaning?
Conservation Bd Member	Update Policy #1 to say "natural areas" rather than resources, to recognize the broader applicability of this element.	Make change as suggested	Clarify existing info
PC Member	Policy 1.5 says "responsible evolution" which isn't in the Open Space Protection Plan. What does this mean?	This action item is inclusive of natural areas in the OSPP as well as parks and the interface of land and water in the harbor. This phrase came directly from the suggestion of the BPRW Harbor Master regarding the future use/evolution of the harbor area to meet the city's land and water-side needs. No change suggested.	N/A

PC Member	Policy 4.5 seems more important; perhaps it should be moved up on the list in order of importance.	The number/order of the action items do not necessarily suggest a priority; however, as is the case with Policy 4, any big-picture framing action item (such as creating a master plan for arts & culture i.e. Action 4.1) is presented first with actions that may emerge listed to follow. Staff does not necessarily recommend a change, as it will result in cascading renumbering throughout the plan.	No change
Website	"Human scale is 4-6 stories. There is much written about the social, psychological, and economic benefits to human scale. A 14-story building is NOT human scale and this plan for it should never have been allowed. It goes against what we know about the world's most wonderful and warm city centers."	This plan does not make a recommendation about the height of buildings downtown. No change recommended.	No change
Public Hearing	Are we reaching all demographics of the city?	Efforts have been made throughout this planning process to discuss important issues with many diverse interests. More can always be done; Policy 15 includes many recommended actions for how to improve this going forward.	No change
Public Hearing	Preserve leadership of BTV and public cooperative ownership [of services/utilities] like coop telecom, competitive neutrality	Connected theme discusses the necessity of internet/telecom as a economic driver and essential service for residents that must be expanded and leveraged, but does not discuss whether this must be public or private ownership.	TBD
Public Hearing	Legacy of Bernie is distinctive	Make some notes in this section about the aspects of Burlington's identity that are known far and wide (politics, policies, companies, etc)	Expand context for importance
Public Hearing	an important part of being distinctive is renewable & sustainable	Add more context to the discussion about the city's built environment in the importance section of this theme.	Expand context
Public Hearing	Another distinctive feature is small businesses and nurturing social businesses/entrepreneurship	Distinctive theme discusses the nature of the city's businesses, but Action 5.7 could be expanded to explicitly recognize socially-focused businesses and social entrepreneurship.	Expand context of action 5.7
Public Hearing	"My experience is that planBTV will be used to justify whatever the city admin wants to do. Nothing in the last iteration of planBTV supported the zoning change for 14-story buildings even though the city said it did. The descriptive language in this latest draft is often turgid, vague. Lofty ideas about presentation of environment, preservation of uniqueness, character, and scale are at odds with several items that call for growth by increasing "predictability" for developers and "streamlining" of regulations. Schemes like form based code architecture are better suited to produce soviet-style cheap uniformity rather than architecture which "expands public art and placemaking within the built environment"	All action items from PlanBTV require additional planning, study, and community conversation. Plan BTV alone does not change or dictate zoning, but rather provides direction and guiding principles for these future efforts. Elaborate on this in the "How we use this plan" section on page 8.	Expand discussion of importance
Public Hearing	Lake and natural resources are the foundation of our city, reasons why people have moved here. They are the "wow" factor. Focus on the preservation/protection and public accessibility of the waterfront is very important.	This is discussed as an important element in both distinctive and connected themes.	No change
Dynamic Theme			
<i>Source</i>		<i>Recommendation</i>	
Conservation Bd member	In discussion of importance of resilience, add maintaining/increasing biodiversity to list of objectives	The bulleted list is from the Climate Action Plan, but adding biodiversity to this list is appropriate.	Expand context.
PC Member	Add an Action 6.8 that is about encouraging commuter rail to reduce traffic and congestion	This is already Action 17.7. Will add "to help reduce traffic and congestion" to Action 17.7 and add it to the list of "See also action items" that follows Actions 6.1-6.7.	Clarify intention of action item, and make a cross reference.
