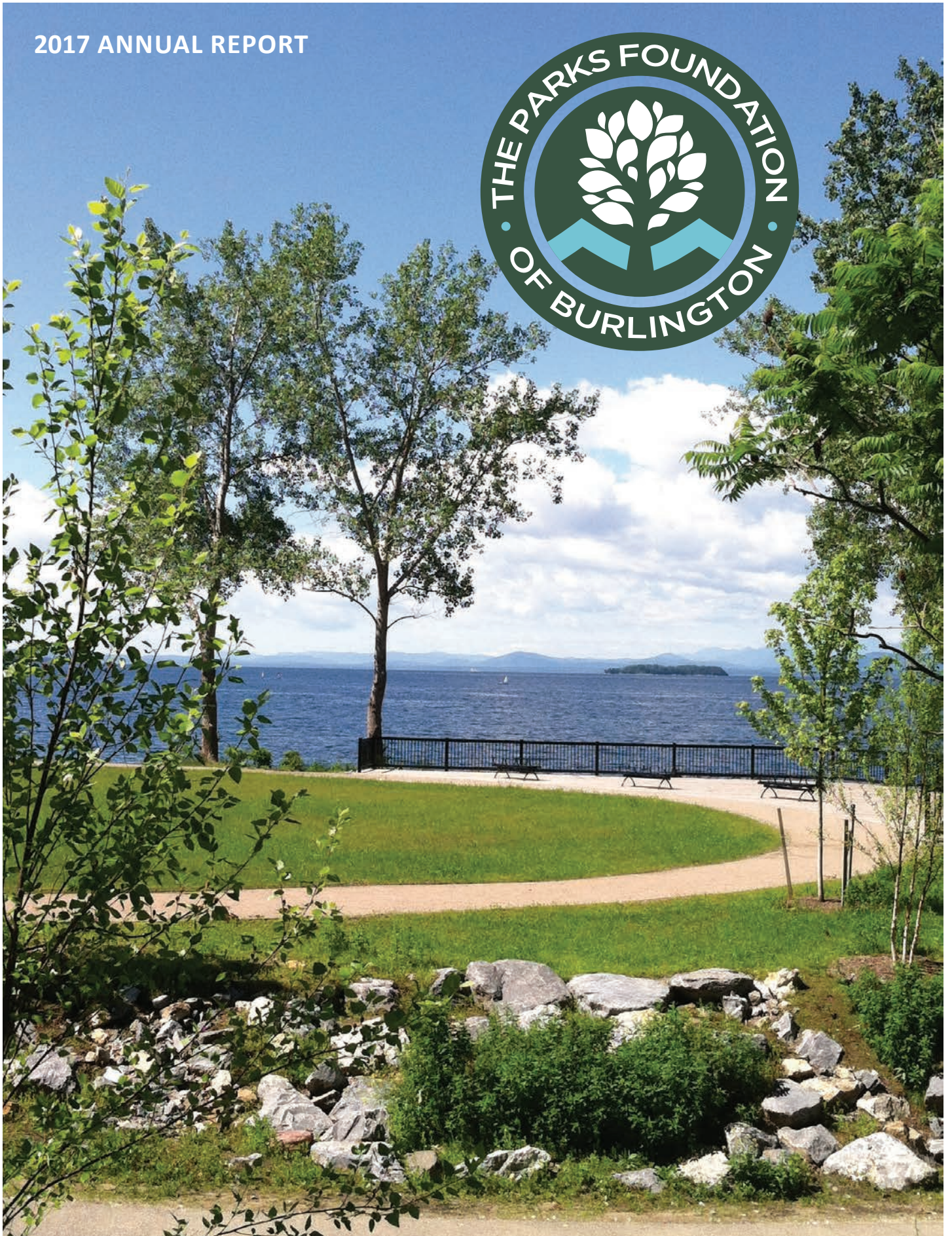


2017 ANNUAL REPORT



*The Parks Foundation of Burlington seeks to inspire the spirit of stewardship and philanthropy for our community's treasured parks and recreation assets for our residents and visitors.*



## INTRODUCTION

The Parks Foundation of Burlington supports the Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront, the Department that maintains the City's diverse recreational assets and provides excellent services that help sustain the high quality of life that makes our community such a special place. These assets, programs, and events attract tens of thousands of visitors and contribute to our economic base. Without the City's parks, waterfront resources, bike path, events and recreational activities, Burlington would be a very different, and much less desirable, place to live and visit.

