

**CITY OF ESSEX JUNCTION
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Online & 2 Lincoln St.
Essex Junction, VT 05452
Wednesday, August 14, 2024
6:30 PM

E-mail: admin@essexjunction.org

www.essexjunction.org

Phone: (802) 878-6944

This meeting will be in-person at 2 Lincoln Street and available remotely. Options to watch or join the meeting remotely:

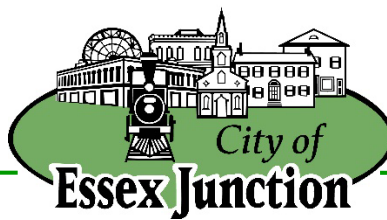
- **WATCH:** the meeting will be live streamed on [Town Meeting TV](#)
- **JOIN ONLINE:** [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
- **JOIN CALLING:** (toll free audio only): (888) 788-0099 | Meeting ID: 944 6429 7825; Passcode: 635787

1. **CALL TO ORDER** [6:30 PM]
2. **AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES**
3. **APPROVE AGENDA**
4. **PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**
 - a. Comments from Public
5. **BUSINESS ITEMS**
 - a. Discussion and Consideration of Appointment of Cristin Gildea to the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission
 - b. Presentation on the Crescent Connector Tutorial
 - c. Presentation and Discussion of Global Foundries Electric Battery Storage Project (Essex VT BESS)
 - d. Presentation and Discussion of Green Mountain Transit's Funding Gap
 - e. Discussion and Consideration of Champlain Valley Expo Sound Waivers and Concerts
 - f. Discussion of Essex Junction's Participation in VLCT Welcoming & Engaging Communities Program
 - g. *Discussion and Consideration of an Executive Session to discuss a Contract
 - h. **Discussion and Consideration of an Executive Session to discuss Personnel
6. **CONSENT ITEMS**
 - a. Approve Meeting Minutes: July 17, 2024
 - b. Acting as the Liquor Control Commission: Liquor and Tobacco License Approvals
 - c. Approval of Maple Street Playground RFP Award
 - d. Approval of Block Party Taylor Drive 8/18/24
 - e. Approval of EHS Bonfire Request
7. **COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS & CITY MANAGER REPORT**
8. **READING FILE**
 - a. Check Warrant #24049 7/12/24, #24050 7/26/24, #24051 8/9/24
 - b. July Financial Report and Memo
 - c. Connect the Junction Project
 - d. Community Resource Brochure
 - e. Lead Service Line Update Memo from MSK
 - f. CATMA Membership
 - g. Regional Boards and Committees Minutes Memo
 - h. BWAC Minutes 7/15/24
 - i. CRC Minutes 7/2/24
 - j. PC Minutes 7/3/24 and 8/1/24

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
 - a. *An Executive Session may be needed to discuss a Contract
 - b. **An Executive Session may be needed to discuss Personnel

10. **ADJOURN**

Members of the public are encouraged to speak during the Public to Be Heard agenda item, during a Public Hearing, or, when recognized by the President, during consideration of a specific agenda item. The public will not be permitted to participate when a motion is being discussed except when specifically requested by the President. Regarding zoom participants, if individuals interrupt, they will be muted; and if they interrupt a second time they will be removed. This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. Meetings of the City Council, like all programs and activities of the City of Essex Junction, are accessible to people with disabilities. For information on accessibility or this agenda, call the City Manager's office at 802-878-6944 TTY: 7-1-1 or (800) 253-0191.



MEMORANDUM

To: City Council

From: Regina Mahony, City Manager

Meeting Date: August 14, 2024

Subject: City Representation on Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission - Appointment

Issue:

A new representative to the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission needs to be appointed due to a recent vacancy.

Discussion:

The Council needs to appoint a representative to fill the remaining term on the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission which was recently vacated by council member Elaine Haney. This appointment will expire in June 2025.

Cristin Gildea has spent some time learning about CCRPC, including attendance at a CCRPC Board meeting. Cristin Gildea, who is a Development Review Board member for the City, is interested in filling this vacancy. She will be in attendance at the meeting.

Cost:

There are no associated costs with this issue.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Council appoint Cristin Gildea to the remaining term on the CCRPC board which expires in June 2025.

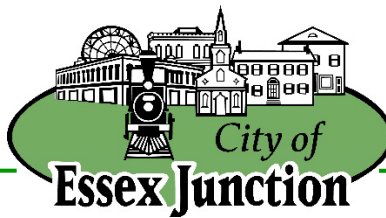
Recommended Motion:

If the Council is ready and decides to follow the recommended motion:

“I move the Council appoint Cristin Gildea to the remaining term on the CCRPC board which expires in June 2025.”

Attachments:

None



MEMORANDUM

To: City Council
From: Regina Mahony
Meeting Date: August 14, 2024
Subject: Crescent Connector 101 Tutorial

Issue: Informing the public about the new traffic patterns for the Crescent Connector.

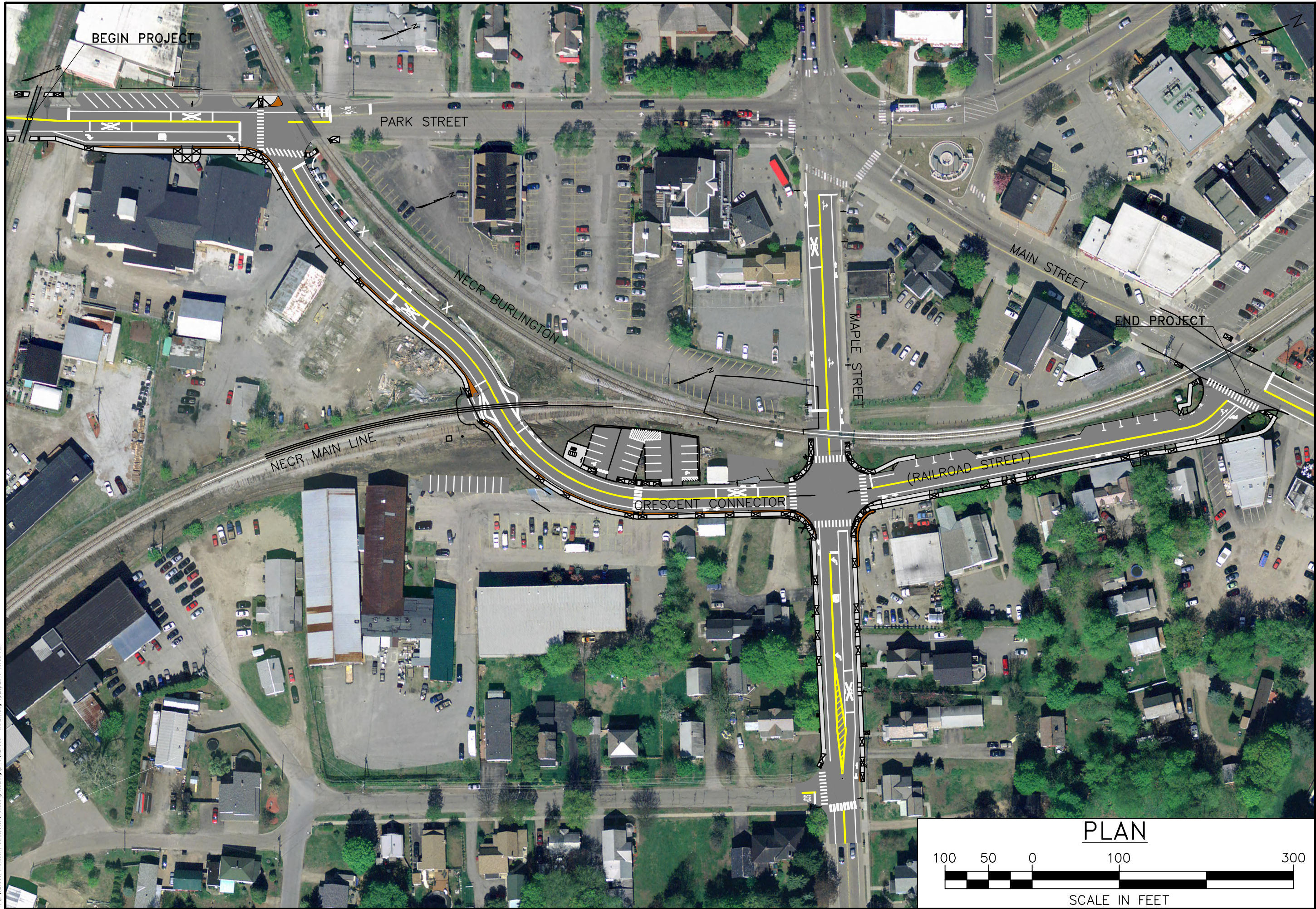
Discussion: As we get closer to the completion of the Crescent Connector project, resident engineer Rick Hamlin will walk through the traffic movement changes to begin to let folks know how this will work once it is opened.

Cost: N/A

Recommendation: N/A

Recommended Motion: N/A

Attachments: Visual of new roadway



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 SPRINGFIELD, VT
 BEDFORD, NH
 LACONIA, NH
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 PROFESSIONAL SEAL

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

PRELIMINARY PLANS

| NO. | DATE | DESCRIPTION | BY | CK'D |
|-----|------|-------------|----|------|
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VILLAGE OF
 ESSEX JUNCTION
 2 LINCOLN STREET
 ESSEX JUNCTION,
 VT 05452

CRESCENT
 CONNECTOR
 STP 5300 (13)
 ESSEX JUNCTION

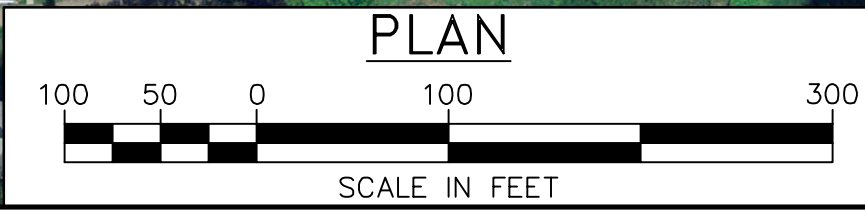
SHEET TITLE

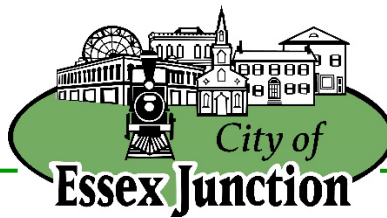
| | |
|------------|---------------|
| DRAWN BY | DATE |
| MAM | APR. 2019 |
| CHECKED BY | DBK PROJECT # |
| CDL | 621803 |
| PROJ. ENG. | DBK ARCHIVE # |
| JKB | |

SHEET NUMBER

SHEET OF

I:\621803\F1 Crescent Connector\Necessity Hearing\DWG_621803-exhibit.dwg 6/28/2019 10:35 AM





MEMORANDUM

To: City Council

From: Regina Mahony, City Manager

Meeting Date: 8/14/24

Subject: Discussion of a Battery Electric Storage Project on the GlobalFoundries Campus

Issue: GlobalFoundries is preparing to submit a Certificate of Public Good Petition to the state Public Utility Commission (PUC) for its proposed 16-megawatt, 52-megawatt hour battery electric storage project on the GlobalFoundries campus in Essex Junction, Vermont.

Discussion:

Permitting authority for this project lies with the Public Utilities Commission; however, the City Council and Planning Commission may provide comments to the Public Utilities Commission if they so choose.

Lightshift Energy intends to be the owner and operator of a battery storage facility at GlobalFoundries. Essex VT BESS, is a special purpose entity created by Lightshift Energy. BESS stands for Battery Energy Storage System. Representatives will be at the meeting to present the project.

The Planning Commission also received a presentation on the project on August 1. They had some questions that were adequately addressed. Fire Chief Gaboriault also met with representatives for an overview of the project and didn't have any concerns.

Cost: None

Recommendation:

No formal action is needed by the Council. However, if the Council chooses you may submit comments to the PUC.

Recommended Motion:

If the Council chooses to submit comments to the PUC, here is a suggested motion:

"I move that the Council authorize the City Manager to write a letter to the PUC with comments as discussed."

Attachments:

Presentation Slides

Essex VT BESS 1 LLC's Proposed Battery Energy Storage Project in Essex Junction, VT 45 Day Notice with associated attachments



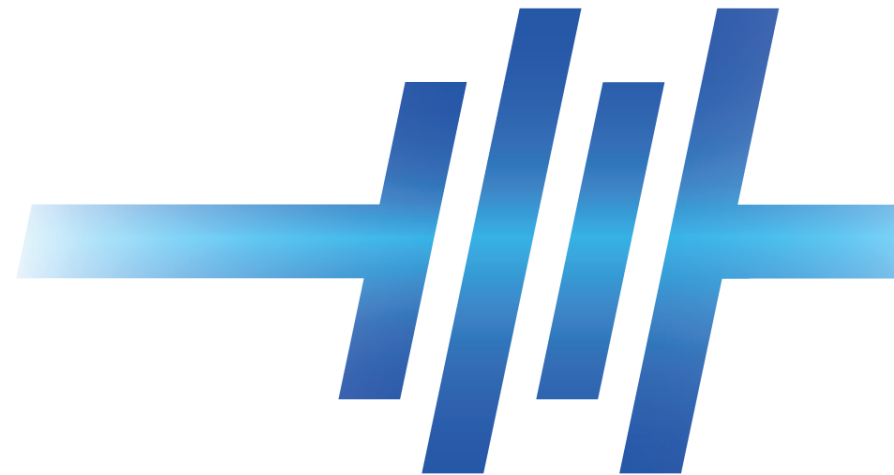
Lightshift/GlobalFoundries Energy Storage Project

Essex Junction City Council
August 2024



Agenda

- # Company Overview
- # Vermont Experience
- # Project Overview / Benefits
- # Site Overview / Layout
- # Project Aesthetics
- # Permitting Process / Timeline



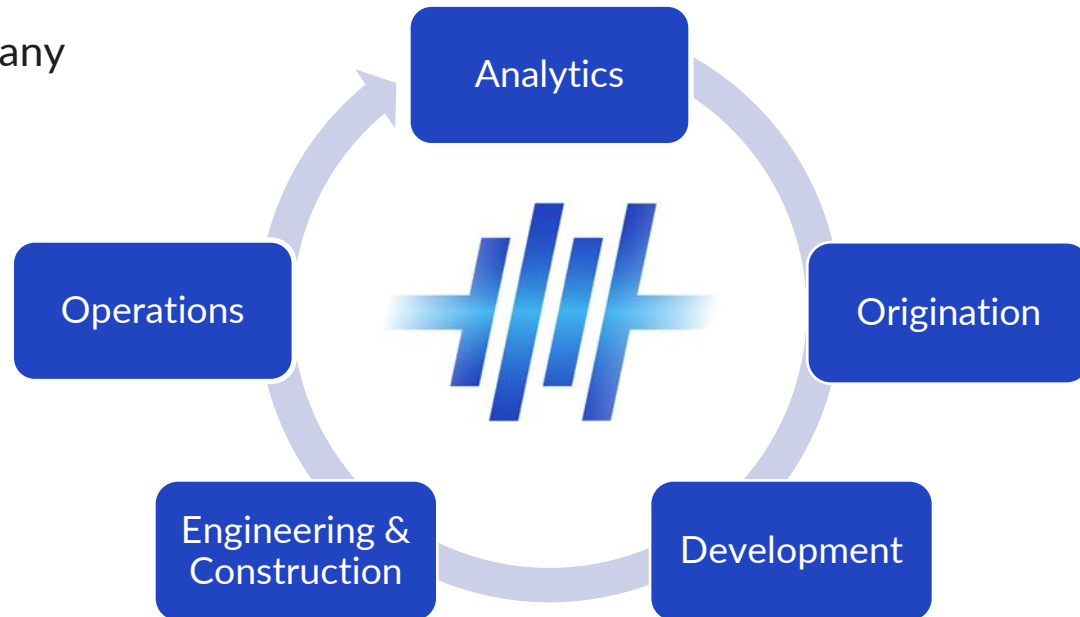
- Lightshift Energy is a utility-scale energy storage development company and long-term owner/operator of energy storage projects

- With more than 4 GW of projects in development, Lightshift Energy is developing projects across the US

- Lightshift's first project achieved commercial operations in 2022 with Danville Utilities in Virginia

- In Massachusetts, three projects are operational as of August 2024, with two others currently under construction

- We take a holistic approach to energy storage development, from robust analytics and early site efforts to best-in-class operations and asset management

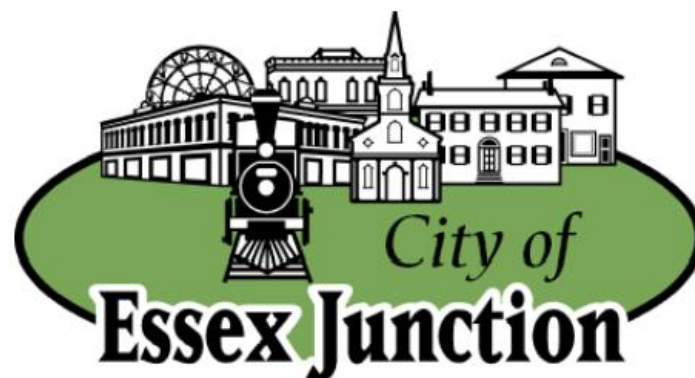




-
- # **Northfield Project:** Received Certificate of Public Good through Section 248(j) process at Public Utilities Commission in March 2024.
 - # Six-month permitting process
 - # Must adhere to CPG conditions regarding project safety, aesthetics and environmental impact
 - # Site preparation beginning Q3/Q4 2024
 - # Partnership with **Vermont Public Power Supply Authority** to deploy energy storage with members throughout the state, including Northfield.
 - # Development of similar projects maturing with multiple other Vermont utilities.

