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CHARITABLE DROP BOX ALTERNATIVE TO PANHANDLING

In the year Two Thousand Ten.....

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

That WHEREAS, Burlington has a network of resources and programs to assist people in need; and

WHEREAS, cash contributions of nominal amounts are often directly requested of people (panhandling); and

WHEREAS, it is natural to want to assist anyone making such a request; and

WHEREAS, without a prominent alternative way of helping, we often enable people to bypass the networks and programs that would help them deal with issues of alcohol or substance abuse, often contributing to their condition of need; and

WHEREAS, the unintentional enabling of alcohol and substance abuse has direct costs to Burlington's police and social services as well as a negative affect on residents' and visitors' perception of Burlington; and

WHEREAS, a Charitable Drop Box Alternative to panhandling would have the potential to leverage donations with matching funds by businesses and charitable groups; and

WHEREAS, coordination with the Church Street Marketplace, Burlington City Arts, CEDO, along with the many other organizations will make this program successful; and

33 CHARITABLE DROP BOX ALTERNATIVE
34 TO PANHANDLING
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36 WHEREAS, Burlington's CEDO has a process established for allocating various funds
37 to many of the networks annually and also has programs already working with our neediest
38 population;

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that CEDO develop a plan for a system of
40 charitable drop-boxes distributed along the Church Street Marketplace and at City Hall Park with
41 a public education component regarding charitable donations as a preferable alternative to
42 panhandling; and

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CEDO provide a plan for implementation of such a
44 system to the Community Development Committee for review by January 5, 2011.

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