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2 **Resolution Relating to**

RESOLUTION
Sponsor(s): Councilors Paul,
Brennan, Aubin: Parks, Arts & Culture Com.

Introduced: _____
Referred to: _____
Action: _____
Date: _____
Signed by Mayor: _____

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6 CITY HALL PARK MASTER PLAN

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12 **CITY OF BURLINGTON**

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14 In the year Two Thousand Fourteen.....
15 Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

30 WHEREAS, engagement participants included over 950 people and included extensive public
31 outreach on many levels, including: artistic activities with youth, persons with disabilities, seniors and
32 new Americans/ESL residents; with surveys that took place during activities in or near the park, in
33 surrounding business lobbies and online; and in facilitated sessions with several adult groups, including
34 the Department of Parks and Recreation staff, City Councilors and Commissioners, surrounding business
35 owners, and arts professionals; and

36 WHEREAS, the resulting Master Plan for City Hall Park integrates the highest priorities of the
37 community into the design based on this public engagement process; and

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

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Resolution Relating to

CITY HALL PARK MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Mayor supported joint Burlington Police, Burlington City Arts, and the Parks and Recreation Departments' efforts to improve City Hall Park during the summers of 2012 and 2013 and encourages immediate positive programming in the park; and

WHEREAS, 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 2015/16 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 the fountain area, kiosk and stage details will be determined with the appropriate City departments; and

WHEREAS, BCA with the support of the Department 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; 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, and individual gifts; and

WHEREAS, BCA has applied for a second National Endowment for the Arts "ArtWorks" grant that would fund the design of architectural structures in the park, including a central kiosk and a collapsible event stage which will be announced by April 30th; 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, the Department of 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 the Department of Parks and Recreation to proceed with phase 2 design and BID drawings 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 June 2014.