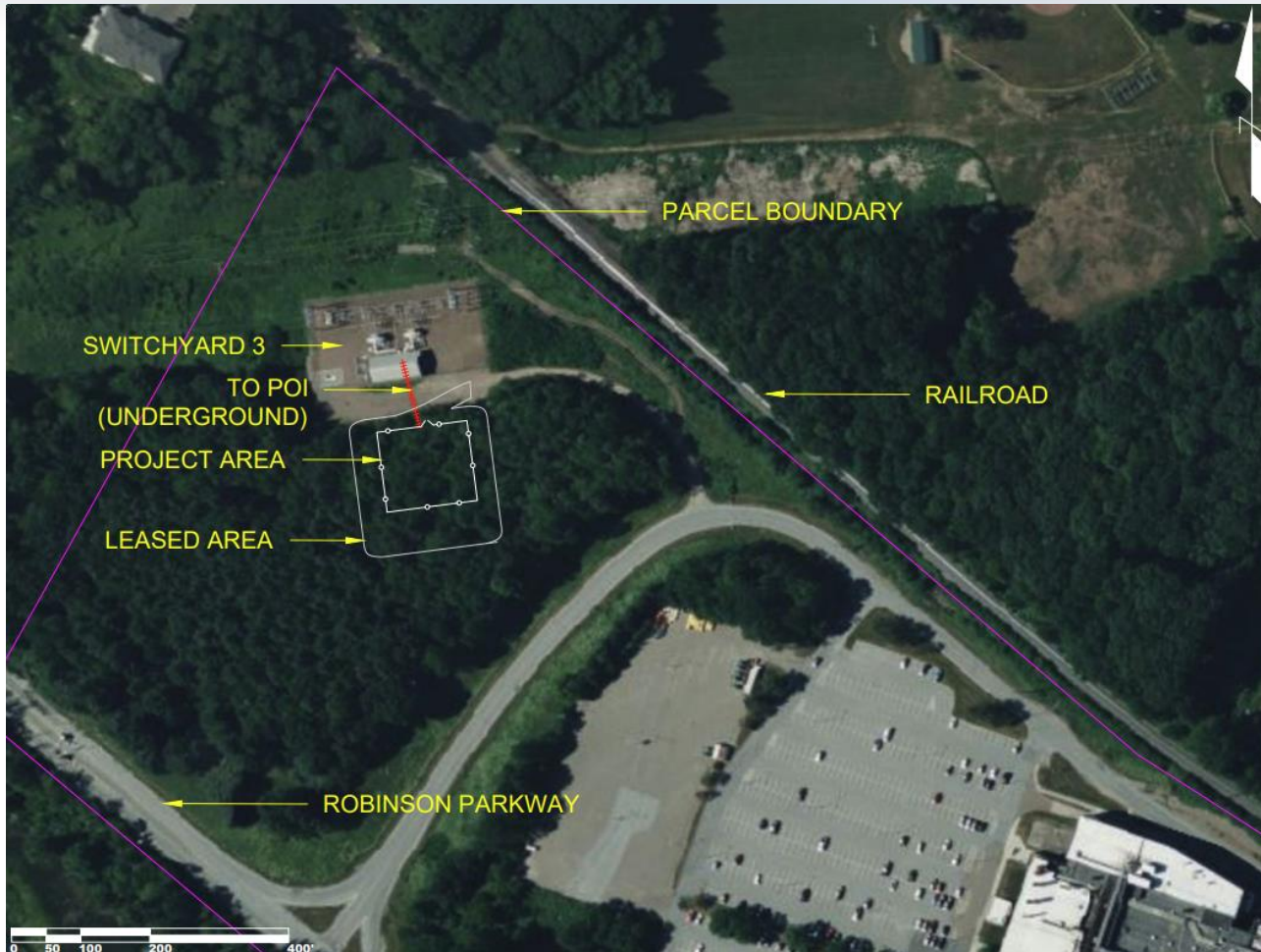
Lightshift is seeking a Certificate of Public Good for a 16MW/52MWh battery energy storage system sited on GlobalFoundries' campus to reduce their electric consumption during peak times and provide broader clean energy and electric reliability benefits to the region

- # Reduce operating costs at GlobalFoundries, Vermont's largest private employer
- # Provide a valuable source of clean power capacity for Essex Junction and avoid fossil fuel generation in New England
- # Support grid reliability by siting near heavy electric load at GlobalFoundries
- # Offer benefits to the transmission system by reducing power flows at peak times
- # Support renewable energy goals and integrate solar:
 - # GlobalFoundries Utility goals
 - # Essex Junction Community Energy Plan
- # Use of locally-based suppliers and labor, including consultants, equipment procurement, and construction/installation
- # State and municipal tax revenue



Lightshift/GlobalFoundries Project Location





- ⚡ Footprint | 0.9 acres of the 227.6-acre (±) GlobalFoundries Campus
- ⚡ Site Selection | Within GF Power territory, adjacent to the switchyard



- ⚡ Access | One small access drive will be added from the switchyard to the project site
- ⚡ Size | 16 MW / 52 MWh
- ⚡ Infrastructure | (12) battery containers (5) transformer/inverter containers

A battery energy storage system consists of batteries combined with controls, power conversion equipment, and auxiliaries to achieve safe interaction with the utility grid

- Site selected to minimize aesthetic impact
- Potential visibility of the Project is limited to locations north of the Project site
- The Project will be predominately blocked by the existing electrical switchyard and forested areas
- The Project will be shorter than the switchyard and transmission lines and will not change the character of the area

Project in Danville VA 10.5MW/24.6MWh



Updated Equipment



(L x W x H) 20' x 8' x 9.5'



(L x W x H) 21.3' x 6.5' x 7.2'

Certificate of Public Good Process

- ⚡ 45-Day Notice | Submitted to Public Utilities Commission in June 2024
- ⚡ Neighbor outreach | Noticed all adjoining landowners (50+ landowners)
- ⚡ Full CPG petition | Submitted after mid-August
- ⚡ Reports and studies | Submitted with filing:
 - ⚡ Natural resource and civil engineering studies
 - ⚡ Archaeology study
 - ⚡ Aesthetics studies including surrounding character assessment and orderly development
- ⚡ Interconnection | Working with GlobalFoundries, ISO-New England to ensure integration with distribution and transmission grid

Overall Project Timeline



Leadership



Rory Jones
Co-Founder/Managing Partner
roryjones@lightshift.com
617.852.1686



Michael Herbert
Co-Founder/Managing Partner
michaelherbert@lightshift.com
812.606.4996

Engineering & Construction



Joe Leavitt
Chief Technology Officer
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802.318.6062



Matt Rariden
Director of Construction
matthewrariden@lightshift.com
518.530.2192

Development



Ricky Elder III
Director of Development
rickyelder@lightshift.com
804.339.1270



Laura Coriell
Head of Market Development
lauracoriell@lightshift.com
802.558.2260

Appendix

Surrounding Landowners of Project



View from the intersection of Robinson Parkway south of the Project looking north toward the Project area.



View from Robinson Parkway looking southwest toward the Project area near the entrance to the electrical switchyard service road.



44.484839, -73.105375

View from Franklin St. looking easterly toward the Project. The electrical switchyard and utility lines are visible in the distance.



44.484451, -73.109623

View from Maple Street Park soccer fields looking southwesterly toward the Project. The top of the electrical switchyard is visible behind the vegetation in the midground.



Design

- ⚡ All Lightshift systems comply with **NFPA 855** and include a full Hazard Mitigation Analysis to validate safety
- ⚡ Systems are certified and tested to ensure they meet all safety requirements and incorporate proper safety features and fire prevention measures
 - ⚡ **UL 9540**, **UL 9540a**, and **UL 1973**

Operation

- ⚡ Lightshift provides 24/7 operations and monitoring

Preparedness

- ⚡ Robust preventative maintenance scheduled throughout the project lifespan
- ⚡ Local first responders are trained, and a tailored emergency operations plan is established for every project



June 28, 2024

TO: Recipients Entitled to Advance Notice under Vermont Public Utility Commission Rule 5.402

RE: Essex VT BESS 1 LLC's Proposed Battery Energy Storage Project in Essex Junction, VT
- 45-Day Notice of §248 Petition to be filed with Vermont Public Utility Commission

Dear Persons and Entities Entitled to Notice:

Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248(f) and Public Utility Commission Rule 5.402(A), Essex VT BESS 1 LLC ("Essex VT BESS") is pleased to submit the following pre-application notice concerning its proposed 16-megawatt, 52-megawatt hour battery electric storage project on the GlobalFoundries campus in Essex Junction, Vermont.

Introduction

Essex VT BESS, a special purpose entity created by Lightshift Energy, is preparing to file an application for a Certificate of Public Good ("CPG") with the Vermont Public Utility Commission ("PUC" or "Commission"), requesting approval to install and operate a 16-megawatt, 52-megawatt hour Battery Energy Storage System ("BESS" or "Project"), to be sited on the same parcel of land as the GlobalFoundries manufacturing facility in Essex Junction, Vermont. Services from the Project will be provided to GF Power, the utility serving GlobalFoundries.

This 45-day notice letter briefly describes Essex VT BESS's plans for the Project, including (1) plans for construction and operation; (2) the Project's expected benefits; (3) preliminary assessment of aesthetic and environmental impacts; (4) consideration of on-site alternatives; (5) the expected date a Section 248 petition will be filed with the PUC; and (6) the rights of the local and regional planning commissions to comment on the Project plans in accordance with PUC Rule 5.402(A). The following attachments are included with this letter:

Attachment A – Location Map and Preliminary Site Layout

Attachment B – Preliminary Natural Resources Map

Attachment C - Site Photos and Context Map

I. Project Description and Construction Plans

The 16 MW (alternating current, or “AC”) BESS facility will occupy approximately 0.9 acres (\pm) of the 227.6 acre (\pm) parcel of land off Robinson Parkway on which the GlobalFoundries campus is located in Essex Junction, Vermont. The Project site will be located on the far western portion of the parcel, adjacent to an existing electrical switchyard. See Attachment A – Location Map and Site Layout.

The Project will consist of approximately twelve (12) containerized DC energy storage containers connected to PCS (inverters) (to convert power between AC and DC), up to five (5) transformers, and some smaller communications and metering equipment cabinets. The Project will interconnect through an underground line to the GF Power system at the adjacent switchyard. Energy will be withdrawn from the GF Power system, typically during off-peak periods, and stored in the BESS. This energy will then be discharged back to GF Power’s grid to serve GlobalFoundries, typically during peak periods. The exact configuration of the interconnecting line will be included in the final site layout.

The preliminary Site Layout (Attachment A) illustrates the anticipated location of the Project’s components in relation to the surrounding area. Essex VT BESS chose the proposed location for this BESS based upon its location within the territory of GF Power and proximity to the switchyard, as well as to minimize views of the Project.

While the attached site layout represents the current preferred layout, the layout that will be contained in the final application may vary somewhat based upon further engineering, environmental, or other siting considerations. The final layout will be within the overall site area where environmental and other impacts have been evaluated for the purposes of this 45-day notice (see Attachment C, which shows the Natural Resource Study Area).

The basic parameters of the site layout include the following working assumptions:

- Access to the BESS site will make use of the existing roads within the area leading to the switchyard, and a short access drive will be added from the switchyard area to the Project.
- Construction will be performed in accordance with the Vermont Standards & Specifications for Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control (February 2020).
- Year-round daily access to the BESS is not required. Therefore, no on-site septic or water supply systems will be constructed. The BESS will be monitored remotely and, if any abnormal conditions are detected, technicians will be dispatched as required.
- The BESS will be enclosed by a perimeter fence that will meet applicable electric safety code standards.

Site Access and Equipment Delivery

Standardized trucking methods will be used to transport the battery and other Project components (e.g., inverters, transformers, and construction materials) to the site. Typical tractor-trailer and box truck vehicles will be used to transport materials to the site for construction. The Project will not require any oversized loads. Robinson Parkway will be used for bringing in all construction-related equipment and machinery. Construction equipment will likely include a light-duty crane or similar equipment to lift the batteries in place, trucks to move equipment around the site, and a small trencher to install underground electrical wiring.

BESS and Electrical Interconnection System

The Project will be a 16 MW BESS, contained within up to 12 containers, as shown in Attachment A - Location Map and Preliminary Site Layout. The BESS will be interconnected by an electrical cable in conduit to the inverter, which converts the electricity from AC to DC when charging and DC to AC when discharging. From the inverters, the electrical interconnect line will run underground to the three-phase transformers located at the front of the battery containers. From the transformers, the electric interconnect line will run underground to the switchyard.

The final selection of all equipment and configurations will be made after a CPG is issued and contractors and vendors are selected.

BESS Safety

The Project will be designed, built, and operated in accordance with the latest standards and best practices for energy storage system safety including guidance and requirements provided by NFPA 855, Standard for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems. A third-party Hazard Mitigation Analysis will be developed as part of the Project design to assess and demonstrate that the Project incorporates adequate safety features and protocols to effectively prevent and mitigate hazards associated with lithium-ion batteries. Engaging with local authorities and first responders will be an integral part of Project implementation, including familiarization with the facility, review of the Hazard Mitigation Analysis and associated Project documentation, training provided by Essex VT BESS, and emergency response planning.

II. Project Benefits

This Project will provide economic and environmental benefits for GlobalFoundries, Vermont, and the local community in Essex Junction.

Economic benefits include new state and municipal tax revenue from the energy storage facility, and reducing operating costs at GlobalFoundries, a large Vermont manufacturer and

employer. Essex VT BESS will also seek to employ Vermont consultants for the development work and, where commercially feasible, purchase equipment from Vermont companies and employ Vermont businesses for construction and installation of the Project.

The Project will also create environmental benefits because of the various functions the BESS will provide on the grid. The BESS will be discharged when the local grid and regional transmission lines are at their most congested and energy usage is at its highest. Discharging the BESS at these times indirectly reduces the need for additional distribution and transmission lines and reduces additional output from power plants that rely on fossil fuels. Avoiding the build-out of this equipment and reducing the reliance on regional power plants helps reduce overall carbon emissions.

III. Preliminary Impact Assessment

Essex VT BESS has engaged local environmental and land use consultants Trudell Consulting Engineers (“TCE”) to conduct initial reviews of potential environmental and aesthetic impacts of the Project. Their work has included the use of online databases and a field site visit. The Project’s location will not cause undue adverse impacts to environmental resources and will not result in an undue adverse aesthetic impact. More detailed assessments will be provided with the forthcoming petition, which may include design/siting changes, if necessary.

The key elements of the preliminary assessments are as follows:

- A desktop review of the Agency of Natural Resources environmental database does not list any mapped resources, necessary wildlife habitat, or rare, threatened, or endangered (“RTE”) species on the Project parcel. See *Attachment B – Natural Resource Map*.
- The Project has been sited to avoid or minimize activities within wetlands, streams, and buffers. No wetlands or streams have been identified on the Project site.
- The Project site consists of a wooded area that would not constitute a rare and irreplaceable natural area or necessary wildlife habitat.
- The Project will employ stormwater management practices that may be required under the State’s stormwater permitting program.
- The Project will be designed to meet electric safety and utility interconnection standards for safe and reliable operation of energy storage electric facilities.
- The Project will require no new municipal services and will not pose undue burdens on town fire, police, or water/sewer services. The Project will not impact the ability of the town to provide educational services.
- Aesthetic impacts will be localized to the immediate surrounding area. Potential visibility of the Project will primarily be limited to locations north of the Project site.

These views will generally be filtered by the existing electrical switchyard that will be in the foreground of most nearby views as well as the remaining trees surrounding the Project. The low profile of the Project components and structures are anticipated to be shorter than the surrounding switchyard infrastructure and residences, which will allow for surrounding structures to obscure and screen the Project from most offsite and public vantage points. With the existing structures and vegetation remaining onsite, visibility will be sufficiently limited such that no visual mitigation is necessary. Therefore, a mitigation plan is not proposed at this time. See *Attachment C - Site Photos and Context Map*.

IV. Assessment of On-site Alternatives

Essex VT BESS chose the specific location for the BESS facility due to its proximity to the switchyard where the Project will interconnect, its minimal environmental and aesthetic impacts, and its cost-effectiveness. Based on discussions with GlobalFoundries, this is the only available location on the parcel that is not reserved for other uses and where interconnection with the GF Power system at the adjacent switchyard would be reasonably feasible. The adjacent parking lot located Southwest of the site area is reserved for solar development.

V. Expected Petition Filing Date with the Vermont Public Utility Commission

Essex VT BESS intends to file a Section 248 Petition and supporting materials with the PUC soon after the 45-day notice period expires in mid-August.

VI. Municipal and Regional Planning Commissions' Comments to the Vermont Public Utility Commission & Additional Information on Section 248 Proceedings

Under V.S.A. § 248(f)(1), municipal and regional planning commissions may make recommendations to Essex VT BESS within 40 days of this notice and may convene a public hearing on the proposed Project. In addition, after Essex VT BESS files its Section 248 petition with the Commission, the planning commissions may make further recommendations to the Commission. Essex VT BESS's petition will address any written comments provided to Essex VT BESS in response to this letter or oral comments at any public hearing convened by the planning commissions related to the Section 248(b) criteria.

For additional information regarding this process, including your right to participate in the Commission proceeding, please refer to the Commission document "Public Participation and Intervention in Proceedings Before the Vermont Public Utility Commission" document, available on the website at: <https://puc.vermont.gov/document/public-participation-and-intervention-proceedings-public-utility-commission>. Information regarding the Commission's

procedures for Section 248 proceedings can also be found on the PUC's website at: <https://puc.vermont.gov/document/section-248-procedures>. In the event that Essex VT BESS submits the petition pursuant to Section 248(j), the Commission's Section 248(j) procedures would apply, which are described in the Commission's Section 248(j) procedures document at: <https://puc.vermont.gov/document/section-248j-procedures>

Thank you for your interest in this Project. We look forward to progressing through the Section 248 process and welcome your input and suggestions to make this a successful Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Herbert', written in a cursive style.

Michael Herbert
Essex VT BESS 1 LLC
Michaelherbert@lightshift.com

Attachment A

General Notes

1. PRELIMINARY DRAWING; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION. FINAL SITE LOCATION, LAYOUT AND DESIGN SUBJECT TO ENGINEERING DESIGN AND REVIEW.
2. LAYOUT SHOWS GENERAL FOOTPRINT REQUIRED FOR FACILITY. SITE LOCATION AND DETAILED LAYOUT AND CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS TO BE DEVELOPED LATER.

SYSTEM RATING

16 MW, 3 HR

INTERCONNECTING VOLTAGE

13.8 KV

FACILITY POWER AT POI

16 MW

FACILITY ENERGY AT POI

52 MWH

SITE AREA

15,293 SQFT

INVERTER MANUFACTURER

POWER ELECTRONICS

BATTERY MANUFACTURER

E-STORAGE

| No. | Revision/Issue | Date |
|-----|----------------|------|
| | | |
| | | |

LIGHTSHIFT ENERGY

1201 WILSON BLVD, FL 27
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
571-447-9180

Project Name and Address

Essex VT BESS 1
Fab 9, Switchyard 3
Essex Junction, VT
44.483361, -73.107083

Drawing Number

DWG-001-D

Date

6/17/2024

Scale

3/4" = 1'

Sheet

01





General Notes

1. PRELIMINARY DRAWING; NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION. FINAL SITE LOCATION, LAYOUT AND DESIGN SUBJECT TO ENGINEERING DESIGN AND REVIEW.
2. LAYOUT SHOWS GENERAL FOOTPRINT REQUIRED FOR FACILITY. SITE LOCATION AND DETAILED LAYOUT AND CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS TO BE DEVELOPED LATER.

SYSTEM RATING

16 MW, 3 HR

INTERCONNECTING VOLTAGE

13.8 KV

FACILITY POWER AT POI

16 MW

FACILITY ENERGY AT POI

52 MWH

SITE AREA

15,293 SQFT

INVERTER MANUFACTURER

POWER ELECTRONICS

BATTERY MANUFACTURER

E-STORAGE

| No. | Revision/Issue | Date |
|-----|----------------|------|
| | | |
| | | |

LIGHTSHIFT
-//ENERGY

1201 WILSON BLVD, FL 27
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
571-447-9180

Project Name and Address

Essex VT BESS 1
Fab 9, Switchyard 3
Essex Junction, VT
44.483361, -73.107083

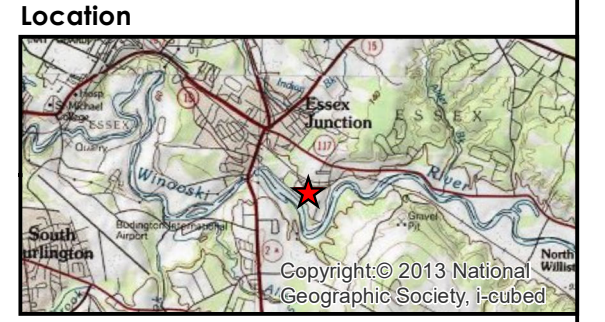
Drawing Number
DWG-001-D

Date
6/17/2024

Scale
3/16" = 1'

Sheet

02



- Legend**
- Study Area (~5.5 acres)
 - FEMA Flood Zone**
 - A*
 - AE*
 - No Data**
 - VHD Open Water
 - Class A Watershed*
 - Uncommon Species*
 - RTE Species*
 - Significant Natural Community*
 - Indiana Bat Hibernacula*
 - Deer Wintering Areas*
 - Floodway
 - VHD Stream
 - Surface Water SPA*
 - Ground Water SPA*
 - River Corridor
 - Tax Parcel Boundary
 - NRCS Soils
 - NRCS Hydric Soils
 - State Significant Wetlands
 - Wetlands Advisory*
 - 2' Contours

* = Layer does not occur within the map extent.
 ** = FEMA Flood Zone layer contains FEMA-digitized data only. Some locations may not have data.

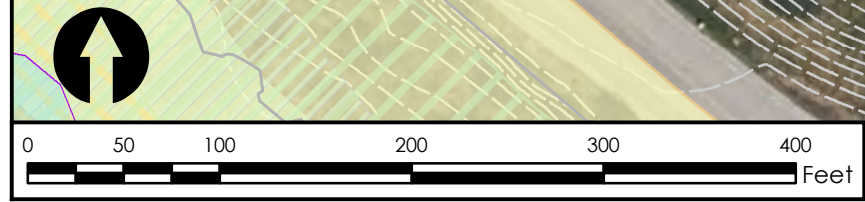
Sources: Aerial Imagery by VCGI (Various dates); Streams by VHD (2018); VT E911 Roads (2019); VT Significant Wetland by ANR (2021); Soils by NRCS (2021); Contours by VCGI & CCRPC (Various dates); RTE Species and Natural Community by VT Fish & Wildlife (2020); Uncommon Species by VT Fish & Wildlife (2020); Tax Parcel Boundary compiled by VCGI; Deer Wintering Area by ANR (2020); River Corridor by ANR (2019); Groundwater & Surface Water Protection Areas by ANR (2019); All other layers by TCE (2021).

Disclaimer: The accuracy of information presented is determined by its sources. TCE is not responsible for any errors or omissions that may exist. Questions of on-the-ground location can be resolved by site inspections and/or surveys by a registered surveyor. This map is not a replacement for surveyed information or engineering studies.

