



## **Committee Input into Town Government**

At its July 8, 2025, meeting, the Burlington Government Review Committee provided input into the elements of Town government that are working and those that could be improved. The project team invites the Committee to review the following identified themes and provide feedback if any substantial themes have been omitted. The Committee and the project team will continue to develop these ideas, along with additional themes generated through this process.

### **A. What is working well within Burlington's Town Government?**

- Town Meeting
  - Generally, well informed and active Town Meeting members
  - Having three town meetings a year helps Town stay proactive
- Excellent local services, including Veterans Services, recreation, emergency services
- Increasingly proactive government
  - Concerted effort on the part of boards and departments to problem solve quickly and efficiently
  - Increasing efforts in economic development and planning
- Elections are well run and transparent – voters given good information about candidates
- Public engagement has increased through local media and virtual and hybrid meetings.

### **B. What areas of Town Government need improvement?**

- Civic engagement
  - Level of participation in elections and attendance at Town Meetings
  - Education of public in form and substance of Burlington government
  - Ensuring that all Burlington residents have easy access to services and are encouraged to participate on boards, committees, and in elections
- Communication of Town services, including website design and where to look for assistance
- Staffing and local government volunteers and officials
  - Training and mentoring of staff, volunteers, and officials
  - Succession planning
  - Siloing of departments, boards, and committees
  - Consistency of reporting structures and policies
  - Attracting and hiring candidates for positions quickly