**The Parks Foundation of Burlington is a separate entity**, independent from the City of Burlington and the Burlington Parks, Waterfront & Recreation Department. The Foundation is a tax-exempt non-profit charity governed by its Board of Directors. Its purpose is to seek opportunities to enhance park assets and programs through specific initiatives. It is not designed to fill budgetary shortfalls in the Parks Department's operating expenses that are the responsibility of the City.

The Foundation seeks stewardship and philanthropic opportunities for self-sustaining support, including in-kind contributions that will not impose a burden on the Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront's annual operating budget. It solicits private contributions and accepts planned gifts that support improvements to our city's recreational resources. The Foundation also applies for grants for which government agencies are not eligible. As an entity separate from the City, the Foundation also invests and manages endowment funds.

Inspiration for the establishment of a dedicated Parks Foundation comes from many municipalities and states across the country that are successfully increasing awareness of the importance of parks and recreational programming while at the same time attracting philanthropic support.



**Wildflowers in bloom at the new overlook in the Urban Reserve.**



**Family enjoys the fitness station together.**



**Newly rehabilitated bike path near Starr Farm Rd.**



**Bike riders enjoy the new scenic views of the realigned path in the Urban Reserve.**

# YOUR FOUNDATION DOLLARS CONTINUE TO TRANSFORM THE BIKE PATH!

Thanks to the hundreds of individuals and businesses who have donated to the Parks Foundation, the entire path from the Skate Park to North Beach has been totally rehabilitated as envisioned and promised when we began this project two years ago.

The Bike Path now runs along Lake Champlain with commanding views of Lake Champlain and the Adirondacks. It has been widened to eleven feet with two-foot sure-pack shoulders on each side. There are three exercise stations along this section of the path, ending with a large pause place park at the end of the Urban Reserve. This new park has become a destination for visitors and residents who wish to take a fifteen-minute walk from the Boathouse to view the spectacular scenery along our shoreline.

The Parks Foundation used \$350,000 to fund this phase of rehabilitation for this section of the Bike Path. If you have not visited this newly constructed area, please take time to do so! It is truly a wonderful improvement to the original path built over the old railroad bed. Further, the Path now extends up to the original elevated path along North Beach to the Campground, and is also widened with complementary railings on the western edge preserving even more views to the west.

By the end of this year, the entire path from North Beach to the bridge at the Winooski River will be widened and rehabilitated, thanks to the residents of Burlington who passed the Infrastructure Bond in March of 2016. Construction has been completed from Shore Rd. to the bridge, and the final section of this phase from North Beach to Shore Rd. will be completed by December 2017.

Your Foundation dollars will continue to fund **three new pause place parks** (shown right) along this newly rehabilitated section. Construction will begin in the spring of 2018 on pause place parks at the North Shore overlook, the Leddy Park intersection, and at Starr Farm. Overall these three additional parks will allow users to more easily access better views and park facilities with bike stations, signage and kiosks. The cost of these three new amenities on the Path will be totally funded by your Parks Foundation donations. We expect the costs to be in the neighborhood of \$400,000.