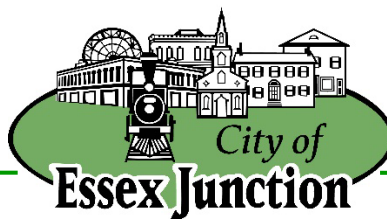
Essex VT BESS 1, LLC
 1000 River Street
 Essex Junction, VT

Natural Resources Map

Project: 22-299
 Prepared By: LJK
 7/6/23
 1 inch = 100 feet



VCGI



MEMORANDUM

To: City Council

From: Regina Mahony, City Manager

Meeting Date: August 14, 2024

Subject: Discussion with Green Mountain Transit

Issue: To discuss Green Mountain Transit's (GMT) work to address their financial gap.

Discussion: GMT General Manager, Clayton Clark, will attend the meeting (virtually) to talk about GMT's work to address their financial gap. This meeting will include:

- Update to Projected FY26 Funding Gap
- Potential FY25 and FY26 Service Reductions
- Potential FY26 Special Assessment
- Potential Reform to GMT Assessments

In regard to the funding gap, Mr. Clark will provide updated figures on the gap we see between revenue and the cost of our current operations.

In regard to potential service reductions, Mr. Clark will discuss municipal input, planned release date for reductions, public hearing process, when final service decisions will be made, and when reductions would be implemented.

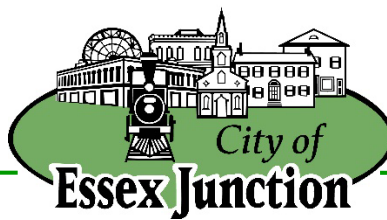
In regard to a special assessment, GMT's statute gives them the authority to request a special assessment. Not requesting a special assessment to address the funding gap was identified by legislators as a reason they were opposed to providing additional funds to GMT. The special assessment would have to be approved unanimously by municipal members.

In regard to assessment reform, Mr. Clark would like input on how to improve their normal assessments. Mr. Clark's belief is that the current lack of specificity undermines cooperation between GMT and its members, as there is a lack of clarity about what the assessment pays for and how changes in services and amenities impact the assessment.

Cost: N/A at this time, however, there will likely be budget implications associated with this issue.

Recommendation: This is just a discussion item. No action is needed at this time.

Attachments: None



MEMORANDUM

To: City Council
From: Regina Mahony, City Manager
Meeting Date: August 14, 2024
Subject: CVE Sound Waiver Request

Issue: Champlain Valley Expo has requested an additional 15 sound waivers.

Discussion: This request was first brought before the City Council on June 26, 2024. The purpose of this agenda item is to continue to discuss this request, including any additional questions or concerns the Council has regarding this proposal.

Following the last Council meeting where this was discussed Staff compiled a list of questions and provided them to Mr. Shea. The responses from Mr. Shea were shared with the Council and are included here in this packet.

The list of follow-up questions included a suggestion of a third party engineer sound study. The Community Development Department did some research on this and this was provided to CVE. That is included here as an attachment.

The Council also asked Staff to analyze what level of public participation should be used for this decision under the Spectrum of Public Participation framework. This framework has been previously discussed with the Council and identified as a tool to implement here in the city. Communications Director, Ashley Snellenberger, has done that analysis:

Based on the Spectrum of Public Participation, the level of engagement should be at the Consult level. This level aims to obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives, opportunities, solutions, pros, and cons. The process will involve keeping the public informed and updated, collecting and considering their feedback, listening to and acknowledging their concerns and aspirations, and demonstrating how public input influenced the decision.

To meet the Consult level of public participation, the following methods for gathering feedback are recommended:

- 1. Stakeholder Interviews*
- 2. Focus Groups*
- 3. Survey Administration*
- 4. Public Comment during Public Meetings*
- 5. Comments from Social Media and Front Porch Forum*
- 6. Emails to the City Council and City Manager*

Utilizing the recommended methods for gathering feedback will ensure that public input is considered and will significantly influence the decision-making process.

Cost: N/A

Recommendation: For discussion purposes only; no recommendation at this time.

Attachments:

CVE's Responses to Initial Set of Questions

Third Party Sound Impact Study Proposal

IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation



**CHAMPLAIN
VALLEY**

EXPOSITION

TO: Regina Mahony, City Manager, City of Essex Junction

FROM: Tim Shea, Executive Director, CVE

DATE: July 12, 2024

RE: Response to council's follow up questions

Please find a list of questions from the City regarding CVE's request for 15 additional sound waivers. Some of these questions were answered at the City Council meeting on June 26, 2024, but it would be helpful to have these answers in one collective place.

I'd like to reiterate the Council's overall thoughts on this being an exciting opportunity, but one that will have an impact on the community. Answers to these questions will be very helpful in the Council's decision.

Overall Number of Events and Sound Waivers:

1. Please summarize the type of events that are likely to take place for the 35 total requested sound waivers (i.e. 10 for the Fair, 15 for Grandstand Concerts, 10 others to include...).

Except for the 15 additional waivers, we don't anticipate the distribution of sound waivers to change significantly from our current model.

- o 10 Fair*
- o 15 Grandstand concerts*
- o 10 Other events that need a waiver, car show, cancer fundraiser etc.*

2. Aside from the Fair, are there time restrictions that would be workable to CVE to help minimize the impact on the community (i.e. only weekends, 3 maximum per month between May and October, no weekdays during the school year, etc.)? If the Council agrees to additional waivers, I anticipate inclusion of some parameters on this. Specific input from CVE on this would be helpful.

Ideally, we would have the ability to book the concerts between May 1-October 15 of each year. That allows us to spread the shows over five and a half months. It would be a challenge to set parameters such as weekends only, or a maximum per month. Vermont is a small market, performing artists will play larger markets on weekends as it is more lucrative for them. As examples, the Noah Kahn benefit concert is on a Thursday. The Phish concert in 2011 to benefit Irene flood victims was on a Wednesday. On Tuesday, July 16 of this year we will host the Counting Crows. I don't see a scenario where this project would work if there were too many guard rails.

3. The Council heard from community members that the sound can be an issue both in close proximity and much farther away. This is likely the largest concern from the community, and likely the most difficult issue to mitigate. Please explain the noise mitigation measures CVE uses now. Are

there any improvements or additional methods that CVE anticipates using given the additional number of events?

Sound from a concert is impacted by several factors such as wind, humidity and precipitation. Another factor in the impact of sound is if the listener enjoys the music. CVE hosted an Elton John concert that exceeded the sound waiver limits but everyone loved the music. There were very few, if any complaints. The grandstand has been hosting concerts for nearly 60 years and it absorbs more of the sound as opposed to a show on our midway lawn areas. Over time, sound technology has improved and allows us to mitigate the sound more effectively. We will continue these efforts to minimize the impact on the community.

- a. What's preferable is a third-party engineering study on the geographical distribution of noise impacts, and possible mitigation measures. This would be ideal as the City does not have these expertise and I'm not sure CVE does either. What is the CVE's thought on this approach?

CVE agrees – We recommend engaging an engineering firm that specializes in sound mitigation. They can analyze past sound reports and offer suggested mitigation measures based on the data.

We also think it is important to put into perspective the number of complaints Essex PD receives from the community. Please see the attached document that outlines noise disturbance incidents April 2014-April 2024.

4. Concerns regarding traffic include: overall traffic increases and specifically increased traffic on West Street; increased traffic on Pearl Street; lack of use of the back gates. Please explain the traffic mitigation measures CVE uses now. Please include an explanation of why and when the back gates are used (or not). Are there any improvements or additional methods that CVE anticipates using given the additional number of events?

CVE has four gates accessible to vehicles, see enclosed map. Gate B, the main gate off Pearl Street. Gate E, the northwest corner of our property, Gate F, Saint James Church and Gate G, next to the VFW on Pearl Street. Gate B is open 24/7. Gate E is used for all concerts and most of our larger shows (craft show, car shows etc.). Except for the Fair, Gate F is primarily used for egress from larger events. Gate F is also used as egress when we utilize the midway area for parking which is rare.

On all concerts and high vehicle volume events (Girls on the Run, July 4) Essex PD are contracted and present on site to manage traffic flow. We work closely with them to tailor the traffic plan for the specific event.

For concerts and Champlain College graduations we do a significant amount of messaging to attendees to let them know what gates are open, encouraging them to arrive early and to carpool. We will consult with Essex PD to discuss other measures to improve traffic flow.

5. Is CVE amendable to the start of the additional waivers at such time that the construction of the grandstand updates are complete, or is CVE looking to make use of the additional waivers earlier than that?

We would not need the waivers until the construction is complete. Also, as I outlined at the city council meeting, we need waivers for an extended period so we can justify the investment to make

the repairs.

6. Does CVE anticipate any multi-day festivals with or without overnight camping? Would prohibitions on these types of events be amenable?

We do not anticipate any multiday festivals. Outside of the fair, we do not allow camping at any concerts, nor do we intend to in the future.

7. Please explain the methods CVE uses to communicate to the public the date and times of waived events. Are there any improvements or additional methods that CVE anticipates using given the additional number of events?

All our events are on our website though we don't designate if it is an event with a sound waiver. We also hold our annual neighborhood meeting where we share our summer schedule. We can certainly designate waived events moving forward. In addition, we can share information through various community social media platforms. Our CVE email communications are another form of notification to the community which occurs frequently throughout the calendar year. Additionally, the Pearl Street sign highlights upcoming events.

8. What are the parameters that CVE uses now to decide what events are requested for a waiver?

When we feel the event will exceed the standard sound level limits.

9. Would something less than 15 additional waivers be amenable?

Our current model calls for us to host "up to" 15 concerts. We arrived at this number to justify the expense needed to make the improvements. That said, we know this needs to work for all stakeholders.

Questions Specific to the Grandstand Concerts:

10. What is the first and last date the waivers for the grandstand concerts would be used each year (i.e. Memorial Day to October 15th)?

May 1 – October 15

11. The grandstand can accommodate 11,000 ticket holders; what do you expect to be the average ticket sales for these grandstand concerts?

While it is important for us to have the capacity to accommodate up to 11,000 for a big act, think Noah Kahan, that size of a show will occur on occasion. We anticipate our average show size to be about 5,000.

12. Which gates will be open for those entering and exiting CVE for these grandstand concerts?

We would anticipate using Gate B and E on the entrance and B, E and F while exiting. As I stated earlier, we will engage Essex PD on this question.

13. What time of night will these grandstand concerts end?

11:00pm on weekends and 10:30pm midweek.

14. If the Council agrees to the additional sound waivers, when will these grandstand concerts start?

As soon as 2025 provided we have enough time for construction.

Other:

15. Is CVE open to renegotiating both the Financial Agreement, and Sound Indemnification Agreement with the City at this time?

Yes, as it relates to obtaining the additional 15 sound waivers.

16. A number of ideas were brought forward to help ease the burden on the local community for this regional benefit - \$1/ticket sales; free, reduced, and/or pre-sale codes for City residents; etc. What are CVE's thoughts along these lines?

CVE is committed to the community in which it belongs as such CVE will make efforts each season to bring value to the residents. Artist contracts are each unique, and some don't allow any discounting, but CVE will identify a few events each season to offer limited discounted tickets. The opportunity to offer pre-sales on concerts could be an option as well.

17. Your presentation included a note that \$12 is spent locally for each ticket purchased. The source is the Chicago Loop Alliance. Is this a study; and if so, would you be able to share it with the City?

[Arts in the Loop Economic Impact Study \(loopchicago.com\)](http://loopchicago.com)

18. Regarding the Local Option Tax (LOT) funds, this is 1% of total receipts as reported to the State. Of that amount 30% is retained by the State for the PILOT fund and 70% comes to City. Is the estimated \$50,000 in LOT funds based on the 70% that will come to the City?

My projections were on the full 1% LOT.

19. If the City does not approve these waivers, how does CVE plan to approach the grandstand moving forward? Will improvements to the grandstand be possible under other potential funding that isn't tied to increased ticket sales?

That is a good question. Unfortunately, I do not see a scenario where we could fund the upgrades another way. As I mentioned in a conversation with a community member, if we could we simply would -- and not be going through the process of requesting sound waivers. You simply can't justify the investment without expanding the use of the grandstand.

20. Will you please share the raw data from the survey that you are conducting?

Yes

I look forward to your responses and would be happy to meet to discuss next steps.

Additionally, I think it would be helpful:

- For you and me to meet with Essex Rescue to understand their thoughts on the impact an increase in concerts would have on their operations. I can set this up.
- For you, Dave Wechsler, Chris Yuen and I to meet to discuss the particulars of the Sound Indemnification Agreement and how to amend it for these purposes. While this may be pre-mature, it could be a helpful discussion.

- To meet with Chris Yuen to determine if any permits are needed for the work you are planning to do.

Agree, all three suggestions are great!

Thank you again for the time you are investing into this important project.

Champlain Valley Fairgrounds

Noise Disturbance Incidents - April 2014 to April 2024

| Event | Date of Call | Location | Qty. |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Billy Strings | 7/22/2023 | Murry Rd. | 3 |
| Tedeschi Trucks | 7/9/2022 | Pinecrest Dr. | 1 |
| Horse Racing Event | 7/1/2022 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| Uknown Concert | 6/8/2022 | Whipple Dr. | 4 |
| Goose | 6/6/2022 | Summit St. | 3 |
| Unkown Noise Cmplnt | 8/28/2021 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| Modest Mouse | 8/8/2021 | West St. | 2 (21 Colchester) |
| Twiddle | 8/6/2021 | Walden Rd. | 1 |
| Nathaniel Ratcliff | 7/28/2021 | Pearl St. | 1 |
| Unknown Noise Cmplnt | 7/23/2021 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| Unknown Noise Cmplnt | 6/25/2021 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| Horse Show | 5/21/2021 | Pearl St. | 1 |
| Uknown Concert | 10/4/2020 | W. Hillcrest Rd. | 1 |
| Bush/Live Concert | 8/23/2019 | Summit St. | 1 |
| Fair Equip. Noise | 9/4/2017 | Upland Rd. | 1 |
| Fair/Concert Noise | 8/27/2017 | Prospect St. | 4 |
| Garbage Truck Noise | 8/26/2017 | Grandview Ave. | 1 |
| Fair/Concert Noise | 8/25/2017 | School St. | 1 |
| Fair/Concert Noise | 8/25/2017 | Brickyard Rd. | 3 |
| Car Alarm Incident | 8/19/2017 | Murry Rd. | 1 |
| Slightly Stoopid | 7/1/2017 | Pearl St. | 8 |
| Relay for Life | 6/17/2017 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| Car Show | 9/17/2016 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| Fair/Concert Noise | 9/4/2016 | Double Day Lane | 1 |
| Fair/Concert Noise | 9/4/2016 | Loubier Dr. | 1 |
| Fair/Concert Noise | 9/1/2016 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| Night of Fire & Dest. | 8/29/2016 | Pearl St. | 1 |
| Fair/Concert Noise | 8/28/2016 | White Birch Ln., Williston | 1 |
| Fair/Concert Noise | 8/28/2016 | Pine Tree Terrace, So. Burlington | 1 |
| Car Show | 8/6/2016 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| Fireworks Incident | 8/6/2016 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| Uknown Incident | 6/22/2016 | Grandview Ave. | 1 |
| GMCS Request | 8/29/2015 | Expo Ave. / Weston Way | 1 |
| Jake Owen Concert | 8/28/2015 | Expo Ave. / Weston Way | 1 |
| Unknown | 9/13/2014 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| GMCS Request | 8/24/2014 | Expo Ave. / Weston Way | 1 |
| Fair/Concert Noise | 8/23/2014 | Prospect St. | 1 |
| Camp Grounds | 7/10/2014 | Grandview Ave. | 1 |
| RV Campers | 7/9/2014 | Expo Ave. / Weston Way | 1 |



Champlain Valley Exposition-105 Pearl St., Essex Junction, VT 05453



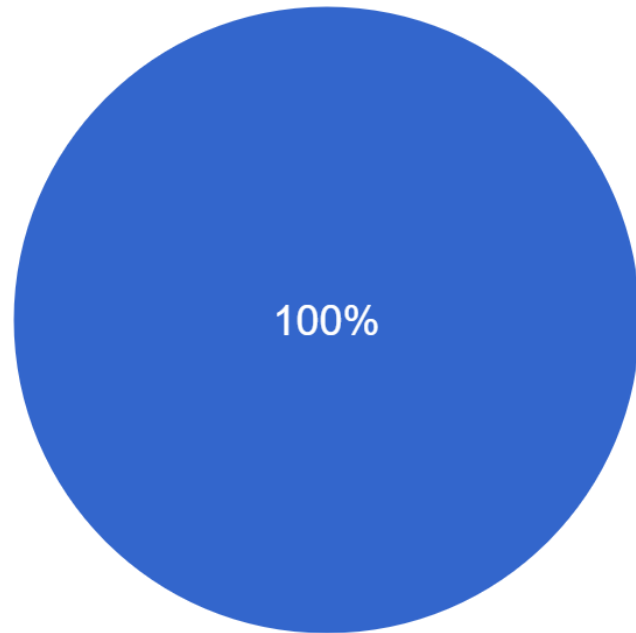
Grandstand Update Survey Results

Data taken from a Google Forms survey that was put out to the public on July 3 and was closed on July 10, 2024.

City of Essex Jct. Residents Only. A total of 58 individuals participated in this survey.

Are you a resident of the City of Essex Junction?

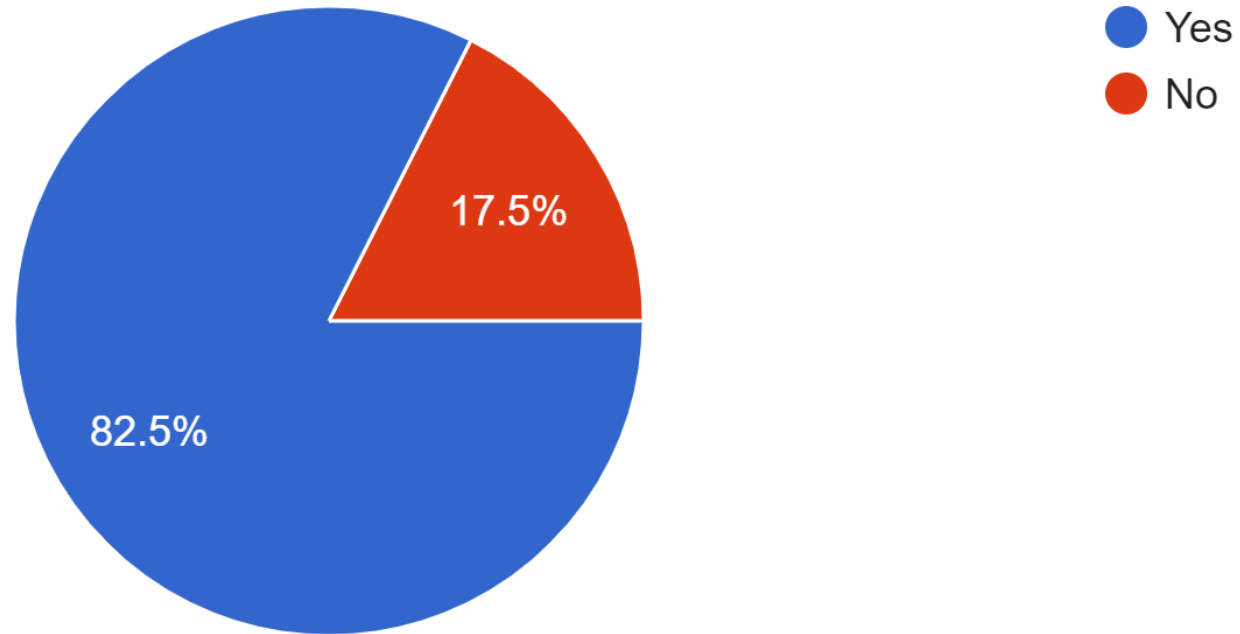
58 responses



- Yes
- No

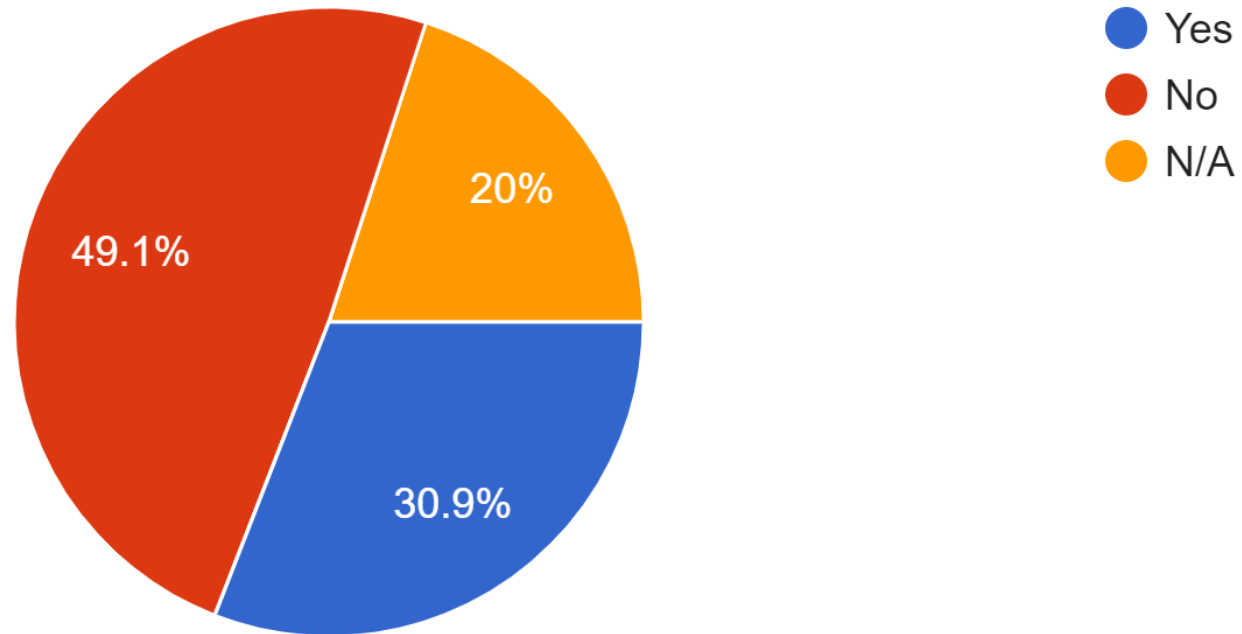
Have you attended a concert at the Exposition in the past 5 years or do you plan attend a concert in the future?