Website	"If we really want to think long term, we need to think about our planet. That means we can't cut trees and we need to care for the lake and the earth. The protection of the natural environment has taken a back seat to build build build. And what are we building? Are we really helping those in need?"	Distinctive and Dynamic put the quality and protection of natural resources and resilience to climate change more central to the plan's context, and recognizes that growth must happen in balance with these resources and in a way that improves/protects the quality/integrity of these resources. The Urban Forestry Master Plan is referenced to guide urban tree management. Incorporate into the discussion of importance of this theme, that it is not "growth for growth's sake" but rather "planning to grow".	Expand context for importance
Public Hearing	UVM's expansion takes away from quality of life in neighborhoods, and artificially raises the rent. There should be more pull back on UVM, and colleges need to be more open to the public/public conversation.	Action 6.4 talks specifically about ways to enable academic and housing needs to be met on the institutions' campuses. Further, "Planning to Grow" discusses the importance of meeting the needs of the institutions within these areas in order to preserve and strengthen surrounding neighborhoods	No change

Public Hearing	Net Zero is beneficial for development. Need to move away from fossil fuels but need to avoid big hydro	Plan doesn't make specific recommendations about the renewable energy mix, but rather, includes action item 9.2 regarding an update to BED's Integrated Resource Plan. This action could acknowledge not only resource proximity, but other environmental and/or wildlife concerns of renewable resources.	Expand context of action item
Public Hearing	Why is there a premium on growth? What kind of growth? We should focus on reuse, not new development.	The plan recognizes that some growth is to be expected, and may be necessary in order to meet the current and future needs of our community and region, and identifies areas where certain types of growth can be accommodated. Can nuance the section that discusses growth to make stronger the emphasis on reuse first, then redevelopment of existing/underutilized sites next.	See comments three cells above. Further, in the purpose statement for "Planning to Grow", the areas are about accommodating needed growth, rather than just promoting growth.
Public Hearing	Focus on Character	Incorporate "character" into policy 6.	Expand context of this policy
Public Hearing	Polluted sites- how can we use and manage them for renewable energy generation	Plan includes action items in Dynamic theme regarding reuse of brown fields, and identification of sites that can be used for energy generation.	No change
Public Hearing	Climate change is very important. The natural environment will never go out of style. We need to focus on this even though it doesn't bring a financial return, because it will be about our sustainability in the long-run. However, Burlington can't have lofty goals if there aren't others at the table helping with this effort. City isn't the only contributor to pollution in the lake.	Expand the language about the growing urgency of bold and authentic action, in coordination/collaboration with municipal neighbors.	Expand context of importance
Public Hearing	Need a lot of funding to implement this plan. When was the last time the Impact Fee study was updated and when will it be updated again?	No specific timeline for implementation, but Action 8.2 indicates a "Mid Term" timeframe of ~2-5 years.	No change
Inclusive Theme			
<i>Source</i>	<i>Comment</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>	
PC Member	Add gender as a consideration in the short description of Inclusive	Update	Expand Context of theme
PC Member	Regarding Action 12.6, is there not a system in place today? Maybe this is more appropriate as "evaluate/improve" a system.	This is an existing action item from the 2014 plan. Working with City Attorney to clarify/understand whether or not this is relevant. Will update as suggested if no system is in place today.	TBD
PC Member	Regarding Action 15.5, expand to note that importance to make boards' work more relevant to underrepresented communities.	Update action item as suggested.	Expand Intent of the action item.
Website	A truly inclusive city must take care of those in the most need. That includes a livable wage of \$15 per hour and REAL affordable housing. To use the word affordable when talking about a one bedroom at \$1000/month is simply wrong. Please walk the walk when it comes to "affordable." Don't use the word to describe rents that are not affordable. A vibrant city is one that even the lowest paid workers can still afford to live."	This is largely discussed on pages 56-57, but consider adding the specific quote to the discussion on these pages "a vibrant city is one that even the lowest paid workers can still afford to live."	Add resident quote to emphasize importance of this section.