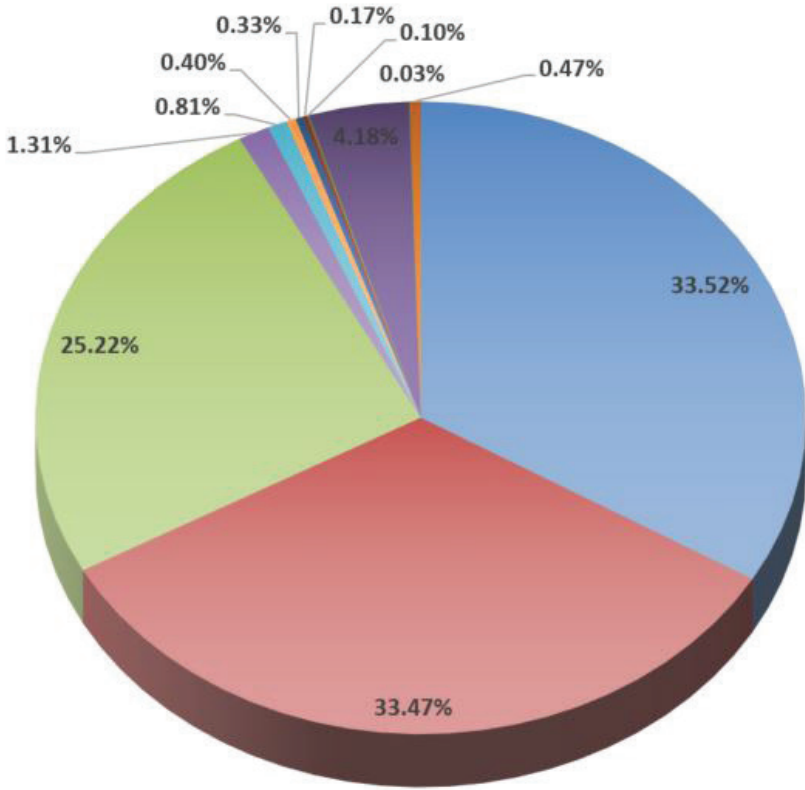
So, it's been a busy, productive year for the Foundation. Our work has focused on the Bike Path. Yet we continue to receive additional donor-designated gifts given to enhance and improve other facilities and parklands in the city. To all who have given to our signature project, the Bike Path, thank you. To those who have given for other projects, the Foundation will continue to complete that work, just as we have done with our treasure along the lake, the Bike Path. Your gifts are leaving a lasting legacy for generations to come, improving the quality of life here for everyone. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Parks Foundation, thank you.

John Bossange  
Chair, Parks Foundation



Conceptual designs for the new Pause Places for 2018.

# PARKS FOUNDATION FUNDING SUMMARY



Total pledges & gifts: \$3,073,102

- CITY HALL PARK: \$1,030,000
- BURLINGTON BIKE PATH REHABILITATION: \$1,028,457
- CYNTHIA AND ROBERT HOEHL PARK: \$775,000
- SKATEPARK REPLACEMENT: \$40,130
- WATERFRONT WASTE RECEPTACLES: \$25,000
- CEMETERY IMPROVEMENTS: \$12,338
- ROOSEVELT PARK: \$10,000
- MILLER CENTER FLOOR REHABILITATION: \$5,190
- RECREATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND: \$3,000
- CHAMPLAIN SENIOR CENTER: \$128,432
- GENERAL PARK SUPPORT: \$1,000
- BATTERY PARK FLAG: \$14,555



Parks Foundation board members and Mayor Miro Weinberger honor John Ewing (in green) at dedication ceremony at the new Overlook in the Urban Reserve.

# MORE IMPACT OF YOUR 2017 FOUNDATION DOLLARS...



The new 78' tall flagpole at Battery Park



Improvements to Lakeview Cemetery



The new home for the Senior Center at the ONE Community Center (formerly St. Joseph School)



Scholarship funds support youth summer camp programs



New flooring, paint and other improvements for the new Champlain Senior Center.

## BURLINGTON PARKS FOUNDATION'S NEW PROJECT: A COALITION IS FORMED TO IMPROVE CONSERVED LAND!

The Burlington Parks Foundation has formed a partnership with the Diocese, the Lake Champlain Land Trust and the Burlington's Parks and Recreation Department to conserve the land bisected by the bike path, including the shoreline of Rock Point to the west and the Arms Forest to the east. The partnership is now called the Rock Point and Arms Forest Coalition and includes not only the four principal partnership organizations mentioned above, but also the Fellowship of the Wheel, the North Avenue Alliance Church, the Burlington Conservation Board, and the Killarney Drive Neighborhood Association.

The Coalition has as its mission to protect the lands bordering Burlington's Bike Path and Lake Champlain, including old growth forests, unique geology and wild life habitats, and to provide guided public recreation and educational opportunities for the quiet enjoyment and health of all residents and visitors. The goal is to permanently protect this unique area, create safe access points from the Bike Path and local neighborhoods, and improve the worn-down trails of this heavily used urban natural area of 180 spectacular acres.