57 responses



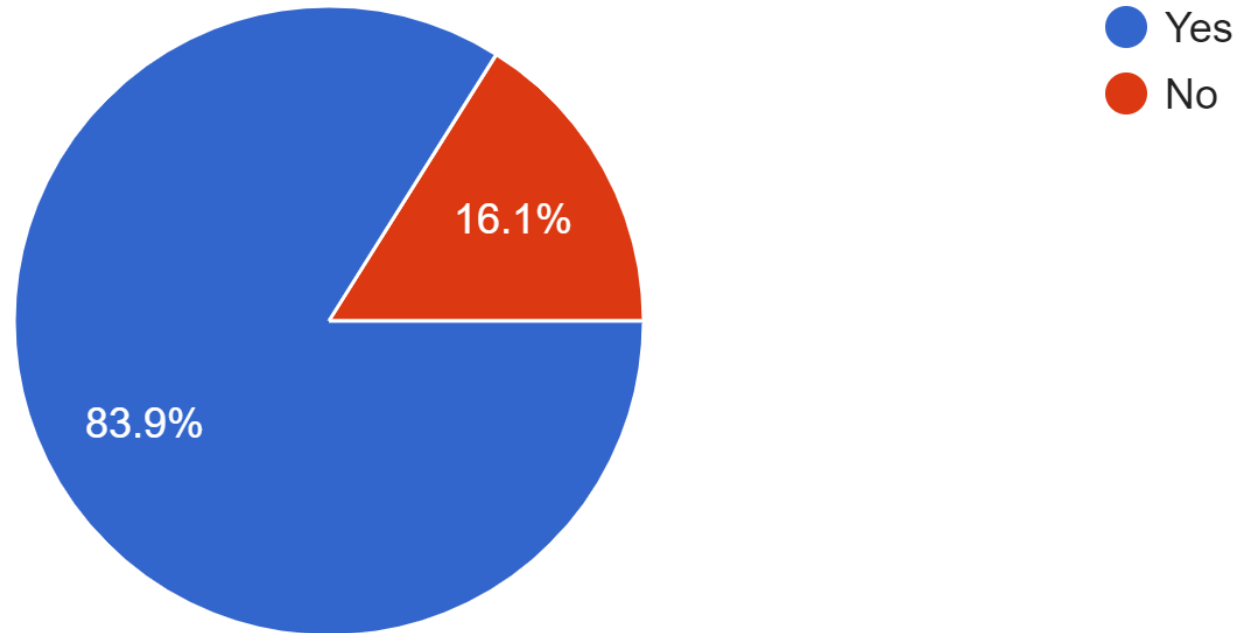
If you answered "Yes" to the above, are you satisfied with the condition of the grandstand and concert venue at the Exposition?

55 responses



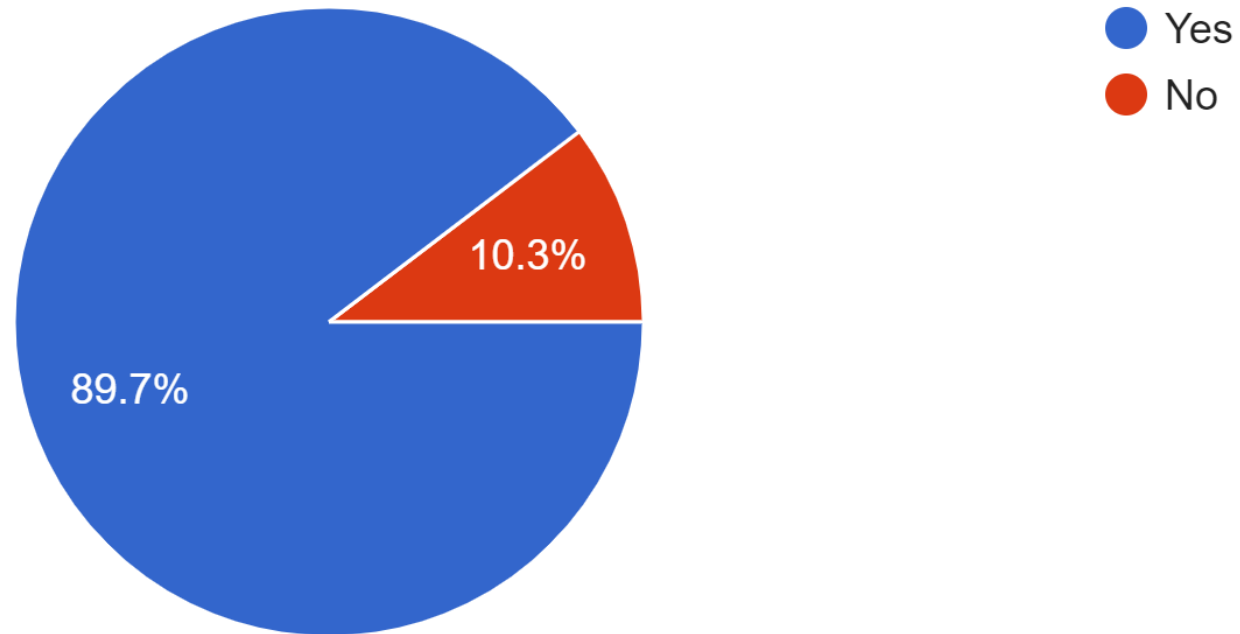
Would you agree that the grandstand is outdated and needs to be updated to better serve concertgoers?

56 responses



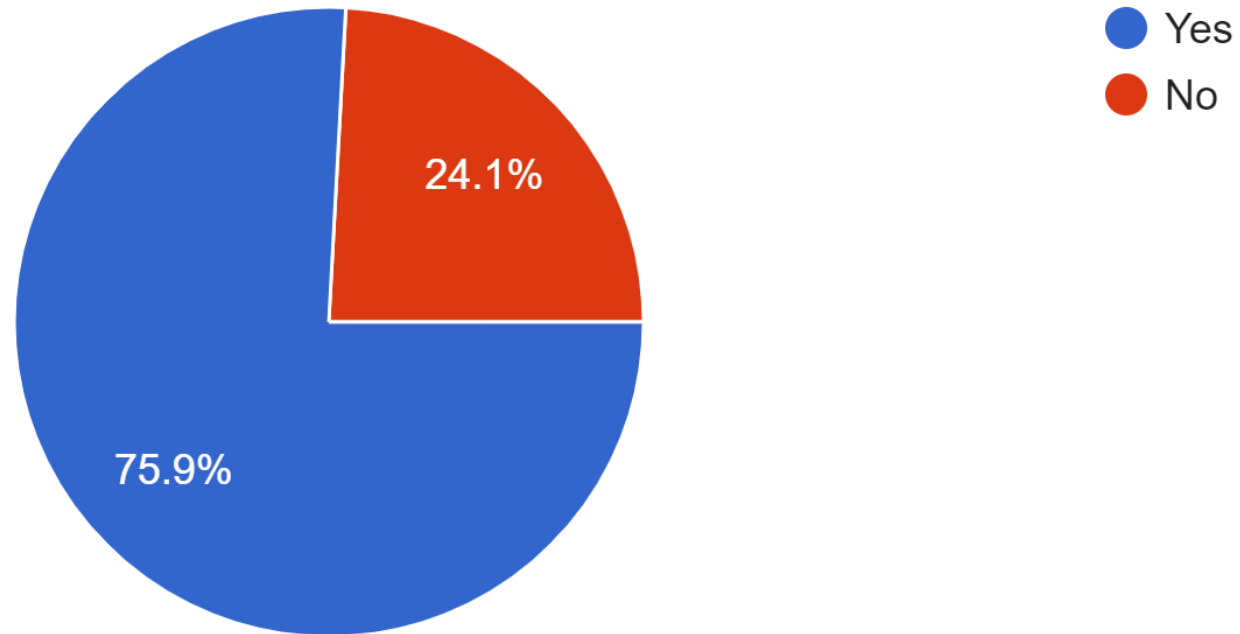
Are you aware of CVE's proposal to the Essex Junction City Council to secure 15 additional sound waivers to host additional concerts throughout the calendar year?

58 responses



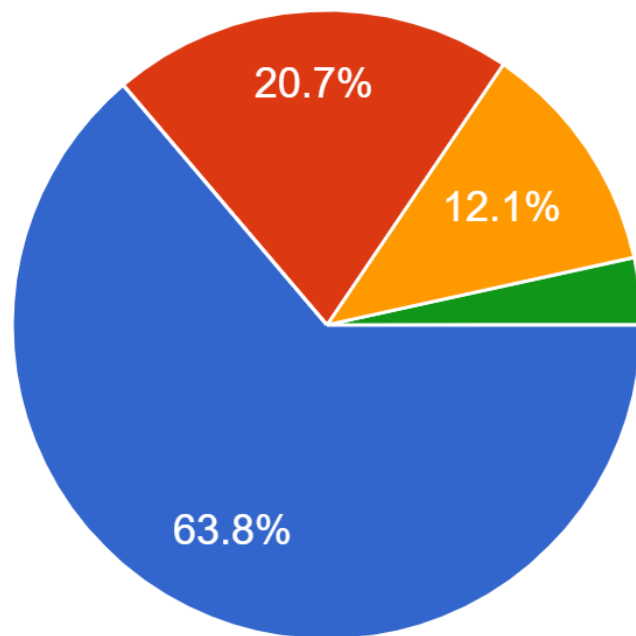
Would you support the Essex Junction City Council's approval of 15 additional sound waivers for CVE to host concerts throughout the calendar year?

58 responses



Does the sound from concerts impact your household?

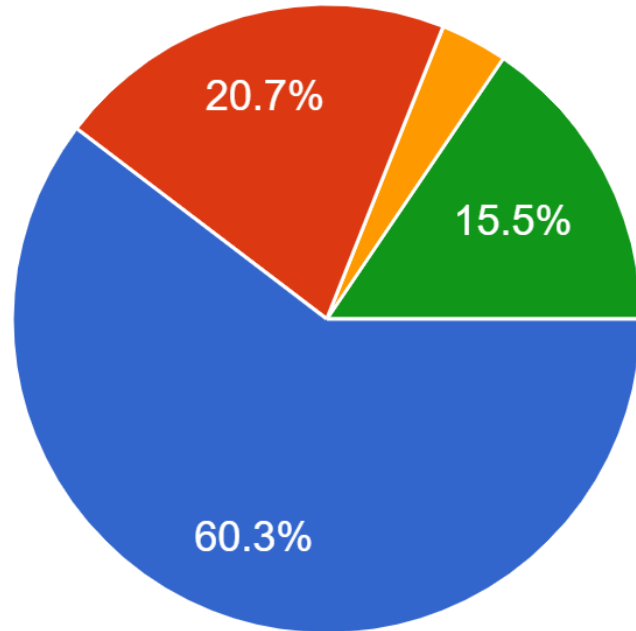
58 responses



- I enjoy hearing the music and the sound isn't an issue for me at all
- Sometimes, depending on the artist the sound can be bothersome, but I enjoy hearing the music.
- Most of the time I dislike the music and the noise from the concerts, and it is bothersome most of the time.
- I do not enjoy the concert noise at all, and they are always an inconvenience...

When events are occurring at the Exposition, does it impact your decision to shop at the neighboring businesses?

58 responses



- I continue to do my shopping at neighboring businesses regardless of what is happening at the Exposition.
- I sometimes delay my shopping until after the event has passed.
- I rarely shop when an event is occurring at the Exposition.
- I avoid shopping and traveling in Essex Junction while events are occurring at the Exposition.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- Please drop the decibel level a bit, increase the \$fine, and get rid of the Wolfsgart event. Too many drivers are disrespectful of the neighborhood. Noise is unpredictable! Thank you for the CVE. It would be a shame to see it sold for Handy or Snyder housing.
- CVE should be paying taxes, then I would support it.
- Payment in lieu of taxes does not cover the cost of resources and inconvenience to immediate neighbors. I'm on the West St. side of the issue and it's a no win situation. The noise is not just with the event; there's the sound the dumpsters being emptied early the next morning, the sirens, the noise of celebrating attendees, the increased cars and traffic, the sound checks in the afternoon, and the screams from the thrill rides till midnight. I am not responsible for supporting CVE business model, I deserve to enjoy my backyard in the five best months of Spring/Summer; 35 shows in that time span will impede my ability to enjoy my property that I pay significant tax to have. Pay your fair share and maybe I'd be more amenable to your constant disruption of my pursuit of happiness. There are grants from VT ANR to help with the 3 acre rule and other small business loans that I hope CVE is looking into, however if they cannot stay afloat then perhaps there's opportunity for more housing that could increase the grand list.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- I live 2 Streets over and have lived here 31 years. The traffic is already an issue with fair and other events. It's difficult to get out of my street as it is!
- I support the Expo upgrades to encourage more performances/performers to Essex Junction. The concert space is under-utilized and aged. I live on Villa Drive and I can speak for most of the homeowners in this neighborhood to which they enjoy the concerts and do not get bothered with the noise.
- You say "As the city grows, CVE seeks to grow along with it in a responsible, collaborative partnership that benefits all stakeholders." Well I'm a stakeholder and adding 15 more events will not benefit me in any way and will reduce my property value. You say you lost the Farm Show and the Quilt Show and yet both are included on your web site advertising. Events that exceed the Noise Standards in the development Code have a negative impact on the "public health, safety and general welfare" of many of the City's residents.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- The wolfsguard of the German cars is the worst event for us. The noise is unpredictable, the people are rude and the noise leaves the fairgrounds and enters the neighborhoods. The garbage in the front of the fairgrounds needs to be picked up daily...just make it a routine. It is not going away and it is attracting bugs. The fairgrounds could do more for the close neighbors of the property like discounts to concerts, food vendor tickets and the like. The lights can be super bright as well and do not be on all the time. However, over all they are good neighbors and try to do what they can to respect our needs. We enjoy using the grounds for walks and sitting outside to enjoy concerts. The fireworks were amazing this year.
- We would support these upgrades and additional concerts IF CVE agreed to pay their fair shake of property taxes.
- I would be willing to support additional sound waivers IF CVE paid taxes to the City of Essex Junction. CVE is taking advantage of loopholes that should not apply given that most events are no longer agricultural events.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- More concerts please! I prefer to keep my money local and am a regular concert attendee
- This is a sensible proposal and I hope Councilors will approve expansion of the waiver.
- You need to let people know every time you mention this, that 10 of the current sound waivers are for fair days. If I were uninformed I would think you are looking to hold 35 concerts above the ten days of the fair. Could these sound waivers be used for other events? If so you should stop using concerts as the description. Could you not bring in a full crowd with a big name comedian? Are there other types of events you could hold that the waivers might be needed but, are not quite as intrusive as a music concert? I avoid shopping any of the stores, during peak traffic times for your events not all times. I do avoid almost all times during the fair as the pedestrian traffic added to the vehicle traffic at all times of the day can be frustrating. To be clear, it never deters me from using any of the city center businesses.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- Small children - working parents, older folks, and others who work early morning shifts who go to sleep at 8 - 9 pm, and dogs especially - are impacted by concerts and activities at fairgrounds. (For instance the fireworks last night drove the dogs in neighborhood nuts, and woke people up.) Need to address that in some way. Perhaps afternoon concerts instead of evening. Evening is quiet time for most small children, many parents. Love the place. We're still feeling impact of the Grimm Days. Part of issue is lack of state funding for Ag/Forestry promotion & public education on same. details on improvement, details on long term, and a number of other things need to be looked at prior to approval. Can noise buffers/barriers be put in place at same time? Trees (which would be effective in 10 - 20 years), insulation, etc. etc.
- I have lived in Essex all my 85 years and could not imagine Essex without the Fairgrounds it is way better than another development. I still love walking through the fairgrounds and not worry about getting hit by a reckless driver. The grandstand badly needs new seating and repairs. More use means more income for more improvements in the future. Let's just do it!

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- Need to do what's necessary to bring in better concerts. The concert acts have gone down significantly in quality over the last 10 years or so. I remember seeing Jason Aldean, Luke Bryan, Keith Urban, Brad Paisley, etc. Now the concerts are individuals who are way on the downside of their careers and although they draw a crowd, it's a huge disappointment.
- The noise is loud and often goes late. And on random days and people have to work the next day and the noise prevents sleep. And the traffic is horrible with all the extra people. We don't need more concerts and noise than are already there at the fair.
- I prefer music events over monster truck and other loud car events. (Side note: I would like to see more signs reminding dog owners to leash their dogs.)

