Hello,

I am a Burlington Native and an early and on-going customer of Burlington Telecom. Also, I have pledged money for the KBTL offer to Keep Burlington Telecom Local.

Please take the long view and make this critical infrastructure a true Burlington asset protected from the market driven profit model.

Keep it a CO-OP with all profits going into improving the system and to the residents of Burlington.

Best Regards,
Mark Leopold
Hello BT feedback readers -

I am writing as a long time Burlington resident, homeowner out in Ward 7, and BT customer. I think the city should go with the KBTL bid in order to keep one of the major original BT goals in place --- local control.

In addition, a co-op model allows for far more engagement and accountability, than a privately controlled, out of state entity who is only using profit margins as their benchmarks.

Please don't make this about who can offer the most money for this bid on BT. The value of BT is far more than the money, it comes from the local commitment to keep the service affordable and accountable to the Burlington customers.

Thank you,
Llu

::
Llu Mulvaney-Stanak
, M.Ed.
::
Media Maker, Digital Marketer,
Producer of Culture & Events
:: 802.999.5555 (mobile)
:: Pronouns: They/their or just my name.
:: djllu.com
@djllu
Hello, I am a Burlington resident in Ward 7. I strongly support moving Keep BT Local Coop's bid to the next phase and continuing to work with KBTL in the final round of negotiations. We as a community need to look closely at the long term landscape and the multifaced value this co-op model would bring to our amazing city. We have tremendous investment and energy to make this a truly Burlington co-op, and this model is supported by so many of Vermont's most skilled and experienced business and civic leaders who have been at the forefront of making Burlington (and Vermont) the place that it is. Let's not be short-sighted and count this bid out.

Kate Van Wagner
Roseade Parkway
I live in Ward 2. I strongly support KBTL! If Citibank is a major stumbling block, can't an agreement be reached whereby KBTL pays Citibank an amount over time that makes the KBTL offer more competitive with the others?
It is important to understand that Schurz Communications favors metered internet usage. See an article of one example here:


Schurz Communications is the parent company of both Antietam Cable and The Herald-Mail.

The comments at the end of the article also demonstrate that their customers are not happy at all with the level of service.

-israel

Israel Smith
Smith Buckley Architects
www.sbavt.com
802-540-0323

---

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
https://www.avast.com/antivirus
Dear Councillors,

I support the Keep BT Local Coop's bid to buy Burlington Telecom. I have been a subscriber from its get-go, and I have often thanked our "lucky stars" in Burlington that BT was here as an alternative to the mega-media companies like Verizon or Xfinity.

So PLEASE vote to keep Burlington Telecom under local coop management. They are currently doing a fine job and require no out-of-state mega-corporation to subsume them. Keeping BT local will also mean that its profits will maximally contribute to the local Vermont economy rather than being syphoned off to a host of other national and international projects and profiteers that we may not support.

Keep BT for Burlingtonians!

Many many thanks,

Joanna Rankin
(860-6828)
We need to keep Burlington Telecom locally owned. The other bidders go against the values we hold here.

LisaAnn Oberbrunner
Please consider the LONG TERM benefits of keeping a portion of Burlington Telecom in local control. This is an extremely valuable city asset.

Judith L. Allard
221 Woodlawn Road
Citizens investment in Burlington Telecom was much more than the Seventeen Million Dollars crookly transferred by Johnathan Leopold as City Treasurer. Lots of time, energy and effort was spent by citizens, and should not be given to out of state millionaires, even if Miro thinks it is a better price. Margaret Murray
It's difficult to want to support a service with your tax or other dollars when that service is not available in your neighborhood for you to access should you choose. BT is not available in our condo community.

Bonnie Bourdon
Ledgewood East condos
At 80 Austin Drive
Jordan Redell

From: Mayor's Office
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 4:08 PM
To: BT Feedback
Subject: FW: Keep Burlington Telecom Local

-----Original Message-----
From: Cleary Buckley [mailto:cb@sbavt.net]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 4:00 PM
To: Kurt Wright <kwright@burlingtonvt.gov>; David Hartnett <dhartnett@burlingtonvt.gov>
Cc: Sharon Bushor <sbushor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Maxwell Tracy <mtracy@burlingtonvt.gov>; Sara Moore <smoore@burlingtonvt.gov>; Chip Mason <cmason@burlingtonvt.gov>; Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ali Dieng <adieng@burlingtonvt.gov>; Adam Roof <ARoof@burlingtonvt.gov>; Richard Deane <rdeane@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jane Knodell <jknodell@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>; BT Feedback <btfeedback@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Keep Burlington Telecom Local

Councilors Wright and Hartnett,

I am writing to reiterate my support for the Keep BT Local bid to buy Burlington Telecom. I read the Mayor's press release casting this bid in a negative light, and am very discouraged by his position. From my perspective, our Mayor appears to lack imagination and a willingness to think creatively about how to best serve our community. The ability to claim a political victory in resolving the issue, does not warrant selling a valuable asset for a relatively small monetary payback, to a company that has no ties to our community and who is unlikely to consider anything other than profit in their decision making process. If we sell to Ting or Schurz, they get a great deal, Mayor Weinberger gets to claim a political victory as he heads into elections for higher offices, and the taxpayers and BT subscribers get hurt.

Please do not eliminate Keep BT Local's bid from consideration. This proposal has the best potential for the residents of our city to recoup and benefit for the significant investment we have made in Burlington Telecom.

Thank you for your time and service.

Cleary Buckley
Keep BT Local member
26 Wildwood Drive
Burlington, VT 05408
802-399-9451
Councilors Wright and Hartnett,

I am writing to reiterate my support for the Keep BT Local bid to buy Burlington Telecom. I read the Mayor’s press release casting this bid in a negative light, and am very discouraged by his position. From my perspective, our Mayor appears to lack imagination and a willingness to think creatively about how to best serve our community. The ability to claim a political victory in resolving the issue, does not warrant selling a valuable asset for a relatively small monetary payback, to a company that has no ties to our community and who is unlikely to consider anything other than profit in their decision making process. If we sell to Ting or Schurz, they get a great deal, Mayor Weinberger gets to claim a political victory as he heads into elections for higher offices, and the taxpayers and BT subscribers get hurt.

Please do not eliminate Keep BT Local's bid from consideration. This proposal has the best potential for the residents of our city to recoup and benefit for the significant investment we have made in Burlington Telecom.

Thank you for your time and service.

Cleary Buckley
Keep BT Local member
26 Wildwood Drive
Burlington, VT 05408
802-399-9451
Councilors –

I know all too well the loud voices that speak mostly for themselves and from an emotional, non-pragmatic, viewpoint. I also know all too well of the silent community that is just trying to go about their lives, make ends meet, and are intimidated by those who work to silence their speech.

I ask that you speak for the latter in your decision on Burlington Telecom. This should be a business decision that is in the best interest of those that will feel the financial brunt of your decision. The people of Burlington have been very generous over the last year in approving both the city and school bonds but I believe we have really come to the end of what can be absorbed by renters and homeowners alike without them having to cut disposable income meant for their family enjoyment.

Please get the best financial deal for all of Burlington. Continue to help to stabilize our taxes and community liabilities and keep us going in this new direction of financial accountability and wellness.

Thank you for your time –

Mark Porter
I was very disappointed to see the Mayor write-off the only opportunity left for local ownership of Burlington Telecom. The KeepBTLocal bid is indeed viable. Instead of shrugging shoulders at the last chance to keep the long-term value of this asset in the local economy, the administration should be finding solutions to any obstacles to success.

Remember that the number one surveyed criteria is local ownership.

III. The Criteria

A. Survey Results

The survey asked respondents to rank in order of importance which outcomes/qualities are most important in a sale of BT. Based on survey responses, the following outcomes/qualities are listed in order of importance:

- Local ownership

On 10/6/2017 5:07 PM, Israel Smith wrote:

Hi everyone. I'm writing to support the Keep BT Local Coop bid for Burlington Telecom. This is a long email. Thanks in advance for your attention on this critical matter.

Let me start off by saying that what I think gets lost in this debate is that this is a push to privatize a public asset. The reason that asset was built to begin with was to accrue benefits over the long term for the City and its residents. One of my top 10 reasons for moving to Burlington rather than some other city over a decade ago was the fact the Burlington had freed itself from the corporate monopolization of telecom. Selling to a non-local, private entity is a huge step backward for this City because it sacrifices numerous long-term benefits in order to make short term gain.

The Coop bid satisfies all of the criteria set forth by the Burlington Telecom Advisory Board. The most important criteria identified in surveys was to keep BT under local ownership.

The bids need to be evaluated in terms of their long-term value - all the dividends that will be paid to Burlington subscribers and members over decades to come should be accounted for. The other bidders cannot match the Coop bid in this area because after the initial purchase, all dividends will accrue to corporate shareholders outside of Burlington and VT rather than to the
local economy.

Going with Ting/Tucrows or Schurz is ultimately going to end with a monopoly situation. The end-game for any of these companies is to maximize their profit, which at some point means they will sell to a bigger player, or to an intermediary who will then sell to a major telecom company like Comcast.

The BT Coop would start out with 7,000 members. The cooperative model has been proven to work starting with many fewer members. This is a big advantage. All subscribers would have a stake in it. This sort of wide-scale buy-in and engagement is what creates the energy at City Market. People are invested in the success and improvement of the coop.

Burlington Telecom can support $10 Million in debt. It currently earns more than $3 Million a year. The 14% interest on that loan will be quite a bit less than the rate of return on investment expected by the financial backers of Ting or Schurz. That's why Ting and Schurz have refused to say what kinds of returns they expect. They know it won't look good to reveal that they hope to take 20% or more off the top every year - forever. The coop will have its loan paid off in ten years. After that all benefits go to the coop and it's members. All that money stays in the local economy.

I want to address the management experience question. I think it is being framed out there in a way that is not very accurate.

I think KBTL has said they would prefer to keep Dorman & Fawcett on. D&F have done a good job, but they don't walk on water. If they are not available there are many other capable options for professional consultants like them that can be hired on. The KBTL board members don't need experience running a telecom any more than the City Market Coop board members need experience running a grocery store. Coop boards, like corporate boards, are elected to make thoughtful executive decisions about the big picture, and to hire the right people to run things day-to-day.

The KBTL board will be composed of local coop members elected by the other members to make big picture decisions in the interests of the coop and its members (basically Burlington).

Let's look at the boards of the other two bidders:

The Shurz Communications board of directors doesn't seem to have telecom experience - see for yourself here https://www.schurz.com/board-of-directors/

The Tucows/Ting board is also short on telecom experience - maybe a little more "tech" experience, but not telecom operation and management.
https://www.schurz.com/board-of-directors/

So the idea that the Coop board has less experience running a telecom than these others is just silly. All three would have the same task in front of them: to put a capable management team in place. Current BT staff have proven experience running a telecom - more than the other bidders for sure. The Coop would likely have them continue and supplement their ranks as needed.

-israel

PS: I remember when TUCOWS (The Ultimate Collection of Windows Software) started. It
was a (not very good as I recall) shareware software download site back in the early 90's. It was quickly bought-up by a larger company, who retained its name for itself. If you look at the history of Tucows [http://www.tucows.com/about-us/history/](http://www.tucows.com/about-us/history/)

You can see that it is essentially a company hell-bent on expansion and growth into a diversified tech-based conglomerate. I really don't want to see Burlington become a part of that. Or more likely - be sold by them to someone else less desirable down the line because they need the cash to pursue their next big acquisition.
Please accept the attached CLIC letter of recommendation regarding TING (Ting Internet). As our letter details, we would like to emphasize the national leadership role TING Internet has played by “walking the talk” in their support for truly local community driven public-private fiber network deployments. TING Internet has not only repeatedly created public/private partnerships that prioritize a strong community role, but it has also been a strong advocate, at both the national and state level, for local choice and competitive local broadband markets.

Sincerely,

Catharine Rice
Project Director

www.localnetchoice.org
October 10, 2017

City of Burlington
149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

Dear City of Burlington officials:

On behalf of the Coalition of Local Internet Choice, (CLIC) I would like to emphasize the national leadership role TING Internet has played by “walking the talk” in their support for truly local community driven public-private fiber network deployments. TING Internet has not only repeatedly created public/private partnerships that prioritize a strong community role, but it has also been a strong advocate, at both the national and state level, for local choice and competitive local broadband markets.

CLIC is a national coalition of both public and private sector interests who support the authority of local communities to make the broadband Internet choices that are essential for economic competitiveness. Our common belief is that local communities, through their elected officials, must have the right and opportunity to choose for themselves the best broadband Internet infrastructure for their businesses, institutions and residents. We believe that federal broadband policies must prioritize local choice and provide local communities full, unhindered authority to choose their own broadband future.

Over the last three years, TING has been a strong partner in our efforts to advocate at the national and state levels and to educate local communities on the role they can play in providing access to modern Internet infrastructure. In October 2016, in recognition of TING’s exemplary support for empowering local communities, we honored its CEO, Elliott Noss, with our Local Internet Choice Private Sector Champion award. Mr. Noss was selected due to his and his company’s unparalleled willingness to deploy gigabit Internet connectivity through creative partnerships with local communities, as exemplified in Westminster, Maryland, Holly Springs, North Carolina, and Greater Sandpoint, Idaho, and for standing with CLIC when state legislatures have attempted to prohibit these kinds of public/private partnerships.
In the 2017 legislative session, TING signed on to our coalition’s letters utilized in five state legislatures, which either supported new legislation to permit local community provisioning of broadband, or opposed incumbent-sponsored legislation to prohibit even public-private broadband partnerships. In Virginia in particular, TING was the only private-company whose officials spoke in the legislative committee hearing in strong opposition to legislation that would have curtailed access to modern broadband for all of rural Virginia and beyond. We won that battle in no small part due to TING’s success in showing that local Internet choice benefits both the public and private sectors and is not public versus private matter.

We also have noticed that TING is not a company that steps in and then out of a community. TING steps in, stays put, and then invests in community building. For example, in Westminster, MD, TING has played a critical role in establishing the community’s “Collaboratory,” and sponsoring numerous community events, such as Civic Innovation Day in Charlottesville, VA. TING also typically includes the community’s name in identifying the company through which it operates (e.g., Ting-Westminster, Ting-Charlottesville, Ting-Centennial).

From our national perspective, we believe that TING’s approach is a true public/private partnership that seeks to benefit all concerned. We are glad to showcase it whenever possible.

Sincerely,

Catharine Rice
CLIC Project Director
From: mark_porter [mailto:mark_porter@alumni.iu.edu]  
Sent: Monday, October 09, 2017 6:02 PM  
To: Karen Paul <kpaul@burlingtonvt.gov>; Richard Deane <rdeane@burlingtonvt.gov>; Joan Shannon <jshannon@burlingtonvt.gov>; Sharon Bushor <sbushor@burlingtonvt.gov>; Kurt Wright <kwright@burlingtonvt.gov>; Chip Mason <cmason@burlingtonvt.gov>; Adam Roof <ARoof@burlingtonvt.gov>; Jane Knodell <jknodell@burlingtonvt.gov>; David Hartnett <dhartnett@burlingtonvt.gov>; Maxwell Tracy <mtracy@burlingtonvt.gov>; Sara Moore <smoore@burlingtonvt.gov>; Ali Dieng <adieng@burlingtonvt.gov>  
Cc: Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>  
Subject: Burlington Telecom

Councilors –

I know all too well the loud voices that speak mostly for themselves and from an emotional, non-pragmatic, viewpoint. I also know all too well of the silent community that is just trying to go about their lives, make ends meet, and are intimidated by those who work to silence their speech.

I ask that you speak for the latter in your decision on Burlington Telecom. This should be a business decision that is in the best interest of those that will feel the financial brunt of your decision. The people of Burlington have been very generous over the last year in approving both the city and school bonds but I believe we have really come to the end of what can be absorbed by renters and homeowners alike without them having to cut disposable income meant for their family enjoyment.

Please get the best financial deal for all of Burlington. Continue to help to stabilize our taxes and community liabilities and keep us going in this new direction of financial accountability and wellness.

Thank you for your time –

Mark Porter
I support keeping Burlington Telecom going as it is

John Rouleau
658-1438
I live on a tight budget now that I own my first home in the NNE of Burlington, but I pay a little more monthly for BT service than the Comcast promo price I could have carried over from when I was renting in Winooski.

I do this for three reasons. First, BT has excellent small-business-style customer service and Comcast customer service consistently wasted my time and gave me misinformation.

Second, and more importantly, I see supporting BT as an investment in the future of a not-for-profit company who (as long as that remains true) will never drive up pricing to make a buck just because they can. I know BT’s competitors have kept their prices low in the area through promos to compete with and damage BT.

Lastly, when I was the parent of a foster kid, BT gave me a special $10/month rate. When I moved with my kid to Winooski, I found that while Comcast claims to make the same offer, they make it extremely difficult and exclusive to access that service and we no longer qualified because we'd signed up for internet service before applying for the assistance. That help from BT made a big difference to our family and our child's school work. I want to be giving back to a company that cares and gives back to the children of my city.

I'm so glad BT has been playing the role it does in the community and I'm certain more people will switch to it once they can stop worrying about its future.

-Gabriel
The keep BT local group attempting to arrange a co-op are dreaming, and are going to turn it into a bigger scandal than it it already for any one investing in the co-op.
14% loans for 12 million$ sounds like the school board operated their funding back in the Collins years.
Scam alert it is about to hit the dreamers.
Dale Tillotson
I am writing as a proud citizen of Burlington and Vermont: Local community ownership is part of what has made Burlington the special place that it is today. It is part of what drew us to live here so many years ago. **Please, please Keep BT Local!**

Thank you for listening.

Mark

--

**Mark Cline Lucey**  
Social Studies Department Chair  
Research & Service Program Director

75 Green Mountain Drive, South Burlington, VT  05403

(802) 865-8084  
[www.vermontcommons.org](http://www.vermontcommons.org)

Celebrating 20 years of Scholarship, Community, and Global Responsibility.

In dwelling, live close to the ground. In thinking, keep to the simple. In conflict, be fair and generous. In governing, don’t try to control. In work, do what you enjoy. In family life, be completely present.

**Lao Tzu**
As a community we are indebted to Mayor Weinberger for his leadership in managing and negotiating our way out of the horrible situation in which Bob Kiss had left Burlington and BT.
Now it is time to recognize all that has been accomplished, including the important fact that the mismanagement at BT that preceded Kiss's misguided and illegal financial decisions, is all a thing of the past.
BT has been running in the black for some time now. It delivers the best service around by far.
Now, thru Keep BT Local, we have the opportunity to realize the original dream of BT -- community owned broadband of exceptions quality at a reliably fair price.
There is some risk in going with Keep BT Local. But there is also real risk, in giving this critical resource to a corporation responsive to shareholders who don't live here.
Burlington is a town with a history of successful coops. Let's create another one for the provision of a vital service, needed by both households and businesses.
Keep BT Local.
Janet Kahn

Sent from my iPhone
This is how consumers control quality and costs! Let's do what we've done with BED--reflects our values, keeps costs under control, serves the community in other ways, too, and Works for Us!

Sally Ballin

Sally Ballin, Independent Associate
USANA Health Sciences
www.HealthySolutionsGlobally.usana.com
HealthySolutionsGlobally@usana.com
Home office: 802-865-8381, Mobile: 802-735-5123
"I know it may look like I'm not doing anything, but on the cellular level, I'm extremely busy."
keep bt local
--
John Randall Hall
40 Westward Dr 05408 Ph 802-658-9641
I strongly support the BT Local Coop's bid to buy Burlington telecom
Mark A. Stoler

--
Greetings,

My name is Grant Taylor and I live near the corner of North Willard Street and Henry Street. I believe that local economic resilience is built through strong community support. I see lots of community support for Burlington Telecom. Burlington Telecom is a small piece of our local culture, and a future economic asset for the City. I believe it is imperative to keep this vital community resource locally owned and operated.

It may possess a sordid history at the moment, but it is also an opportunity to create value and equity in the public sphere. If we can provide a coop model for telecom here in Burlington, it will only add to the individualism that Burlington and Vermont already exhibit nationally.

I urge you to Keep Burlington Telecom Local, for the people. For all the people, and our shared economic future.

Sincerely,
Grant Taylor
Karen --

Thank you for your reply and for the news regarding Council's decisions subsequent to the public forum to release these memoranda. I have to say, regardless of whether you seem to be moving in the direction I prefer on a given issue or not, you never fail to impress me with your diligence and responsiveness, and I know from my own brush with local officeholding, how much time and attention it takes to not only follow the substance at hand but also to keep your constituents informed. I greatly appreciate the work you put into your office.

I have not really had the chance to digest everything and learn the background details needed to really understand what these documents talk about, but I do have some unschooled feedback to offer.