More to come!

# CONTRIBUTORS TO THE PARKS FOUNDATION OF BURLINGTON

(As of 12/1/17)

The Board gratefully acknowledges the following supporters:

## -Individuals-

Jan and Harris Abbott  
Clark and Lois Adams  
Peter D. Alden Family  
in memory of Peter Alden  
Judd & Mollie Allen  
Steve Allen  
Bonnie Bacon  
Scott and Kate Baldwin  
Michael Barsotti  
Doris Bedinger  
Marjorie Berger  
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David and Frances Mount  
Jane Murphy  
Sarah Muyskens and Michael Green  
Cynthia Norman  
Janet Nunziata



Construction crews remove the old path.



**New sub-base almost ready for new pavement.**

Amy Otten  
 Anne Paradiso  
 Tim Parsons and Anne Judson  
 Sylvia Patnaude  
 Joe Perrotto  
 David Peters  
 Antonio B. and Rita M. Pomerleau  
 David Porteous and Vicky Smith  
 Peter Potts  
 Mary Powell and Mark Brooks  
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 Robert Warrington  
 Daniel Weber  
 Christine and Stan Weinberger  
 Miro and Stacy Weinberger  
 John Wheeler  
 Jane Whitmore  
 Elizabeth Whyte  
 Jeanne Winter  
 Stephanie/ Darren Young/Springer  
 Marguerite Zabriskie

**-Organizations-**

375 North Ave LLC  
 BC Community Housing, LLC  
 Sissette Properties  
 Burton  
 B2 Computer Consultant  
 Center for Community Leadership  
 Champlain Senior Center  
 Coffee Enterprises  
 Courtyard Burlington Harbor  
 David & Antionette Arms Trust  
 Dunkiel and Saunders Law Office  
 Fletcher Allen Foundation  
 Friends of Lakeview Cemetery  
 Hotel Vermont  
 IBM Employee Charitable  
 Contribution Campaign  
 JMM and Associates  
 Lake Champlain Transportation  
 Larkin Realty in memory  
 of John Larkin  
 Local Motion  
 LZ Francis Foundation  
 Main Street Property Services

Merchants Bank  
 Northfield Savings Bank  
 Peoples United  
 Pest Pro, Inc  
 Queen City Ghostwalk  
 Run Vermont  
 Saint John's Club  
 Securities Finance Trust Company  
 Seventh Generation, Inc.  
 The Converse Home  
 Twincraft Skincare  
 United Way of Northwest Vermont  
 University of Vermont Medical Center  
 Westport Hospitality



**Paving the new 11" wide path.**



**Completed section approaching the Winooski River Bridge.**



Walkers stroll past the dedication stone honoring major Foundation donors.

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## SUPPORT YOUR PARKS WITH A DONATION TO THE PARKS FOUNDATION.

Thank you for considering a tax deductible contribution in support of Burlington's Parks. We believe that charitable giving should be as easy, and as enjoyable, as a walk in the park. Donations can be made online or by mail. If at any time you have questions about the Parks Foundation of Burlington or how to make a donation, please contact John Bossange, Chair, at [jbossange@parksfoundation.org](mailto:jbossange@parksfoundation.org) or (802) 578-7468.

I am/We are pleased to support the Parks Foundation of Burlington with a gift/pledge in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

**TYPE OF GIFT:** Please select one of the following:

- THIS IS A ONE-TIME, OUTRIGHT GIFT:  
My/Our gift is enclosed. Make checks payable to the "Parks Foundation of Burlington." Credit card gifts can be made online.
- THIS IS A PLEDGE TO BE PAID IN MULTIPLE PAYMENTS AS FOLLOWS:  
My/Our Pledge is payable in equal installments of \$\_\_\_\_\_ beginning \_\_\_\_\_(month) for \_\_\_\_\_years.  
Please specify a payment period of three years or less.

**PLEASE SEND TO:** Parks Foundation of Burlington, 645 Pine Street, Suite B, Burlington, VT 05401

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

[www.parksfoundationburlington.org](http://www.parksfoundationburlington.org)