

CityTalk

Summer 2021

News from Your
Municipal Government

Connect with your City



905-335-7777 | city@burlington.ca | burlington.ca/customerservice
Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

burlington.ca/citytalk

CITY OF
Burlington

Vision 2040

Check out our refreshed Burlington 2014-2040 Strategic Plan to see our collective city vision! City Council unanimously approved the long-term vision for our city's future: Vision 2040.

Vision 2040 is a framework for critical decision-making. It guides how the City manages its resources today to better position our community for the next 25 years.

This refreshed plan keeps the strategic directions consistent. They are:

- A City that Grows
- A City that Moves
- A Healthy and Greener City
- An Engaging City

Moving the plan's strategic directions forward is important. We want our city to see the benefits of City services. We want residents to feel the positive impacts to their quality of life. The City's work should move Burlington towards our vision for the future and our aspirational goals.

Vision 2040 helps Burlington prepare for challenging issues and current and future opportunities.

Burlington continues to deal with an important transition. We are a municipality that finds itself needing to grow in place. Vision 2040 helps address the economic and demographic changes to our city. These need a coordinated and strategic response. The City will track and review the progress of this plan and continue to connect with the community to address our changing city and new realities.

To learn more about Vision 2040 visit burlington.ca/strategicplan.

Tune in to a COVID-19 Town Hall

Since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak, the City of Burlington has hosted nine town hall events to provide updates about what the City is doing to protect the health and safety of our community and to address concerns from the public related to COVID-19.

Hosted by Mayor Marianne Meed Ward, each town hall also features a panel of local leaders from the community and different levels of government who continue to work closely together to help get us through the pandemic.

Visit burlington.ca/townhall for information about upcoming town hall dates and to listen to recordings of past town hall events.

Community Support Fund

The Community Support Fund (CSF) is a streamlined program that joined existing programs to provide financial support to residents and community groups who want to enrich and connect the Burlington community through sport, recreation, art and cultural experiences. The combined fund:

- simplifies the funding process and
- makes it easier for Burlington residents and community groups to access financial supports to enhance their community's wellbeing

The Community Support Fund brings the Community Development Fund, The Neighbourhood Matching Fund and the Arts and Culture Fund together temporarily during COVID-19.

Find out more about how to apply and successful projects at burlington.ca/communitysupportfund.

Local artists express themselves on traffic signal boxes

The City of Burlington public art program has commissioned 12 local artists to create designs that will be installed on traffic signal control boxes throughout the city. The successful artists were selected by a community jury comprised of residents and local artists / arts professionals.

This artwork will form an urban art gallery that can be experienced by residents while still practicing appropriate social distancing this summer.

For more information, visit burlington.ca/publicart and follow [@cityburlington](https://twitter.com/cityburlington) on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for a digital unveiling.

Intersection	Artist
Appleby Line & Longmoor/Pinedale	Teresa Seaton
Brant Street & Baldwin/Victoria	Ryan Snook
Brant Street & Ghent Avenue	Clover Akuoko-Dabankah
Drury Lane & YMCA - IPS	Heather Kuzyk
Guelph Line & Prospect Street	Nicole Clouston & Quintin Teszeri
Maple Avenue & Mapleville Centre	Holly Allerlie
Lakeshore Road & Pearl Street	Jason Diesbourg
Lakeshore Road & Lakeshore Public School	Hannah Doherty
Pinedale & Bridlewood	Janet Horne Cozens
Upper Middle Road & Duncaster/Cavendish	Tamara Kwapich
Upper Middle Road & M.M. Robinson School	Cody Boucher

Celebrate Burlington's Heritage in August

Burlington's Heritage Advisory Committee has put together an exciting lineup of activities in honour of Heritage Week, taking place from Aug. 2 to 8. Learn more about the events, issues and sites that have shaped Burlington.