First, it appears to me that Council may be paying more attention to avoidance of possible lawsuits than to conducting and documenting its business in such a way that the City would win if sued. As I've said before, I am confident that a macro-level fiscal analysis would show that the KBTL proposal means far more financial benefits to Burlington over time than the competing bids from profit-seeking out-of-state players. (And, the City should be performing such a big-picture analysis if it has not already.) Thus, as long as the minimal terms and requirements of the City's contracts and agreements are met by the chosen bidder, Council's job is to determine which of the qualified bids is best for the City. Your job is not to figure out how best to avoid a lawsuit from Citibank or anyone else, but rather to best ensure that the City would prevail in the event of a lawsuit. To me, that means demonstrating that your collective actions have been focused on securing the best outcome for the citizens.

For that matter, has Council or your legal advisors given equal weight to the potential of legal challenge by Burlington residents who may rightly perceive that years of public investment have been bundled up and sold to a private entity with greater concern given to Citi's proceeds rather than the public good with which you all are charged?

As to the concern that failure to gain a CPG from the Vermont Public Utilities Commission would scuttle closure of the sale and complicate matters with Blue Water etc., I can only say that I am sure that the Council and Mayor are connected enough and adept enough at politics to ensure PUC approval of whichever purchaser the City chooses. So frankly I see that line of concern as a red herring.

My views on this matter are clearly rather passionate, and since I don't have legal training or full knowledge of the details and history of the BT sale, I realize that my views may not strike you as legally
compelling or astute. But I do know that I see hundreds of voters and taxpayers who share my urgent desire to not have our telecom privatized as if in some post-Soviet fire sale. And I don't see any voters or taxpayers clamoring for Council to sell BT to either of the other bidders. So I would hope that you and all Council members would focus all of your energies on finding the best path to the outcome that your constituents want rather than allowing legal advisors and persons with huge personal financial incentives to guide you to any other outcome.

Sincerely,

Alan Turnbull

From Alan and/or Wendy at our shared email address.

On Oct 04, 2017, at 09:32 AM, Karen Paul <kpm@cpcvt.com> wrote:

Hi Alan,

Thank you for taking the time to attend Monday’s meeting and for your questions during public forum. Rather than wait until I get home this evening, which will be late, I have copied your email to my work computer. If you want to reply to this email, please “reply all” so my City email is included.

The Council, last night, elected to release the legal memos that may address your questions. Here is the link:


When you have a moment to take a look, please be in touch with me if you have further questions.

I am also attached the financial reviews we had of the Letters of Intent and financial data. Schurz Communications asked that their data remain confidential.

I have asked that greater financial attention be focused on these offers and found a telecom expert to review all the data we have received thus far. We are still awaiting that information. I am happy to give you what we get when it’s available.

I hope this helps.

My best,

Karen

PS Since we are not permitted by the Public Meeting Law from responding to one another if more than six of us are on an email, I am responding to you alone. If you’d like to let others know about these links, you are welcome, of course, to do so.
Honorable Council Members:

At last night's public comment period, I raised the following three questions, which I believe are all pertinent in the process of selecting the best buyer for BT. Each of these questions pertains to the peculiar situation in which the City might well choose to forego higher bids and sell to a lower bidder.

1. Has the Council received legal advice or opinion as to whether there is a fiduciary imperative to favor higher dollar purchase offers or to give greater weight to the offered price in relation to other factors?

2. What, if any, local, state, or federal laws might compel the Council to favor the highest possible bid relative to other factors under consideration?

3. What, if any, contractual terms may be obligating or influencing the City to favor the highest dollar bid in preference to other factors?

The KBTL bid is the City's clear best choice for economic benefits to all citizens and for local control in the long term. The fact that other bids promise more funding at the point of sale does make it necessary to take a broader view to realize the stronger fiscal benefits in KBTL as the eventual steward, and I am admittedly not an economist; but the ongoing retention and recirculation within the community of the enterprise's $3-4M EBITDA, and the eventual redistribution of patronage dividends to the members (rather than exporting profits) will doubtless yield more economic benefits over time to the community over all than any of the purchase prices being offered by outside entities. I hope the City has undertaken (or will soon undertake) the analysis necessary to demonstrate this effect.
It is by acting so as to optimize the City's broadest best interest that the Council demonstrates its focus on its fiduciary responsibility, and that will be the basis on which the City Council is judged in the future.

Sincerely,

Alan Turnbull

410 S. Winooski Ave

Sent from Alan's iPhone

From Alan and Wendy's shared address.

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.
I believe it will work based on the successes coops have shown to engender over the years in many areas and localities. Better service, commitment to see it thrive through local ownership and ability to have input all make it the best choice for Burlington. We’re big enough to handle it and small enough to keep it sustainable here. Thanks for listening.

Sent from my iPad
To the Burlington Community.

On October 29, 2015 I had the honor of participating in a series of community forums in Burlington, including an open community forum at City Hall.

At that time, I shared the collective experience of communities around the country who shared Burlington's vision of a owning not only its broadband future but the aspiration of being architects of their 21st century social, education, and economic futures. Here in Cleveland, we spent 13 years building a broad coalition of community interests and investors committed to leveraging our open network design to support community anchors institutions, initiatives to connect the unconnected and a wide range of commercial service offerings.

I have continued to watch from a distance with significant interest in Burlington's community efforts around the BT RFP and call for partners.

Yesterday, I read with interest that one of your finalists is Ting, a company and leadership I know very well. Based in Toronto, Ting (Tucows) has entered the US fiber market with considerable intentionality. Elliot Noss, their CEO is an internationally respected telecommunications leader with an unprecedented track record of outstanding customer service. Cable Internet service providers and their traditional telecom ISPs are among most reviled providers of any service offering to consumers putting profits margins well ahead of customer service. Ting and Tucows have built their model of service on a long term view that great customer service will lead to loyalty and enduring relationships with consumers and their communities. While I haven't seen data for 2017, Tucows/Ting's customer service record is outstanding and a key market differentiator.

More than anyone else I know in this space, Elliot and Ting have a very public position on investing in communities committed to leveraging fiber infrastructure to support local innovation and shared vision making. While I do not know the terms of Ting's bid I know, from participation in thought leadership gatherings around the world, Burlington will not only have a world-class fiber network, Ting will afford Burlington and its civic and community leadership an international platform for showcasing community efforts to attract and retain talent and downstream investments. I was recently in Tel Aviv at the 8th annual Smart Cities conference with leaders from more than 50 international cities. Even though Ting was not present, their work and engagement in Westminster and other US cities was cited by panelists from both the U.S. and international cities as a model of innovative private public partnership providing a reference model for how communities and private interests can both benefit from intentional investment together. I am confident that Burlington will likewise benefit from Ting's reputation to bring both outstanding service and an opportunity to develop a narrative that projects Burlington's vision to diverse audiences near and far.

I wish the Burlington community best of luck as it moves towards a decision point. I recommend Ting without reservation as a great partner for your consideration.
Lev Gonick
Cleveland, OH
216 835-9809
@levgonick
From: Jalt 12 <jolson12btv@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 07, 2017 12:03 AM
To: BT Feedback
Subject: I Support the Keep BT Local Coop’s Bid to Buy Burlington Telecom

BT is a fantastic public utility that should be controlled by local community members.

Like rural electric systems, food buyers clubs and cooperative housing, keeping out control, resources and profits local is best for our community - now and in the future.

Please support the KBTL coop bid.

John Olson
Flynn Avenue
Burlington, Vt.
Hi everyone. I’m writing to support the Keep BT Local Coop bid for Burlington Telecom. This is a long email. Thanks in advance for your attention on this critical matter.

Let me start off by saying that what I think gets lost in this debate is that this is a push to privatize a public asset. The reason that asset was built to begin with was to accrue benefits over the long term for the City and its residents. One of my top 10 reasons for moving to Burlington rather than some other city over a decade ago was the fact the Burlington had freed itself from the corporate monopolization of telecom. Selling to a non-local, private entity is a huge step backward for this City because it sacrifices numerous long-term benefits in order to make short term gain.

The Coop bid satisfies all of the criteria set forth by the Burlington Telecom Advisory Board. The most important criteria identified in surveys was to keep BT under local ownership.

The bids need to be evaluated in terms of their long-term value - all the dividends that will be paid to Burlington subscribers and members over decades to come should be accounted for. The other bidders cannot match the Coop bid in this area because after the initial purchase, all dividends will accrue to corporate shareholders outside of Burlington and VT rather than to the local economy.

Going with Ting/Tucows or Schurz is ultimately going to end with a monopoly situation. The end-game for any of these companies is to maximize their profit, which at some point means they will sell to a bigger player, or to an intermediary who will then sell to a major telecom company like Comcast.

The BT Coop would start out with 7,000 members. The cooperative model has been proven to work starting with many fewer members. This is a big advantage. All subscribers would have a stake in it. This sort of wide-scale buy-in and engagement is what creates the energy at City Market. People are invested in the success and improvement of the coop.

Burlington Telecom can support $10 Million in debt. It currently earns more than $3 Million a year. The 14% interest on that loan will be quite a bit less than the rate of return on investment expected by the financial backers of Ting or Schurz. That’s why Ting and Schurz have refused to say what kinds of returns they expect. They know it won’t look good to reveal that they hope to take 20% or more off the top every year - forever. The coop will have its loan paid off in ten years. After that all benefits go to the coop and it’s members. All that money stays in the local economy.

I want to address the management experience question. I think it is being framed out there in a way that is not very accurate.

I think KBTL has said they would prefer to keep Dorman & Fawcett on. D&F have done a good job, but they don’t walk on water. If they are not available there are many other capable options for professional consultants like them that can be hired-on. The KBTL board members don’t need experience running a telecom any more than the City Market Coop board members need experience running a grocery store, Coop boards, like corporate boards, are elected to make thoughtful executive decisions about the big picture, and to hire the right people to run things day-to-day.
The KBTL board will be composed of local coop members elected by the other members to make big picture decisions in the interests of the coop and its members (basically Burlington).

Let's look at the boards of the other two bidders:

The Shurz Communications board of directors doesn't seem top have telecom experience - see for yourself here https://www.schurz.com/board-of-directors/

The Tucows/Ting board is also short on telecom experience - maybe a little more "tech" experience, but not telecom operation and management. https://www.schurz.com/board-of-directors/

So the idea that the Coop board has less experience running a telecom than these others is just silly. All three would have the same task in front of them: to put a capable management team in place. Current BT staff have proven experience running a telecom - more than the other bidders for sure. The Coop would likely have them continue and supplement their ranks as needed.

-israel

PS: I remember when TUCOWS (The Ultimate Collection of Windows Software) started. It was a (not very good as I recall) shareware software download site back in the early 90's. It was quickly bought-up by a larger company, who retained its name for itself. If you look at the history of Tucows http://www.tucows.com/about-us/history/

You can see that it is essentially a company hell-bent on expansion and growth into a diversified tech-based conglomerate. I really don't want to see Burlington become a part of that. Or more likely - be sold by them to someone else less desirable down the line because they need the cash to pursue their next big acquisition.

--
Israel Smith
Smith Buckley Architects
www.sbavt.com
802-540-0323

---
This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software. https://www.avast.com/antivirus
Of course we support keeping our fantastic telecom cooperative local.

Burlington residents were illegally made to pay to build Burlington Telecom up from nothing when corrupt city government embezzled 17 million taxpayer dollars to do so. Now it is a PROFITABLE coop and city government wants to sell it off to private interest. That would be beyond any excuse a huge betrayal of the people and a massive giveaway to crony capitalism.

KBTL is both the only option that meets the buyer criteria and by far the best option for Burlington's residents that will put money back into Burlington's pockets for decades to come.

Signed,
Linden Politi
Ben Kidder
It's very frustrating to see City Council members ignore the will of the citizens of the city - the ones you work for - and continue to consider privatizing this community asset. Keep the money and asset local!
PLEASE keep the money in our community. The cost of living in Burlington is already outrageous. Nobody will dispute that. The one area where I don't feel like I'm being financially gouged every month is my internet access through Burlington Telecom. This service supports me personally and professionally as I am a small business owner in town.

Thank you.
It is much better to keep the ownership in the hands of Burlington residents and users of BT services.

George Webb of 28 Sunset Cliff Rd. and a BT user.

George Webb, Ph.D. Professor Emeritus Dept. of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics College of Medicine, University of Vermont, USA.
Dear Kurt, David, and Miro,

Since there is a decision to be made today to further narrow the field, I'd like to comment on the merits of the two highest bidders - Ting/Tucows and Schurz Communications.

If BT must be sold to a non-local bidder, please let it be Ting/Tucows. I have used some of their other services, especially Hover.com, for many years. Their sites and online tools are very well-designed and user-friendly, but their main advantage is customer service. I have recommended their Hover.com domain name registry services to non-techie relatives, knowing that they can call and speak with a helpful person at any time. My aunt who runs a theater company in New Hampshire has done exactly that and was extremely pleased with their support and the time they took to answer her questions. In addition, Tucows is a company that has championed net neutrality and is actively growing fiber networks in towns around the country. They have the expertise, the customer service, the culture and the drive to take BT into the future.

I have real concerns about Schurz Communications. They are primarily a newspaper company, having sold off their TV and radio holdings over the last few years. They own three broadband/cable systems, none of which get good reviews for customer service, and all of which share the same dated website design. It seems to me that they're interested in telecoms mostly to use them as profit centers to prop up their newspapers. I'm all for keeping newspapers going, but this seems like an improper use of BT subscribers' fees. I was also concerned to discover that their old flagship TV station, the South Bend CBS affiliate WSBT-TV, was sold (via Gray Television, the new owner of WCAX) into the hands of Sinclair Broadcast Group, a right-wing media company that has earned a reputation for forcing their stations to run ultraconservative opinion pieces during the news. See this piece from John Oliver's Last Week Tonight:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GvtNyOzGogc

Schurz also recently sold off Advanced Cable Communications (now Blue Stream) in Coral Springs, Florida. If they're really interested in building and operating modern fiber-based telecoms, why didn't they spend a few million upgrading Advanced Cable? This kind of thing increases my concern that they aren't all that interested in the telecom business, except as a financial means to an end.

I still support the Keep BT Local bid, but understand that there are aspects of this decision that may weight things toward the higher non-local bids. As you consider your decision, please look hard at the track records of
your bidders. Where are they investing their energy and capital? What do their customers actually say about the service they receive?

Many thanks for your consideration,
Andy Warner
47 Staniford Road
Burlington VT
warnera@gmail.com

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 5:25 PM, Andy Warner <warnera@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Kurt, David, and Miro,

Burlington Telecom is a fantastic community asset. While the financial management of BT and the City-BT relationship hasn't always been what any citizen could wish, the value of our fiber network and the community's control thereof is huge. In an era when net neutrality is continually under threat from the major telecommunication companies, having direct community control of our Internet Service Provider is a priceless advantage for our citizens and businesses. Like water and electricity, telecommunication is an essential utility and the lifeblood of our city economically and educationally.

After some financial stumbles, BT is now profitable and able to pay its debts. Now is not the time to unload it to some outside entity with no direct interest in our community's future. Now is the time to transfer BT to a community Co-op that will pay back BT's debts to the city and keep control of its future in the hands of its primary stakeholders - Burlingtonians.

If we sell off this hard-won asset to some outside bidder it will never come back to us, and neither will most of the fees paid by subscribers. Sell it to the Keep BT Local Co-op, and the revenue and control will stay local and enrich our community financially, educationally, and culturally for a long time to come.

I would ask that you reconsider KBTL's bid and ask yourself - "Which bid is the best for Burlington and its citizens after 5 years? After 10 years? After 20?"

Many thanks,
Andy Warner
47 Staniford Road
Burlington, VT
warnera@gmail.com

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.
From: Mayor's Office
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 12:14 PM
To: BT Feedback
Subject: FW: Burlington Telecom

-----Original Message-----
From: Gil Mathys [mailto:zebras1@icloud.com]
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 9:54 AM
To: Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Burlington Telecom

In spite of concern over proposed debt, I continue to support KBTL in their bid for my telecom provider.
Gil Mathys
I feel that this proposal is best for the people of this city. The coop will always have customers as a number one priority and the people of the city will have a voice in any changes. This city understands and has had success with coops. This too me is really the best solution.

Thank you

Elizabeth Dyer
39 west rd

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android
It's very important that we keep Burlington Telecom locally owned. The coop is the only sensible choice.

LisaAnn Oberbrunner
Dear Councilors -

PLEASE sell to Keep BT Local. Please do not subject us to the whims of a big, national corporation. Although I now live in South Burlington, I hope and pray for the day when I can have BT in South Burlington! I had BT for 8 years when I lived in Burlington, and it was BY FAR the best service I have ever had. Great speed, and best yet, GREAT customer service!

Contrast that with Comcast, which I am forced to have in South Burlington. From the very beginning, I have had issues with Comcast. First, they brought the wrong equipment when first installed. I lost a paying client - so I kissed $850 of income goodbye. Rude installers. Any time I had a question or an issue, I'd have to speak with whoever answered at the huge call center. Even asking for a supervisor or manager would just get me to a "floor supervisor", not a supervisor with knowledge and authority. Asking for a manager went nowhere - I think they don't even have managers.

Long story short - this summer I switched my services. I started the process on June 20. It is STILL not complete (it is now October 5)! Yesterday, I spent over 2 hours on the phone - while my 5 year old watched TV and cried for food for dinner. I was double-billed, and I paid both bills because I got disconnect notices if I did not pay the second bill! But I had been told it would be resolved - but it never was. I got bounced between two departments, and it is still not resolved. I cannot get a refund of over $250 because their departments do not talk to each other! And then the representative, when I asked for confirmation that I would get a refund, hung up on me.

I would be happy to share more details. Large corporations are too large for their own good, do not care about customers, and lack the ability to train and empower their employees. Keep BT Local, and keep good local folks employed with good jobs, too!

Thank you for your time.

Suzanne M. Hebeler

--

Suzanne M. Hebeler PLC, Attorney
14 Overlook Drive
South Burlington, VT 05403
p: 802/657-7900
f: 802/657-7901
c: 802/777-6700

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This electronic email transmission may contain attorney/client privilege and confidential information intended only for the individual or entity named above. Any dissemination, use, distribution, copying or disclosure of this communication by any other person or entity is strictly prohibited.
Should you receive this transmission in error, please notify the sender by telephone (802)657 7900 and return the original transmission to Suzanne@suzannelaw.com.
Hello,

I live on Curtis Ave in the NNE and get my phone and internet through BT.

I was so pleased to sign up for the service when BT was formed and I lived in the ONE. A local telecom company! Everything Burlington says they stand for on paper...in real life.

When we had a child and moved to the NNE, I did not consider any other provider.

Now I have the possibility of saving the telecom as a member owner through Milk Money. I sent a check right away.

The long term benefits of a citizen and city owned utility far outweigh the short term gain.

It will be an embarrassment of a national scale if the City of BTV says "we want to be a sustainable city" out of one side of their mouth and then bypasses the opportunity of a lifetime to have a citizen and city owned utility.

We all know that if something isn't done now, Telecom will be sold to the highest bidder, and then sold again to the highest bidder and so on until a company with management that has never even been to Burlington raises rates while lowering customer service.

Burlington is a national example of sustainability and long term thinking...I hope it doesn't end with this decision.

Amy

Resident, Tax Payer, BT Subscriber, Hopeful Future BT owner

--
KBTL is the only option that ensures long term control and success of this incredible resource for the economy and community. All other options lack any real long term benefits to the local economy and a vote for either of the other two bids shows a major lack of foresight.
I continue to support KBTL’s bid for my telecom service.
I strongly support Keep Burlington Telecom Local's bid to buy BT.
Please choose the KBTL bid for BT.

It's what the majority of Burlington residents and BT subscribers want. Our tax dollars were spent on this, so it should our decision how to move forward. I understand that it carries continued debt, but it's supporting a successful and financially sound organization, so the risk is low, and the potential benefits are huge.

Selling to the highest bidder is just giving away everything we've worked so hard for. And we all know that ultimately it will mean Comcast owns everything.

But keeping BT local lets us finally reap the rewards from our investment, and ensures that everyone continues to receive affordable high speed service.

If there are legal concerns, please address these with KBTL, and work together to find a compromise that works for everyone, and keeps this valuable asset in our community where it belongs.
I was at the September 25th city council meeting. one thing I heard from a public member was a concern that if BTV is later sold to a major telecom player, like Comcast or Fairpoint....that they may not support net neutrality.

today a got a petition from CREDO - specifically saying that Trump might appoint to the FCC a director that is not against this. It stated

"Net neutrality is the rule that prevents internet providers like Comcast and AT&T from charging you more to access content they don't like, or even censoring it altogether"

this is why we need local control this is why your constituents said that that was their highest priority in the sale.

Please do not ignore this sentiment, commitment of the Burlington Residents.

the second thing I heard was that for City Market, eventually the City got behind the co-op and supported its bid....Perhaps because it got downtown office space in the upstairs of the building.

Here I think the incentive would be, just that in the long run the local bid will keep more dollars and control in the city. This is good for the city.