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- Besides pointing out the leading nature of the questions purposefully designed to get the outcomes you would like? Sure. The idea that you are doing this for the good of the community while you pay a paltry non profit level PILOT fee concerns me. The fact that you are using veiled threats “if you don’t give us this... then whatever shall become of CVE” is a bit unnecessary... You say you want “upgrades”... what you want is expansion in order to increase the number of more lucrative acts you can attract... These events are drive in and drive out affairs... people don’t eat and stay in EJ before or after... they do that elsewhere... the greater economic impact is to you, Higher Ground, the acts, and the vendors within the venue... Essentially doubling your income by essentially doubling your permits is a big ask... I have no doubt you will ask for more permits in the future... expansion equals larger crowds, more problems associated with those crowds, traffic problems and louder sound to surrounding neighborhoods... not a problem when then CVE board doesn’t live in the area... I’d give you 6 more a season... that’s reasonable.... that gives you 8 for fair week.... And then one week for the rest of the your May to Sept season... No way do I want my city to become the Great Woods of Chittenden County... even with these new permits, there better be some thoughts to provide sound mitigation for the adjacent neighborhoods... Thank You

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- CVE definitely should be required to pay MUCH MORE to the City. \$15,000 per year is insulting
- Hope it passes
- It would be great to have more going on at the fair grounds and more choices in music concerts
- I would like to learn more about what are the benefits for the city and its residents in granting the extra noise ordinance waivers (higher tax revenue, portion of the proceeds, etc.)
- I think the Expo is a great attraction for our area. It brings in people to our community. I do think a little extra security outside around the perimeter is needed.
- I have lived in Essex Jct. For 54 years. The fair and other events are wonderful.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- I support this plan because I believe that events in our city are good for our city. It gives us legitimacy. But you need to sell this as why it's good for the city as a whole, not just CVE. Show us how we win. You won't win over the terminally online malcontents spamming up the Facebook groups, but if you can put the holistic benefits in plain language, everyone else will get on board. Because I imagine most EJ residents are either a) willing to give you the benefit of the doubt, or b) too apathetic about the whole thing to really care. Also, your question about impact on household is flawed, or at least imprecise. The issue of "enjoyment" is secondary to whether you can hear the music at all. I live on South Street. Only with the windows open under the right conditions can I hear what goes on at CVE. Most residents of EJ live even further out and are impacted (if you can even call it that) even less. It should really be two questions: can you hear it and to what degree, and if so does it bother you.
- Without serious sound mitigation planning (so that the sound is less on actual neighborhoods, not how it is currently measured; closing my windows isn't enough), I can't support this. I also really worry about the impact on businesses - I know I avoid Peart St as much as possible during the fair concerts (& I live in that part of EJ). It is one thing to move here with an understanding of the fair & current concert numbers, but this is a big change.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- My biggest concerns are the increased traffic and traffic flow and the impact on local businesses. I would like to hear from the businesses to see how the concerts impact their income. I would also like to know how much money is raised in local taxes due to an increase in concerts. How would the increase in the number of concerts effect the City, what does the city get as a benefit. Issues with noise is very real and the community that suffers the most needs to be considered. If I lived closer to CVE, I would most likely not want to have more late nights with noisy concerts and traffic. Another concern would be parking where businesses are located. I understand that there are signs saying no parking in the lots near CVE, but I assume they get used to a certain degree. When that happens, it is harder for locals to access these businesses. I don't know if there is an increase is trash around town at the time of events at CVE, but if there is, then that would also be an issue that needs to be addressed.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- Yes! I think the questions in this survey are skewed to give a all or nothing response. For example, the question: "Would you agree that the grandstand is outdated and needs to be updated to better serve concertgoers? " I believe this question is intended to entice EJ residence to support the increase in the number of sound waivers; and yes, of course the facility is outdated. But that has nothing to do with granting more sound-waivers. I, personally, am virtually not impacted by its condition. The \$15,000 that CVE pays to the city in lieu of taxes is a joke; I pay more than just half that amount in property tax to the city. I would be happy to support the added waivers if CVE paid the equivalent of my property tax.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- If you are going to produce more shows, I believe that your tax exempt status should be rescinded. This venue is supposed to be agricultural. A few days during the Fair with a few token animals does not meet the criteria for what used to be the purpose of this facility.
- Lived here all my life and miss hearing the events at the Fairgrounds. I am not bothered by the noise at all. I actually miss hearing the concerts from my backyard. It is frustrating to hear all those that complain about the noise. You will never make people 100% happy. They will always find something to complain about. They should be asking themselves why they bought a house so close to the Expo if they did not like the noise. They were responsible for that action, not the Expo.
- I am excited about the potential new improvements to the grandstand and concert venue. The dirt track being replaced with a concrete pad could also provide extra value to the community, if you are willing to open it or rent it for community use. It could be a great spot for the roller derby team or roller hockey leagues, a cool spot for people to hold large family parties, and in the winter you could make an awesome outdoor ice skating rink.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- A vibrant arts and culture center in the City benefits all residents and businesses. This waiver extension will produce the revenue necessary for us to have a world class venue and attract a variety of top artists.
- Really looking forward to upcoming shows in an ungraded facility!
- please support the CVE.
- The economic impact for small business owners and the opportunity for event attendees to experience Essex Junction are wins for our community. Our state has limited venues to gather and the CVE is crown jewel. It does need some upgrades that modern concert goers expect.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- The grand stand is fine but the bleachers suck. Also allow more general admission and get rid of the lawn chairs for rock / country concerts. Also having 1 beer tent which ends up having a 60-70 person line is not adequate. Either double the staff working or have a second tent. The concerts in the midway generally are better because of the lawn chair issue and general admission. Let's also think big not cookie cutter on this.
- I'm happy to support the events at the CVEC.
- For the burden you put on tax payers with traffic during events, noise from shows like Wolfgart, while your events depend the roadway tax payers repair, use waterlines that feed yours water lines that we tax payers have to maintain and repair, to use emergency services which we have to pay for, your entity is disengenuous in what you actually provide the City of Essex Junction residents.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- Without creativity in providing actual not anecdotal financial assistance to the City I expect in the years to come people will look to limit the Expo and one day it will no longer exist. Doing things the way you have always done it is not going to work, as times have changed. The Expo could truly assist this City into the future if they become a true partner. I hope to see your organization do just that, but will continue to be vocal that you need to do more for the City with all you ask it's tax payers to provide.



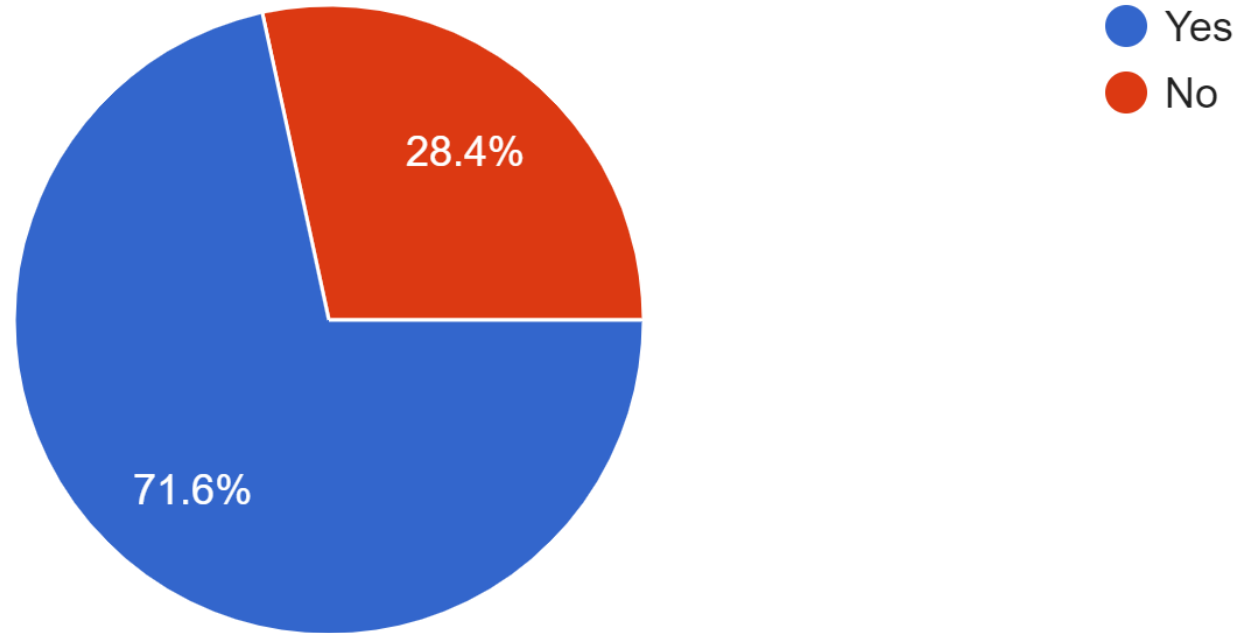
Grandstand Update Survey Results

Data taken from a Google Forms survey that was put out to the public on July 3 and was closed on July 10, 2024.

A total of 81 individuals participated in this survey.

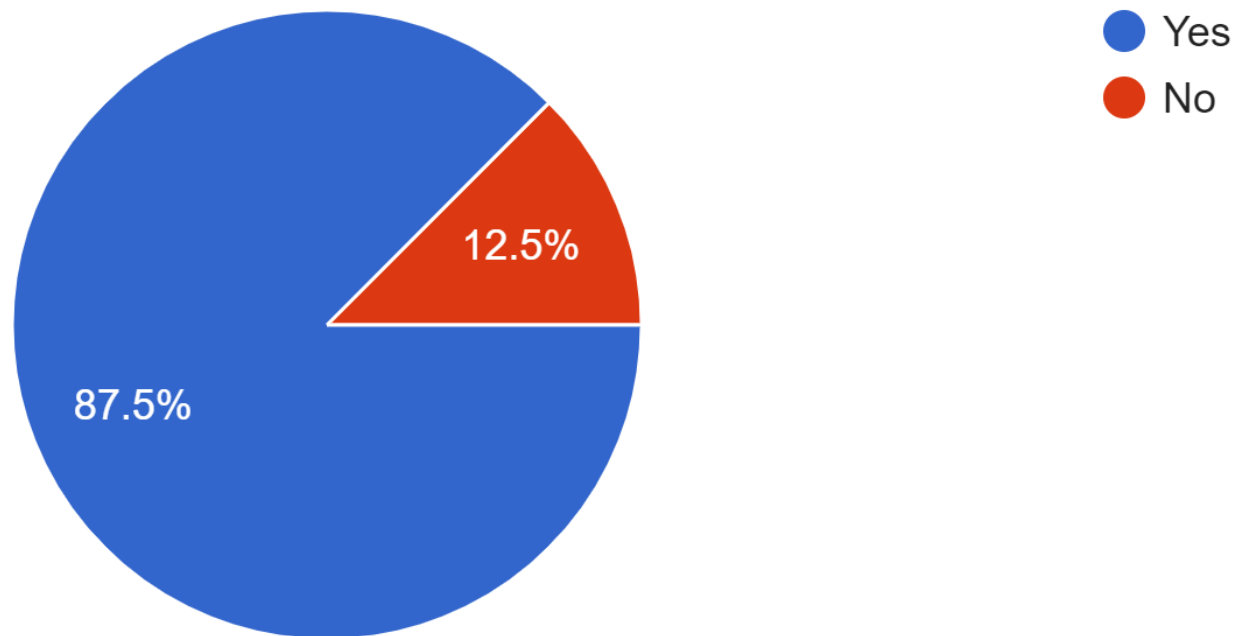
Are you a resident of the City of Essex Junction?

81 responses



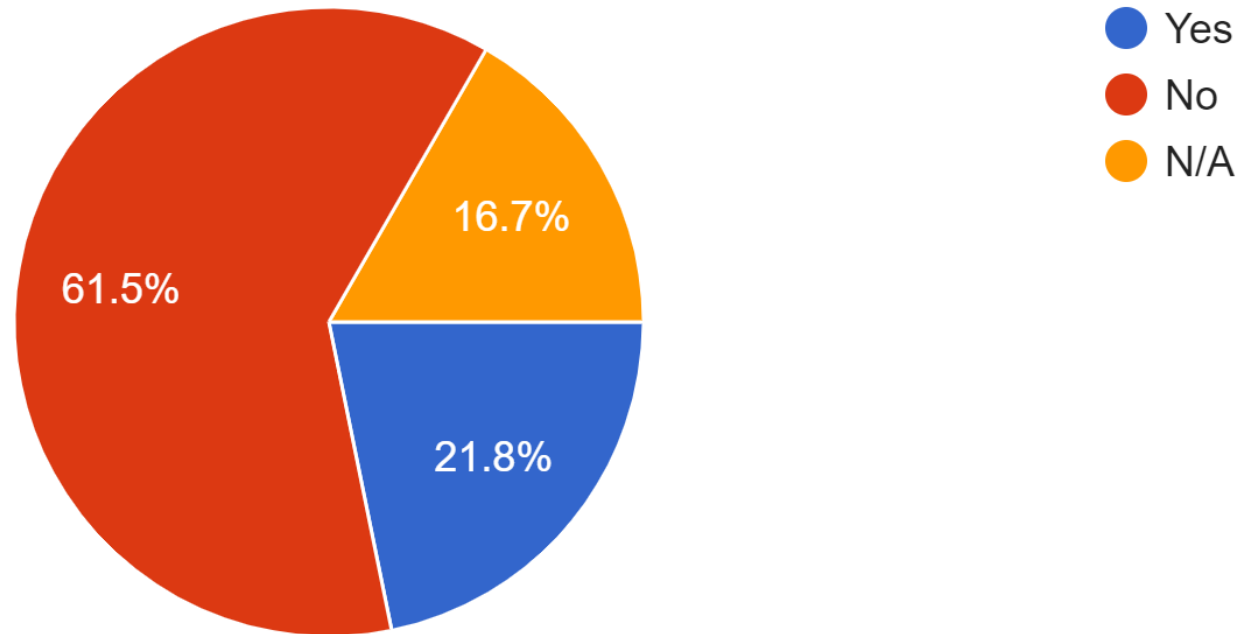
Have you attended a concert at the Exposition in the past 5 years or do you plan attend a concert in the future?

80 responses



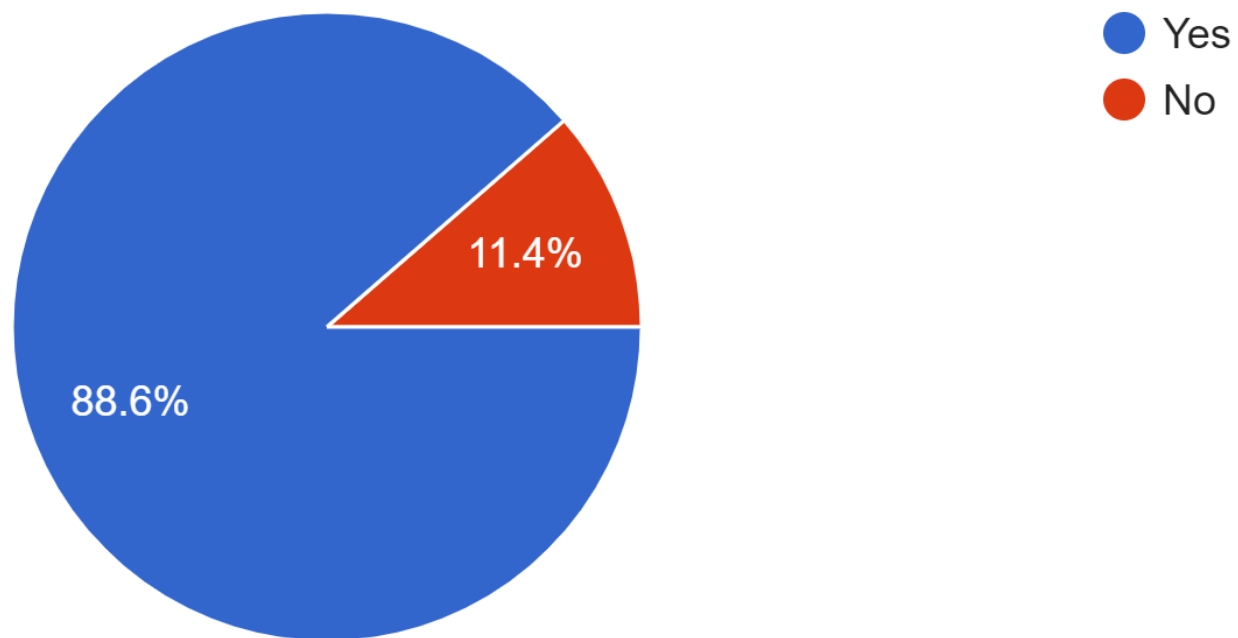
If you answered "Yes" to the above, are you satisfied with the condition of the grandstand and concert venue at the Exposition?

78 responses



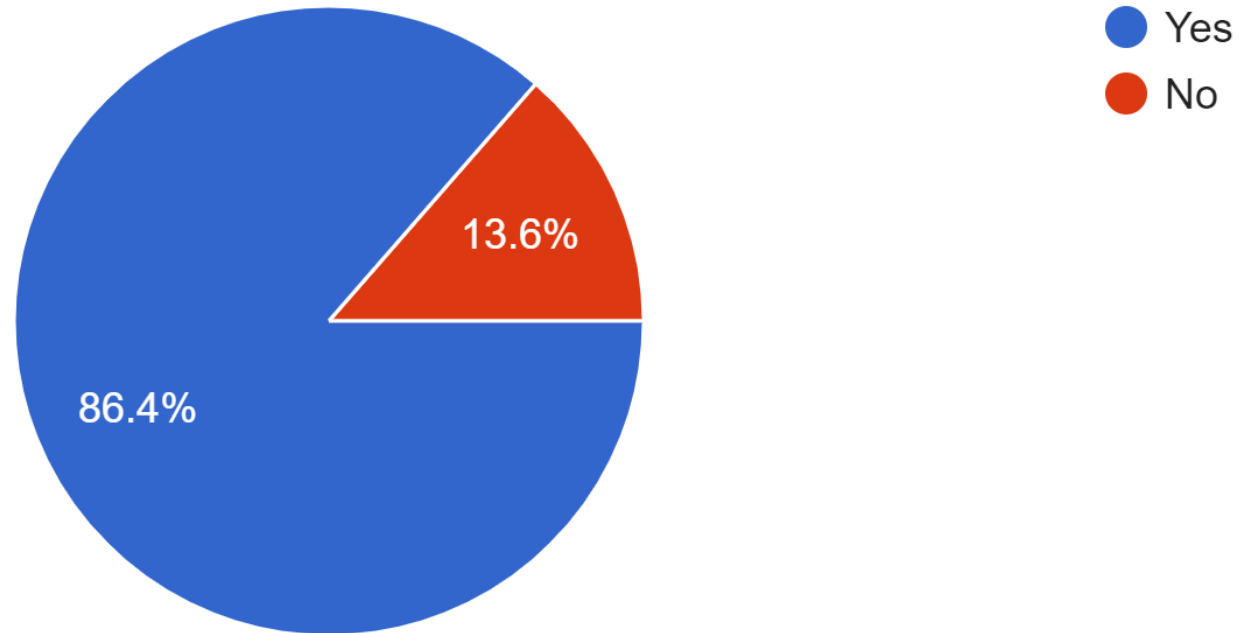
Would you agree that the grandstand is outdated and needs to be updated to better serve concertgoers?

79 responses



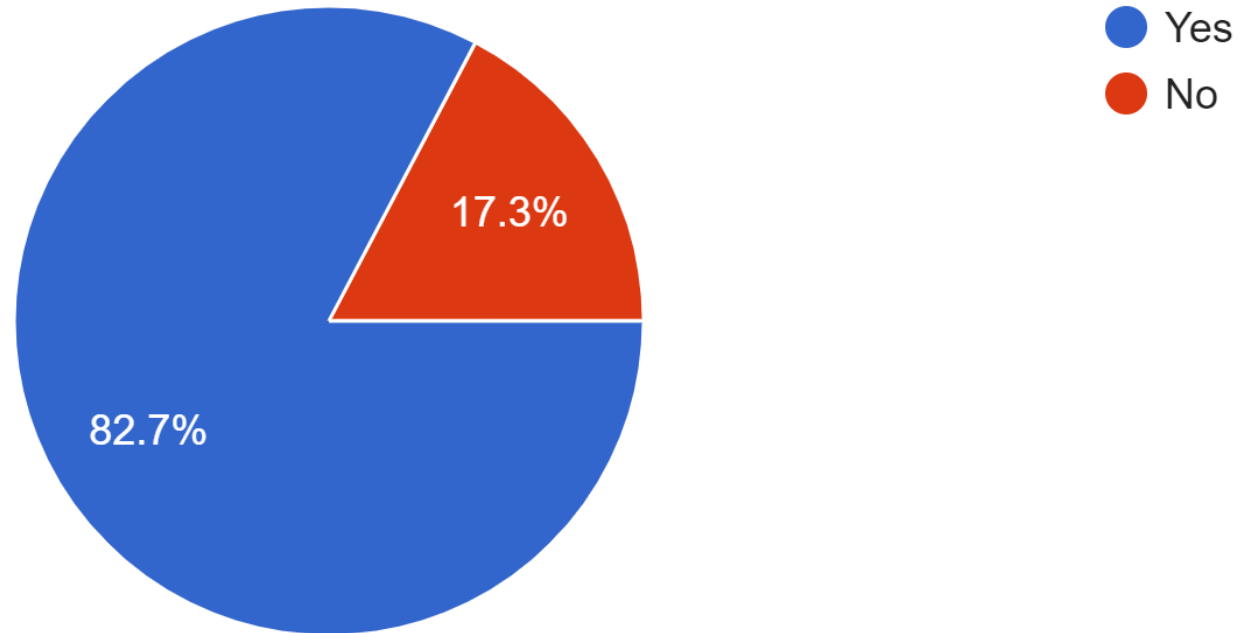
Are you aware of CVE's proposal to the Essex Junction City Council to secure 15 additional sound waivers to host additional concerts throughout the calendar year?

81 responses



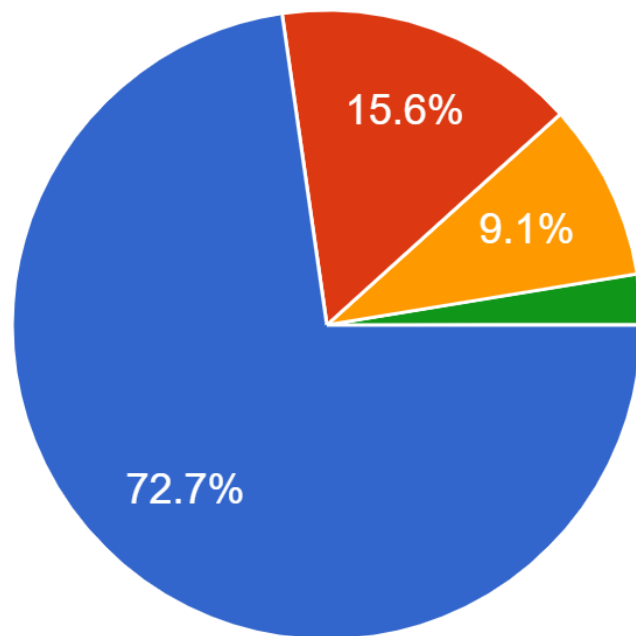
Would you support the Essex Junction City Council's approval of 15 additional sound waivers for CVE to host concerts throughout the calendar year?

