

Office of  
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**PRESS RELEASE**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MAYOR KISS'S CITIZEN BUDGET TASK FORCE TO HOLD FIRST  
MEETING FEBRUARY 28**

Burlington, Vermont, February 26, 2007 -- The first meeting of Mayor Bob Kiss's Special Budget Task Force will take place on February 28 from 5-7 p.m. in Conference Room 12, Floor 1, City Hall. Mayor Kiss appointed his first special budget task force last spring to assist in the development of the Mayor's recommended FY07 budget. The Task Force has been expanded from last year to include representatives of all seven wards of the City as well as the five Neighborhood Planning Assemblies (NPAs).

Citizen budget committees are utilized to advise local governments in many cities across the country. They are based on the premise that participatory budgeting results in more equitable public spending, improved satisfaction of basic needs, greater government transparency and accountability, increased levels of public participation, and better democratic and civic experience for residents.

"Last year's special budget task force made recommendations which improved the FY07 budget and suggested ways of addressing the FY08 budget," said Mayor Kiss. "I'm pleased and appreciative that five members from last year have agreed to serve again. This year's expanded task force brings more residents and more ideas directly into the process."

In all, the Task Force will have 24 members drawn from the Burlington community. Five members of the original seven-member budget task force have agreed to serve again; five were elected by their NPAs; and 14 are from a ward-based pool of 39 applicants, with two chosen randomly from each ward.

The recommendations of last year's task force can be found on Mayor Kiss's website at:  
<http://www.ci.burlington.vt.us/mayor/>.

Members of the FY08 Citizen Budget Task Force:

**Former members of the FY07 Budget Task Force**

Lindol Atkins  
Jessica Oski  
Gene Richards  
Brian Searles  
Nancy Wood

**NPA Representatives**

Richard Hillyard  
Anna Telensky  
Larry Walters  
Roger Marshall  
Michael Rooney

**Ward-based Representatives**

Judy Rosenstreich  
Tom Derenthal  
Erik Hoekstra  
Pike Porter  
Emily Stebbins  
Bryan Techau  
Nancy Brooks  
Eric Bradford  
BJ Rogers  
David Don  
Michelle Packard  
Keith Downes  
Alan Sousie  
Jean O' Sullivan