Molly Fleming.
To Whom It Concerns:

I’m writing to you as the Executive Director of the Charlottesville Business Innovation Council (CBIC) and founder and Executive Director of the Charlottesville Angel Network (CAN).

CAN, founded less than 3 years ago, is a growing group of accredited investors who make independent investment decisions. We are successful executives, entrepreneurs, scientists, and engineers eager to apply our skills and put our connections and capital to work to help entrepreneurs succeed. Many CAN portfolio companies are based in Charlottesville.

CBIC was founded in 1997 as the region’s technology council, and one of 10 across the Commonwealth of Virginia. As the conduit and driver of productive collaboration among the various segments of the Charlottesville region’s technology community, CBIC promotes a supportive infrastructure, and advocates for a robust, sustainable technology-based economy.

It’s come to my attention that Ting, via its parent company Tucows, is a final bidder in the process to buy Burlington Telecom. Ting has been an extremely welcome and valuable supporter of our local innovation ecosystem in Charlottesville, and I wanted to share our experience with you about them.

When Ting first came to Charlottesville, they spent time understanding our community and what entrepreneurs needed to live here and to flourish. They have a strong local presence that includes sponsorship of CBIC events such as our annual Awards Gala, and our annual Tech Tour.

It’s noteworthy that for CBIC’s 2017 Awards every winner, and all but one nominee, for Business of the Year, Top Job Creator, Startup of the Year, Innovator of the Year and Entrepreneur of the Year, were Ting customers. Our innovators recognize that Ting provides Internet service that enables their ideas and operations to prosper.

Ting is also a sponsor of our 2017 Tech Tour – our 14th Annual – which makes it possible for more than 440 middle and high school students to participate annually in visiting upwards of 70 participating local tech companies. Funding also supports two $2,500 scholarships made annually to students to advance their STEM education, and CBIC’s ongoing STEM-related advocacy work throughout the year.

I cannot underscore enough how vital this work is to growing a sustainable tech community here in Charlottesville. Start-up and growth companies are the life blood of our economy so they have to be nurtured and supported. They drive innovation and the creation of new jobs. Ting gets that.

In summary, Ting’s grasp of the importance of ubiquitous, robust and reliable Internet service, and building strong relationships within our local community have made them an extremely valuable innovation partner in Charlottesville, and we would provide a strong recommendation of support for their bid in Burlington.

Best,
Recent Charlottesville Tech and Entrepreneur Accolades:

Charlotteville Named No. 4 in US as Best City for Entrepreneurs by Livability and Entrepreneur Magazine  (July 2016)

Virginia Business Magazine: A new story line?  (June 2016)

Tech Scene Updates from Tracey Greene on WINA  (June 2016)

Cville Ranks #1 in Venture Capital Funding Growth  (2016)
See attached.

--

RW
October 5, 2017

City of Burlington
City Hall
149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401

City of Burlington,

We are the elected leaders of Westminster, MD, and the leads on our municipal fiber project, the Westminster Fiber Network (WFN), currently about halfway through construction. We use a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model where the City builds, owns, and maintains the dark fiber infrastructure and we lease it to our partner, Ting. We understand you are looking for a partner for your fiber system. We offer for your consideration the following observations about Ting as a partner, their performance, and our satisfaction with the progress of the WFN.

After an exhaustive search process, we selected Ting as our partner for several important reasons. Of all the respondents, they were most enthusiastic about our vision of risk sharing, incremental expansion, and the long term goal of a retail open access operational model. In addition, their approach to the complex negotiation of our agreement was collaborative and innovative, focused on solving problems for our mutual benefit without being unnecessarily adversarial. From the very beginning, they demonstrated a willingness to engage in a true partnership, as opposed to a simple vendor relationship. Our agreement received national accolades when NATOA recognized it in 2015 as the Innovative Partnership of the Year.

Over two years into the project, we are hitting our numbers and under budget. As you well know, building a community wide fiber network is expensive, complicated, hard work. It has challenged our City staff, who are learning as they go, and Ting has been a great resource and partner at every step.

Another reason we selected Ting was their culture of exceptional customer service. They have delivered on that and, as is their usual practice, exceeded our expectations. Our elected official colleagues are frequently showered with praise for the wonderful experiences our constituents have when dealing with Ting employees.

Ting has established a significant local presence, opening a beautiful office in our downtown, and hiring all of their Westminster operation employees locally. Beyond being an ISP, Ting is also an active supporter of our City-sponsored broadband economic development non-profit, MAGIC (the Mid-Atlantic...
Gigabit Innovation Collaboratory). They also opened a state of the art makerspace adjacent to their office, a new tech resource for local entrepreneurs and innovators. Ting also has made rapid inroads into our broader community as a member of the Chamber of Commerce and a supporter of local community service non-profits and events.

In summary, our project is on track and achieving notable early success. That is due in no small part to Ting’s performance on their contractual responsibilities. Our job is to build fiber. Theirs is to light the network and generate revenue by signing up customers and keeping them happy. Ting sells an outstanding product at a reasonable price backed by phenomenal customer service. We are very happy with them as our partner.

Sincerely,

Joe Dominick
Mayor

Robert Wack
President, Common Council
When Burlington Telecom came into being we were assured that there would be no taxpayers liability. We all know the fiasco of this enterprise. Now it’s hard for me to believe that there’s an effort to re-enter into the telecom business. It is a no brainer at this time when he have two establish and experienced company offering their expertise (and money) that we would even consider going back into that business. As a taxpayer –(and voter) I ask you to vote against the citizen proposal and go with experience, knowledge and funds.

Lisette Baxter
112 Lakewood Pkwy
Burlington VT 05408
revlisette@aol.com

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
I am writing to register my support for the Keep BT Local option as purchasers or Burlington Telecom.

Choosing the other companies is simply a scheme to sell out Burlington Telecom to a "high bidder," and all that means is that a company is going to "give" Burlington $5 million, while they extract $27 million (plus whatever they want to make on this BT investment - 15, 20, 25 percent) from our pockets - both as subscribers and taxpayers.

Those who argue otherwise are a cloistered group of wealthy men and business interests (BBA and LCCC) working together to ensure that the city fits their interests first, benefits them first, as opposed to working families and citizens.

Thank you,
April Howard
I write as a longtime BT residential customer, recent BT business customer, longtime resident and taxpayer.

I think the City should be commended for the process it has followed to date. The process has resulted in two serious arms length offers. These brought a sigh of relief from those of us who have been hoping for a reasonable resolution to the travails of BT.

The Council now has well considered opinions from the BTAB, an accountant, and outside counsel. After reading these opinions, it is difficult for me to understand how the Council could decide to accept the KBTL proposal.

The KBTL proposal presents risks that the City cannot tolerate. The City cannot reasonably accept the financial risk, regulatory risk, and litigation risk inherent in the KBTL proposal. Frankly these are not merely risks--they are the certain and predictable results of proceeding with KBTL.

As a City, we face risk from aging infrastructure, employee pensions and other obligations. These are risks we must bear as a City. The City does not have the capacity to voluntarily assume the risks inherent in the KBTL proposal.

The notion of selling a $30 million dollar asset to an unproven entity at a 60% discount while inviting litigation and regulatory uncertainty is governmental malpractice. There are two legitimate offers. Chose the best one.

Thank you for considering my views.

Michael Green
276 South Union Street
Burlington, VT 05401
802.999.0882
migreen276@gmail.com
The telecom is one of our greatest long term assets. If it is local we can retain the profits here in this area and this will to continue to enrich us at multiples much higher than competing bids. If we sell the profit will go elsewhere each night at the end of the day.

Out of state accountants, executives, lawyers will be employed, not out local ones.

This value should be considered in the value of the offer.

Further our critical rights to privacy and access are an asset which is difficult to price but both are likely extremely valuable longterm in terms of what Vermont businesses will be able to reap from the service. Insuring this important aspect will greatly benefit local businesses and individuals.

Lastly as already said : why should we give the contract to a company who will flip it and make money on our hard earned equity? A company from else where who do not have our interests at heart?

I will see this as a failure if leadership if the contract does not go to keep it local.

Thank you,

Catherine Antley, MD
As Burlington residents, we are currently out $17 million that was originally used without approval from voters. Nothing short of that money being returned immediately by the sale of BT should be considered. The city should not be involved financially any more with BT. It should be run as a separate business that stands on its own - prosper or fail. The criteria should be which offer is from the most stable and technically skilled organization which has the best chance of being successful and gets the city back the $17 million owed to us taxpayers. Emotions about the sale should not even be a part of the decision.

Respectfully submitted,
Edward J. Wilbur Sr.
67 Oakcrest Drive
Burlington, VT
Hello,

I'm writing in as a resident of Burlington (49 Lafountain St in the Old North End) and satisfied Burlington Telecom to voice my strong support for the Keep BT Local bid.

I can see some positives in the other bids, like Ting/Tucows explicit community investment; I am worried that the anti-monopoly future sale restrictions do not do enough to prevent loss of control for our internet service. Ting or Schurz could be acquired in their entirety, or sell BT off without propagating our restrictions in perpetuity.

As the national legislative landscape becomes increasingly polarized and dysfunctional; it's important to me that we keep valuable public infrastructure as local as possible.

Please join me in supporting KBTL's bid, and work with them to make it the winning bid.

Thank you

--
Luke Donforth
luke.donforth@gmail.com
As a customer of Burlington Telecom, I do not want to be a member/owner. I am against accepting a bid from a local organization.

Jan Lea Bertrand
130 Foster Street
Burlington, VT
Honorable Council Members:

At last night's public comment period, I raised the following three questions, which I believe are all pertinent in the process of selecting the best buyer for BT. Each of these questions pertains to the peculiar situation in which the City might well choose to forego higher bids and sell to a lower bidder.

1. Has the Council received legal advice or opinion as to whether there is a fiduciary imperative to favor higher dollar purchase offers or to give greater weight to the offered price in relation to other factors?

2. What, if any, local, state, or federal laws might compel the Council to favor the highest possible bid relative to other factors under consideration?

3. What, if any, contractual terms may be obligating or influencing the City to favor the highest dollar bid in preference to other factors?

The KBTL bid is the City's clear best choice for economic benefits to all citizens and for local control in the long term. The fact that other bids promise more funding at the point of sale does make it necessary to take a broader view to realize the stronger fiscal benefits in KBTL as the eventual steward, and I am admittedly not an economist; but the ongoing retention and recirculation within the community of the enterprise's $3-4M EBITDA, and the eventual redistribution of patronage dividends to the members (rather than exporting profits) will doubtless yield more economic benefits over time to the community over all than any of the purchase prices being offered by outside entities. I hope the City has undertaken (or will soon undertake) the analysis necessary to demonstrate this effect.

It is by acting so as to optimize the City's broadest best interest that the Council demonstrates its focus on its fiduciary responsibility, and that will be the basis on which the City Council is judged in the future.

Sincerely,

Alan Turnbull
410 S. Winooski Ave
Sent from Alan's iPhone
From Alan and Wendy's shared address.
Please Keep BT Local!

Maya Arima
Burlington
I am writing in support of keeping Burlington Telecom owned and operated by a locally owned consortium. This will allow for a better thriving and competitive local infrastructure while offering lower rates to Vermonters, and room for expanding beyond Burlington. It's the right thing to do and will leave behind you a legacy which will stretch well beyond that of your own terms.

Be a role model for your entire nation to follow by supporting and accepting our local bid!

Thank you.
STEPPING BACK A BIT

We are now at a civilizational turning point, especially as regards war and climate change. The question is whether our operations will continue to be dominated by profit and bottom-line thinking, or whether we can reconceive our footings, and turn toward cooperative and community-based structures.

Our decision with respect to Burlington’s communication system will either embrace these new values – or will continue to embrace the old ones leading the planet to destruction.

Our Burlington numbers here are relatively trivial: they represent between 1 and 1½ minutes of our government spending on war. But the PRINCIPLES involved in our choice, and our modeling those principles is, finally, as important for the future of the planet than all the destruction we can presently throw at it.

Burlington Telecom’s offer, though smaller, quantitatively, than that of the others, is far larger in its meaning and effect. I hope that the Burlington City Council will have the values and the vision to look past the bottom line to the real horizon.

Marc Estrin

Novels:
Kafka’s Roach: the Life and Times of Gregor Samsa
Hyde
Speckled Vanities
And Kings Shall Be Thy Nursing Fathers
The Prison Notebooks of Alan Krieger (Terrorist)
When the Gods Come Home to Roost
Tsim-tsum
The Good Doctor Guillotin
The Annotated Nose
Skulk
The Lamentations of Julius Marantz
Golem Song
The Education of Arnold Hitler
Insect Dreams, the Half Life of Gregor Samsa

Memoirs:
The Insect Dialogues (with Fred Ramey)
Rehearsing With Gods: Photographs and Essays on the Bread & Puppet Theater (with Ron Simon, photographer)

Website:
http://marcestrin.com
I favor keeping BT local. The city hoodwinked its citizens with the secret 17 million outlay and no one has been held accountable for that. The coop model gives owner/members a voice and is arguably a form of continuing public ownership vs. surrendering the asset to the corporate ethos now that it’s on firm footing.
I'm sure you're getting a lot of these. Which means you should listen to your constituents and keep BT local. It's too important a resource to send out of state. BT is easily the best ISP option in the area with fantastic support in part due to local accountability. Coop model makes a ton of sense.

-Bryan
To the Mayor, and the City Council-

I am writing today to show my support for the KBTL bid. We have been subscribers for years now, and can say from direct experience that BT, even during its most challenging time, has been a consistent and reliable service provider to us. And I am not speaking from just my families' perspective. As a landlord and property manager, I have had dozens of tenants and clients over the years choose BT as their data provider. People like to support local business, are happy with the services BT have provided, and in all frankness, despise giving money to Comcast. I have heard all kinds of reasons from folks. People know a good thing when they see it. This can be witnessed by the how many signs of support for Tings or Schurz there are stuck in residents' yards around town.

Burlington has shown itself to be a place that can and does embrace the co-operative model for businesses. We have multiple successful organizations here in town, and if BT were to join that list, Burlington would continue to be on the leading edge of technology and civic engagement. With 7000 subscribers, there should be little worry about finding enough people to support a new co-op, and with the years of experience of the existing BT staff, there is already a strong and capable support network in place to manage and build this incredible asset.

In conclusion, I urge you to not be swayed by short term gains based solely on money. Choosing KBTL may be a long term investment, but the correct one for us as a community, and one that many thousands of us taxpayers and voters want.

Thank you

--

Andy Hard
property management
building maintenance

Ward 1 resident

802-578-4806
I support KBTL's bid to purchase Burlington Telecom and I urge all of you to do so. Please don't focus on the purchase price being offered - the other two bids wouldn't be so much higher if they didn't have great confidence that BT was worth it. The cooperative model has worked so well in so many ways here in our community - give it a chance to work in this case. People throughout America, including those that you were elected to represent, are fed up with large businesses profiting at our expense while not being at all responsive to our questions, concerns and complaints. In contrast, BT has always answered my calls, called me back as promised, and pleasantly and professionally resolved any issues I was experiencing. I know I won't receive that kind of service from either of the other two bidders. What do you have to lose by giving KBTL a chance? We survived the mess that mayor Kiss got us into and now, thanks to mayor Weinberger and your efforts, we are actually in a much, much better position for local ownership of BT to succeed. Thank you.
Sent from my iPad
Hello. I run a local small business in the South End and I wanted to voice my concern about the Burlington Telecom sale. I am very sad that it’s being sold, as we need all utilities to stay public and avoid the privatization of public resources, which leads to them becoming more expensive and of lower quality in the process of corporatization. But I am very heartened by the Keep BT Local bid to create BT into a locally-owned cooperative! If keeping it as a public utility is not an option, then a local coop is certain the second best option! We must avoid BT becoming owned by an out-of-state corporation. In addition, I am extremely concerned about the new FCC regulations that allow telecom companies to sell any of their customers' information to third parties for advertising or other purposes. This is very unethical and a violation of our privacy. This concerns me as a business because it could compromise our customers’ private and confidential information. We need to make sure the sale of private information is prevented, as it currently is under a publicly-run BT. Please support the cooperative bid for BT!

Thanks, Mica McDonald
Railyard Apothecary

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Railyard Apothecary
270 Battery St. Burlington, VT 05401
railyardapothecarybtv@gmail.com
www.railyardapothecary.com
(802) 540-0595
Hello. I live on Catherine St. and I wanted to voice my concern about the Burlington Telecom sale. I am very sad that it’s being sold, as we need all utilities to stay public and avoid the privatization of public resources, which leads to them becoming more expensive and of lower quality in the process of corporatization. But I am very heartened by the Keep BT Local bid to create BT into a locally-owned cooperative! If keeping it as a public utility is not an option, then a local coop is certain the second best option! I believe this is the best option because it will keep the utility democratically run in order to prevent the exploitation of Burlingtonians by corporations who only want to gain a profit. We must avoid BT becoming owned by an out-of-state corporation. In addition, I am extremely concerned about the new FCC regulations that allow telecom companies to sell any of their customers’ information to third parties for advertising or other purposes. This is very unethical and a violation of our privacy. We need to make sure this kind of thing is prevented, as it currently is under a publicly-run BT. I am very concerned that Burlington is catering too much to corporate interests little by little, as exemplified by the Mall decision. Please stop this trend and vote instead for democracy and local control! Please support the cooperative bid for BT!

Thanks, Mica McDonald
83 Catherine St.
Keeping BT under local control should be a “no brainer”. Local management would direct the service to best meet the needs of THIS community. With any other option it would lead eventually, if not immediately, to business decisions intended to generate more income not better service. We don’t need another Comcast!

Sincerely,

Linda
Only the Keep BT Local Coop offer satisfies ALL of the criteria set by the Burlington Telecommunications Advisory Board. The #1 criteria of Burlingtonians - both in written surveys and comments before the board - was to keep BT under local ownership.

Kathy Chasan
209 North Prospect St
Burlington, VT 05401
Jordan Redell

From: Don Trombley <don@dontrombley.com>
Sent: Monday, October 02, 2017 9:36 AM
To: BT Feedback
Subject: I Support the Keep BT Local Coop’s Bid to Buy Burlington Telecom
Dear City Councilors,

I am writing to express my strong support for Keep BT Local Coop’s bid to buy Burlington Telecom. Our community has invested millions of dollars into the telecom infrastructure. It simply does not make sense to transfer this investment to an outside firm, and then to allow them to sell it to a massive telecom in the future. Please heed the people’s voices and choose Keep BT Local for this sale.

Sincerely,

Anthony

Anthony E. Grudin
Associate Professor of Art History
Department of Art & Art History
University of Vermont
Williams Hall, 72 University Place
Burlington, VT 05405
510 566 4614

https://vermont.academia.edu/AnthonyGrudin
From: Mark Stoler <Mark.Stoler@uvm.edu>
Sent: Monday, October 02, 2017 7:43 AM
To: BT Feedback
Subject: I Support the Keep BT Local Coop’s Bid to Buy Burlington Telecom
We need to go with the only locally owned coop. This is VT, not NYC. We believe in local ownership here.

LisaAnn Oberbrunner
As a Ward 4 resident, property owner and proprietor of Green Acres Homestead, a local permacultural business in town with customers throughout the area, I have been a long time BT customer and hopeful that the Burlington City Council and see that having Burlington Telecom remain a community based telecommunications company under the auspices of the Keep BT local bidder, is the most beneficial thing that our city govt can do in assuring that we as residents can make sure we have a voice with full active participation while keeping all monies in the area. Just like BED over 100 years ago, this decision to continue community based and influenced utilities which make sure we are not losers to a very often cruel and large shareholder invested telecommunications market.

Thank you.

sincerely,

Mark Montalban
45 Green Acres Drive,
Burlington, VT 05408
802-540-2596
It is viable for the short run. An open minded person can, in my view, see that the concerns about the 14% interest and fear of going belly up under that interest are bogus. You have to figure in everything -- Cooperatives' ability to be nimble; no need whatsoever for high profits; the many avenues for lower interest loans open to cooperatives, not private-profit businesses, once it is up and running; the immense support of the community;...I could go on and on.

It is viable for the long run. Totally. Giving back to the community. Totally supported by the community. Something the community will fight for, protect, nurture and sustain. (When can you ever say that about a private, profit-making company?) And then there's the part about your responsibility to us citizens to protect and nurture the public good. Not to sell it off, which would take it and its benefits away from the people of Burlington forever.

And I've heard some councilors elevating the quick payback of the 17.5 million to the very top of the list. But that was way down on the citizens' list, way down below the many other criteria that only KBTL Co-op meets. Under the KBTL Cooperative plan, the city will get its 17.5 eventually. And then some. Slowly, steadily, surely. In perpetuity.

And then there's your legacy. Look at the legacies of the councilors -- Republican, Democratic, Progressive, and Independent alike -- who served during the Sanders administration: The community (for affordable housing) land trust! -- first in the nation (maybe the world?) We got a United Nations award!!! The bike path! We took it to the U.S. Supreme Court and paved the way for rail-to-bike paths all across the nation!! CEDO. Burlington City Arts.. The Youth Council leading to 242 Main. I could go on and on.

