

 The logo for the City of Burlington, Vermont, features a stylized landscape with a sun, mountains, and water, all enclosed within a circular frame. The text "City of Burlington" is arched above the circle, and "Vermont" is written below it.	<p><u>Project Contacts</u> Burlington Water Resources: Urgent Questions or Emergencies (24/7): 802-863-4501 Non-Urgent Questions: water-resources@burlingtonvt.gov</p>
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February 2023

To: Main Street Property Owners

Re: Coordination for Great Streets – Main Street Project

Dear Burlington Water Resources Customer:

The City of Burlington is preparing for comprehensive renewal of Main Street. The investment will make this critical downtown corridor more resilient, sustainable, and welcoming.

As part of the Great Streets – Main Street Project you will have some direct and indirect impacts to your property as well as your water and sewer connections. As part of the project, Burlington is planning to replace all water mains and water services that are not constructed from copper or plastic on Main Street between South Union Street and Battery Street. Burlington is also planning on replacing select sewer mains and sewer services that are not PVC pipe on Main Street between South Union Street and Battery Street. Please be aware that these water and sewer service improvements for Main Street properties at no cost to property owners go above and beyond standard practice and what is required by City Ordinance. At the end of the project, water service and sewer service pipe ownership will be in accordance with City Ordinance even if new piping is installed as part of the project. This will provide a benefit to Main Street properties as water and sewer line replacements can be quite costly, but we feel this is warranted for a project of this magnitude. Performing these replacements in advance of the roadway reconstruction will save ratepayers and taxpayer investments in the future. In exchange, we need your assistance to compile additional information regarding the water and sewer services for your building.

Detailed information about the project can be found here: greatstreetsbtv.com/main-street

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Property Contact Information

As part of this project, the City and the City's contractor will need to, with adequate advance notice, gain entrance to the water and sewer pipes within your building for possible pre-project inspection as well as to ultimately perform the replacement of the water service to the street side of the meter inside your building. We are requesting that you provide the best contact information (i.e., phone, email) for a property representative who can schedule site visits and provide access to the basement and/utility areas of the property. Please provide this information no later than March 10, 2023.

Proactive Upsizing of Water and Sewer Services Opportunity

The City is in the final design phase for the project and it is important for property owners to review existing water and sewer service connections to ensure they are adequately sized for future use (see the end of this letter for more information). The Great Streets Project Team is not liable for reviewing these requirements for the property owner. Nor is the Great Streets Project Team liable for any required application or permit fees pertaining to your future project. It is the property owner's responsibility to inform the project team in writing by March 10, 2023 of the need to upsize a water or sewer service connection. If upscaling is required then back up information will be requested to justify the proposed size and the property owner will need to pay the incremental cost of upscaling.

Your Building's Fire Service

As part of temporary water planning we are collecting as much available information as possible regarding existing fire services. We are requesting property owners provide the location of where your fire service enters the building and any other known details about the service including material and size as well as expected flows and pressures. Appropriate documentation can include a photo of the tag affixed to the suppression system and/or a copy of your most recent system inspection test results. Please provide this information no later than March 10, 2023.

Roof and Other Drain Pipes

We are requesting property owners to please let us know if you have a separate drainage stand pipe in the building that services a roof drain only (no domestic sewer connections to the pipe) or any other drainage structures (storm drains, yard drains etc.) on your property. As part of this project we will be installing a separate storm sewer pipe and will want to disconnect any stormwater only connections to the combined sewer system. This will reduce the frequency of storm related sewage back-ups. That said, if you have plumbing fixtures that are below the elevation of the surface of the street, we will require the installation of a backwater prevention device which will prevent sewer surcharges from entering your property. This will be a requirement that your building will need to implement (back water prevention devices are often inside the building basement) and is not something the City will install. See the end of this letter for more information about backwater prevention devices. Please provide this information no later than March 10, 2023.

Your Building's Electrical Grounding

We are requesting information about whether or not your building electrical is solely grounded through the existing water service (a common practice when the water service is a metallic material). If the building is solely grounded through the water service since your water service is being replaced with a modern plastic material, in order to remain electrically safe and in compliance with Article 250 of National Electrical Code you will need to have a VT licensed electrician redo the grounding at a different location that is not part of the water service. If that work is not completed prior to the project and your water service is renewed as part of the project, the project will hire a VT licensed electrician to complete the work and the City will charge you for the cost of the VT licensed electrician's work on your Water Resources bill. Please provide this information as soon as possible, but no later than March 10, 2023.

Backflow Protection Devices

We are also providing advance notice that you must have a backflow prevention device on your water service and your fire service, which is a requirement for water services greater than 1.5" and/or fire services. All backflow devices should be inspected and tested annually. If your system does not have a backflow device or has a backflow device that has not been inspected and maintained, the project will hire appropriate personnel to inspect and test your device (if one exists) or install a device if one does not exist to bring it into compliance with the existing ordinance and the City will charge you for this work on your Water Resources bill. Please let us know whether you have backflow devices and submit documentation regarding the last inspection/testing date and pass status (a photo of the inspection tag will suffice). Please provide this information as soon as possible, but no later than March 10, 2023.

In summary we are requesting information on the following items by March 10, 2023:

- Best contact information (i.e., phone, email) for a property representative.
- Inform the project team in writing of the need to upsize a water or sewer service connection or not.
- Fire service rating (flow and pressures) information. Information about where (e.g. Northwest corner, 5' from western face) the service enters the building would also be helpful.
- Whether or not you have a separate drainage stand pipe in the building that services a roof drain only or other drainage structures on your property (storm drains, yard drains etc.)

- Information about whether your building is electrically grounded solely via the existing water service.
- Confirm presence/absence of domestic and fire system backflow preventers and documentation or photos of the testing tag showing an up to date inspection/testing record.

HOW TO SUBMIT THE REQUESTED INFORMATION

We have created a web form to gather the information above. Please visit: forms.gle/5sSbOeBmhkDvgSWq6 (copy and paste link into browser if there are issues clicking it).

Dufresne Group is an engineering consultant assisting the City with water and sewer work for this project. If you have questions, files to share, or have follow up information to send to the project, please contact:

Matt Bissell
mbissell@dufresnegroup.com
802-535-6059
56 Main Street, Springfield, VT 05156

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT WATER AND SEWER SERVICES

- If you are planning to apply for a building change in use, undertake renovations, add an accessory dwelling unit, etc. then you will need to work with a design engineer to determine if your existing pipe sizes will be adequate.
- The Burlington Fire Department has shared this information for your consideration:
 - Any National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 13 sprinkler system with a standpipe requires a minimum of a 6" line.
 - A standpipe system with no sprinkler system requires a minimum of a 4" supply.
 - NFPA 13R systems with no standpipe requires a supply line determined by hydraulic calculations.
 - Any remodeling or change of use in a building may require it to be brought up to current fire protection codes. Every building on Main St. has the potential to be sprinkled and have a standpipe installed if remodeled to the current code.
- The sewer services along this corridor are connected to a combined sewer system and if you have below grade plumbing fixtures then a backwater valve is required. Please review the guidance information available at our website: burlingtonvt.gov/water/Storm-Related-Sewer-Backups

PROJECT IMPACTS

Construction for the Great Streets – Main Street Project will have impacts to traffic, parking and pedestrians. Water line construction work as part of the project will have planned impacts to water services. Advance notice and coordination will be a necessary part of planned water impacts. The project is planning to minimize water impacts by implementing temporary water. Temporary water will feed domestic and fire services for impacted buildings. We are expecting property owners to cooperate with reasonable fire service interruptions at no charge to the City. Additional information about this project will be provided as the project advances.