Public Hearing	Citizen engagement must be valued, and engagement has to be meaningful. Government process isn't set up from meaningful citizen engagement.	This is the focus of Policy 15 and Action items 15.1-15.10. Expand discussion of importance in inclusive theme to more explicitly discuss meaningful opportunities for engagement.	Expand context of this section
Public Hearing	Citizen involvement in their section. How to engage neighborhoods, how to talk to everyone in a neighborhood; learn lessons from residents.	See above. Expand discussion of importance of meaningful dialogue that is focused on the individual needs of neighborhoods/parts of the city and groups of residents.	Expand context of this section
Public Hearing	Not "citizens" but "residents" of city.	Update language to reflect residents/community members, not citizens.	Update language of section
Public Hearing	UVM should keep at least 80% of under grad students on campus. Infill development should be complimentary or enhancing neighborhoods, not degrade them. Brownfield development even if it has to be subsidized should be incentivized, greenfields are way overdeveloped. Citizen/community engagement is encouraged but The public is only listened to if it is consistent with the Mayor/City Council majority objective3. Otherwise public expertise and opinion is routinely ignored. Advocate for County Executive so that each town/city might work together and not be in competition"	Plan does not include a specific target for number of students housed on campus, but includes policies regarding meeting housing needs within the institutions' campuses. Plan does identify reuse/redevelopment/infill before building new. There are very few truly undeveloped sites left in the city for development. Policy 20 includes actions about coordination and planning/policy collaboration with region, particularly via the Regional Planning Commission.	No change
Public Hearing	Affordable housing is really important, but need to make sure market rate and subsidized are provided together, not in different buildings. Housing needs to be beautiful. Further, need to provide more resources to residents in subsidized housing who may not have a voice for their needs.	This is an element of the inclusive theme's policies 11 and 12. In addition to discussion of safety of housing, can also discuss beauty.	Update language of section

Public Hearing		Public spaces are an element of the Inclusive and Connected themes, but the language around the purpose of and importance of these spaces can be strengthened in the connected theme.	Expand context for importance
	Need to have truly shared public spaces that aren't exclusive to individual neighborhoods, and that are integrated into the city's fabric and are places for people to engage		
Public Hearing		Expand Policy #14 to say "and ensure the necessary supportive services to enable participation in the workforce."	Expand context of this policy
	The Policy/Goal #14 and the example actions don't match. Understand the point about having other supportive services as essential to economic participation, but perhaps this should be called out explicitly as part of the goal.		
Connected Theme			
<i>Source</i>		<i>Recommendation</i>	
Conservation Board Member	Open Space Protection Plan (OSPP) is getting pretty old and last update was done through an addendum. The Plan is excellent, but may be worth a more comprehensive update, and could be used to make an argument for increasing funding for the Conservation Legacy Fund (CLF).	planBTV includes two recommendations 16.3 and 16.5 regarding the updating OSPP and increasing the CLF. Staff recommends no change, but notes that the Conservation Board should be consulted when a discussion of the scope of work for the OSPP update commences.	N/A
PC Member	Highlight commuter rail in a more detailed way, maybe as a shorter-term achievement than previously anticipated.	Expand discussion in importance of mobility section to recognize the potential benefits of commuter rail. Action 17.7. Identifies the timeframe as "Mid Term" which is ~2-5 year horizon. This is staff's most optimistic approximation of the implementation of this item, so no change to the timeframe is recommended.	Expand discussion of importance
Conservation Board Member	Add biodiversity to the intent of Policy 16	Update to read "Protecting, preserving, and improving the integrity, connectivity, and biodiversity of..."	Expand context
Website	"A connected city has a better connection between city hall and regular folk. That means ground-up efforts for people, not top-down visions which don't actually meet the needs of people. If there is any agenda from the city- financial, cronyism, power, greed, fame, or re-election, this will not be good for the people. The solutions to the needs of the park were simple- better care of trees and soil, good benches for elders, playground for kids, and bathrooms for all. What we got? Fewer trees, more pavement, a kiosk."	This comment is largely in regards to the plan for City Hall Park. The Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Master Plan which is incorporated by reference identifies that there are a wide range of public resources in the city which provide a variety of recreational services & amenities, and helps guide the future resources and amenities included in parks around the city.	No change
Public Hearing	Bus service needs to run more frequently to incentivize more people to ride the bus	This is discussed in Action item 17.5	No change
Public Hearing	Remove on-street parking in favor of wider sidewalks and safe lanes for biking, need to provide off-street parking, smaller buses.	Connected Theme and Policy 17 in particular discusses ways we can accommodate a diverse and interconnected modes of transportation to meet wide variety of mobility needs. Further, dynamic theme discusses monitoring the evolving demands on the public ROW as a result of transportation changes/technologies.	No change
Public Hearing		Very specific to locations. However, policy 19 is largely about fixing and improving the city's infrastructure.	No change
Public Hearing	"More trees, especially if any have to be removed. Replace with more in each case. 20 more lights in city hall park, public restrooms, fix sidewalks!"		