I believe the BT sale vote is your most important of your careers on the Council, whether in the end you will have served 2 years or 30+. This vote is key to your legacy. Do you really want your legacy to be selling BT off to the highest, or second highest, bidder -- a private, large-profits making company? (Which will only, inevitably, get larger and more removed from our community over time)

Oh, and then there's the customer service factor. The customer service of BT is superb! Unbelievable, compared to the standard in today's world. And they are right there! Whether you end up doing everything by phone (the usual) or walking downtown to check in with them in person (which I've done several times, after talking), they are superb and they are right there, local! Neighbors! Please don't take that away from us!

So, as I said in the beginning, KBTL Co-op is the only viable option. That's my opinion. And I'm sticking to it. (Until the day I die, actually)

Sincerely yours,
Kit Andrews

PS. I continue to learn about this whole situation as the weeks go by.
One of the things I understand now is the 10% gross to Dorman and Fawcett and the 50%-25%-25% split of the net between Bluewater, our City, and Citibank.. Oh, goodness sakes, what pressure from Dorman and Fawcett, Bluewater, and Citibank to get them the biggest chunks of $$ possible! I mean, I get it! These are powerful and, in the first two cases, local entities. The pressure must feel palpable to you. (I don't mean to imply that I think they are actually pressuring you. I don't think that's right. But you must feel it.) But you don't owe them anything beyond the bottom line basics (of a 12 million sale). The private business landscape is "dog eat dog." I get it. They take their risks (Bluewater); they take their losses (Citibank) --and then they want the very most they can get in the end. Of course they
do; that's what private business is all about. But your fiduciary responsibility isn't to these businesses. (In the business world which they all have chosen they don't need the city council and mayor of Burlington to take care of them.) Your fiduciary responsibility is to the citizen taxpayers and the local business owners of Burlington. And the way democracy works, when it comes to something like the sale of BT, we citizens and Burlington based, mostly small, business owners *do* need you to take care of us. And we, human beings all, must also be distinguished from the city's coffers. Your fiduciary responsibility is to us, for the long, community controlled, sustainable haul. --not to the city's coffers for a big bump in revenue in the year 2018.

Signing off again,
And thanking you for soliciting our input, ka

Sent from my iPad
Dear Ward Six City Councilors:

I certainly hope that the CPA doing a detailed review of the three BT bids has done the following…

Since the money being paid is to help erase a $16.9 million debt to the citizen owners of Burlington, VT, the value of the KBTL offer should be the current bid amount plus the present value of all estimated dividends that will be paid out to Burlington subscribers / members (the same citizen owners) over the next 30-40 years. The % of these dividends could be approximated by what City Market now pays out to their members.

Over and above the dollar amount of the bids, please think very carefully about control issues relating to selling to an out-of-state or foreign entity!

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Jerry Manock
14 Kingsland Terrace
Burlington

Taxpayer and very satisfied BT user
From: Frank Giacobbi <box175@mac.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 01, 2017 9:04 PM
To: BT Feedback
Cc: Sharon Bushor; Maxwell Tracy; Sara Moore; Kurt Wright; Chip Mason; Karen Paul; Ali Dieng; Adam Roof; Richard Deane; Jane Knodell; David Hartnett; Joan Shannon
Subject: Do “whatever it takes,” to prevent America’s #1 most-hated company*, COMCAST, from ever getting its hands on BT

*Source:

Quote:
“These are America’s most hated companies.

1. Comcast (CMCSA)

“The internet service provider and subscription television service industries are not known for superior customer service. In fact, the two industries have the worst average scores in the American Customer Satisfaction Index. Still, Comcast has a significantly worse customer satisfaction score than either industry average.

“The company’s internet services received the fourth worst score out of some 350 companies. In J.D. Power’s rating of major wireline services, only Time Warner Cable -- recently subsumed by Charter -- received a worse score in overall satisfaction. In the same survey, Comcast received the worst scores in cost to consumer, performance, billing, and reliability. In 24/7 Wall St.’s annual customer satisfaction poll conducted in partnership with Zogby, nearly 55% of of respondents reported a negative experience with the company, the second worst of any corporation.”

s/Frank Giacobbi, 375 North Ave Apt 408, Burlington 05401
I support “whatever it takes,” to make certain #1 of America’s most hated companies*, COMCAST, never gets its hands on BT.


Quote:
“These are America’s most hated companies.

“1. Comcast (CMCSA)

“The internet service provider and subscription television service industries are not known for superior customer service. In fact, the two industries have the worst average scores in the American Customer Satisfaction Index. Still, Comcast has a significantly worse customer satisfaction score than either industry average.

“The company’s internet services received the fourth worst score out of some 350 companies. In J.D. Power’s rating of major wireline services, only Time Warner Cable -- recently subsumed by Charter -- received a worse score in overall satisfaction. In the same survey, Comcast received the worst scores in cost to consumer, performance, billing, and reliability. In 24/7 Wall St.’s annual customer satisfaction poll conducted in partnership with Zogby, nearly 55% of of respondents reported a negative experience with the company, the second worst of any corporation.”

s/Frank Giacobbi, 375 North Ave Apt 408, Burlington 05401
I am firmly in support of local ownership of BT, and Keep BT Local is the only one of the remaining bidders with that qualification. I am a long term member of the Onion River Coop, the owner of City Market, and I can vouch strongly for the value and credit of the coop model. Last week we had our annual members’ meeting, and the strength of the coop model was there for all to see. It would have been a wonderful move for all the councillors to come and see what a great job can be done by local coops.

Many local business owners support BT Local Coop’s bid. There is no doubt that the doubt to be financed by the Coop is easily satisfied by the current income of BT. I suspect that many people who would have gotten service from BT have been scared off by the uncertain state of the enterprise. Once it has a local owner, which is the clear preference of the people of Burlington, I suspect that new subscribers will be joining rapidly. I can’t see that happening with either of the other two purchasers.

For once, I hope you do the right thing, not the financially expedient thing. Burlington Telecom was meant from the beginning to be owned locally, and there is only one way that goal can be realized. This is not the time for money-making by our government, but for keeping local something that was always meant to be local.

Barbara H Alsop
I am guessing that it is likely that one of the two out-of-town buyers for BT will end up being the best deal for Burlington. If that is the case, please look for enforceable ways to ensure that management of BT stays local, including the leadership team, the technical folks, and the customer support. This is critically important, as management and support from afar will threaten the resiliency of our telecom by putting us at the mercy of people who don't have a stake in (or any direct knowledge of) Burlington.

In short: keep BT local in a practical sense, even if you can't keep it local in terms of ownership. Thanks.

Jason Van Driesche
129 Caroline St.
BT customer since 2008
I have supported BT from its beginning by being a most grateful subscriber of the services. BT has saved me $60/month from my previous carrier. I like that I get someone local to answer questions, help me field problems (which have been only twice and it meant I needed to re-boot my system), and process my payment. Keep BT Local!
Maggie Sherman
maggiesherman.60@gmail.com
www.maggieshermanstudio.com
802-862-5576
I am excited at the strong possibility that as a community, we will retain ownership of BT.

I thank the advisory group and the City Council for the hard work and effort that has gone into the process, and was really happy to finally see the offers.

Keep BT Local is the best opportunity for us as a city.

Connie Krosney
Ward 6
Keep BT local

TXS
I write to express my concern and sympathy for the challenges to City Councilors in exercising their fiduciary responsibility in selecting the appropriate organization to which to sell.

My comments below are based on reading the news reports in the BFP and Seven Days together with these documents: the Summary of Burlington Telecom Proposals (09/20/2017), the BTAP Report on Development of Criteria for Sale of Burlington Telecom and the Mediated Settlement Agreement (01/29/2014). I appreciate the reality that the information I have at hand is likely a bit less than what has been available to you. Nonetheless, I have read enough to comment on several of the key issues at hand.

Of the three buyers, two, in varying degrees, present offers which appear soundly based, with realistic long-term capability and include terms assuring the City’s future involvement. The third offer from a local start-up co-op, while perhaps emotionally appealing, lacks financial and management gravitas, both in the short and long runs. The equity/debt ratio is unfavorable, the cost of debt is very high (presumably reflecting the lender’s assessment of risk) and the price is scaled to the co-op’s extremely limited financial capacity, not a market valuation. Of further concern, is the co-op’s ability to accommodate future capital expense outlays which are predictively required to keep abreast of the industry’s significant technological advances.

In judging these offers, two other factors require serious consideration. One is the review of the Public Utility Commission. It is difficult to imagine that the Commission would endorse the sale to any entity (regardless of ownership format) with particularly limited financials. Two, one suspects that Citibank would, almost reflexively, legally challenge any sale which would be characterized as commercially implausible.

While the original BT was formed with great intentions, it was plagued by executive and financial mismanagement. To go forward with KBTL, having perhaps greater intentions, nonetheless presents a virtually identical risk. Please choose between the other two offers.

Chip Hart

Winston W. Hart
18 Billings Ct.
Burlington, VT 05408
802-343-0810
Just wanted to voice my opinion that after paying for the buildout of the system, I urge the city to keep BT local and make it a cooperative. BED works so well. Let’s do this with our telecom!

thanks for listening

Paul Bierman
pbierman@uvm.edu
Delehanty Hall
Burlington, VT 05405
802-656-4411 (v)

UVM Geology Dept.
180 Colchester Avenue
802-238-6826 (cell)
802-656-0045 (fax)

uvm.edu/~pbierman
üvm.edu/geomorph
uvm.edu/landscape
uvm.edu/cosmolab
Public ownership is prudent ownership.

Steve Norman
802.430.4652
Hello City of Burlington... I’m writing with two points...

1. Please don’t privatize what so many of us have worked on for so many years to build... a locally owned and controlled state-of-the-art telecom utility. We have a chance to retain local control with the KBTL coop... let’s seize the day. And,

2. Please don’t be tempted by short-term financial and political gain by selling to the bidder with the highest up-front offer. Analysis is clear that the longer-term financial view of BT is very rosy. Please don’t give away the future financial pay-off to an out-of-state private corporation... let’s keep those long-term returns at home in Burlington. We can’t afford to sell off this critical asset... and why would we want to?

Finally...

BED is owned by us, by our City, and is super successful.

VEIC / Efficiency Vermont is controlled by a local board of directors as a nonprofit... and is an incredible asset to Burlington.

Gardeners Supply is owned by its employees and is a fantastic employer.

City Market is owned by its coop members and is a national leader.

All of these are examples of Burlington success stories... economically, environmentally, as employers... and they all have ownership structures that keep control local... and that have been crucial to their longevity and to their returning investments to Burlington year after year.

Let’s add BT to this list... another national model, providing stellar product and customer service, super affordable... and controlled locally for long-term community benefit.

Thank you. -Michael

Michael Wood-Lewis
66 Caroline St, Burlington
802-310-2339
I write as a constituent (taxpayer) and as someone who has worked in a downtown Burlington business since June, 1992.

I cannot believe that Keep BT Local’s bid of $10 million financed by a 14% loan could even be considered a serious bid. I believe that no financially responsible city official could consider supporting such a bid, especially against cash bids of $31 million+ and $27 million+ from independent (non-Comcast), well-established, financially stable companies with long track records in media ownership, and who have agreed to the city’s other criteria of local input, net neutrality, etc.

In addition to the fact that KBTL’s bid is simply ridiculously low, they have no experience whatsoever in owning or managing any business. And the fact that a bank will charge them 14% interest in this age of 4% prevailing interest rates means that the lender itself has no confidence in them. If another recession hits, will BT find itself again in the same cash-strapped position that necessitated the secret $17M loan in the first place? Will we be looking at yet another sale process? If so, will the other offers be as good as the $31M and $27M offers we have now?

At the same time, think of how the City could benefit from its share of either the $31M or $27M offers! We have seriously unfunded pension liabilities. We have property taxpayers who are crying out for tax relief. We have other city financial needs.

Thank you.

Walter Judge
I support the co-op bid to keep BT in local hands.

Best,

Tod

Sent from my iPhone
I am a firm supporter of keeping BT local. There is no way someone should be making a profit off of this. The only reason for picking either of the other two bids is to turn it into a profit-making business, and that was never the intent of the creation of this entity in the first place. Burlington is turning into a community that is unlike the one that existed in the past, where profit is king. This has got to stop.
I believe strongly in the original premise of BT, and hope that the city council will do the right thing.

Barbara Alsop
221 Pine St #5
Burlington VT 05401
802-489-1714
I would like to formally support the bid for KeepBTLocal's bid for the purchase of Burlington Telecom. This choice is in line with the progressive city that Burlington claims and wants to be.

To select another option is to turn away from a locally owned, maintained, and supported model. To select another option would demonstrate a lack of Progressive or Democratic ideals.

The original excitement of having a city owned internet utility will continue with the selection of KeepBTLocal. While the lure of more money from bigger companies or more from outsider investor sounds good, it is at the expense of the community. The community would lose its initial investment and the potential for future earnings for a one time payout.

The community would also be at the mercy of this outside investor, who's motivation would be increased return on it's investments. This will likely lead to higher rates and less capital spent on improvements and maintenance.

As a taxpayer who has invested in this local system I would like it to remain local in order to improve and continue to benefit the local community, not outside investors.

I understand Keep BT Local are small, and would be taking on a large debt burden, but there is no harm in giving the small coop a chance. These were among the same arguments levied against selecting the Onion River Co-op to become City Market. The selection of that coop had risks and have brought great benefits to the community, and to the community members and coop owners. City Market is a point of pride in the city. Let's expand that pride of the city by having our internet utility be member owned and community supported.

Selecting this option is the best for Burlington residents who would be re-investing their money into their community, rather than an out of state or out of country business, where our money would not be benefiting our local community.

Thank-you.

John Leddy
Dear Mayor and Council Members,

100% local control of an essential utility offers our best chance to maintain net neutrality. BT is currently operating at a profit adequate to support repayment of the loan that bidder "Keep BT Local" requires to buy BT. I am convinced we need to take this path right now.

Selection of another bidder means the residents of the City will have lost their say in:

1) programming offered,
2) fees charged,
3) selection of top executives running the telecom,
4) the option to sell the telecom at a later date if that is deemed desirable.

Local control of BT as a coop will give residents the flexibility to influence outcomes to challenges we cannot even imagine today.

Please don’t be short-sighted in this decision. Rather, give “Keep BT Local” the opportunity to run BT as a coop first.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Ely
Councilors,

I urge you to accept the bid of the Keep BT Local coop group. As far as I can see, now that the bidders and LOIs are public, it is the only group that represents local control of BT in the future. A cooperative structure for BT would give ownership to all subscribers and a substantial stake to the City, hence to all residents of Burlington.

Furthermore, the statements about management experience and debt financing have been misleading at best. The chart that was distributed by Councilors Mason and Shannon at the Ward 5 NPA last week seemed to indicate that the private bidders had extensive telecom management experience. With research, this has proved not to be true. Also the "cash offers" are essentially financed by lines of credit that ultimately are based on borrowed money.

Trust in city government is important. So far, the process of the BT sale has eroded that trust. I know that you all -- and in particular those of you serving on BTAB -- have worked hard on this issue. I thank you for that service. However, the secrecy and back room dealing as well as the perceived favoritism that have tainted this process are discouraging.

The KBTL coop bid represents true local control and is based on solid financial projections for the continued success of BT. Listen to the public. Accept the most transparent and beneficial offer before you: the Coop option.

Andrew Simon
54 Locust Street
Burlington
Linda Provost
Little Place Guest House
www.littleplaceguesthouse.com
209 N. Winooski Ave.
Burlington, VT 05401
802-660-8283
Let’s keep it local!!!!

Sent from my iPhone
From: Killian Hermann <khermann@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 5:25 PM
To: BT Feedback
Subject: KEEP BT LOCAL !!

As someone who lives downtown and like many relies on the internet for their job, and as someone who has spent the last 20 years travelling across the country implementing technologies that rely and develop internet/networking infrastructure, I am writing to tell you to STOP screwing around with short-term gains you see as the easy way out of your situation with BT. Whatever you think you know about the complications of running BT, let me tell you that you’re wrong. All the hard work has been done, we’re long past the real difficulties of standing up such an operation. Now that we've put in all the hard work to get things going, you're going to just hand it back over to private interests that prioritize profit above all else? Are you f'ing serious? Do you think the people in this town are stupid? Don't answer that.

All I can say is each of you must already have an exit strategy that doesn't include public office anywhere in or near Vermont because everyone knows what this is. Any guarantees a private interest offers is only as good as the paper it's written on, these promises are demonstrably worthless. Private interests equate to profit as the lowest common denominator and that's what you're prioritizing with giving (yes, GIVING AWAY) this infrastructure to any of the private bidders.

Want to know why they're over-bidding? You already know these answers, but I'll tell you anyway. They're over bidding because we've already done all the risky and difficult work, and this infrastructure we've implemented here as a f'ing GOLD MINE. Who wouldn't pay 20, 30 million over the citibank price? These are chicken-scratch numbers and those funds are absolutely secure for the private interest in their ability to recover. How are they secure for a private interest with ZERO risk?

Because if they somehow can't figure out how to make money (spoiler: BT is already making money) they can , in a heartbeat, sell out to the monopoly of TWC/Comcast, either directly or indirectly. It's a zero-risk proposition, because it's all about profit. They will gladly over-pay because this is a tiny market.

Don't sell the future of this city to private interests that have absolutely zero ability to enforce their own promises (if even they are genuine). Internet access is the most fundamental utility to emerge since we figured out how to distribute natural gas, and arguably a far more important one in the long term.

On complexity; this is not a matter of a co-op not being able to handle this business. Carrier-class networking is old hat, it isn't complicated, don't be a naive rube thinking just because you can't figure it out it must be a business problem to solve by getting private experts. This is open standard, industry talent and skillsets.

This is not a matter of ability - like I said, the hardest part is already done.

The only way to keep Burlington ahead, to deliver on the economic promises you'd love so much to bolster your campaigns with, to rally popular support around, is to keep our internet infrastructure municipal and publicly owned, like a utility - like it should be, like it must eventually be. Don't be chumps who sell out. Don't be what we all feared Tom Wheeler was, a shill pushing policy for profits, but rather be Tom Wheeler and recognize that you don't want to be the name in history that took away the most important invention of our time out of the hands of the citizens and back in to the hands of profit interests cum monopolists.

It's impossible to believe each one of you didn't already know what the right answer has been all along for the people and future of this city, so please grow a pair and do the right thing - KEEP BT LOCAL !

Killian Hermann
Sell to highest bidder. Put 5mil back to city. Divest from this failed boondoggle.
Use the 12 million loss as a good lesson in how socialism works.
If not, the city will continue to have to use taxpayers $$ to bail out.
Jordan Redell

From: Peggy Luhrs <artemix.peggy@mail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2017 2:39 PM
To: BT Feedback

Everything that gets privatized means higher costs and less service. Let it be a coop.

Peggy Luhrs
Jordan Redell

From: Dave Gibson <dgibson@propelled.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 4:10 PM
To: BT Feedback
Subject: In support of Ting

Please pass these thoughts on to the Council as they assess finalists for the purchase of BT Telecom

In assessing the 3 candidates, I first value and appreciate the hard work and drive that the co-op has expressed. Its a shame theirs has been unable to reach the ballpark of the two others.

The challenge now is for the Council and citizens to move from philosophy to practicality. The bitter fact is that the Council and the Public Service Board have a fiduciary duty to act for the best of the people they represent. I understand the political pressure at hand, but this is your duty. Of course your option is to kick that can to the Public Service Board - as they certainly will see this gap, the lack of capitalization, the lack of experience and certainly not approve any deal with the co-op. I expect that's understood, but again... this is politics unfortunately.

As a resident and tech business owner in Burlington, I strongly urge you to consider the Ting/Tucows deal first and the Shurz deal second.

In particular, as someone connected with the tech community (20 years owning a web development company in Burlington), I'm most familiar and supportive of Ting.

Not only is their offer the strongest, but I believe their management team is most committed to this endeavor and also holds the most similar ideals. I just think they get Burlington. A few items that add to this notion can be seen in the following.

- Recent Reddit Ask Me Anything (AMA) session held last week. It was a lively, direct and informative discussion that included the CEO and senior staff: https://www.reddit.com/r/burlington/comments/71ko1j/ama_34pm_today_were_ting_one_of_the_companies/
- The Hello Burlington page and the thoughtful video https://ting.com/blog/hello-burlington-pleased-to-meet-you/
- And the info PDF they provided https://www.burlingtontelecom.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Ting-Tucows-LOI.pdf

This is a perfectly sized company with an excellent customer service and business management track record. This is not a behemoth company that people fear.

And to that, I look to Consumer Report's review of Cell Phone - customer service ratings. They are tied for first with an amazing 89% satisfaction record. That's amazing.

As much as I'd like to Keep BT Local, I'd rather Make BT Stronger, and I see Ting as the best candidate for that.