81 responses



Does the sound from concerts impact your household?

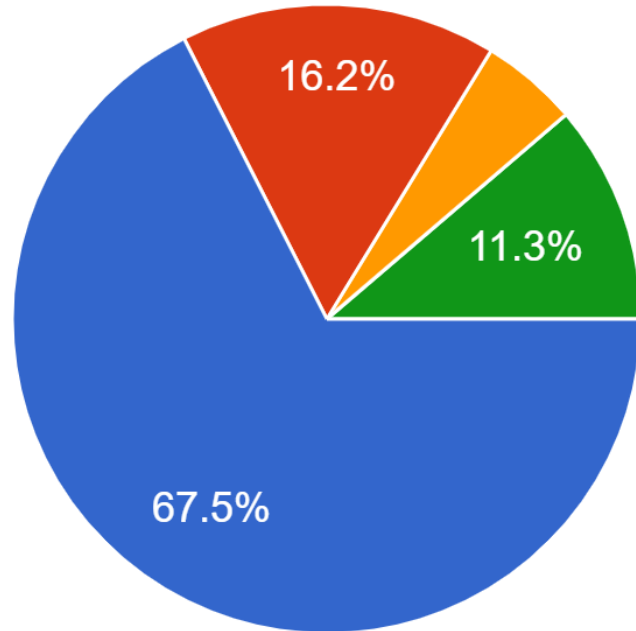
77 responses



- I enjoy hearing the music and the sound isn't an issue for me at all
- Sometimes, depending on the artist the sound can be bothersome, but I enjoy hearing the music.
- Most of the time I dislike the music and the noise from the concerts, and it is bothersome most of the time.
- I do not enjoy the concert noise at all, and they are always an inconvenience...

When events are occurring at the Exposition, does it impact your decision to shop at the neighboring businesses?

80 responses



- I continue to do my shopping at neighboring businesses regardless of what is happening at the Exposition.
- I sometimes delay my shopping until after the event has passed.
- I rarely shop when an event is occurring at the Exposition.
- I avoid shopping and traveling in Essex Junction while events are occurring at the Exposition.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- Looks good!
- Please drop the decibel level a bit, increase the \$fine, and get rid of the Wolfsgart event. Too many drivers are disrespectful of the neighborhood. Noise is unpredictable! Thank you for the CVE. It would be a shame to see it sold for Handy or Snyder housing.
- Vermont has long struggled with accommodating live music events that exceed 10K audience members. CVE is one of the few venues in the state that has the amenities to host these events. These upgrades and additional waivers make sense to future-proof the success of this venue that contributes so much to the economic and community fabric of Essex.
- I live 2 Streets over and have lived here 31 years. The traffic is already an issue with fair and other events. It's difficult to get out of my street as it is!
- CVE should be paying taxes, then I would support it.
- Payment in lieu of taxes does not cover the cost of resources and inconvenience to immediate neighbors. I'm on the West St. side of the issue and it's a no win situation. The noise is not just with the event; there's the sound the dumpsters being emptied early the next morning, the sirens, the noise of celebrating attendees, the increased cars and traffic, the sound checks in the afternoon, and the screams from the thrill rides till midnight. I am not responsible for supporting CVE business model, I deserve to enjoy my backyard in the five best months of Spring/Summer; 35 shows in that time span will impede my ability to enjoy my property that I pay significant tax to have. Pay your fair share and maybe I'd be more amenable to your constant disruption of my pursuit of happiness. There are grants from VT ANR to help with the 3 acre rule and other small business loans that I hope CVE is looking into, however if they cannot stay afloat then perhaps there's opportunity for more housing that could increase the grand list.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- I support the Expo upgrades to encourage more performances/performers to Essex Junction. The concert space is under-utilized and aged. I live on Villa Drive and I can speak for most of the homeowners in this neighborhood to which they enjoy the concerts and do not get bothered with the noise.
- You say "As the city grows, CVE seeks to grow along with it in a responsible, collaborative partnership that benefits all stakeholders." Well I'm a stakeholder and adding 15 more events will not benefit me in any way and will reduce my property value. You say you lost the Farm Show and the Quilt Show and yet both are included on your web site advertising. Events that exceed the Noise Standards in the development Code have a negative impact on the "public health, safety and general welfare" of many of the City's residents.
- The wolfsguard of the German cars is the worst event for us. The noise is unpredictable, the people are rude and the noise leaves the fairgrounds and enters the neighborhoods. The garbage in the front of the fairgrounds needs to be picked up daily...just make it a routine. It is not going away and it is attracting bugs. The fairgrounds could do more for the close neighbors of the property like discounts to concerts, food vendor tickets and the like. The lights can be super bright as well and do not to be on all the time. However, over all they are good neighbors and try to do what they can to respect our needs. We enjoy using the grounds for walks and sitting outside to enjoy concerts. The fireworks were amazing this year.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- We would support these upgrades and additional concerts IF CVE agreed to pay their fair share of property taxes.
- I would be willing to support additional sound waivers IF CVE paid taxes to the City of Essex Junction. CVE is taking advantage of loopholes that should not apply given that most events are no longer agricultural events.
- More concerts please! I prefer to keep my money local and am a regular concert attendee
- This is a sensible proposal and I hope Councilors will approve expansion of the waiver.
- You need to let people know every time you mention this, that 10 of the current sound waivers are for fair days. If I were uninformed I would think you are looking to hold 35 concerts above the ten days of the fair. Could these sound waivers be used for other events? If so you should stop using concerts as the description. Could you not bring in a full crowd with a big name comedian? Are there other types of events you could hold that the waivers might be needed but, are not quite as intrusive as a music concert? I avoid shopping any of the stores, during peak traffic times for your events not all times. I do avoid almost all times during the fair as the pedestrian traffic added to the vehicle traffic at all times of the day can be frustrating. To be clear, it never deters me from using any of the city center businesses.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- Small children - working parents, older folks, and others who work early morning shifts who go to sleep at 8 - 9 pm, and dogs especially - are impacted by concerts and activities at fairgrounds. (For instance the fireworks last night drove the dogs in neighborhood nuts, and woke people up.) Need to address that in some way. Perhaps afternoon concerts instead of evening. Evening is quiet time for most small children, many parents. Love the place. We're still feeling impact of the Grimm Days. Part of issue is lack of state funding for Ag/Forestry promotion & public education on same. details on improvement, details on long term, and a number of other things need to be looked at prior to approval. Can noise buffers/barriers be put in place at same time? Trees (which would be effective in 10 - 20 years), insulation, etc. etc.
- I have lived in Essex all my 85 years and could not imagine Essex without the Fairgrounds it is way better than another development. I still love walking through the fairgrounds and not worry about getting hit by a reckless driver. The grandstand badly needs new seating and repairs. More use means more income for more improvements in the future. Let's just do it!
- Need to do what's necessary to bring in better concerts. The concert acts have gone down significantly in quality over the last 10 years or so. I remember seeing Jason Aldean, Luke Bryan, Keith Urban, Brad Paisley, etc. Now the concerts are individuals who are way on the downside of their careers and although they draw a crowd, it's a huge disappointment.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- The noise is loud and often goes late. And on random days and people have to work the next day and the noise prevents sleep. And the traffic is horrible with all the extra people. We don't need more concerts and noise than are already there at the fair.
- I prefer music events over monster truck and other loud car events. (Side note: I would like to see more signs reminding dog owners to leash their dogs.)
- CVE definitely should be required to pay MUCH MORE to the City. \$15,000 per year is insulting
- Hope it passes
- It would be great to have more going on at the fair grounds and more choices in music concerts
- I would like to learn more about what are the benefits for the city and its residents in granting the extra noise ordinance waivers (higher tax revenue, portion of the proceeds, etc.)
- Besides pointing out the leading nature of the questions purposefully designed to get the outcomes you would like? Sure. The idea that you are doing this for the good of the community while you pay a paltry non profit level PILOT fee concerns me. The fact that you are using veiled threats "if you don't give us this... then whatever shall become of CVE" is a bit unnecessary... You say you want "upgrades"... what you want is expansion in order to increase the number of more lucrative acts you can attract... These events are drive in and drive out affairs... people don't eat and stay in EJ before or after... they do that elsewhere... the greater economic impact is to you, Higher Ground, the acts, and the vendors within the venue... Essentially doubling your income by essentially doubling your permits is a big ask... I have no doubt you will ask for more permits in the future... expansion equals larger crowds, more problems associated with those crowds, traffic problems and louder sound to surrounding neighborhoods... not a problem when then CVE board doesn't live in the area... I'd give you 6 more a season... that's reasonable.... that gives you 8 for fair week.... And then one week for the rest of the your May to Sept season... No way do I want my city to become the Great Woods of Chittenden County... even with these new permits, there better be some thoughts to provide sound mitigation for the adjacent neighborhoods...
Thank You

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- I think the Expo is a great attraction for our area. It brings in people to our community. I do think a little extra security outside around the perimeter is needed. I have lived in Essex Jct. For 54 years. The fair and other events are wonderful.
- Without serious sound mitigation planning (so that the sound is less on actual neighborhoods, not how it is currently measured; closing my windows isn't enough), I can't support this. I also really worry about the impact on businesses - I know I avoid Peart St as much as possible during the fair concerts (& I live in that part of EJ). It is one thing to move here with an understanding of the fair & current concert numbers, but this is a big change.
- I'm happy to support the events at the CVEC.
- I support this plan because I believe that events in our city are good for our city. It gives us legitimacy. But you need to sell this as why it's good for the city as a whole, not just CVE. Show us how we win. You won't win over the terminally online malcontents spamming up the Facebook groups, but if you can put the holistic benefits in plain language, everyone else will get on board. Because I imagine most EJ residents are either a) willing to give you the benefit of the doubt, or b) too apathetic about the whole thing to really care. Also, your question about impact on household is flawed, or at least imprecise. The issue of "enjoyment" is secondary to whether you can hear the music at all. I live on South Street. Only with the windows open under the right conditions can I hear what goes on at CVE. Most residents of EJ live even further out and are impacted (if you can even call it that) even less. It should really be two questions: can you hear it and to what degree, and if so does it bother you.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- My biggest concerns are the increased traffic and traffic flow and the impact on local businesses. I would like to hear from the businesses to see how the concerts impact their income. I would also like to know how much money is raised in local taxes due to an increase in concerts. How would the increase in the number of concerts effect the City, what does the city get as a benefit. Issues with noise is very real and the community that suffers the most needs to be considered. If I lived closer to CVE, I would most likely not want to have more late nights with noisy concerts and traffic. Another concern would be parking where businesses are located. I understand that there are signs saying no parking in the lots near CVE, but I assume they get used to a certain degree. When that happens, it is harder for locals to access these businesses. I don't know if there is an increase in trash around town at the time of events at CVE, but if there is, then that would also be an issue that needs to be addressed.
- Yes! I think the questions in this survey are skewed to give a all or nothing response. For example, the question: "Would you agree that the grandstand is outdated and needs to be updated to better serve concertgoers? " I believe this question is intended to entice EJ residence to support the increase in the number of sound waivers; and yes, of course the facility is outdated. But that has nothing to do with granting more sound-waivers. I, personally, am virtually not impacted by its condition. The \$15,000 that CVE pays to the city in lieu of taxes is a joke; I pay more than just half that amount in property tax to the city. I would be happy to support the added waivers if CVE paid the equivalent of my property tax.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- If you are going to produce more shows, I believe that your tax exempt status should be rescinded. This venue is supposed to be agricultural. A few days during the Fair with a few token animals does not meet the criteria for what used to be the purpose of this facility.
- Lived here all my life and miss hearing the events at the Fairgrounds. I am not bothered by the noise at all. I actually miss hearing the concerts from my backyard. It is frustrating to hear all those that complain about the noise. You will never make people 100% happy. They will always find something to complain about. They should be asking themselves why they bought a house so close to the Expo if they did not like the noise. They were responsible for that action, not the Expo.
- I am excited about the potential new improvements to the grandstand and concert venue. The dirt track being replaced with a concrete pad could also provide extra value to the community, if you are willing to open it or rent it for community use. It could be a great spot for the roller derby team or roller hockey leagues, a cool spot for people to hold large family parties, and in the winter you could make an awesome outdoor ice skating rink.
- A vibrant arts and culture center in the City benefits all residents and businesses. This waiver extension will produce the revenue necessary for us to have a world class venue and attract a variety of top artists.
- This is a MUST DO upgrade. Please approve expeditiously!

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- Really looking forward to upcoming shows in an ungraded facility!
- We moved out of town about a year ago but come back often and live music certainly draws us in - would love to see updates to the CVE and more artists playing there.
- Would welcome upgrades and more events!
- We need more entertainment to keep the young population motivated to stay here and not move to other cities. Music events help the economy . Don't let a few NIMBYs complaints change the course of business for the Fairgrounds. If they have a problem with the sound then move and they were dumb buying or renting a home near a Fairground. Same is true with people who chose to live near the airport.
- please support the CVE.
- The economic impact for small business owners and the opportunity for event attendees to experience Essex Junction are wins for our community. Our state has limited venues to gather and the CVE is crown jewel. It does need some upgrades that modern concert goers expect.
- Upgrade and use the fairgrounds to their full potential allowing all kinds of activities and concerts and events for all Vermonters! NEVER want to see this priceless community and state wide resource turned into condos...
- Short and sweet; I support the CVE/Higher Ground proposal. Cheers!

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- For the burden you put on tax payers with traffic during events, noise from shows like Wolfgart, while your events depend the roadway tax payers repair, use waterlines that feed yours water lines that we tax payers have to maintain and repair, to use emergency services which we have to pay for, your entity is disengenuous in what you actually provide the City of Essex Junction residents. Without creativity in providing actual not anecdotal financial assistance to the City I expect in the years to come people will look to limit the Expo and one day it will no longer exist. Doing things the way you have always done it is not going to work, as times have changed. The Expo could truly assist this City into the future if they become a true partner. I hope to see your organization do just that, but will continue to be vocal that you need to do more for the City with all you ask it's tax payers to provide.
- The grand stand is fine but the bleachers suck. Also allow more general admission and get rid of the lawn chairs for rock / country concerts. Also having 1 beer tent which ends up having a 60-70 person line is not adequate. Either double the staff working or have a second tent. The concerts in the midway generally are better because of the lawn chair issue and general admission. Let's also think big not cookie cutter on this.
- An update is much needed, to be a leader in entertainment in the area.
- Music is a cultural anchor and provides economic opportunity for the region and should be prioritized as an intentional and manageable growth driver for the immediate and surrounding communities.

Are there any additional comments you would like to share with us?

- As new residents of Essex less than 2 miles as the crow flies from the Champlain Valley Exposition (CVE), we enthusiastically endorse the collaboration between CVE and Higher Ground to enhance the music offerings and upgrade concert facilities at the Expo grounds. Our support stems from both personal enjoyment of the Fair each year and recognition of the substantial community-building potential of such events.

The current grandstand and concert facilities at CVE are indeed a hidden gem, poised to attract larger musical acts that currently bypass Vermont due to the absence of suitable venues along their tour routes between Boston and Montreal. According to research by economic development experts, upgrading these facilities could significantly boost local economies through increased tourism, hospitality revenues, and job creation (Source: Economic Impact of Music Venues, Economic Development Journal, 2023).

Vermont's cultural landscape would benefit tremendously from enhanced entertainment options like those proposed. The revitalization of CVE's concert facilities is a logical step toward offering more diverse and appealing activities for residents and visitors alike. Studies show that communities with vibrant cultural scenes tend to attract and retain a more diverse and talented workforce, contributing to long-term economic growth (Source: Arts and Economic Prosperity, Americans for the Arts, 2022). Concerns about potential traffic and noise increases are valid, but Higher Ground has a demonstrated track record of addressing such issues responsibly. During the pandemic, they pioneered innovative solutions like the "car-concert," which not only provided safe entertainment options but also minimized community disruption (Source: Innovative Responses to Pandemic Challenges, Journal of Event Management, 2021).

With Vermont's short summer season, maximizing the use of CVE's facilities for cultural and entertainment purposes makes eminent sense. By supporting this initiative, the EJCC can foster a vibrant cultural environment while also stimulating economic growth and community cohesion.

Thank you for considering our perspective. We urge the Council to endorse this partnership and move forward with the necessary steps to bring this vision to fruition.

Third Party Noise Impact Study Proposal for CVE

There may be design and engineering solutions that could help mitigate some of the noise impacts of additional grandstand concerts at the CVE. To understand the impact of existing events at the CVE, and to explore the potential effectiveness of acoustic abatement features, a third-party noise impact assessment may be helpful.

Related Documents:

Examples of noise impact assessment studies (Most Vermont examples were all done by RSG, except for the Airport study, by HMMH and the Jones Payne Group)

- https://gis.orovalleyaz.gov/storyimages/Planning/OV_Marketplace/Updated%20Page/Noise.pdf
- <https://www.greensborovt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Noise-Impact-Assessment-Circus-Smirkus-Summer-Camp-1.pdf>
- <https://www.ccrpcvt.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Burlington-Amtrak-Storage-Facility-Noise-Study-060118.pdf>
- <https://www.velco.com/library/document/download/6861/KHK-2.Noise%20Impact%20Study.pdf>
-

Other resources:

- Example of a temporary noise barrier system used during a weekend festival
<https://blog.echobarrier.com/blog/outdoor-live-event-management>
- technical manual on managing sound exposure for outdoor events
<https://www.monica-project.eu/estimating-and-controlling-the-sound-impact-of-outdoor-music-events/>
- Academic paper on “Understanding and Managing Sound Exposure and Noise Pollution at Outdoor Events- includes 5 case studies.
https://www.aes.org/technical/documents/AESTD1007_1_20_05.pdf

Key elements of study

- Sound propagation modeling, with sound level contour map of impacted areas. The model should reflect:
 - o Existing topography, structures, and landscaping,
 - o a baseline of both peak and average sound levels during a major non-fair grandstand concert.
- Model should be validated using actual data collected at multiple locations, including data collected at adjacent residential and commercial properties.
- Proposed sound abatement measures, and their projected impacts. Potential measure may include by are not limited to:
 - o Sound dampening material mounted on existing structures
 - o Temporary or permanent sound walls


- Landscaping berm / plantings
- Re-positioning of speakers/ source volume adjustments

Additional notes

- After the initial study, the main options are:
 - City and CVE agrees on specific interventions the CVE is required to implement in exchange for City's approval of additional sound waivers.
 - City and CVE agrees on target dBA reductions (especially for low frequencies) at key impacted locations outside the CVE property, without prescribing specific interventions.
- Once a noise propagation model is validated, it may be possible to conduct ongoing sound monitoring with a permanently installed sound level meter instead of the current system of requiring third party sound monitoring with a consultant for each event.

IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation

IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation was designed to assist with the selection of the level of participation that defines the public's role in any public participation process. The Spectrum is used internationally, and it is found in public participation plans around the world.

| INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION  | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| | INFORM | CONSULT | INVOLVE | COLLABORATE | EMPOWER |
| PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL | To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions. | To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions. | To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered. | To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution. | To place final decision making in the hands of the public. |
| PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC | We will keep you informed. | We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision. | We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision. | We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible. | We will implement what you decide. |



Memo

To: Essex Junction City Council

From: Colleen Dwyer, Human Resources Director

Meeting Date: August 14, 2024

Subject: VLCT's Welcoming and Engaging Cohort

Issue: To brief the Council on the Welcoming and Engaging Cohort that Essex Junction participated in.

Discussion:

What is the Welcoming and Engaging Cohort?

The VLCT Welcoming and Engaging Communities Cohort, in partnership with Abundant Sun, offers municipal leaders the chance to join the Ethical Performance Improvement Campaign (E.P.I.C.). The six-month program included eight two-hour workshops on topics such as equality, diversity, and data analytics. Participants also surveyed officials and staff to gather metrics on inclusion and belonging.

Each municipality enrolls three officials, such as city council members or department heads. The program began in 2022 with eight communities and expanded in 2023/2024 to include 12 municipalities and two regional planning commissions. Essex Junction participated in the 2023/2024 cohort. VLCT covered the participation cost.

Goals of the Program

The goals of the VLCT Welcoming and Engaging Communities Cohort program are to:

1. **Enhance Cultural Transformation:** Help municipalities build better organizational cultures through data-driven and strategic methodologies.
2. **Promote Equality, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** Educate and engage municipal leaders on these critical topics to foster more inclusive communities.
3. **Improve Employee Engagement and Client Service:** Equip leaders with tools and knowledge to enhance engagement and service delivery.

