

## Lori Olberg

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**From:** Doreen Kraft  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 11, 2013 4:23 PM  
**To:** Lori Olberg  
**Subject:** City Hall Park Resolution  
**Attachments:** CHP\_Landscape Plan.pdf

Dear Councilors,

In this packet you'll find a resolution about City Hall Park - the jewel in the crown of our downtown.

A public engagement process called *Imagine City Hall Park* took place in Burlington for nine months from the summer 2011 until spring 2012 with over 950 community members including city councilors, department heads, maintenance crews, seniors, area businesses, social service agencies, New Americans, Burlington citizens, and visitors. The results of all engagement projects were analyzed and compiled into a report that was shared with the project's landscape architecture team, H. Keith Wagner and Jeff Hodgson Partnership, who transformed the information into a master plan. (Concept Final Drawing attached)

Burlington City Arts and Burlington Parks and Recreation Department are now ready to move to Phase 2 - engineering and design documents as funding becomes available. On Monday evening, we look forward to presenting an overview of the work we've done, with the assistance of the landscape architects, at which time we will review next steps. Thank you for your continued interest.

Best Doreen

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# Resolution Relating to

## RESOLUTION

Sponsor(s): Councilor Paul

Introduced: \_\_\_\_\_

Referred to: \_\_\_\_\_

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY HALL PARK MASTER PLAN

## CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Thirteen.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That WHEREAS, Burlington City Arts (BCA) received a \$10,000 contribution from the Merchants Bank to begin problem solving the safety challenges facing City Hall Park in 2010; and

WHEREAS, BCA assembled a committee of City Hall Park stakeholders at the Mayor's request to collaboratively approach the issues of infrastructure and programming that included the Departments of Parks and Recreation, Planning and Zoning, the Marketplace, BCA, as well as The Flynn, and the Burlington Business Association; and

WHEREAS, BCA applied for and received a \$50,000 matching grant from the National Endowment of the Arts to develop a master plan for the park that used the arts as an engagement tool and promised a high quality design as an outcome; and

WHEREAS, BCA raised the 1 to 1 match necessary to implement the outreach and complete the plan; and

WHEREAS, BCA spent 6 months on an outreach campaign asking the community to describe what they loved about the park and what they would like to see in the park in the future; and

WHEREAS, engagement participants included over 950 people and included extensive public outreach on many levels, including: artistic activities with youth, persons with disabilities, seniors and new Americans/ESL residents; with surveys that took place during activities in or near the park, in surrounding business lobbies and online; and in facilitated sessions with several adult groups, including parks department staff, city councilors and commissioners, surrounding business owners, and arts professionals; and

WHEREAS, the resulting master plan for City Hall Park integrates the highest priorities of the community into the design based on this public engagement process; and

WHEREAS, the Burlington Police Department supports consistent, positive activity in City Hall Park, including but not limited to vending, entertainment, and events that enhance public safety and help reduce crime and disorder; and



## Resolution Relating to CITY HALL PARK MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Mayor supported joint Burlington Police Department, Burlington City Arts , and the Parks and Recreation efforts to improve City Hall Park during the summers of 2012 and 2013 and the Mayor supports additional positive programming in the park immediately and the Mayor supports construction of the redesigned City Hall Park as early as 2015 and has placed the City Hall Park Master Plan on his list of priorities for the FY 15/16 budget; and

WHEREAS, a partnership between the Friends of City Hall Park and the City of Burlington, represented by BCA and the Department of Parks and Recreation, has formed and is now jointly seeking funding to complete construction drawings, in which the design of complex items such as storm water treatment, design of fountain area, kiosk and stage details will be determined with the appropriate City departments; and

WHEREAS, BCA with the support of Parks and Recreation continues to program City Hall Park with new lighting in the alleyway, annual art exhibits, noontime concerts in the spring/summer months, vending opportunities and lighting/public art initiatives in the winter; and

WHEREAS, this partnership is seeking funds to do a small feasibility study to identify potential local funders; and

WHEREAS, this partnership is also spearheading a city-wide effort to develop the capital funding sources for the approximate \$2.5 million renovation of the park based on the Master Plan including Downtown District Tax Increment Financing, Penny for Parks, grants, individual gifts; and

WHEREAS, the quality of our built environment is of utmost importance to the livability of our City, influencing how people relate to each other, providing the opportunity for community to form, and representing the depth of our social networks;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this City Council supports the progress which BCA, Parks and Recreation and the many other stakeholders in this effort have made thus far to improve one of our great assets in the Downtown District and make it welcoming to all; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Council encourages BCA and Parks and Recreation to continue their good work on City Hall Park and proceed forward with engineering and design documents as funding becomes available; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Council requests and looks forward to an update on progress to date to the City Council at the second meeting in May 2014.