Thanks
I would like to formally support the bid for KeepBTLocal. This choice is in line with the progressive city that Burlington says it is. To select another option is to turn away from a locally owned, maintained, and supported model. The original excitement of having a city owned internet utility will continue with this selection.

I understand they are small, but there is no harm in giving the small coop a chance. These were the same arguments levied against selecting the Onion River Co-op to become City Market. The selection of that coop has brought great benefits to the community and to the community members and coop owners.

Selecting this option is the best for Burlington residents who would be re-investing their money into their community rather than an out of state or out of country business where our money would not be benefiting the local community.

Thanks,
Andrea Todd
Hi,

I live in Ward 4, and wanted to add my voice to the conversation in strong favor of the Keep BT Local co-op's bid. While the for-profit out-of-state/country bidders might leave the City slightly more flush with cash in the short-term, they would be a long-term drag on the economy of Burlington, while the co-op would be an engine for community wealth building, much like City Market has become.

Additionally, while the conditions of sale aim for an anti-monopoly assurance, such an assurance from the for-profits can be of limited value, especially for Tucows, which is publicly traded with more than 80% of its shares held by outsiders whose primary interest is maximized financial return. Should they be approached with a strong acquisition offer for their whole company by one of the major telecoms like Comcast, their leadership would be legally obligated to accept it, and I am not at all confident that the City would have much power to prevent a de facto monopoly as a result.

The choice is pretty stark: mortgage the city's future for a bit of up-front cash, or plan for the long term in a way that supports a prosperous Burlington that works for all its residents.

Thanks for hearing my perspective, and please vote co-op!

Matt Cropp
Green Acres Drive
As a very satisfied customer of Burlington Telecom, I support the effort to keep BT local.

I trust those making the decision will support this position.

Thank you,

Jesse Fulton  
41 Eastman Farm Road  
Burlington VT 05408  
802-399-2643  
jwfulton63@alumni.cmu.edu
Dear btfeedback@burlingtonvt.gov:

You have 1 new spam-quarantined messages as of Sep 27, 2017 12:00 AM (UTC) which are listed below along with the actions that can be taken:

**Release to Inbox:** Send the message to your Inbox.

**Report as Not Junk:** Send a copy of the message to Microsoft for analysis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sender</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Date (UTC)</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Release</th>
<th>Report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;<a href="mailto:artemix.peggy@mail.com">artemix.peggy@mail.com</a>&quot;<a href="mailto:artemix.peggy@mail.com">artemix.peggy@mail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sep 26, 2017 6:38 PM</td>
<td>21370</td>
<td>Release to Inbox</td>
<td>Report as Not Junk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I am a resident of Spruce Street, and I've been a BT customer since it first opened. I am strongly in favor of the co-op model of Keep BT Local. Local ownership -- by its members -- will keep BT focused on the needs of its consumers (i.e. its co-op member-owners), rather than on out-of-state shareholders. I am impressed with the business plan and the vision of Keep BT Local and have myself invested time and money in it. Please choose Keep BT Local's bid over Schurz or Ting.

Thank you.
Mark Howe
Dear Councilors,
I am sorry I can not be there for the meetings on Sept.25th and Oct. 2nd. So I would like to share these thoughts because I think you have before you one of the most critical decisions in Burlington's history.
The KBTL Coop has demonstrated that it can continue BT's current success. In the long run it could be more valuable to the people of the city than even BED, on the order of $1 Billion. The short term money pales in comparison.
Worst case, we end up with the kind of foreign private owner that is now competing with Coop.
By comparison, the KBTL Coop is in a stronger position than the Onion River Coop was when it took on the City Market challenge and made a tremendous success. The KBTL Coop business plan is fundamentally sound, and the community support is tremendous, with a far greater rate of committed loan funds than Onion River had.
Please allow Burlington's can-do spirit and immense know-how the chance to build a major asset rather than just turning us over as customer-victims of the private monopolistic telecom industry.
Those of us whose livelihoods depend on BT are making the financial commitments. We can do it. We have done it. Yes, BT made a mistake with Citi and Bluewater as the result. But we now have the chance to make a huge step forward. Please don't deny the people of the city that chance.
Jordan Redell

From: Matthew Bradley <matthewlbradley@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2017 2:37 PM
To: Chip Mason; BT Feedback; jshannon@burlingtontelecom.net
Subject: Thoughts on Burlington Telecom

Hi Chip, Joan,

I hope all is well. I wanted to reach out on the Burlington Telecom sale. Thank you for making as much information available to the public as possible. It clearly demonstrates a great deal of work on the part of the city. I am a supporter of keeping BT locally-owned through the KBTL co-op. Having financial experience, I was asked to reach out by some of the KBTL co-op leadership. Aside from the social and community benefit of the co-op proposal, which I believe are compelling, I thought I would share a couple thoughts on the transaction itself:

1) I have seen references to Schurz or Tucows acquiring BT 'debt free'. It is not clear whether that is the case or to what extent. An all cash purchase offer often involves a buyer borrowing money from existing credit lines. This debt may not result in acquisition debt on BT's balance sheet post close, which may be what the BTAB intended to communicate. With acquisitions, the term 'debt free' can have a separate meaning related to the seller's obligations.

If the concern is whether a buyer is borrowing funds to purchase BT, it would appear both Schurz and Tucows plan to use existing debt capacity for the acquisition. Schurz is privately held so their financials are not available to the general public. They did not disclose balance sheet cash in their proposal (nor would I expect them to). Their proposal references $100MM of unused debt capacity as a potential source of transaction financing. Tucows is publicly traded and their consolidated financials lists $15MM of cash on their balance sheet as of June 2017 filings. This does not appear to be sufficient balance sheet cash to acquire BT at their proposed offer price. Tucow's financials also show $140MM of debt facilities with unused capacity, which they have used previously for acquisitions.

Just to be clear, I do not think debt acquisition financing is inappropriate for any of the three entities bidding on BT. It would be normal to use debt for an acquisition like this, whether on a cash basis or not. The phrase 'debt free' can be confusing though if it is indeed being used as a criteria for decision.

2) It is not clear that either of the 'outside' cash bids (Schurz or Tucows) represent the best financial offer for the residents of Burlington. Transactions like this are often discussed in terms of a multiple of EBITDA. Assuming BT generates $3.5MM of EBITDA in 2017 this equates to roughly an 8x multiple from both Schurz and Ting based on their offers ~$28MM-30MM. Both ~8x priced bids appear at the lower end, but reasonable based on the restrictive terms of the proposals along with the City's timeline and sale requirements. That does not necessarily make these bids the best financial alternatives for city residents, particularly as these prices reflect no city ownership.

Certainly KBTL is bidding much less, but there is a critical difference with the co-op proposal. Not only is control held locally, but ownership is open to Burlington residents and the bid includes partial city ownership. This is the significant benefit of the co-op, particularly if BT's value increases in the future. For example, if BT reaches $6MM in EBITDA in five years, it would be worth $48MM at the low end (8x multiple - which the market supports today) but could be closer to $60MM (the sale expediency and other conditions...
would be a lesser factor). That is additional enterprise value of $20MM to $30MM beyond the highest bids today.

To further the example, I believe Tucows currently charges $90 a month for 1GB broadband in Charlottesville (vs. BT currently charging $70 for 1GB). If after the rate freeze expires, a bidder were to increase rates by $20 on a subscription base of 8,000 resident-subscribers, it equates to $160K of additional profit a month, or $1.9MM a year of incremental EBITDA. That EBITDA increase would add $15MM to $23MM of value to BT at 8x-12x EBITDA multiples, simply by charging the residents of Burlington more for broadband. That is easy to achieve and could happen in 5 years, independent of any proposed BT expansion. In short, the co-op could either keep rates low, or provide a mechanism for subscribers/residents to benefit from future rate increases (and 12.5% city ownership).

Selling outright to an 'outside' investor could result in Burlington residents losing twofold. BT users could be paying higher rates in the near future...and the city would have sold BT for less than what it is really worth. We would lose the opportunity for residents to participate in the equity (and increased value) of BT, while subscribers will be paying higher rates. I don't see the same financial risk to Burlington residents and BT users with the co-op, with proper structure and oversight. I also see the co-op model as a way to keep broadband accessible to residents across the economic spectrum. Otherwise, we are relying on formal agreements with conditions that will sunset over time.

Candidly, the biggest issue I see with the co-op bid is the financing structure and 'risk of execution'. Again, my experience is that it is not unusual for a buyer with limited capital access or higher leverage (more debt to EBITDA) to have 14% on certain types of loans or tranches of debt, particularly with an acquisition. The typical plan I have seen is to increase EBITDA to pay-down or refinance high interest acquisition debt, usually within a short horizon (say 3-5 years). The questions are usually whether a buyer has adequate committed capital for the acquisition and whether the projected cash flow can support operations along with the added debt service obligation.

If you have any questions or I can elaborate further, please feel free to reach out! Thanks again for the effort to make the sale process more transparent.

Best regards,
Matt Bradley
167 Lyman Ave
It would be fantastic if we could pull this off - I fully support the concept and execution of keeping BT in the basic form of its roots, as a city infrastructure project that it has been!

Sent from my iPhone
Thanks for the opportunity to provide feedback.

As a BT customer and a professional intermediary in low-end mergers and acquisitions, I would like to offer some thoughts:

1. A cooperative is certainly appealing in concept. However, the KBTL pricing is much too low. And, they are grossly overleveraging, which will lead to issues down the road – constraining growth due to the lack of operating capital. Plus, the key local players, while admirably trying to cobble together this deal, simply do not have relevant industry operating experience at this scale.

2. The Ting/Tucows and Schurz bids look decent. I’d like to see the City retain 20% equity, if possible. If these two bidders move forward, there should be good potential to negotiate and capture the strongest price and most desired terms in the winning offer.

3. While the numbers need to work with the chosen bidder, it’s very important that other considerations are included in the selection. I have not followed the process here in great detail, so you may have already covered these bases. If not, I would encourage the group to look at how well T/T and Schurz have handled prior acquisitions. Speaking directly with key managers in other companies who were previously acquired by T/T and Schurz could be quite revealing. For the acquired companies, how would they judge their experience moving through the acquisition process? And more importantly, once the acquisition occurred, how did T/T or Schurz handle the integration of a new company, culture, etc. into their existing operation? Did the transition run fairly smoothly? And now that T/T and Schurz have been operating for a while, how would employees of the acquired companies describe the current culture? Is it positive? These “softer” side considerations can tremendously impact the chances of successful integration and operation. Sometimes it makes sense to choose the acquirer who is most likely to succeed long-term, even if they don’t offer the strongest pricing.

Good luck and thanks for all your efforts!

Regards,

Lynne Silva

Lynne Silva, Certified Business Intermediary
President

The Silva Group LLC
1127 North Avenue Suite 27-287
Burlington, VT 05408

(802) 864-6200
www.thesilvagroupvt.com
Support the local economy with jobs.

BT is now making a profit-- Give it a chance to pay the City back the $17 million.

Keeping Burlington’s infrastructure locally controlled supports Vermont’s sustainability philosophy.

Thanks,
Annie D’Alton
24 Pomeroy St.
To: Burlington City Councilors and Mayor Miro Weinberger

Re: Approaching an analysis of the three prospective buyers of BT

Date: September 25, 2017

If one is only interested in the dollar amounts proffered by the three bidders,

and if one is risk-averse to public ownership of a utility in the proximate form of a cooperative,

and if one believes that Burlingtonians would readily shift their hopes and allegiances from their locally-owned Burlington Telecom to a company based in South Bend, Indiana or Toronto, Canada,

and if one fears that if the Co-op were to acquire BT, Burlingtonians would move their business to Comcast,

and if one not only expects a rapid and immediate expansion of BT, but also that lacking such rapid and immediate expansion would crush BT's competitiveness,

and if one believes that managing an existing successful and professionally-staffed telecom system is just short of rocket science,

then sadly, one has lost the optimism and faith that our City is able to continue to partner successfully with its own highly-motivated and tirelessly stubborn residents: a City-Citizen partnership that over the years has blessed Burlington with one of the nation’s most prosperous downtown pedestrian malls, a ground-breaking sustainable wood-burning power plant, one of the most profitable food co-operatives in the U.S., an affordable not-for-profit sailing center, a district heating system that's about to become reality, and several other smaller but equally important community assets.

I urge each City Councilor and the Mayor to understand that the idea of BT as a telecom co-operative is catching on in all wards of the City, and that the sense of ownership and having some control over this vital modern public infrastructure is one of the most powerful assets one can have to assure its long-term success against all future threats--both known and unknown.

If you make that brave vote for the KBTL Co-op, I'm confident your constituents and the media will have your back, and the nay-sayers will be relegated to a 'will be proven wrong' minority within a year of the closing.

Sincerely,
Gregory Epler Wood
www.KeepBTLocal.com
GregEW2@BurlingtonTelecom.net
802.861.7364
I ask that the city council/mayor vote for the Co-op bid and keep Burlington Telecom as a local resource. This is best for all the residents of Burlington as owning are own electric company has proven for many years.

Thank you

Bill Stahl
Dear City Council & Mayor Weinberger-

As a resident of Burlington/BT customer I support the sale of BT to Keep BT Local. I’m confident in the organization’s ability to properly run the telecommunications company and provide long term financial success that will keep money in our community.

Thank you for your service!

Alison

Alison Davis
Branch Manager, CSP
Westaff
74 Main St Burlington, VT 05401
Office: 802-860-2289 | Cell: 802-881-5580 | Email: adavis@westaff.com
Keep BT local and cooperative.

Sent from my iPhone
Please, please, please keep Burlington Telecom local. How could we possibly give up such an incredible asset to the city.
Keep BT Local not only feels good. It is the best option for years to come

Sent from my iPhone
We taxpayers are the ones who invested when BT was a shambles. The cooperative offer satisfies the requirements. OF COURSE we must sell BT to keep it local.

Jessica Arendt
We must keep BT local.
I believe strongly that Burlington Coop should remain a coop and NOT go to the highest bidder. It is important that communications systems remain in the hands of the people.

Thank you,

Bonnie Hooper
Imagine that your electric bill went up 30$ a month and you found out the reason why was because the corporate office in Dallas said "this holding has underperforming rates of return." Profits. Fortunately BED is owned by us and not by a giant out of state company. We now have a tremendous opportunity to keep another utility ours. Let's look beyond short-term $$$ and invest wisely in our future by keeping Burlington Telecom local. As a twenty year member of the Onion River Coop, I can attest to the many benefits of cooperative ownership. During the good times, I've received thousands of dollars in patronage refunds--profits no privately owned supermarket would've given back to the community. City Market along with it's ten thousand plus members/owners have given millions to the foodshelf and other local charities. With City Market's expansion, it is looking out for the needs of our community, not out of state shareholders. In fact, because member/owners like myself believe so strongly in our locally owned coop, members are loaning City Market over a million dollars for the building of the South end store. City Market is a perfect model for why we must choose wisely and keep Burlington Telecom local. Thanks
Greg Goetsch
It is the best plan for Burlington's future. Ivan Goldstein, Lakeview Terrace

Sent from my iPhone
I strongly support Burlington Telecom being owned by a coop. We have seen this model work. Please do not sell BT to outsiders who can raise the rates on us. Thank you for allowing an open review of the bidders.

Carol Czina

Sent from my iPhone
Jordan Redell

From: linda bowden <lindabowden@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:21 PM
To: BT Feedback
Subject: Keep it local

BT needs to be kept local.
Thanks,
Linda Bowden
Brookes Ave
Burlington

Android phone sometimes misspells words, sorry!
Hello,

Please add me to your list of taxpaying Burlington residents wanting to keep Burlington Telecom a local company. As it is now making a profit the long term benefits of keeping it in the community make good business sense. Let's make our money back and then some more. The horror stories of dealing with other giant providers isn't where I want to go. BT offers great service and the customer support. It's the right choice for Burlington! Please listen to what the people want, to keep this company in the hands of the local ownership. It's a long term investment that will pay off!!

Amy Jelen
What an amazing asset and opportunity we have to keep a business with a bright and lucrative future in our own hands!!

The analysis of the future seems crystal clear - if we make a smart, measured decision today to keep this asset within our community we are choosing a better tomorrow for our children.

Please keep BT local!!!!

Annika Hawkins-Hilke, Burlington Telecom consumer and local resident
Add one more to the list of taxpaying Burlington residents wanting to keep Burlington Telecom a local company. As it is now making a profit the long term benefits of keeping it in the community make good business sense. Let’s make our money back and then some more. The horror stories of dealing with other giant providers isn’t where I want to go. I love the service and the customer support BT offers right now-- they are the best. It’s the right choice for Burlington! Please listen to what the people want, to keep this company in the hands of the local ownership. It’s a long term investment that will pay off.

Thank you,
Sara Jelen
I do not know words strong or clear enough to fully convey the depth of desire to have BT a local coop.

There is a strong history of telecom coops in our country. There is a coop culture in Burlington that is successful. Onion River Coop/City Market- the most successful single grocery store coop in the nation.

Coops give back to their community and customers more than other business models. That is their business model. Customers, community, infrastructure comes first. All profits go back to the customers.

This is a no brainer. Let’s make the right decision please.

thank you

serrill flash

860-1692
I'm writing to express my support that the City accept the bid of the local co-op, so that we may retain this valuable infrastructure as a community asset.

Thanks!

Kirsten DeLuca

53 Front Street
Hi. As a Burlington taxpayer and BT user, I am writing to ask you very seriously to make the sale to the Keep BT Local Cooperative. Over the years we taxpayers invested about $17 million in BT. It had rocky years but is now doing well -- expected to net $3 million in profits this year and well positioned to grow its business. The other bidders may be offering much more money than the cooperative, but how much of it is really going to Burlington? Not much. The city would actually LOSE money once the bankers and investors take their cut!

The local co-op model would keep decisions (like rates!) local and would continue to contribute to our economy in the hands of people who actually care about our economy, because they are IN it! This is vital for economic development in Vermont.

The co-op’s $12 million bid will pay off all of BT’s debt and then starts paying the city back year after year with a sustainable model that will improve the community, and not suck the life and money out of it! The co-op’s bid offers the best long-term financial value for our community. And don’t forget the #1 criteria of the BT sale (according to Burlingtonians) that BT stay locally owned.

PLEASE. Make the right choice, and sell to the Keep BT Local Cooperative. Thank you.

-Adam Hall, 25 Buell St, Burlington, VT
Hello, I'm writing to register my support for maintaining local control of BT. Let's think long term!

Thanks,
Sara Mason
Drew Street

Sent from my iPhone
I am a happy BT customer, and would love to see it remain a local endeavor. If we sell for a payout in the short term, big companies, not BTV residents, will be reaping the profits and rewards in the long term, also dictate what types of rates and services to which we have access. Why would we want that? I love the co-op model, such as City Market, and hope City Hall sees the wisdom of this.

All the best,

Tracy Lopez
Please keep BT local! I support cooperative ownership that prioritizes local service and investment returns!

Sent from my iPhone

Disclaimer

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email transmission may contain attorney/client privileged and confidential information intended only for the individual or entity named above. Any dissemination, use, distribution, copying or disclosure of this communication by any other person or entity is strictly prohibited. Should you receive this transmission in error, please notify the sender by telephone (802-864-5751) and return the original transmission to problem@dinse.com.

This email has been scanned for viruses and malware, and may have been automatically archived by Mimecast Ltd.
Burlington City Council,

631 people have signed a petition on Action Network telling you to IT’S OUR FUTURE: LET’S KEEP BURLINGTON TELECOM LOCAL.

Here is the petition they signed:

Burlington Telecom (BT) is a valuable community asset, paid for by the people of Burlington, and vital to our economic and civic future as a thriving community. In evaluating the sale of BT, the City must openly consider which entities provide the best leadership, the most affordable approach, the best fiscal return for our citizens, and which organization will remain accountable to our community no matter what changes transpire in the telecom world.

The City Council’s consultants are publicly advising our City Council to only consider for-profit, non-cooperative bids. In the 21st century, internet access is a crucial public utility which will determine our economic well being in the future. Much like roads, schools, or electric power, it is in everyone’s interest that everyone in the community have access to it, so they can access information, engage in economic activity, and participate in community life.

Therefore, we are asking the City Council to support The Keep BT Local Cooperative’s (KBTL) bid. They have provided a full, public account of the leadership and vision they intend to bring to the table on how our telecom should evolve, using top quality management and a sound business plan to ensure that we offer long-term, reliable, and significant economic benefits to Burlington by keeping millions of dollars in profits local and supporting our growing tech-based economy.

You can view each petition signer and the comments they left you in the attached PDF.
Thank you,

Shay Totten

Sent via Action Network, a free online toolset anyone can use to organize. [Click here to sign up](#) and get started building an email list and creating online actions today.

Action Network is an open platform that empowers individuals and groups to organize for progressive causes. We encourage responsible activism, and do not support using the platform to take unlawful or other improper action. We do not control or endorse the conduct of users and make no representations of any kind about them.