Public Hearing	Every community needs to grow and manage growth in a coordinated way. Love the added bike lanes/accessibility- keep it coming. The bumpouts with flower boxes and posts can work but also not. Open to change these? Thinking the intersection at the top of Loomis. Make sure financially the city is protected as we develop new staff if things go wrong."	This is related to how we can transition pilot projects into permanent improvements/solutions. Action item 17.2 is about the quick-build solutions to repurpose streets, should expand to include evaluation and permanent implementation.	Update context of action item to include long-term strategies as lessons learned.
Public Hearing	Schools can be drivers of some of the goals of our plan, such as being community centers in neighborhoods	Expand the discussion in the connected theme's narrative regarding importance.	Expand context for importance
Public Hearing	Should have some sort of public endowment or other way that socially driven investment by the community can take place in the community	Distinctive theme discusses the ways businesses contribute to supporting the identity of our community. This could also discuss the ways in which the community can invest in and support one another.	Expand discussion of importance
Public Hearing	Permitting process is inefficient and goes against the goals this plan is trying to implement.	Permit reform is a separate endeavor outside of this plan update. Additionally, connected theme talks about reorganizing city government to better address administrative needs, and locating essential services in the downtown where they're easily accessible.	No change
Land Use Plan			
<i>Source</i>		<i>Recommendation</i>	
Discussion with Regional Planners	UVM wooded land along Patchen Rd in S. Burlington/adjacent to Centennial Woods is developable. City watches this area carefully due to limited ability to add development capacity.	Expand discussion of land use issues along the borders of Burlington/S. Burlington in Appendix E (regional compatibility) to discuss the need to coordinate future planning/zoning for this area.	Adds context for compatibility with neighboring plans

Discussion with Regional Planners	Heineberg Rd/Warners Corner area of Colchester will be removed from the proposed sewer service area due to inability to connect to Burlington system. Instead looking at sewer service in the Bay/Severance Corners area. Therefore, anticipated intensity of development in the Warners Corner area will be less than the 2014 Colchester Town Plan anticipated. Will also continue to pursue multi-modal connections, particularly feasible bus service via GMT into Burlington.	Minor modifications to the discussion of Warners Corner area in Appendix E (regional compatibility).	Adds context for compatibility with neighboring plans
Ward 1 & 8 NPA Discussion	Single Family homes around the boundaries of the institutions were rezoned to Institutional, which was a mistake in my opinion. This is not preservation of residential areas.	Change future land use designation for single family homes on west side of East Avenue between Main Street & Colchester Ave from "Planning to Grow- Institutional" to "Planning to Sustain".	Changes future land use designation on maps on page 80, 86, 90
Questions from Ward 6 Councilor & resident	What is future of Redstone Green in regards to "Planning to Grow"? It would be detrimental to the neighborhood if this were developed, especially if it adds more student housing on south campus, as Ward 6 doesn't have other parks/open spaces. Additionally, there shouldn't be commercial development on South Prospect Street. What is the meaning of not making boundaries "hard edges"?	Within the narrative section of "Planning to Grow- The Institutions & Eastern Gateways", clarify what is meant by "amenities" along the institutions boundaries by adding some examples. Additionally, make a more explicit reference in the narrative about the connection to the institutional master plans.	Provides additional context/clarifications
Question from Councilor	Ward 1 seems to have a lot of "Grow" and not much "Sustain". Need more time to understand how these relate to one another.	See change to East Ave above. Additionally, update all Future Land Use Maps to show colors for other land use areas as a transparent layer for reference rather than a grey background.	Improve clarity/readability, and continuity between sections
PC Member	Are boundaries for "Multi-modal Corridors" too wide? In some cases, they are several properties in to the side streets.	These are not meant to be indicative of boundaries, but rather general areas around the major corridors of the city, to indicate the need for future discussion. Lines are purely to illustrate the corridors for evaluation. No Change recommended	N/A
Staff	General Future Land Use Map on Page 80, should be updated to indicate that Multi-Modal corridors are an overlay, not a firm boundary, and area of influence around NAC's should include the transparency, rather than a firm boundary.	Update colors to be more reflective of color coding used on "Planning to Grow" map on page 90.	Improve clarity/readability.