4. Utilize Data Analytics: Enable municipalities to collect and analyze key metrics related to inclusion and belonging.

5. Support Municipal Leaders: Provide a platform for leaders to learn, share experiences, and mentor each other.

These goals aim to create more welcoming, equitable, and effective municipal environments.

Participants from the City of Essex Junction in the 2023/2024 Cohort

Raj Chawla: President of the City Council

Regina Mahony: City Manager

Colleen Dwyer: Human Resources Director

Survey Insights

Each municipality participated in the Inclusion and Belonging survey. This survey helps organizations assess their inclusivity levels and understand how this affects their interactions with external communities and service users. High scores in inclusion and belonging are linked to high-performing cultures and excellent customer service, while low scores correlate with disengaged staff and poor results. The survey also allows municipalities to benchmark their performance against the cohort and other organizations in Vermont and beyond. The City of Essex Junction had a 52.9% completion rate.

Key Findings

The City of Essex Junction has learned that respondents believe it is a great place to live, with a Net Promoter Score (NPS) of 26. However, as a place to work, it has an NPS of just 3. For context, within this cohort, the highest NPS for a great place to live was 53, while the lowest was -30. For a great place to work, the highest score was 35, and the lowest was -46.

This data indicates that we have work to do as an organization to become a more welcoming and engaging place to work.

Next Steps

1. Analyze the Survey Data:

- Review detailed feedback from the Inclusion and Belonging survey to identify specific areas of improvement.

2. Develop an Action Plan:

- Create a comprehensive action plan targeting the areas identified for improvement. This plan should include specific, measurable goals and timelines.

3. Engage Employees:

- Engage with employees to gather more in-depth insights and foster a sense of ownership in the improvement process.

4. Enhance Communication:

- Improve internal communication channels to ensure transparency and open dialogue about the steps being taken and the progress being made.

By beginning to take these steps, the City of Essex Junction can work towards becoming a more welcoming and engaging place to work, aligning with the goals of the VLCT Welcoming and Engaging Communities Cohort program.

Recommendation: This is just an informational item for the City Council. No action is needed.



MEMORANDUM

To: Essex Junction City Council
From: Regina Mahony, City Manager
Meeting Date: August 14, 2024
Subject: Executive session for a contract

Issue: The issue is whether the City Council will enter executive session to discuss a contract.

Discussion: To have a complete and thorough discussion about this topic, an executive session may be necessary because the premature disclosure of the information may put the City Council and the City at a substantial disadvantage. Contracts can be a protected discussion.

Cost: N/A at this time

Recommendation:

If the City Council wishes to enter executive session, the following motions are recommended:

Motion #1

"I move that the City Council make the specific finding that premature disclosure of the contractual matters would place the city at a substantial disadvantage."

Motion #2

"I move that the City Council enter into executive session to discuss a contract, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(A) to include the City Council and City Manager."



MEMORANDUM

To: City Council

From: Regina Mahony

Meeting Date: August 14, 2024

Subject: Executive Session for City Manager

Issue:

The issue is whether the City Council will enter executive session to discuss the evaluation of the City Manager.

Discussion:

To have a complete and thorough discussion about this topic, an executive session may be necessary. The evaluation of an employee can be a protected discussion.

Recommended Motion:

"I move that the City Council enter into executive session to discuss a personnel evaluation, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3) to include the City Council."

**CITY OF ESSEX JUNCTION
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING
July 17, 2024**

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Raj Chawla, President; Amber Thibeault; Vice President; Tim Miller, Clerk; Marcus Certa (at 7:33 PM), Elaine Haney.

ADMINISTRATION: Regina Mahony, City Manager; Rick Jones, Public Works Superintendent; Jess Morris, Finance Director; Ashley Snellenberger, Communications & Strategic Planning Director.

OTHERS PRESENT: John Alden, Diane Clemens, Annie Cooper, Drew Darrow, Karen Dolan, Lori Houghton, Deb McAdoo, Tim Shea, Andrea Shortsleeve, Resa.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

City Council President Chawla called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

2. **AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES**

No changes.

3. **APPROVE AGENDA**

None needed.

4. **PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

a. Comments from public on items not on the agenda

None.

5. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

a. Department Head Brief to Council – Rick Jones, Public Works Superintendent

Public Works Superintendent Jones spoke about activities in the Public Works Department over the last six months. He noted that the department finally received a new pickup truck, which had been anticipated for the last year. He said there is a staff shortage, but they have hired part-time positions to help with maintenance and administrative work. He spoke about work on the Main Street waterline and that they anticipate completing that work in the springtime. He spoke about construction work on the Crescent Connector, which is slated for completion in September. He said that they obtained new software for meter readers, which should help make the process much easier.

Public Works Superintendent Jones then spoke about the next six months of activities. . He noted that the department also ordered a new dump truck, which they anticipate receiving in two years. He spoke about the difficulty in filling CDL driver positions and other positions within the Public Works Department. He said that they anticipate completing both the Main Street waterline and Crescent Connector in the next six to nine months. He spoke briefly about the difference between CDL driver and non-CDL driver positions, which are permitted to drive different vehicles for the City (specifically plow and other heavier vehicles). He displayed a map showing the upcoming paving activities on the City's streets (Prospect Street, West Hillcrest Street, Cherry Street, Cherokee Street, and parts of Abenaki and Iroquois Streets). He also noted that the department is in need of new facilities and storage. Councilor Miller acknowledged Ron Bundy (a wastewater operator) and his work with the Super Sucker 7000 to help with damaged infrastructure in Plainfield after last week's flood event.

b. *Interviews and consider appointments to the Tree Advisory Committee, Development Review Board, and Planning Commission

The Council interviewed Andrea Shortsleeve for a position on the Tree Advisory Committee. She spoke about her involvement in the community, her qualifications, and her interest in participating on the TAC. She

56 was asked by Councilors about her familiarity with the TAC’s current activities. She asked about the time
57 commitment for serving on the Committee, and City Manager Mahony explained the meeting frequency and
58 level of involvement members have. City Council President Chawla noted that there is a stipend available
59 for Committee members.

60
61 City Manager Mahony provided a more general update on recruiting for open board and commission
62 positions. She said that staff are recommending Luke Brockmeier for the Development Review Board and
63 Kirstie Paschall for the Planning Commission. She noted that there are still no applicants for the Community
64 Advisory Board and that there are three applicants for two positions on the Tree Advisory Board. She said
65 that they are recommending that the Bike/Walk Advisory Committee be reduced in size from 8 to 6 positions.
66 Councilor Haney asked why it has been difficult to recruit for the Community Advisory Board, and suggested
67 that the Police Chief come to brief the Council on these difficulties and potential strategies for recruitment.

68
69 **City Council President Chawla made a motion, seconded by Councilor Haney, that the Bike Walk**
70 **Advisory Committee membership be reduced from 8 members to 6 members. The motion passed 4-**
71 **0 (Councilor Certa absent for vote).**

72
73 c. Discussion and consideration of the Community Vision & Strategic Action Plan
74 Communications and Strategic Planning Director Snellenberger said that this item relates to discussing the
75 final Communication & Strategic Visioning report, department work plans, and a list of Council-level policy
76 and action prioritization (also called “The List”).

77 Director Snellenberger began by speaking about the Communication & Strategic Visioning Report. She
78 noted that the top pillars for prioritization that came out of that report were around housing and urban
79 design, economic and business development, and public services and facilities. She noted that the top
80 action items for implementation are providing reasonable, open, and transparent government, enhancing
81 downtown corridors, and promoting and enhancing safety.

82
83 Director Snellenberger then spoke about department head work plans for the City, which is also a
84 component of the City’s current strategic planning process. She said that this is a way for the City to align
85 departments’ day-to-day work with the Community Vision and Strategic Action Plan, as well as the budget.
86 She said that work plans will include departments’ respective projects, improvements to accomplish in the
87 next fiscal year, and evaluation methods to report out on progress. She shared an example of a work plan
88 for the Communications Department.

89
90 Director Snellenberger then spoke about “The List”, which was developed by the City Manager to inventory
91 ideas from the Council and community members for future policy and action work. She noted that in order
92 to prioritize these ideas, staff has categorized them into pillars and action items and assigned fiscal years
93 to them for implementation. She provided a brief overview of the list, cautioning that it is preliminary
94 because it does not yet include the work from the department heads’ work plans.

95
96 Director Snellenberger then outlined a timeline for work plans and future plans. She noted that from now
97 until the end of September, department heads will develop their work plans. She said that FY26 budget and
98 work plans will be presented to the City Council in the November/December timeframe. She then noted
99 that the City Council and department heads will have a retreat in April/May of 2025 for the FY26 budget, at
100 which time department heads will report out on their accomplishments from FY25.

101
102 City Council President Chawla asked several questions about the final report. He noted that it referenced
103 funding the Fire, Police, and Rescue at their current levels, which he does not think is the intent of the

statement (as level-funding would almost certainly entail cuts). He asked for more detail on how the action items intersect with the pillars that are called out for prioritization. Director Snellenberger replied that there are intersections between each of the pillars and the action items that were singled out for priority implementation. She said that much of the work in the next year will be devoted to figuring out how the pillars, action items, and work plans intersect best in order to move the work forward. City Manager Mahony also noted that they are also focusing on how communication from the Council to commissions and committees, as well as feedback, will intersect with the strategic plan and action items.

Councilor Haney noted the high emphasis placed on open and transparent government, saying that while this is a focus, it's not an indication that the current administration and Council are doing poorly. Councilor Miller said that he looks at how open communication and transparency intersection with the housing and urban development pillar, which could look like ensuring active communication to the public about development applications and updates to the Land Development Code. Councilor Haney noted the work the Council has done on the communications matrix/rubric and improving its communication and engagement with the public. Councilor Haney also spoke about the formation of a downtown economic development committee after the Transit Oriented Development project, Amtrak project, and Main Street Park projects are completed or mostly underway, citing concerns that this may take quite some time, and adding she is glad that there are provisions for a volunteer committee to start sooner. She said that she would like to discuss the formation of this committee soon. City Manager Mahony noted that those three projects will also help to enliven the downtown area.

The following public comments were received:

- Diane Clemens noted that the City must update its Comprehensive Plan by FY27, and said that the City should look at how this work dovetails with that Comprehensive Plan update. She also noted that many of the items the public is requesting (such as walking maps of the City, etc) already exist, and it's just a matter of disseminating or posting them more publicly.
- John Alden noted prior work of the Downtown Steering Committee, saying that reviewing their work could be helpful to inventory what has already been done. He noted that as a founding member of Heart & Soul, capacity and clarity remain the two top issues of importance.
- Annie Cooper cautioned against reinventing the wheel and recreating the work completed by the Downtown Steering Committee and Heart & Soul, and emphasized the importance of moving forward and making progress on the priorities and action items articulated in the final report.

Councilor Miller made a motion, seconded by Councilor Haney, that the City Council approve the amended Community Vision & Strategic Action Plan report to help guide the work plan prioritization over the coming years. The motion passed 4-0 (Councilor Certa absent for vote).

d. Discussion and consideration of FY25 Tax Rate

Finance Director Morris said that this item relates to setting the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2025. She noted that the City voted to raise \$11,110,346 in property taxes FY25, which was according to the adjusted grand list estimation when the budget was developed. She noted that because there was an unanticipated increase in the grand list since then, the tax rate decreased slightly from the rate when the budget was approved. She also noted a Tax Agreement rate or Veterans' exemptions above what the State automatically allows. She also spoke about the approved Economic Development Rate (\$0.01), which remains unchanged from the prior year. She said that the total City tax rate is 5.9% higher than FY24,

149 resulting in an estimated tax increase on a \$280,000 home of \$153 per year on the municipal portion of a
150 tax bill.

151
152 City Council President Chawla asked when residents can anticipate receiving their property tax bills for
153 FY25. Director Morris replied that bills will be mailed prior to August 15 with the first payment being due on
154 September 15.

155
156 **Councilor Miller made a motion, seconded by Councilor Haney, that the City Council approve the**
157 **FY25 tax rate as presented. The motion passed 5-0.**
158

159 e. 2024 Legislative Update

160 City Manager Mahony presented a 2024 legislative update on acts that are of relevance to Essex Junction.
161 She noted that changes to Open Meeting Law were codified in Act 133, including distinguishing between
162 advisory and non-advisory boards, and the attendance requirements for each. She spoke about Act 171,
163 which creates a uniform Code of Ethics for municipalities, which takes effect on January 1, 2025. She
164 provided details on the requirements of this new code. She spoke about Act 66, which provides for minimum
165 setback requirements for outdoor cannabis cultivation districts within municipalities, noting that Essex
166 Junction will need to evaluate and decide whether to establish Cannabis Cultivation Districts. She spoke
167 about Act 150, which pertains to libraries and includes provisions around the age up to which parents or
168 guardians have access to their child's library records, adds public libraries to the list of places where criminal
169 threatening penalties are augmented, and specifies that a library director is under the supervision of the
170 library's board of trustees unless otherwise codified. She spoke about Act 181, which pertains to housing
171 permit reforms. She said that it makes major changes to Vermont's land use planning and regulatory
172 framework to strengthen place-based regulatory recognition and investments guided by regional planning
173 and municipal action. She spoke about Act 106, which contains changes to property tax abatement and tax
174 sales. She then spoke about Act M-18, which relates specifically to Essex Junction charter amendments from
175 2023, which were relatively minor. She also noted a study around county and regional governance. She
176 spoke about S.309, which pertains to walker and biker safety. She spoke about Act 160, around domestic
177 animals at large and Act 167, which contains changes around Animal Control Officers.

178
179 Representative Karen Dolan noted that the idea around some of the Open Meeting Law and Ethics Code
180 requirements was to see some consistency at the state level to initiate a foundation of transparency and
181 openness. She also spoke about the acts related to housing, saying that cities with downtown centers will
182 play a key role in tackling the housing crisis, but the legislature wanted to give municipalities flexibility to
183 determine how they would commit to doing this.
184

185 Representative Lori Houghton spoke about Act 167 of 2022, which directed the Green Mountain Care Board
186 to hire a consultant to do a deep dive of the State's hospital and health system. She noted that many of the
187 cost increases the City is experiencing (along with other municipalities) is due to healthcare. She said that
188 the consultant has completed their assessment of the health system and will be reporting back to the State
189 this fall, to help with making changes to ensure a robust and sustainable healthcare system. She said that
190 on July 29, there will be a presentation at the South Burlington Public Library from this consultant about the
191 Burlington region's healthcare system.
192

193 f. ****Discussion and consideration of an Executive Session to discuss a Contract**
194 See item #9a below.
195

196 6. **CONSENT ITEMS**

197 a. Approve Meeting Minutes: June 26, 2024, and July 8, 2024

198 b. Approve Tax Sale Policy and Delinquent Tax Policy

199 c. Acting as the Cannabis Control Commission: Approve Tier 1 Manufacturing Cannabis on West St

200
201 **Councilor Haney made a motion, seconded by City Council President Chawla, to approve the consent**
202 **agenda as presented. The motion passed 5-0.**
203

204 **7. COUNCILOR COMMENTS & CITY MANAGER REPORT:**

205 City Manager Mahony spoke about opportunities to volunteer and donate related to last week's flooding
206 event. She noted that the City staff are still located at 2 Lincoln Street but are in a different part of the building,
207 and provided instructions on how to access it. City Council President Chawla noted a lifesaving award
208 ceremony for firefighters on July 8th, encouraging people to view the recording of the award ceremony.
209

210 **8. READING FILE**

- 211 a. Check Warrant #24048 6/18/2024
212 b. June Financial Report
213 c. VTrans feedback on Susie Wilson Rd Scoping Study and Rt 15 paving request
214 d. Police Community Advisory Board Minutes 6/18/2024
215 e. Bike Walk Advisory Committee Staff Notes 6/24/2024
216 f. Development Review Board Minutes 6/20/2024
217

218 **9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- 219 a. *An Executive Session may be needed for the appointment of public officials
220

221 **Councilor Miller made a motion, seconded by City Council President Chawla, that the City Council**
222 **enter into executive session to discuss appointment of public officials, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. §**
223 **313(a)(3) to include the City Manager. The motion passed 5-0 at 8: 41 P.M.**
224

225 **Councilor Thibeault made a motion, seconded by City Council President Chawla, to exit executive**
226 **session. The motion passed 5-0 at 8:44 P.M.**
227

228 **City Council President Chawla made a motion, seconded by Councilor Haney, that the City Council**
229 **appoint Andrea Shortsleeve for a three-year term, Leslie Goldring for a term that ends in 2025, and**
230 **Warren Spinner for a three-year term to the Tree Advisory Committee; further, that the City Council**
231 **appoint Luke Brockmeier to the Development Review Board for a three-year term ending in 2027, and**
232 **appoint Kirstie Paschall to the Planning Commission for a term ending in June 2026. The motion**
233 **passed 5-0.**
234

- 235 b. **An Executive Session may be needed to discuss a contract
236

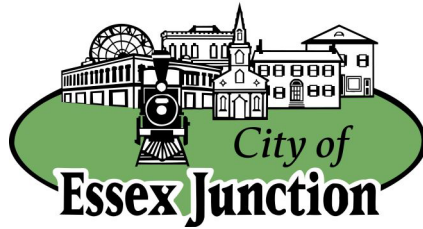
237 **City Council President Chawla made a motion, seconded by Councilor Haney, that the City Council**
238 **make the specific finding that premature disclosure of the contractual matters would place the city**
239 **at a substantial disadvantage and that the City Council enter into executive session to discuss a**
240 **contract, pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(1)(A) to include the City Council and City Manager. The motion**
241 **passed 5-0 at 8:41 P.M.**
242

243 **Councilor Thibeault made a motion, seconded by City Council President Chawla, to exit executive**
244 **session. The motion passed 5-0 at 8:44 P.M.**
245

246 **10. ADJOURN**

247
248 **Councilor Haney made a motion, seconded by Councilor Chawla, to adjourn the meeting. The motion**
249 **passed 5-0 at 8:45 P.M.**
250

251 Respectfully Submitted,
252 Amy Coonradt



Memorandum

To: City Council, Regina Mahony, City Manager
CC: Ron Hoague, Police Chief
From: Susan McNamara-Hill, Clerk
Re: Liquor and Tobacco license applications
Date: August 14, 2024

Issue

The issue is whether the Council will approve the Liquor License application for a business in the City of Essex Junction listed in the August 5, 2024 memorandum from Police Chief Ron Hoague re: "Liquor License Applications" and to give conditional approval to a Tobacco/tobacco substitute license as shown below.

Discussion

2nd class (sells beer and wine for off-premise consumption):

- AGS Vermont Inc. – Essex Junction Market, 101 Pearl Street. This application has been reviewed by the police department and are recommended for approval.

Tobacco/tobacco substitute only:

- Ghazal Saeed – Dollar Plus Treasure, 105 Pearl Street (booth at Champlain Valley Fair). This application is pending approval from the police department.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Council approve the Liquor License applications for the business listed in the August 5, 2024 memorandum re: "Liquor License Applications" and to grant conditional approval of the Tobacco and tobacco substitute license for Ghazal Saeed pending approval by the police department.

DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM



Date: August 5, 2024

To: Regina Mahony
City Manager

From: Ron Hoague
Chief of Police

Subject: Liquor License Applications

The police department conducted records review of the following second class liquor license applicants. There was nothing of concern found:

AGS Vermont Inc.

DBA: Essex Junction Market
101 Pearl Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452

DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM



Date: August 13, 2024

To: Regina Mahony
City Manager

From: Ron Hoague
Chief of Police

Subject: Liquor License Applications

The police department conducted records review of the following tobacco license applicants.
There was nothing of concern found:

Saeed, Ghazal

DBA: Dollar Plus Treasure
105 Pearl Street
Essex Junction, VT 05452

Memo

To: City Council

From: Brad Luck, Recreation & Parks Director

Date: August 2, 2024

Re: Maple Street Playground RFP Award

Last fall the “spider-web” playground structure at Maple Street Park was struck by a tree and damaged beyond repair. In April we put out an RFP to replace it with something similar. We received ~\$72,000 from insurance.

We received bids from five different playground companies. A team of six people at EJRP evaluated the bids using a rubric which included design, fit, pricing, timeline, technical drawings, photos, references, and miscellaneous. Based on the scores, two vendors were selected as finalists – New England Recreation Group and Pettinelli & Associates. We further explored options with them. These were the final proposals considered:

New England Recreation Group

Option 1: \$142,900

Option 2: \$148,400

Pettinelli & Associates:

Option 1: \$148,000

Option 2: \$109,800

Option 3: \$109,800

Pettinelli & Associates Option 3 was selected for \$109,800 – two Berliner Space Balls with Connecting Bridge.

The cost above the insurance amount will be paid for from the Program Fund.