You can unsubscribe or update your email address by [changing your subscription preferences here](#).
Burlington City Council,

631 people have signed a petition on Action Network telling you to IT’S OUR FUTURE: LET’S KEEP BURLINGTON TELECOM LOCAL.

Here is the petition they signed:

Burlington Telecom (BT) is a valuable community asset, paid for by the people of Burlington, and vital to our economic and civic future as a thriving community. In evaluating the sale of BT, the City must openly consider which entities provide the best leadership, the most affordable approach, the best fiscal return for our citizens, and which organization will remain accountable to our community no matter what changes transpire in the telecom world.

The City Council’s consultants are publicly advising our City Council to only consider for-profit, non-cooperative bids. In the 21st century, internet access is a crucial public utility which will determine our economic well being in the future. Much like roads, schools, or electric power, it is in everyone’s interest that everyone in the community have access to it, so they can access information, engage in economic activity, and participate in community life.

Therefore, we are asking the City Council to support The Keep BT Local Cooperative’s (KBTL) bid. They have provided a full, public account of the leadership and vision they intend to bring to the table on how our telecom should evolve, using top quality management and a sound business plan to ensure that we offer long-term, reliable, and significant economic benefits to Burlington by keeping millions of dollars in profits local and supporting our growing tech-based economy.

You can view each petition signer and the comments they left you below.

Thank you,

Shay Totten

1. Alison Adams (ZIP code: 05401)

2. AARON DESROCHERS (ZIP code: 05401)
   Don’t sell off one of BTV’s greatest assets!! KEEP BT LOCAL!!!

3. Adam Hudson (ZIP code: 05401)
   I believe that our fundamental democratic freedoms are eroded through the consolidation of media outlets and telecommunications providers as news becomes more generic and less focused on local markets and as monopolistic ownership enables inefficient operations of telecommunication markets.

Vermont and Burlington have a long tradition of protecting local products and business and telecom should be no different.
Further, Burlington Telecom is incredibly reliable and provides great customer service!

Making Burlington Telecom a local cooperative is a great way to ensure that we maintain a locally-owned, locally-focused media and telecommunication. Let's make it happen.

4. Adam Wager (ZIP code: 05401)

5. Adelicia Vander Els (ZIP code: 05495)
   It's already expensive to live in Burlington, this is one positive that makes life a little easier for people struggling to make ends meet.

6. Kimberly Caterino (ZIP code: 05401)

7. Andrew Gansenberg (ZIP code: 05401)
   A cooperatively owned Burlington Telecom will support our community for years to come and as a hopeful future member, we will support the company. Please allow us to have a community owned telecom.

8. Ann Kalinoski (ZIP code: 05408)

9. Andrew Hatch (ZIP code: 05401)

10. Aimee Wilson (ZIP code: 05401)

11. Amy Jelen (ZIP code: 05408)

12. Albert Petrarca (ZIP code: 05401)

13. Karl Nilsson (ZIP code: 05401)

14. Alec Julien (ZIP code: 05401)

15. Athena Letourneau (ZIP code: 05401)

16. Alex Reutter (ZIP code: 05408)
   If we sell to a private company like Comcast, we can expect them to sue rather than serve our citizens: https://vtdigger.org/2017/08/30/comcast-sues-state-conditions-new-operating-permit/. A coop retains local control and puts money paid by subscribers back into the local economy rather than out-of-state.

17. Alexander Friend (ZIP code: 05401)

18. Alex Morgan (ZIP code: 05401)
   BT provides amazing, affordable internet service and excellent customer service. It's exactly the kind of 21st century infrastructure Burlington should be investing in, despite the past drama. We've all
experienced the frustration of corporate ISPs and I'd hate to see that derail this great provider.

19. Alex Lavin (ZIP code: 05401)
Keep BT Local. We need this essential service--web access--insulated from corporate profiteering.

20. Alex Chaffee (ZIP code: 05401)

21. Alexander Wright (ZIP code: 05401)

22. Alice Stokes (ZIP code: 05401)

23. Alida Duncan (ZIP code: 05401)

24. Aaron Lipman (ZIP code: 05404)

25. Allison Unger (ZIP code: 05401)

26. Alan Matson (ZIP code: 05401)

27. Andrew Crawford (ZIP code: 05408)

28. Michael Severance (ZIP code: 05401)

29. Andy Hard (ZIP code: 05401)

30. Anna Kovaliv (ZIP code: 05408)
Let's keep the future of our digital access secure and prosperous!

31. Anne Clark (ZIP code: 05401)

32. Anne Taylor (ZIP code: 05408)

33. Adam Newhard (ZIP code: 05401)

34. Anthony Grudin (ZIP code: 05408)

35. Deborah DeLadurantaye (ZIP code: 05401)
What will be our contribution to the live ability of this progressive city?

36. Peggy Luhrs (ZIP code: 05401)
don't sell us out to a corporation that doesn't care about Burlington whose main concern will always be the bottom line.
37. Sean Melinn (ZIP code: 05401-5114)

38. Alisdair Walker (ZIP code: 05408)

39. ann vivian (ZIP code: 05401)

40. Alan Turnbull (ZIP code: 05401)
   To me, this is all about accountability: A coop will be infinitely more accountable to Burlington
   residents than any of the other suitors. Mistakes can be made on any other criterion, and recovered
   from, but once local control and accountability are gone, they're gone forever.

41. Bethany Whitaker (ZIP code: 05401)

42. Brian Devins (ZIP code: 05401)

43. Barbara Wanner (ZIP code: 05401)

44. Barbara Kester (ZIP code: 05401)

45. Barbro Thelemarck (ZIP code: 05401)

46. Barbara Nolfi (ZIP code: 05401)

47. Bob Wolf (ZIP code: 05401)
   Keep BT Local. Been a BT customer since the beginning and love it. Come on City Council, think
   outside the box and make BT a co-op. It's the Vermont way! Look how well City Market is doing as a
   co-op.

48. Damon Brink (ZIP code: 05401)

49. Becca McHale (ZIP code: 05401)

50. Beckie Bull (ZIP code: 05401)

51. Rebecca Galvin (ZIP code: 05401)
   Local, local, local! It's part of what this city stands for -- whether here in Burlington itself, in the
   stateVT, or nationally!

52. Doris Bedinger (ZIP code: 05401)
   Don't fear coops! We've had phenomenal local success and so have other cities with cooperatively
   owned utilities.

53. Benjamin Bloom (ZIP code: 05401)
54. Benjamin Beatty-Owens (ZIP code: 05401)
Please look at the long term picture, not short term financial benefit. I worked in a cooperative for a long time and it makes so much sense.

55. Benjamin Throop (ZIP code: 05401-4837)

56. Beth Haggart (ZIP code: 05401)

57. Elizabeth Miller (ZIP code: 05408)

58. Elizabeth Allen-Pennebaker (ZIP code: 05401)
We're satisfied BT customers!!!! Love to support the local economy instead of a faceless monopoly!

59. Blythe Usher (ZIP code: 05401)

60. Brian Williams (ZIP code: 05408)

61. Barbara Alsop (ZIP code: 05401)

62. Bill Harvey (ZIP code: 05401)

63. Bill Oetjen (ZIP code: 05408)

64. Burke Bouchard (ZIP code: 05401)

65. Brian Fisher (ZIP code: 05401)

66. Barbara McGrew (ZIP code: 05401)

67. Michael Brennan (ZIP code: 05408)

68. Beth Mintz (ZIP code: 05401)

69. Robert Summers (ZIP code: 05401)
Help make it locally owned!

70. Clara Bond (ZIP code: 05401)
This is an unusual chance to invest in some long-term Financial benefits for the residents of Burlington. The short-term benefits of going for more money now and letting the long-term benefits not be taken just doesn't seem to make much Financial sense.

71. Frank Giacobbi (ZIP code: 05401)
72. Brando Roxh (ZIP code: 05401)
Please keep Burlington telecom a local cooperative.

73. Brendan Hogan (ZIP code: 05401)

74. Brian Waters (ZIP code: 05401)

75. Brian Carr (ZIP code: 05401)

76. Brian Pine (ZIP code: 05401)
Telecom for people, not for profit!

77. Bryan Fleming (ZIP code: 05401)
This is important

78. Beth Sachs (ZIP code: 05401)

79. Bruce Seifer (ZIP code: 05401)
Keep BT Local Cooperative is consistent with the 6 Community Economic Development Principles the City of Burlington has followed since 1984. In the long run, these principles have provided the foundation for the prosperity Burlington is currently experiencing. City Market's success is emblematic of these Principles working for all of Burlington Citizens with now over 17,000 member owners.

80. Jeremy Bull (ZIP code: 05401)

81. Roger Lambert (ZIP code: 05401)

82. Bernadette Wagner (ZIP code: 05401)

83. Barbara Wynroth (ZIP code: 05401)

84. Caitlin Lovegrove (ZIP code: 05401)
I have been a BT customer for several years now, and love it! I would be saddened to hear that it sold to an outside company, that cares less about its individual customers than does BT.

85. Carol Czin (ZIP code: 05401)
Keep Burlington telecom local! Please!!

86. Caroline Tassey (ZIP code: 05408)

87. Carolyn Zeller (ZIP code: 05401)

88. Carole Lambert (ZIP code: 05408)
Keep by local
89. Caryn Long (ZIP code: 05401)
Burlington Telecom is finally making money. Please sell it to a local co-operative.

90. Cassandra Bouchard (ZIP code: 05408)
Please listen to the Burlington residents!

91. Carolyn Bates (ZIP code: 05401)
This is the ONLY solution to keeping BT local in the future. Any other way, can always be sold in the future. PLEASE vote for us, city councilors.

92. Cleary Buckley (ZIP code: 05408)
I support keeping BT ownership in our community, and urge sale of the company to Keep Burlington Telecom Local Cooperative.

93. Carina Driscoll (ZIP code: 05401)

94. Christina Erickson (ZIP code: 05401)

95. Thomas Buck (ZIP code: 05401)
in 100% agreement!

96. Charlie Giannoni (ZIP code: 05401)
Quiz: what was the name of the original cable company in Burlington which received its license for a song from the City Council? Our CC has a history of short-sighted decision-making.

97. cheryl Diersch (ZIP code: 05408)

98. Christopher Hood (ZIP code: 05401)
It's our network!

99. Christopher Brzovic (ZIP code: 05401)

100. Chris Ramos (ZIP code: 05401)

101. Christine Staats (ZIP code: 05401)

102. Christine Golden (ZIP code: 05401)

103. Matthew Cropp (ZIP code: 05408)
Please!!!

104. Cinse Bonino (ZIP code: 05401)
Keep it local!
105. Claudia Walsh (ZIP code: 05408)
106. Cherie Marshall (ZIP code: 05401)
107. Christine Kucipeck (ZIP code: 05401)
108. Charlotte Norris (ZIP code: 05401)
109. Charles Perez (ZIP code: 05401)
110. Martha Garrett (ZIP code: 05401)
111. Dorothy Coe de Hernandez (ZIP code: 05401)
112. Cole McDermott (ZIP code: 05401-3629)
113. Colin Henkel (ZIP code: 05401)
114. Colin Ryan (ZIP code: 05408)
115. Colin Robinson (ZIP code: 05401)
116. Timothy Collins (ZIP code: 05408)
117. Connie Krosney (ZIP code: 05401-4105)
118. Augustine Contrera (ZIP code: 05401)
Burlington Telecom is great. I won't use anyone else if I have the choice. I really hope the city keeps it in the hands of citizens!
119. constantin cemirtan (ZIP code: 05408)
120. pine street art works (ZIP code: 05403)
121. Christina Pasnick (ZIP code: 05401)
I'm a BT customer. I've always had problems with larger corporate providers and, for the first time in my life, I receive outstanding customer service. I know that my money is going to hard-working locals that share my values and not a small group of wealthy CEO's that only care about their bank accounts. I value transparency in practice and solid customer service and do not want to lose it with BT.
122. Caleb Goossen (ZIP code: 05401)
123. Crystal L'Hote (ZIP code: 05401)

124. Liz Curry (ZIP code: 05401)
We have a huge brain trust in this City and Vermont that can manage a co-op. Expertise is not our problem. We've all put our equity in BT Telecom - selling it now is like selling BED and selling us out.

125. Curt McCormack (ZIP code: 05401)
Let me know what else I can do. And thank you to whomever set up this action alert.

126. Charles Winkleman (ZIP code: 05401)

127. Scott Cyr (ZIP code: 05401)

128. David Schein (ZIP code: 05408)

129. Dagmar zentrichova (ZIP code: 05408)

130. Laura Dame (ZIP code: 05401)

131. Damon Lane (ZIP code: 05401)

132. Daniel Brown (ZIP code: 05401)
We need more public utilities, not less!

133. Louise Brill (ZIP code: 05401)
In the long run, the co-op will be financially a better choice.

134. Barbara Mines (ZIP code: 05401)

135. Ross Conrad (ZIP code: 05743)

136. Dan Elliott (ZIP code: 05408)
Own it!!!

137. Daniel Herman (ZIP code: 05408)

138. David Rand (ZIP code: 05408)

139. David Jacobowitz (ZIP code: 05403)
I live in South Burlington and I hope to see Burlington Telecom expand to our city.

140. David Lansky (ZIP code: 05401)
141. David Mount (ZIP code: 05401)

142. David Conner (ZIP code: 05408)
I am a long time BT customer, hoping to stay that way. Keep it local!

143. David Curtis (ZIP code: 05401)

144. Donna Bister (ZIP code: 05401)

145. Evan Gould (ZIP code: 05401)

146. Dean Corren (ZIP code: 05401)
Don't sell Burlington short! BT is the BED of the future. Keep them our economic tools, not for a Comcast by any name to take advantage of us.

147. Don Dickson (ZIP code: 05401)

148. Don Dickson (ZIP code: 05401)

149. Owen Mulligan (ZIP code: 05401)

150. andrea farley (ZIP code: 05408)

151. Deborah Krug (ZIP code: 05404)
I miss Burlington telecom so much! Regional locally owned telecom now!

152. Debora Teixeira (ZIP code: 05405)

153. Deborah Leopold (ZIP code: 05408)

154. Desiree Roberts (ZIP code: 05401)
Burlington Telecom should be a public utility. It is worth more to the community than pure monetary value. In the long run, the internet being a utility is the best thing for all citizens. We are moving to an internet based society, and it should be as accessible as phones, electricity, and heating.

155. Devon Dickson (ZIP code: 05401)
Municipally owned fiber was one of the biggest draws for me when I moved to Burlington earlier this year. Access to fast, reliable internet is a huge benefit to Burlington's residents and businesses. We cannot stand by and let private interests and the drive to squeeze every last cent of profit out of consumers to steal this investment from our community.
Burlington is supposed to be a paradise for crunchy granola liberals. That's why I came here. Lets act like crunchy granola and give the power back to the people.

156. Devon Ayers (ZIP code: 05401)
157. David Felcan (ZIP code: 05401)

158. Dan Fredman (ZIP code: 05401)

159. Diane Gabriel (ZIP code: 05401)

160. Diane Montgomery-Logan (ZIP code: 05401)

161. Dillon Beliveau (ZIP code: 05401)

162. Mary Peabody (ZIP code: 05408)

163. Don Schramm (ZIP code: 05401)

164. Domenica D’Ottavio (ZIP code: 05405)
   Keep Comcast Out!

165. Don Jamison (ZIP code: 05401)
   Keep control of BT and its profits local!

166. Doug Hoffer (ZIP code: 05401)
   This is not Any City, USA. This is Burlington, VT. We care about local control. The choice is clear.

167. Nicole Driscoll (ZIP code: 05408)

168. Margaret Wallace (ZIP code: 05401)

169. David Rothern buckle (ZIP code: 05401)
   I’d switch from Xfinity for this.

170. Daniel Suder (ZIP code: 05401)

171. Bob Duncan (ZIP code: 05408)
   I fully support keeping BT under local, co-op ownership.

172. Keith Dunlop (ZIP code: 05401)

173. Daniel Weiss (ZIP code: 05401)

174. David White (ZIP code: 05401)

175. Elizabeth Dyer (ZIP code: 05408)
176. Beverly Keim (ZIP code: 05403)
As an owner of property within the City of Burlington, I enthusiastically support keeping BT locally owned!

177. Bob Collins (ZIP code: 05401)
We own Burlington Electric, our water system - we should benefit from owning our cable system.

178. Eric Corbman (ZIP code: 05408)

179. Elliot Lajza (ZIP code: 05401)

180. Dylan Martin (ZIP code: 05408)

181. Eliza Kissam (ZIP code: 05401)

182. Ellen Powell (ZIP code: 05403)
Take KBTL's bid!!! OY!!!

183. Elliot DeMatteis (ZIP code: 05403)
I lived in Burlington for 2 years as a student at UVM and I now work at an IT company in South Burlington. Burlington Telecom made the decision to move out of Burlington extremely difficult because of how central internet is to my day-to-day. Keeping BT local will ensure that the amazing internet service and customer service I received never changes. What other ISP would ever send you a handwritten card thanking you for signing up?

184. Erin Malone (ZIP code: 05401)

185. Emer Feeney (ZIP code: 05408)
As an information scientist, I have grave concerns about privatizing our information resources and the pathways along which they travel. I wrote a paper when I was getting my Master's degree about Burlington Telecom, and the appropriateness of community-owned internet resources. I was proud of Burlington for investing in this for our future. Now I feel really disappointed. Is the bottom line everything?

186. Erhard Mahnke (ZIP code: 05401)

187. Eric Davis (ZIP code: 5452)

188. Erik Brotz (ZIP code: 5401)

189. Evan Hoffman (ZIP code: 05401)

190. Ruby Perry (ZIP code: 05401)

191. Natalia fajardo Fajardo (ZIP code: 05401)
I encourage the City of Burlington selection committee to think very hard about keeping ownership of Burlington Telecom local and in the hands of the community. Regretfully, the public does not know the options in front of us.

There is no question that Keep BT Local should be the choice for Burlington. They have earned our trust and respect as a business and their organization reflects Vermont values. Keeping it Local means not selling off a vital Burlington resource, keeping the profits local, and maintaining local control over our future.
I urge city council to keep this vital, community owned utility under public ownership. Burlington can do better than to cave to the pressures of privatization.

210. Grace Ahmed (ZIP code: 05401)
The entity that owns our information infrastructure should be one that has OUR community's interests as it's primary driving force. The most democratic choice given the requirement for the public utility to be sold, is a co-op which will keep control of Burlington Telecom fiber in the hands of those who use it.

211. Graham Lambert (ZIP code: 05408)
I choose the community model!

212. Grant Crichfield (ZIP code: 05401)

213. Emily Barrett (ZIP code: 05401)

214. Greg Hancock (ZIP code: 05401)

215. Gregory EplerWood (ZIP code: 05401)

216. Barbara Grimes (ZIP code: 05408)

217. Gustav Lasko (ZIP code: 05401)

218. Haik Bedrosian (ZIP code: 05408)

219. John Halvey (ZIP code: 05408)
Thank you BT for being an independent local voice in a sea of national media monopoly.

220. Kelsey Hatch (ZIP code: 05401)

221. Cheryl Herrick (ZIP code: 05401)
Local co-operative control will serve more people than private ownership. Let BTV keep leading the way in providing for-the-people leadership!

222. Jennifer Ely (ZIP code: 05408)

223. Hilary Martin (ZIP code: 05401)

224. Jim Holway (ZIP code: 05408)

225. Gregory Hostetler (ZIP code: 5404)

226. Heather Riemer (ZIP code: 05401)
227. Helene Porte (ZIP code: 05401)

228. Ibnar Stratibus (ZIP code: 05401)
Burlington Telecom is working, is making a profit and has Excellent expansion plans. Keep Burlington Telecom a Locally owned cooperative!! A Locally Owned, strong, and getting stronger Community owned resource. This is Our future, our money to make, earn, keep and reinvest in Community enrichments.

229. Jacob Flanigan (ZIP code: 05401)

230. Richard Bragg (ZIP code: 05401)

231. Infinite Culcleasure (ZIP code: 05401)

232. Stephen Hadeka (ZIP code: 05408)
BT forever!

233. Emily Walter (ZIP code: 05401)
The cost of living in Burlington is already ridiculous! Please keep BT in the hands of the community!!!

234. Isaiah Keepin (ZIP code: 05408)

235. Isaac Grimm (ZIP code: 05401)

236. Ishmael Ahmed (ZIP code: 05401)

237. Ivan Goldstein (ZIP code: 05401)

238. Israel Smith (ZIP code: 05401)
I support the "Keep BT Local" Coop Bid because having BT as a citizen-owned Coop preserves the long-term interest of our business community. It maintains real local democratic control over this valuable public asset. The long-term financial prospects of this option are very strong and allow for (and ensure in my opinion) improvement and expansion of the system. Constant improvement of the system is critical to the long term viability of the service, and the long-term competitive advantages it brings to our local businesses.