Working together with a variety of local organizations, including the Burlington Historical Society, Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington Public Library, Burlington Museums, United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (Burlington), Freeman Station, Halton Black History Awareness Society, Halton Region, and David Craig of History Pix, the Heritage Committee has planned a schedule of events that celebrates many aspects of Burlington's heritage, including:

- an online hearth demonstration from Ireland House
- a bike tour of heritage sites in Aldershot [if permitted with COVID-19 restrictions]
- a presentation from Dr. David Galbraith of Royal Botanical Gardens about the City's Honour Roll of Trees
- a virtual Curator Talk on ceramics, with the Art Gallery of Burlington
- a digital Doors Open Burlington, featuring a behind-the-scenes look at some local businesses

Find a full schedule of events at burlington.ca/burlheritage, and follow [@cityburlington](https://twitter.com/cityburlington) on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Focused on improving your customer experience

The City of Burlington is making strategic infrastructure investments with plans to revitalize Civic Square and the first floor of City Hall, at 426 Brant St, this year. Focused on providing an accessible, efficient, one-stop customer experience, the renovations are just one of the ways the City is working to meet its goal, outlined in the Vision to Focus four-year workplan, to deliver customer-centric services with a focus on efficiency and technology transformation.

Civic Square

This spring, the City announced joint funding had been provided for the revitalization of the Civic Square in downtown Burlington, including:

- \$1.9 million from the Government of Canada through the Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada plan
- \$1.6 million from the Government of Ontario

The City of Burlington is investing over \$1.3 million.

Work at Civic Square will include a fully reconstructed outdoor public space featuring:

- the replacement of the existing pavement and stairs with a new, fully accessible and barrier-free surface
- a new lighting system
- increased seating and shaded areas
- a new interactive water feature
- new trees to provide a healthy canopy
- an upgraded outdoor mechanical system
- new public art

This investment will support the City of Burlington's efforts to make Civic Square an accessible, safe and inclusive gathering and event space where festivals and community programming can be offered to all residents and visitors.

City Hall

Inside City Hall, design plans are underway to create a new customer service area on the first floor. The new space will enable staff from Service Burlington and other services areas to provide the public with easy, one-stop access to conduct their City business – one City, one customer. This project is one of 22 recommendations from Mayor Meed Ward's Red Tape Red Carpet Task Force report, focused on identifying and eliminating barriers to growth and new business attraction in Burlington.

New features in the proposed design concept, include:

- a customer service counter for Service Burlington and a new customer service counter for development services where customers can obtain information related to the development application process
- more space for customers, to assist with flow of traffic in the Atrium and privacy at the counters. The new customer area can also double as a community gathering space
- a wider entrance from Locust Street for improved accessibility
- a new front entrance connecting Civic Square with the lobby of City Hall
- more floor space with the addition of a bridge across the opening in the Atrium, leading to the Service Burlington counter

For updates about the progress of these two projects, follow burlington.ca and the City's social media channels, [@cityburlington](https://twitter.com/cityburlington) on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Connect with Community: How to get involved with your local government



As a resident of Burlington, there are many ways for you to get involved with your local government and share your voice on municipal issues.

Be informed

Getting involved means knowing what City Council is talking about.

Get to know the issues at hand.

- Watch city Council and committee meetings - livestreams and recordings are available at burlington.ca/calendar
- Follow along with the agenda at burlington.ca/calendar
- Subscribe for email updates about City news at burlington.ca/enews
- Follow on social media, @cityburlington on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram

Access information

The City promotes an open government and encourages the routine disclosure of information to the public without a formal Freedom of Information Request (FOI)

Have your say

Have a question or concern about your City? Make your voice heard.

- Contact your councillor at burlington.ca/council
- Speak at a committee meeting, to register visit burlington.ca/delegate
- Participate on consultations, polls and surveys at the City's public engagement portal at getinvolvedburlington.ca
- Vote in the municipal election - Oct. 24, 2022
- Submit a petition

Serve your City

- Play a key role in providing advice and feedback to Council and City staff on a variety of issues
- Apply to volunteer on a City board or advisory committee at burlington.ca/committees
- Become a candidate in the next municipal election - Oct. 24, 2022

We're redesigning our website!

The City has begun the process to redesign and modernize our website. We want to make it easier for residents and visitors to find information. The redesign will help people better navigate the site and access online services.

This work is important for the City to continue to meet accessibility standards. These standards are required by the Province of Ontario. We will create a 'mobile responsive website.' A responsive website means whether a visitor to the site is coming from a laptop, tablet or phone, the website automatically changes to fit the device you're reading it on. A review of burlington.ca, burlingtontransit.ca and calendar.burlington.ca is underway. These will move to one seamless site. These sites were launched in 2015 and there have been no major updates since that time.

The multi-phased redesign will continue into 2022. The process will be guided by feedback we receive from residents and visitors to the site.

Throughout the process, residents will have an opportunity to provide feedback and input. Check getinvolvedburlington.ca for up-to-date information on engagement opportunities.