Recommended Motion:

I move that we select the proposal from Pettinelli & Associates with a bid of \$109,800 for two Berliner Space Balls with a Connecting Bridge for the Maple Street Park Playground Project RFP.

Maple Street Park Essex Junction, VT USP.07537



Posts & Tubes



RAL 4005
Blue Lilac

Ropes

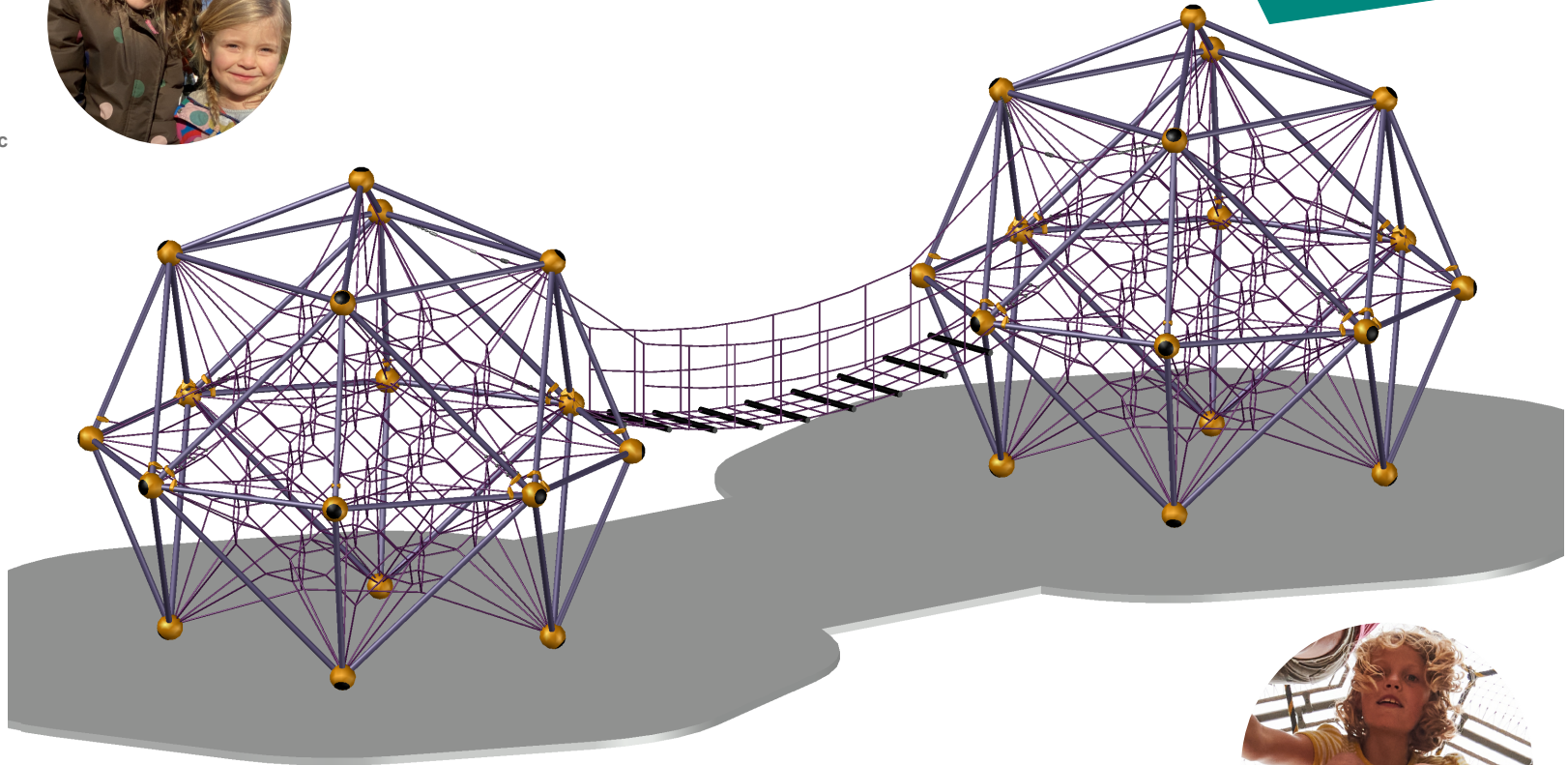


Lilac

Clamps & Balls



RAL 1028
Melon Yellow



Berliner Seilfabrik
Play Equipment Corporation

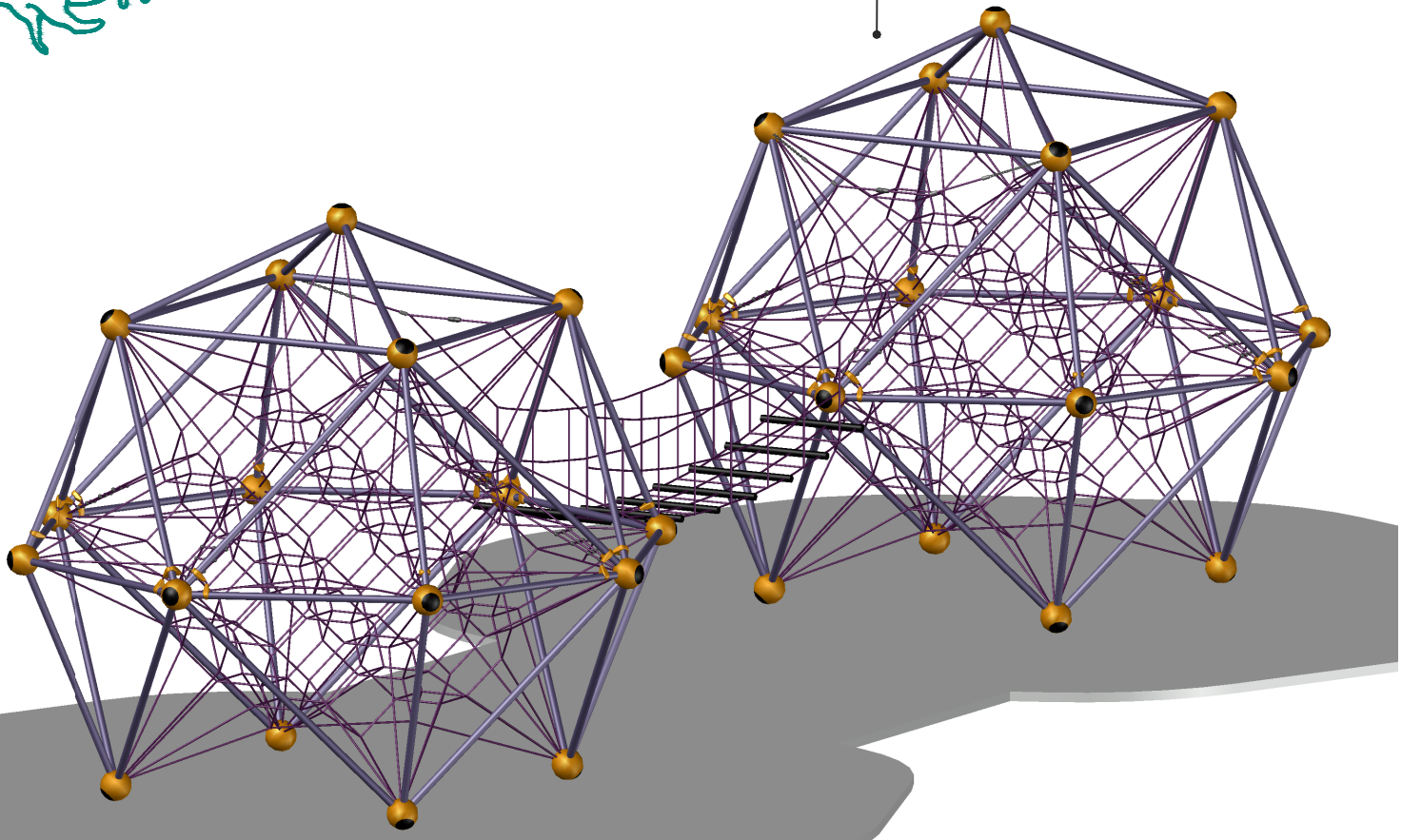
96 Brookfield Oaks Dr., Suite 140,
Greenville, SC 29607

Phone: +1-864-627-1092
Fax: +1-864-627-1178

www.berliner-playequipment.com
info@berliner-playequipment.com



(x2) SPACEBALL L



Univrs Maple Street Park Essex Junction, VT

USP.07537



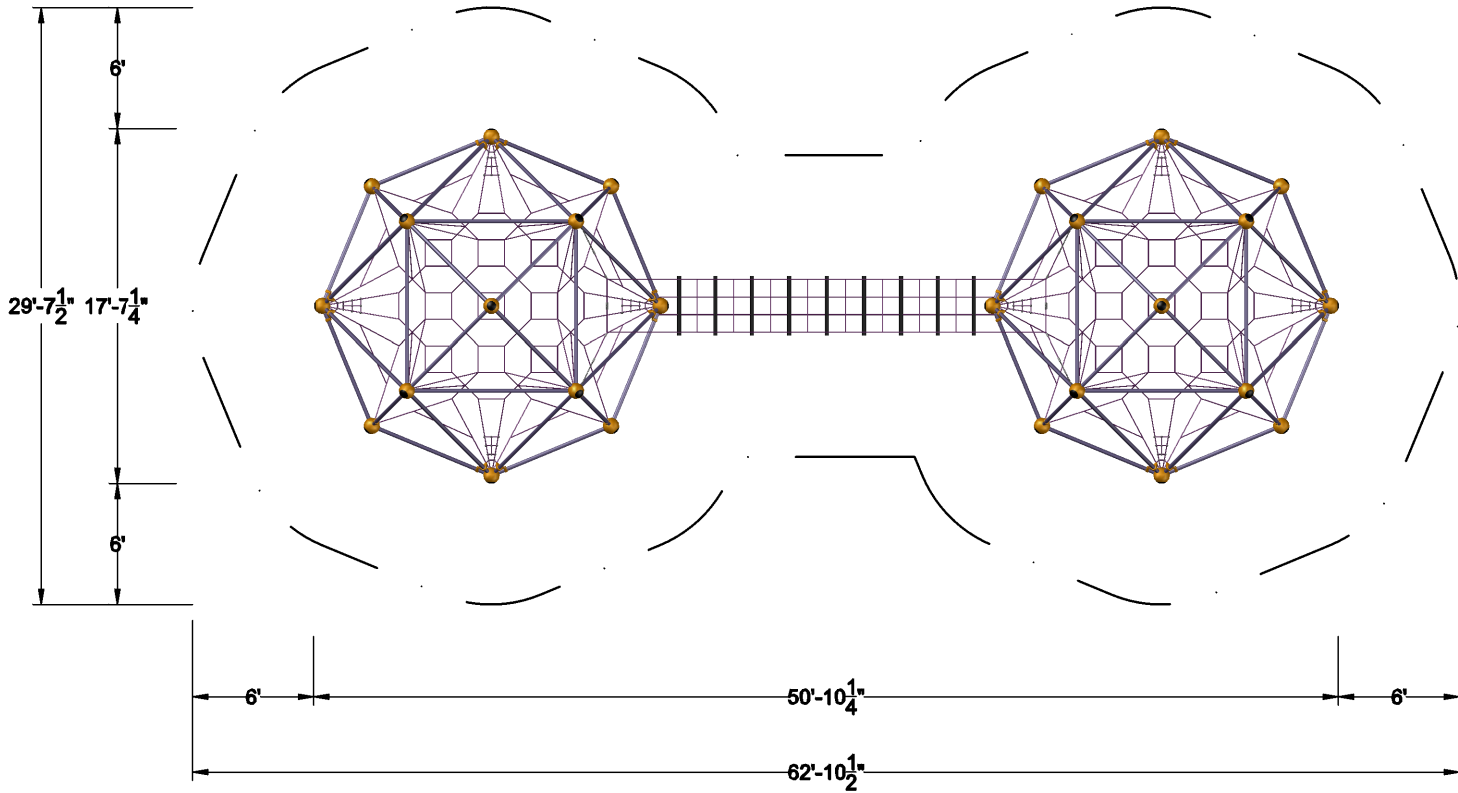
Dimensions (l x w x h) ('-") 17'-7" x 50'-10" x 15'-2" Free height of fall ('-") 6'-6"

Minimum space required ('-") 29'-7" x 50'-10" Surface (sqft) 1403

Format ANSI A (8.5" x 11") Scale N.T.S.

Date 07.01.2024 Name L.Vardanian

Revision Date
1. 3.
2. 4.



Univers Maple Street Park Essex Junction, VT

USP.07537



Dimensions (l x w x h) $('-")17'-7" \times 50'-10" \times 15'-2"$ Free height of fall $('-")6'-6"$

Minimum space required $('-")29'-7" \times 50'-10"$ Surface (sqft) 1403

Format **ANSI A (8.5" x 11")** Scale **N.T.S.**

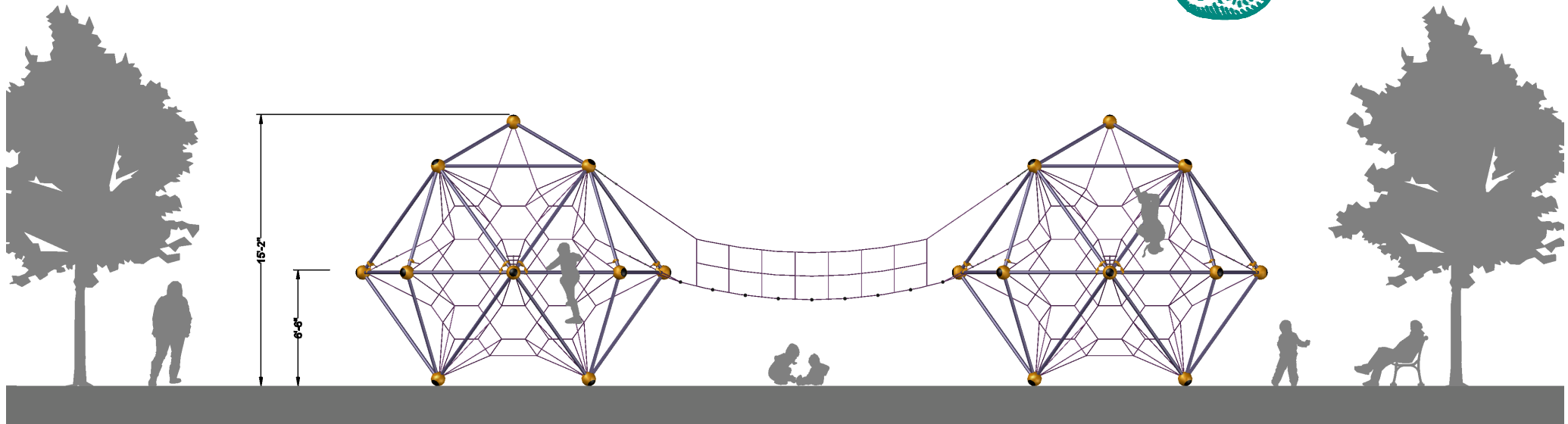
Date **07.01.2024** Name **L.Vardanian**

Revision Date

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Univers Maple Street Park Essex Junction, VT

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Dimensions (l x w x h) ('-") 17'-7" x 50'-10" x 15'-2" Free height of fall ('-") 6'-6"

Minimum space required ('-") 29'-7" x 50'-10" Surface (sqft) 1403

Format ANSI A (8.5" x 11") Scale N.T.S.

Date 07.01.2024 Name L.Vardanian

Revision Date
1. 3.
2. 4.

Please note: Current design is for conceptual purposes only and is subject to change.

City of Essex Junction, VT
Application to Close or Obstruct a Street

I/we hereby make application, as required by the City of Essex Junction, Vermont, to close or obstruct a City street.

CONDITIONS:

1. On the attached form, provide unanimous consent signatures of the households and businesses that abut the section of street to be closed or obstructed. Return the signature form with your completed application to the City Office, 2 Lincoln Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452.
2. Work with the Public Works Director (878-6942 or 878-6944) to obtain road signs to warn drivers of road closing. The applicant will be responsible for picking up the signs from the Public Works garage, erecting the signs and returning them to the Public Works garage in a timely manner.
3. Maintain a twelve-foot clear road in the center of the street in case of emergency.
4. Remove any obstructions immediately if emergency vehicles need to use the street.

Street(s) section to be closed: Tyler Drive from 32-40

Purpose: Neighborhood party

Date: 8-18-24

Hours: 4:00 to 7:30

Name (please print) Stacey DiVenere

Address [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Phone #: [REDACTED]

Email Address [REDACTED]

Signature *Stacey DiVenere*

FOR COMPLETION BY STAFF

The following have been contacted by City Staff and advised of this event.

Police Yes Date: 7/23/24 Fire Yes Date: 7/23/24 Public Works Yes Date: 7/23/24

Comments: _____

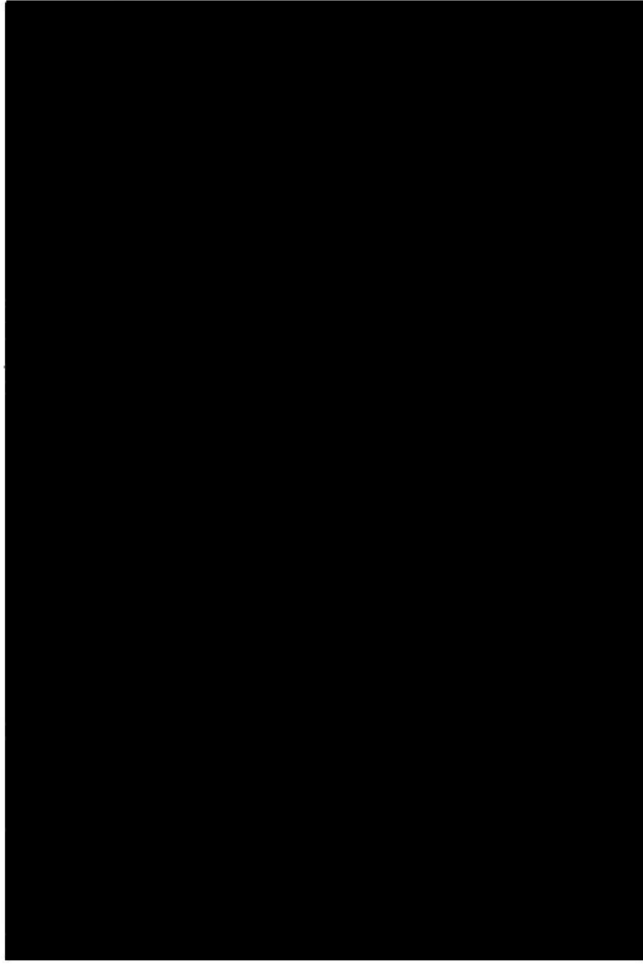
Application approved by the City Council on (date): _____



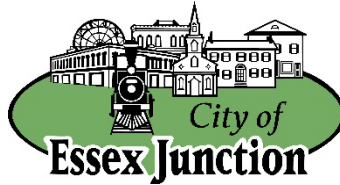
APPLICATION TO CLOSE OR OBSTRUCT A STREET

We, the undersigned, acknowledge that (street name) Tyler Drive will be closed to traffic on (date) 8/18/2024 between the hours of 3:00-7:30 and _____ for the purpose of a block party.

| NAME (Please print) | SIGNATURE |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| AERON BLONDIN | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| SYLVIA SAKIC | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Stuart Cheney | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| MARK CERNOSIA | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Phil & Erica Greenwood | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Paul Beliveau | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Edyta Morgan | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| <i>[Signature]</i> | <i>[Signature]</i> |







Memo

To: Essex Junction City Council
From: Joanne Pfaff, Administrative Assistant
Meeting Date: August 14, 2024
Agenda Item: EHS Homecoming Bonfire

Issue: Garry Scott, Director of Facilities and District Safety, on behalf of Essex High School (EHS), is requesting a burn permit from the City Council to hold their annual Homecoming bonfire.

Discussion: EHS will hold its Homecoming football game on Friday, October 4, 2024, and would like to have the usual pallet bonfire in the fire pit past the north end zone of the football field. There will be a safety perimeter set up with assistance from Essex Police, Essex Junction Fire and EWSD safety and administrative staff. Fire Chief Gaboriault has approved this request and stated that they will have a crew there to support. The Essex Junction Public Nuisance Ordinance Section 614 Open Fires, subpart D: "... The Village Trustees, with the concurrence of the Essex Junction Fire Chief, may approve a burn permit for a community event provided that the Essex Junction Fire Department is present."

Cost: None

Recommendation: It is recommend that the City Council approve the burn permit as authorized by the Essex Junction Public Nuisance Ordinance.

Recommended Motion:

Attachments: None