239. James Shasha (ZIP code: 05404)

240. Jamie Williamson (ZIP code: 05401)

241. James Haslam (ZIP code: 05401)

242. James Leopold (ZIP code: 05446)
243. Jane Adams (ZIP code: 05401)

244. Jane Farnham (ZIP code: 05401)

245. Janet Biehl (ZIP code: 05401)

246. janet hicks (ZIP code: 05401)
We as Vermonters and as Burlingtonians are SO capable of keeping Burlington Telecom Strong and local. Take the long view, use your wisdom and your roots you will be so much more secure logistically and financially in a Coop.

247. Janet Patterson (ZIP code: 05408)
I want to make sure I'm a member of the Cooperative

248. Janice Shade (ZIP code: 05465)

249. Janna White (ZIP code: 05401)

250. Jason Lorber (ZIP code: 05401)

251. John Thompson (ZIP code: 05401)

252. Jennifer Tomczak (ZIP code: 05408)
Keep BT awesome: keep it local!

253. jen berger (ZIP code: 5401)

254. Jacob Bliss (ZIP code: 05401)

255. Jerry Manock (ZIP code: 05401)
Absolutely no question that the Co-op Model works !!! Look at the performance of City market vs. other co-ops in the US!
And City and its citizens will get dividends every year ! A sure win-win. JCM

256. Janice Dawley (ZIP code: 05408)

257. Judith Dickson (ZIP code: 05401)

258. Jean Berggren (ZIP code: 05401)
Let's keep Burlington Telecom in the hands of a local cooperative. This is a strong business model, nothing to be afraid of!

259. Jean Waltz (ZIP code: 05401)
260. **Jeffrey Pierce (ZIP code: 05401)**  
Locally yummy

261. **Jeff Mandell (ZIP code: 05401)**

262. **jeff simendinger (ZIP code: 05401)**  
interested in investing approx $5000

263. **Joan Knight (ZIP code: 05401)**

264. **Jennifer Allaire (ZIP code: 05401)**

265. **Jeremiah Cook (ZIP code: 05401)**  
BTC is a fantastic public utility—the envy of cities all over the world. To lose it a profit-driven interest would be a tragedy. Come on people, we can do this!

266. **Jeremy Hansen (ZIP code: 05602)**

267. **Jeremy Owens (ZIP code: 05408)**  
Please Keep BT Local!

268. **Jesse Galvin (ZIP code: 05401)**  
As a Resident and Burlington Telecom Subscriber I believe that the best way to serve the community and protect our interests is by keeping BT citizen owned

269. **Jess Kell (ZIP code: 05401)**

270. **Jess Lilly (ZIP code: 05401)**

271. **Jamie Garvey (ZIP code: 05408)**

272. **Jack Henahan (ZIP code: 05404)**  
Keeping BT local means that Winooski might have a way out of the telco monopoly, and better service besides. BT was my favorite provider when I lived up the hill, and it'll be my favorite when we get it over the river.

273. **Jane Hendley (ZIP code: 05401)**

274. **James Lockridge Lockridge (ZIP code: 05402)**

275. **James Wanner (ZIP code: 05401)**

276. **Julie Kaye (ZIP code: 05401)**
277. Joan Bombard (ZIP code: 05408)

278. Jennifer Kerns (ZIP code: 05401)

279. Jennie Kristel (ZIP code: 05401)

280. Jessica Morrison (ZIP code: 05401)

281. Jean Markey-Duncan (ZIP code: 05408)
I am a believer in cooperatives because they work and keep profits within the community. I was a member of Onion River Coop back when there were just buying groups in folk’s homes and we know what a success Onion River Coop has been blooming into City Market which is now poised to open yet another large store within our community. There is a group of committed and talented citizens who have worked out the details to turn Burlington Telecom into a cooperative owned by the people of Burlington where the profits are plowed back into the business to improve service and/or profits distributed to it’s members. Let’s not be short sighted and jump at the highest bidder. In the long run our community will profit. As Margaret Mead once said, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

282. Janice Nadworny (ZIP code: 05461)

283. Joanne Hunt (ZIP code: 06408)

284. Joanne Kalisz (ZIP code: 05408)

285. Joannie Wales (ZIP code: 05401)

286. Jocie Moore (ZIP code: 05401)

287. Arthur Boucher (ZIP code: 05408)
Good company, good service, great people! Best part is that it’s a local company employing local people. We need protection from company’s like Comcast/infinity who offer terrible service and long term contracts!

288. Joe Piscotty (ZIP code: 05408)
Let’s keep it local and affordable!

289. Joey Corcoran (ZIP code: 05401)

290. John Gower (ZIP code: 05401)

291. Rachel Jolly (ZIP code: 05401)
This is a special chance! Let’s not waste it. Take the long view and build a legacy to be proud of.
292. John Olson (ZIP code: 95401)

293. Joseph Moore (ZIP code: 05408)
Who's buying it? &
Who's selling it?

294. Jon Graham (ZIP code: 05767)

295. Jonathan Gerlach (ZIP code: 05446)

296. Jonny Wanser (ZIP code: 05401)
Don't sell!!!

297. Josie Colt (ZIP code: 05401)

298. Joshua O'Floinn (ZIP code: 05401)

299. Jen Quavelin (ZIP code: 05408)

300. Schultz Jan (ZIP code: 05401)
The revenues from the BT co-op will go back to the users of the service - the Burlington citizens. We have already paid for it and we should now own it.

301. John Patterson (ZIP code: 05401)

302. Jennifer Thayer (ZIP code: 05401)

303. Julia Berberan (ZIP code: 05401)

304. July Sanders (ZIP code: 05401)

305. Justine Sears (ZIP code: 05401)

306. Jason Van Driesche (ZIP code: 05401)

307. Jessica Wagener (ZIP code: 05408)

308. Kai Forlie (ZIP code: 05401)
Retain local and public ownership! Coop it!

309. Karen Porter (ZIP code: 05401)

310. Robert Green (ZIP code: 05408)
311. Kari Hancock (ZIP code: 05401)

312. Kate McDowell (ZIP code: 05401)

313. Kate Van Wagner (ZIP code: 05408)

314. Kate Logan (ZIP code: 05401)
There are so many good reasons to do this, please keep our communications local and democratically managed, and out of the profit-driven market.

315. Kathryn McCurdy (ZIP code: 05401)

316. Kathy Boulanger (ZIP code: 05401)

317. Kathleen Bachus (ZIP code: 05401)

318. Kristian Brevik (ZIP code: 05401)

319. Greg Tolman (ZIP code: 05401)
Burlington Telecom should continue being a publicly owned utility and not another way for a corporation to maximize profits at the expense of the common person.

320. Katharine Chasan (ZIP code: 05401)

321. John Keefe (ZIP code: 06401)

322. Lynn Martin (ZIP code: 05401)
Grow our future, keep BT in safe hands.. owned by the co-op.

323. Keith Brunner (ZIP code: 05401)

324. Kelly Pierpont (ZIP code: 05401)

325. Kelly Mangan (ZIP code: 05408)

326. Kelsey Aaron (ZIP code: 05401)

327. Kevin Trainor (ZIP code: 05401)

328. kevin shapiro (ZIP code: 05401)

329. Kevyn Cundiff (ZIP code: 05401)
330. Kirsten Shapiro (ZIP code: 05401)
This is the right thing to do.

331. Kit Andrews (ZIP code: 05401)

332. Kit O'Connor (ZIP code: 05401)

333. kitty boyan (ZIP code: 05401)
I'll put up a lawn sign if you have any left.

334. Kim Kent (ZIP code: 05408)

335. Kirsten Wilson (ZIP code: 05404)

336. Kathleen Ryan (ZIP code: 05401)

337. Larry Forcier (ZIP code: 05401)
Keep BT Local.

338. Laurence O'Brien (ZIP code: 05301)

339. Lachlan Ziegler (ZIP code: 05401)

340. Lar Duggan (ZIP code: 5401)

341. Laura Merriam (ZIP code: 05401)
As a citizen, I voted for Burlington Telecom because I believed in local control. I continue to strongly support a locally owned BT and support the cooperative model to keep prices low and benefit the citizens of Burlington.

342. Laura Frangipane (ZIP code: 05401)

343. Rob Ostrander (ZIP code: 05401)
BT customer - want to preserve this as a local utility as it should be.

344. Lisa Cannon (ZIP code: 05401)

345. Michelle Lefkowitz (ZIP code: 05401)
Let's come together as a community and support local control of Burlington Telecom. Corporations are not people and their long term interests are not necessarily with the community. There is a great opportunity here. Let's Dare Greatly. Let Burlington continue to model possibility.

346. Daniel Albert (ZIP code: 5401)
347. Leigh Madalinski (ZIP code: 05401)

348. Joseph S Smithwick (ZIP code: 05401)

349. Lucy Gluck (ZIP code: 05401)

350. Liam Griffin (ZIP code: 05408)

351. Lily Jacobson (ZIP code: 05401)

352. Linda Sukop (ZIP code: 05401)

353. Linda Scott (ZIP code: 05401)

354. Linden Politi (ZIP code: 05401)
   Our money was embezzled by corrupt city leaders to pay for this, 17 million dollars strong, it is OUR ASSET, do not privatize it!

355. Linda Provost (ZIP code: 05401)

356. Lauren Akin (ZIP code: 05401)

357. Lisa Hughes (ZIP code: 05401)
   BED is an awesome city-owned utility. BT can be just as successful. This is a great opportunity for the city.

358. Eliza Dupont (ZIP code: 05401)

359. Leslie Day (ZIP code: 05401)

360. Louis Lionni (ZIP code: 05401)
   Keep it local; the issues are community control and cost control!

361. LisaAnn Oberbrunner (ZIP code: 05401)

362. Linda Parry (ZIP code: 05401)

363. Lincoln Mead (ZIP code: 05408)
   Please keep in mind that it should not be a foregone conclusion that the best financial outcome is the best decision. I think local ownership and the ability to be independent should weigh heavily in the decision. Locally, despite initial mis-steps with BT, we have a history of local success with BED, other city departments and coops such as City Market. Please help BT become one of these success stories.
364. Lucas Bull (ZIP code: 05401)

365. John MacLean (ZIP code: 05401)

366. Charley MacMartin (ZIP code: 05401)

367. Sarah MacMillan (ZIP code: 05408)

368. Jessica Hyman (ZIP code: 05401)

369. Margaret Sherman (ZIP code: 05401)
This is an innovation approach, I believe, and I support it.

370. Maggie Standley (ZIP code: 05401)

371. Mags Conant (ZIP code: 05401)

372. Mark Howe (ZIP code: 05401)

373. mara coven (ZIP code: 05401)

374. Marc Maderazzo (ZIP code: 05401)

375. Marie Lallier (ZIP code: 05401)

376. Mark Leopold (ZIP code: 05408)

377. Mark Stoler (ZIP code: 05401)

378. Mark Cline Lucey (ZIP code: 05401)
Honestly, why would we even CONSIDER selling this vital piece of our Burlington commons? It's local ownership and pride that makes us Burlington. Let's not sell out - literally and figuratively.

379. Mark Larson (ZIP code: 05408-1138)

380. Mary Chaffee (ZIP code: 05408)

381. Mary Moynihan (ZIP code: 05401)

382. Matt McGrath (ZIP code: 05401)

383. Matt Grady (ZIP code: 05401)
It is disturbing that only KeepBTLocal is public and transparent about what they want to do with <our>
telecom system, that we paid for. We paid for it, we should keep it. A cooperative is the best vehicle for that goal.

384. Matt Brand (ZIP code: 05401)

385. Matt Flego (ZIP code: 05401)
Final 3!!!! yes

386. Matt Barry (ZIP code: 05401)

387. Maya Arima (ZIP code: 05401)

388. Matthew Binginot (ZIP code: 05401)
In this age of technology being outsourced beyond our community, state, and country, it means a lot to keep our internet local. Our use of the internet is key to our digital footprint, so we appreciate keeping our providers local and honest.

389. Megan Epler Wood (ZIP code: 05401)

390. Melinda Moulton (ZIP code: 05401)
Keep BT in Public Domain!!!! The People Love it and the People Want to have the City of Burlington own it.

391. Melinda White-Bronson (ZIP code: 05401)
We have been happy users of Burlington Telecom for many years. We appreciate the good service, and responsive customer service, and we hope it can stay locally, cooperatively owned.

392. Melanie Jannery (ZIP code: 05408)
Please also bring BT billing back to Vermont!

393. Melo Grant (ZIP code: 05401)

394. Mary Ellen Manock (ZIP code: 05401)

395. Meredith Coeyman (ZIP code: 05401)

396. Amy Kara Brown (ZIP code: 05401)

397. Marc Estrin (ZIP code: 05401)
this answer if obvious except to those who want to MAXIMIZE profits.

398. Mary Gade (ZIP code: 05401)

399. Michael Duany (ZIP code: 05408)
Local ownership has obvious advantages going forward.

**400. Martin Wolf (ZIP code: 05401)**

**401. Michael Wood-Lewis (ZIP code: 05401)**

Not keeping this local goes against everything I voted for every time I voted for this.

**402. Michael Nedell (ZIP code: 05401)**

**403. Michael Rooney (ZIP code: 05401)**

Having gotten Internet service from Comcast, Fairpoint, AT&T, Verizon and even Sovernet, I know keeping BT's ownership is essential for every resident of Burlington. They all have the option of not using BT, but just having BT exist means they will pay less and get more so the other guys can try to compete. The Internet is too important to Burlington and its residents to let it get under someone else's control. It would be like letting the streets be controlled by New York City.

**404. Michael Bade (ZIP code: 05401)**

**405. Michael VanStrander (ZIP code: 5401)**

**406. Michelle Redlein (ZIP code: 05401)**

**407. Mika Duncan (ZIP code: 05408)**

**408. Michael Beganyi (ZIP code: 05408-2435)**

**409. Michael Long (ZIP code: 05401)**

**410. Michael Long (ZIP code: 05401)**

Taxpayers kicked in 17 million involuntarily to keep this venture afloat. Taxpayers were left on the hook even after being promised that they had assumed no risk. Selling Burlington Telecom off to private interests now that it's solvent would be yet another affront. Keep it local. Don't sell it out from under us and sell the public out again.

**411. Mary Wright (ZIP code: 05401)**

**412. Marianne Ward (ZIP code: 05408)**

BT, like Burlington Electric are super assets for Burl residents - we are very fortunate - CAN YOU IMAGINE SELLING BE!? Keep BT local and only local.

**413. Mark Langan (ZIP code: 05401)**

**414. Matt Moore (ZIP code: 05401)**
415. Mollie Flanigan (ZIP code: 05401)

416. Molly Fleming (ZIP code: 05401)  
If you are interested in the creative economy, the people working on preserving this asset for the city are the most capable and creative and inclusive people I have seen in any city effort in my 26 years in Burlington. It would be foolish not to harness and encourage their work and keep Burlington Telecom local.

417. Monika Ivancic (ZIP code: 05408)  
Keep BT local! As residents we would like control over our telecom cooperative. Selling it to a corporation is a BIG mistake!

418. Laurie Larson (ZIP code: 05401)

419. Mark Montalban (ZIP code: 05408)

420. Azur Moulaert (ZIP code: 05408)  
As a current subscriber I will not switch to a non-local company.

421. Matthew Parisi (ZIP code: 05401)

422. Ann Sicurello (ZIP code: 05401)

423. Eric Roy (ZIP code: 05403)

424. Martha Seagrave (ZIP code: 05401)

425. Grant Taylor (ZIP code: 05401)  
Let's own it, together we win!

426. Nancy Margolin (ZIP code: 05408)

427. Nathan Caswell (ZIP code: 05408)  
The City of Burlington has had tremendous success with the cooperative ownership model, through City Market. Make another decision in favor of cooperative ownership and a long-term vision for Burlington’s future.

428. Nate Orshan (ZIP code: 05401)  
All other things being equal, it would be such a long-term value enhancer for the city to have BT owned and operated by a co-op.

429. neville hall (ZIP code: 05401)

430. Nick Floersch (ZIP code: 05477)
431. Anna Niemiec (ZIP code: 05408)

432. Nora Ostrander (ZIP code: 05401)

433. Emma Novins (ZIP code: 05401)

434. Nina McDonnell (ZIP code: 05401)
The mistakes of a few, many years ago, should not penalize the good of the many subscribers paying actually reasonable prices for a public utility with net neutral access. Would you consider selling BED after all its good work? I think not. This is ours, we paid for it. Local control! If the so-called consultant is not transparent about other bidders while disparaging the co-op proposal then he's clearly not a 3rd party independent reviewer. Can him and get someone who will at least consider all bids on an even plane.

435. Linda OBrien (ZIP code: 05408)

436. Olga Lopatina (ZIP code: 05401)
Do the right thing for our city, elected people of the people!

437. Joshua Olson (ZIP code: 05401)

438. Orson Bradford (ZIP code: 05408)

439. James Palmer (ZIP code: 05408)
It is not just a matter of being local, but also being responsive to subscribers. Telecommunications providers have a special role to play in a community and creating a member coop is the best way to assure that it is respected. There were many who were concerned then the Onion River Coop won the bid to build City Market--particularly from Shaws as i remember. City Market has become a social focus for Burlington. Just because a business is "local" does not make this so. I encourage you to work with Keep BT Local to allow Burlington Telecom to become member owned.

440. Patrick Clemins (ZIP code: 05403)

441. Patricia Bosley (ZIP code: 05401)

442. Patrick Mckenzie (ZIP code: 05401)

443. Peg Tassey (ZIP code: 05401)

444. Pete Bruhn (ZIP code: 05408)
It would be an astronomical sized fail if BT is sold to anyone other than Keep BT Local.

445. Peter Spitzform (ZIP code: 05405)

446. Peter Evan Smith (ZIP code: 05401)
447. Peter Lackowski (ZIP code: 5401)

448. Naama Lha Kelley (ZIP code: 05401)
Please stop giving our City’s assets to the highest Corporate bidder--assuming they will be loyal and provide continued investment and support to our community is a gamble at best, at worst it is irresponsible and stinks of the possibility of vested interests. Our city's tendency to believe that we’re all "good folks" cannot be extended to everyone--it's simply not true, for many the evidence shows time and again, the bottom line is their own excessive profit bereft of any relationship to integrity or the value of their word.

Additionally, I am extremely troubled by the Mayor’s recent at least misleading, if not deceptive statements to the local press. It is sad when an elected official does not trust his own community, the electorate with the truth, especially in Burlington.

449. Patricia Ferreira (ZIP code: 05401-2902)

450. Paul Fleckenstein (ZIP code: 05401)

451. RJ Lalumiere (ZIP code: 05408)

452. Richard Hillyard (ZIP code: 05401)

453. Barb Prine (ZIP code: 05401)

454. GEORGE WEBB (ZIP code: 05408)
My wife Norma and I agree we should keep BT local.

455. Paul Sisson (ZIP code: 05408)

456. Paul Schnabel (ZIP code: 05401)

457. Rachael Comeau (ZIP code: 05401)

458. Rachel Morton (ZIP code: 05401-4805)

459. Anita Rapone (ZIP code: 05401)
Since the City has signed away the public utility option, a member coop is the next best option. We see the extraordinary success of City Market. Compare that with the constant customer complaints about Fairpoint and Comcast. A coop Burlington Telecom is the best choice for Burlington residents.

460. Richard Bragg (ZIP code: 05401)

461. Skye Ellicock (ZIP code: 05401)

462. Reginald Achilles (ZIP code: 05401)
463. Ron Wanamaker (ZIP code: 05401)
Keep our money local

464. Richard Witting (ZIP code: 05401)
I love Burlington Telecom — keep it local!

465. James Richmond (ZIP code: 05401)
In today's world Internet access is a need, not a luxury. We should be trying as hard as possible to keep Burlington Telecom in the hands of the people who directly benefit from it: the users. I call upon the City Council to forego the pressure of the Mayor's Office and keep BT local.

466. Brian Drourr (ZIP code: 05408)

467. Rebecca J Taylor (ZIP code: 05401)

468. Rebecca Campbell (ZIP code: 05408)

469. Ron McGarvey (ZIP code: 05408)
Please consider the long term benefits of cooperative ownership of BT.

470. Ralph Montefusco (ZIP code: 05408)
Keep our telecom OURS!

471. Rich Nadworny (ZIP code: 05408)
Best telco ever - let's not fuck it up.

472. Robert Webb (ZIP code: 05408)
Please keep BT locally owned!!!!!!! It's the only fair service provider that offers fiber!!!

473. Rob Conboy (ZIP code: 05401)

474. robin lloyd-miller (ZIP code: 05401)
I want a future where the communities have an input on their data. It's not just about monetary ownership, it's about data ownership. Our local Food coop is working great- COOPs can work.