PC Member	To high level summary of purpose of "Planning to Conserve" add "natural functions" and "for recreation" to purpose.	make changes as suggested	Clarify intent
PC Member	Future Considerations- understanding that EAB is not climate change related.	Update language to clarify that EAB is a hazard that must be considered regarding the management of these areas, but that it is not necessarily climate change related.	Clarify existing content.
Staff	Add "planBTV South End Master Plan" to list of referenced plans for the Shelburne Rd Corridor section of "Planning to Grow"	make changes as suggested	Add reference material
Wards 4 & 7 Discussion	Should consider opportunities to meet neighborhood's needs off of North Avenue, too. The Avenue should be seen less as a single spine, but more integrated with the rest of the neighborhood- like a spine with ribs. Particularly related to transit, as much of the neighborhood lives too far away from existing service. New North End deserves a planBTV study.	Strengthen the discussion of the role of the corridor in the "North Avenue Corridor" section of "Planning to Grow" and emphasize the discussion of the need for an area plan/corridor study.	Provide additional context/clarifications
Website	"If we are wanting to preserve green space, then why are we destroying trees and green space in City Hall park? If we are to send a message regarding what Burlington actually stands for and cares about, a central, highly-utilized space like City Hall Park must adhere to our collective values, and the values set forth in this plan. The new plan to renovate the park is disrespectful. It reduces the number of mature trees in the park when we need all the trees we can possibly have to sequester our carbon and clean our air! Cement and hard scape is very carbon intensive, and prevents rain from restoring our aquifers. With more hardscape we will have more runoff! Plus, it is ugly. Plant are beautiful. We need solutions that use minimal resources (low throughput) and are as cheap and simple as possible. The people in Burlington are very vocal about their opposition to this park plan and to the mall. What is happening to Burlington?! Are we going to become an ugly modern city like New York?"	This comment is largely in regards to the plans for City Hall Park. Dynamic Theme discusses the integration of new and old to meet the evolving needs of the city. "Planning to Conserve" recognizes that resources are for natural and recreational purposes, and that they will be maintained largely as they are today with some modifications to allow them to continue to be managed/function for these purposes.	No change
Letter from Cemetery Commission Chair	There is increasing pressure to address changing trends in burials from traditional vault burials to cremations, green burials, and burial customs of other nationalities and religions. The Commission is seeking funding to develop Section 6 and Section 8 of Lakeview's master layout in an effort to offer more burial opportunities, continue plantings, and buy time to find a new city cemetery location. The Commission requests that the Planning and Zoning Office include within Plan BTV provisions for a new city cemetery in the South End of Burlington.	Action item 19.4 has been included in the plan, which directs an evaluation of the capacity of the cemeteries and recommendations for new models for burial where limited land area is available. The South End contains little undeveloped land for establishment of a new cemetery; recommendation is to advance action 19.4.	No change
Wards 1 & 8 NPA Discussion	Neighborhoods need more walkability and shops nearby. Mixed use is a more economical development pattern, and needed to support mass transit.	This is the concept behind multi-modal corridors in the "Planning to Grow" framework, as well as Policy 18 in the "Connected" theme. However, this could be clarified added to the discussion of future considerations for "The Institutions & Eastern Gateways" section of "Planning to Grow."	Provide additional context/clarifications
Public Hearing	regarding planBTV South End, love the embrace of the mixed use direction that is happening but a little concerned that the plan splits the district into 3 sections that will have different rules. Let's keep the rules consistent for the entire E-LM zone, especially the Industrial Parkway area... don't break this out with more restrictive zoning vs the rest of the E—LM zone."	This is the foundation of the draft planBTV South End, as an approach to allow the complementary, but unique needs of arts, innovation and industry to each thrive within the district. Staff recommends no change.	No change.
Public Hearing	UVM Trinity Campus should be used for growing student housing and then the housing that formerly housed students can be repurposed for affordable housing.	This is one of the recommendations of The Neighborhood Project, which is referenced in both the "Planning to Sustain" and Planning to Grow- Institutions & Eastern Gateways" sections of the plan.	No change

For staff Use

Add / discuss recommendation Addressed in V2.0 InDesign

Add your initials when you add to this spreadsheet