475. Robin Fawcett (ZIP code: 05401)

476. Helen Rock (ZIP code: 05408)
I fully support keeping BT local!

477. Roger Bergeron (ZIP code: 05408)

478. ron manganiello (ZIP code: 05403)
Coops have the best track record of serving the community. Burlington wins if BT stays local and becomes a coop.
479. Rori Angel (ZIP code: 05401)

480. Kerry Swift (ZIP code: 05408)

481. Ryan Pavek (ZIP code: 05401)
Burlington Telecom is one reason I chose to live in Burlington over other towns nearby.

482. Ryan Freebern (ZIP code: 05477)
Vermont has a history of successful co-ops. Let's continue that!

483. Leighton Johnson (ZIP code: 05401)

484. Sally Ballin (ZIP code: 05408)

485. Samantha Madden (ZIP code: 05404)
Local local local

486. Andrew Simon (ZIP code: 05401)
KBTL is the only public bid and is the best deal for Burlington residents. Support the Coop!

487. Sara Jelen (ZIP code: 05401)

488. Sara Mason (ZIP code: 05401)

489. Sarah Klionsky (ZIP code: 05401)

490. Steve Arrants (ZIP code: 05403)

491. Saritha Beauchamp (ZIP code: 05401)

492. Scott Richards (ZIP code: 05401)
Please keep Burlington Telecom local.

493. Casey Lyon (ZIP code: 05408)
KBTL just makes sense!

494. Sharie Elrick (ZIP code: 05401)

495. Sharyl Green (ZIP code: 05401)

496. Shay Totten (ZIP code: 05401)

497. Nancy Shea (ZIP code: 05401)
498. Shoshanna Grunwald (ZIP code: 05401)
499. Samuel Press (ZIP code: 05401)
500. Siobhan Donegan (ZIP code: 05401)
501. Steve Kieselstein (ZIP code: 05408)
502. Shannon Kahaly (ZIP code: 02081)
   KEEP BT LOCAL
503. Suzanne Hebeler (ZIP code: 05403)
504. Scott Quisenberry (ZIP code: 05401)
505. Alec Slater (ZIP code: 05401)
506. Hannah Smith (ZIP code: 05401)
507. Makenzy Smith (ZIP code: 05401)
508. Sophia Donforth (ZIP code: 05401)
509. Solveig Overby (ZIP code: 05401)
510. Stephen Smith (ZIP code: 05401)
   Don't give away our public assets to a private for-profit company!
511. Susan Shull (ZIP code: 05401)
   May the City Council in Burlington attend to public favor and support for KeepBTLocal.
512. sean Laughlin (ZIP code: 05401)
513. Stephen Hard (ZIP code: 05401)
   Let's not throw the baby out with the bath water
514. Steve McIntyre (ZIP code: 05408)
515. Steve Levy (ZIP code: 05401)
516. Stephen Scuderi (ZIP code: 05408)
517. Sue Burton (ZIP code: 05401)
I'm also very concerned about the city's lack of transparency in the selection process. We citizens should have a say.

518. James Kochalka (ZIP code: 05401)
Keeping BT locally owned is the best long term choice for the people of Burlington, and much better than a quick cash-in. Keeping BT local better honors the investment we've made in this essential infrastructure.

519. Susan Eisenstadt (ZIP code: 05401)

520. Susan Smereka (ZIP code: 05401)

521. Susan Weinstein (ZIP code: 05401)

522. Syd Eren (ZIP code: 05401)
This will help bring stable technology provider to people and Businesses

523. Tatiana Bruno (ZIP code: 05401)
Keep BT local!!!

524. William McCaffrey (ZIP code: 05401)
Don't sell us out

525. Thomas DeSisto (ZIP code: 05401)

526. alan schwartz (ZIP code: 05401)

527. Terry Rowe (ZIP code: 05401)

528. Tyler Dion (ZIP code: 05401)

529. Liu Mulvaney-Stanak (ZIP code: 05408)
Public utilities should be PUBLIC(ly) owned.

530. Thomas Streeter (ZIP code: 05401)
Having local control over infrastructure in the future is worth more than a few million $$ in the short term.

531. Thomas Hughes (ZIP code: 05401)

532. THOMAS HUDSPETH (ZIP code: 5401)

533. Tiki Archambeau (ZIP code: 05401)
Go for the best long-term investment - keep it local!
534. Tim Curtin (ZIP code: 05401)

535. Tina Hubbard (ZIP code: 05401)

536. Todd Thomas (ZIP code: 05401)

537. Anthony Ferraro (ZIP code: 05401)
Look at the world around us; Keep it local!!!

538. John Ware (ZIP code: 05401)

539. Patricia DiSilvio (ZIP code: 05401)
I love Burlington Telecom. Great company, very responsive to any technical difficulties, and the price is right.

540. Tony Redington (ZIP code: 05401)

541. Tiffany Delaney (ZIP code: 05408)

542. Trav Fryer (ZIP code: 05401)
PLease, the decision is obvious. Keep it local.

543. Noah Chute (ZIP code: 05401)

544. Tom Simone (ZIP code: 05401Kee)
Keep the means of communication within the community.

BT should be owned by citizens of Burlington not by distant and alien monied business interests.

545. Tucker Gratton (ZIP code: 05403)

546. BARBARA SHATARA (ZIP code: 05408)

547. Terrance McGrath (ZIP code: 05401)
It makes no sense to sell an entity that is generating a profit, especially an entity that Burlington taxpayers paid so dearly for.

548. Ursula Jones (ZIP code: 05401)

549. An anonymous signer (ZIP code: 05408)

550. Valerie Esposito (ZIP code: 05401)

551. Vince Brennan (ZIP code: 05401)
It is important to maintain our independence from corporations that will sell out our privacies.

552. Carmen Cormier (ZIP code: 05401)
Follow the long-term benefits of keeping Burlington Telecom as a co-op!

553. Douglas Woods (ZIP code: 05401)

554. Michael Burak (ZIP code: 05401)

555. David Lines (ZIP code: 05401)
Please, we paid for it, we should own it too.

556. George Fotinopoulos (ZIP code: 05401)
As a member/supporter of the City Market Coop, I would point to the opening of their second store as an example that BT has the same potential to grow, be part of the community and share with its members.

557. Nathaniel Walker (ZIP code: 05401)

558. Wendy Cannan (ZIP code: 05446)

559. Wendy Coe (ZIP code: 05401)

560. Whitney Feininger (ZIP code: 05401)

561. will raap (ZIP code: 05401)

562. Will Stephens (ZIP code: 05401)

563. Suzi Wizowaty (ZIP code: 05401)

564. William Fellinger (ZIP code: 05401)

565. Cindy Wolkin (ZIP code: 05401)

566. Laurie McMillan (ZIP code: 05401)

567. Wendy Turnbull (ZIP code: 05401)
I'm a full-time teleworker who's relied on BT for 7+ years. Service has been exceptional. Let's keep it that way. Let's keep it local!

568. William MacEwan (ZIP code: 05401)
569. Lynda Siegel (ZIP code: 05401)

570. Gil Mathys (ZIP code: 05401)

571. Zpora Perry (ZIP code: 05401)
To the Honorable Mayor of Burlington and City Councillors:

As a Burlington Telecom subscriber and Burlington resident, I hope that you will decide to sell this excellent service to:

**Burlington Telecom Local Cooperative**

There's outstanding precedence locally in the Onion River Food Co-operative (City Market).

Most sincerely,

Martha A. Penzer

49 Murray St.
Burlington, VT 05401
I'm writing to express my support for the KBTL Coop bid for Burlingtontelecom. It is the right thing to do for our city- local ownership for the long-term. Don't sell out to a big corporation whose profits- not its service- are its bottom line.

Cindy Wolkin
92 Brookes Ave

Please excuse any typos sent from my cell.
Cindy
Hi - I am wiring to demonstrate my strong support for keeping Burlington Telecom local and selling it to the KeepBTLocal telecoms cooperative. As a professor of environmental policy at Champlain College, I talk a lot about changing systems to work for people and communities. Having cooperatively- and locally-owned broadband company is one major way to change the system for the better. Taxpayers have already invested significant $s into Burlington Telecom, and the only way to ensure that our investment would stay local, strengthen our economy and keep rates affordable, is though KeepBTLocal.

Often students tell me they choose to come to college here because of the strong local movement happening in Burlington and VT. KeepingBTLocal is an important piece in the local movement.

Thanks for your consideration,
Valerie Esposito
Henry St.
Dear Burlington,
I'm hereby adding my voice to the choir calling for keeping Burlington Telecom locally-owned and controlled by selling to the Co-Op bidder.
I am a BT subscriber.
John Thompson
82 Park St.

--
sent from phone.
To Burlington City Council Members and Mayor Weinberger,

I am writing today in strong support of the Keep BT Local bid.

I have been a Burlington Telecom customer for 5+ years now and have found their service and knowledge to be exceptional. I would happily become a member owner and fully support the co-operative business model for the health of our local economy and community.

I trust that the mayor and the City Council will not sell this vital company "to the highest bidder"--a decision that would unquestionably create unrest in the community and siphon money and equity out of the local community. We need to invest in the long-term health of our community and maintain a stable, albeit slower, level of economic growth that is only possible if you elect to Keep BT Local and form a co-operative.

Sincerely,
Colin Henkel
To our elected representatives -

I know there are multiple offers to buy BT on the table and urge you to accept the offer from the co-op, even if other bidders are able to offer more money up front. I believe the long term impact of local control will mean more income for the city, better quality and responsiveness of telecom services, and will act as a model for other cities to follow in prioritizing community and long-term impacts over short-term income.

Thanks for your attention to this matter and your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Kate Neufeld
21 Saratoga Ave
As a taxpaying resident of BTV, I urge you to accept the bid from KeepBTVlocal. Vermont is known for being local and sustain able. Let's show the world that we are truly walking our walk and keep Burlington Telecom local. Locally owned and controlled. No outsider knows what BTV needs and wants.

Thanks,
Timber Adamson
Please do not prioritize short-term gain over the long-term interests of the city and its tax-payers. Keep BT local!

-Adam Wager

Sent from my iPhone
Good evening,

I am a Burlington citizen and I am reaching out to urge the city leaders to sell Burlington Telecom to the Keep BT Local Cooperative. I am a young professional who moved to Burlington 5 years ago, and one of the main reasons for settling here is the value this city places on local organizations and community-driven development. I believe it is important that we keep businesses within the control of local partners.

Please, when you are making your decision, keep in mind the cultural and social values of Burlington that attract people like myself here in the first place. If I wanted corporate-driven municipal decisions, I could go to any other city in the country. But I don’t, I want a Burlington of the people, by the people, for the people.

Sincerely,

Adam Hurwitz
16 Pomeroy St.
Burlington, VT
I fervently hope that you, as our city’s leaders, will see the wisdom of the long term gain by keeping Burlington Telecom local. Specifically I heartily endorse the entity to be maintained as a Cooperative.
Thank you for your continuing service to our community.
Sincerely,
Rev. Ann Geer
I’d love to keep BT local! Thanks so much.

Cheers,

Megan

Megan J. Humphrey
HANDS (Helping and Nurturing Diverse Seniors) www.handsvt.org Sweet Basil Cards www.sweetbasilcards.com
Women’s Festival of Crafts www.womensfestivalofcrafts.com Old North End Arts & Business Network
https://www.facebook.com/ONEArtsBusinessNetwork/?fref=ts
864-7528
From: Jack H <jackchanson@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 3:28 PM
To: BT Feedback
Subject: In support of the Keep BT Local Coop

Hi there,

I'd like to voice my support for the Keep BT Local Cooperative. The value of a dollar towards a local business is said to be worth 7x the value to the local economy than a dollar spent on an out of state business. Even if there is more initial debt with the Coop, the value of keeping our telecom local makes up for it.

Beyond being locally owned, BT would be cooperatively owned, allowing for all of us customers to share profits and have a say in the company.

For those reasons, and others, I'd urge City Council and the Mayor to select the bid from Keep BT Local, allowing us to share ownership over our internet provider.

Thanks,
Jack Hanson
To the members of the Burlington City Council:

I am writing to request that the city council Keep BT Local. I am a 21-year Burlington resident/taxpayer and a founding BT subscriber at home and work and have followed the progress of this asset - second only to our natural beauty - from its inception. BT is currently making a fair return, which will increase over time and continue to benefit the city and surrounding communities if locally managed by the co-op. The city has already written off the debt from our initial $16.9M tax dollars, which no longer needs to be paid back, and instead can remain invested in BT. Any settlement for Citibank or other creditors can be paid back over time, even if that means slightly less funds to the city in the short term. BT should be maintained as a public utility - as intended and approved by voters - like electric, water, streets and parks. The best way to achieve these goals within the terms of the settlement is to sell BT to the co-op. Keep BT Local is the only alternative that spreads the long term benefits of value, equity, profits and control to the citizens. BT is the city's strongest tool to encourage modern economic development, create opportunities for technology and creative industries, and to ensure access and input to all citizens. It was bold and innovative to lay the fiber and the service is excellent, but BT is decidedly a city asset and should remain under local control into the future.

BT's current profits can be used to pay down the long-term debt and to maintain, improve, and expand its operations under the co-op. And with all 7,000 subscribers taking an ownership interest via: the co-op, BT Local is best suited to prioritize citizen's needs with regard to BT's services. The co-op also allows the city to maintain its largest ownership, an asset that will benefit the city in many ways. The other (non-local) bids will actually result in less money to the city as well as less control and still with no guarantees that BT won't be acquired. In fact, the better BT does the more likely it will be acquired by outside corporate influence. No amount of assurances from a buyer can truly protect the citizen's interest in our fiber network.

I hope that the Council will carefully consider all the benefits that will come from a sale to Keep BT local that are not solely cash based. With a resource this crucial to Burlington's longterm growth, it is imperative that the Council make a decision that takes the longest-term view and retains local control over this asset.

For all the reasons above, please select Keep BT Local as a finalist and as the final bidder on October 16th.

Thank you.

—ks

Kevin Shapiro
Burlington, VT
Dear City of Burlington leaders,

I am very concerned about the possibility of selling BT to the highest bidder and that this could end up costing the City and taxpayers. Accepting a $30 million bid price means the city loses $11 million. And, we lose BT.

I have been a customer of BT for years and want to see them stay local and strong.

Going with a high bid nets the city $5-$6 million, which is a far cry from the $17 million that taxpayers put in to BT (unknowingly). I am worried about losing $11 million that we were once promised would return to Burlington, and give $25 million away to investors and bankers as part of the BT sale.

How is this a good deal for Burlington, especially when BT is on track to net $3 million in profits this year and is poised to grow?

On top of that, a "high bid" offer from outside companies means that taxpayers and subscribers will be sending our money to Indiana or Toronto (the locales of the high bidders) so they can extract $30 million-plus interest-from Burlington in the coming years in the way of higher rates and fewer services. Again, this is why privatizing BT is a bad idea.

The Keep BT Local cooperative, on the other hand, will not siphon money out of Burlington and take away a key public utility that is helping to fuel our 21st century economy, and actually keep the ownership with the city and BT subscribers.

Please consider the effort to keep BT local and do what’s best for Burlington.

Thank you!

Lucy Gluck
Ward 3
As a member of a variety of co-ops in our fair City of Burlington, I would love to see this as an option for our local telecom organization.

Please keep BT local.

Sincerely,
Christina Erickson
Ward St. Burlington
I've been a customer and supporter of BT for at least a decade. Let's keep this local public resource local and publicly owned. For US.

John Olson
Flynn Avenue, Burlington
Hello all concerned,

I am writing you to urge you to PLEASE work with the Keep BT Local Cooperative. Their plan has so many benefits for our city. Privatizing will really hurt Burlington.

Thank you
Maggie Graham
82 Lakeview Terrace
Burlington, VT
Hi,

I want the city council to choose Keep BT Local, as a Burlington tax payer and a BT subscriber. I feel that BT is making a return now. I want the initial tax dollars of $16.9M, which I understand that the city has written off this debt - so it no longer needs to be paid back and should stay invested in BT. Any settlement for Citibank to be paid back slowly over time. BT should remain a public utility - but it appears that cannot happen. The only way to keep it even close to that idea is to sell it to the coop. This will allow for local control and the greatest long term benefits to Burlington citizens. BT the strongest tools that the City has to encourage 21st century economic development, create opportunities for technology and the creative economies and ensure access to all citizens.

I like that BT all 7000 current subscribers will automatically become co-op member-owners. Also BT as it is currently making a profit that can be used to pay down the long-term debt and to maintain, improve, and expand its operations under the coop.

I hope that you will consider all the benefits that will accrue to Burlington with a sale to Keep BT Local that are not solely cash based. It is important that the city council make a decision that looks beyond the near term and takes along term view and retains local control over this asset.

Please select Keep BT Local, it is critical to the economic future of our community.

Thank you. KMShapiro
I would like to register my support for Burlington Telecom to be locally owned and operated. We can be independent of mass media propaganda. We can have a more secure network. Thank you for your hard work.
Sincerely
John Halvey
27 Tracy Dr
Burlington Vt 05408
The arguments have been made. Keeping the profits in Burlington will be more beneficial to Burlington in the long run. Let's not be short sighted. Think out seven years. Who's going to have Burlington's best interest at heart?
We built/paid for this thing, let's be the primary beneficiaries please. If it's anywhere close to as much a success as City Market, then blessed be the Queen City once more.

Let's say bye to the past people and kiss the future!

Thanks,
DavidLines
We need a coop to ensure profits stay in the community.

Charles Winkleman
I have not researched the individual proposals. However, I have been a customer of Ting/Tucows, one of the bid participants, for a few years. They have always treated me well as a customer with clear and fair pricing. I believe that if they were to acquire Burlington Telecom's assets they would continue this good behavior. I do not have any experience with the other groups bidding.

Sridhar Viswanathan
825 South Prospect St
Burlington, Vermont 05401
Hello,

I am registering my support of the Keep BT Local Coop's bid to buy Burlington Telecom.

I understand that the two other bids look attractive on their surfaces, but I believe the KBTL bid accomplishes things that the other two bids won't:

* KBTL Coop will, as its name implies, keep BT local. The other bids claim that they will keep management local, but they're not beholden to those claims, and the ownership stakes will be far removed from Vermont in any case.

* As I understand it, the KBTL Coop will provide a bigger stake to the City of Burlington than the other bids. This will allow the City to keep benefiting from BT's profitability for years to come -- not just for a one-time payout from the other bidders.

* The KBTL Coop will keep out-of-state corporations from picking up our dearly held technology and infrastructure on the cheap.

Let's keep BT local!

Thank you,
Alec Julien
70 Bilodeau Ct
Burlington, VT 05401
The Coop's Bid is the only sound option for the economic and democratic health of Burlington. We 7000, and more, subscribers have kept Burlington Telecom alive and now thriving with the knowledge that it belongs essentially to all the city’s people - it is a prized asset of Burlington.

KEEP BURLINGTON TELECOM LOCAL!!!

Thank you,

Barbara Wynroth

Burlington
Too much of Vermont has become owned by people who don't live here. It has changed the character of the state for the worse, trying to make Vermont more like mainstream America to please those with more money, from elsewhere.

More money is not a substitute for community, or independence. It does not get my vote on this issue. Those that think that way will not get my vote either.

Laurence Duggan
Good Afternoon -

I am taking time out from enjoying this beautiful fall Sunday to write in support of selling BT to Keep BT Local. Please do not sell BT to an "outsider". BT is a gem in Burlington's crown. I liken it to Burlington Electric - low rates and great service for Burlingtonians, and something we are proud of. Burlington is trying to attract high-tech companies and foster entrepreneurship, and having a locally-owned telecom company, with great speeds, great customer service, and local control, would be a terrific magnet for these companies and individuals! To be honest, it seems rather incongruous to consider selling BT to an outsider while trying to position the City as a tech hub.

Further, over the years that I have been forced to subscribe to Comcast because of living in South Burlington, it has been nothing but high prices and horrendous customer service. I have lost clients and money because of Comcast's poor service. I have spent countless hours on the phone and on-line with their customer service and supervisors, all the while getting more and more frustrated, and losing precious income and clients. If BT were to ever be able to expand to surrounding towns, I am one thousand percent sure that folks would sign up in droves! BT is that excellend - please don't lose sight of the long-term benefits of keeping BT.

Thank you for your consideration.

Suzanne M. Hebeler
Hello

I have a KBTL sign on my lawn and will attend the city council meeting tomorrow.

I joined this organization long ago as it seemed clear to me that if city taxpayer money created this asset no matter how messy that process was, the residents and not some out of state company should now benefit from that investment.

The long term benefit of local control and development vs a 'debt free' bid seem worth it to me and I feel the fact that a small but very talented and resourceful group of residents and Vermonter has been persistent and inspiring and gotten KBTL to this point is why this should be chosen.

I also highly value BED and City Market and believe A co-op Model for Burlington Telecom would be likewise successful.

Sent from my iPhone
It would be a great loss for the citizens of Burlington to give up control of BTC to private corporations.

The City council should consider the long-term profit to the community rather than short term cost savings… by considering and accepting the bid of Keep BT Local to manage Burlington Telecom. It is so important that BT remains a public utility and a cooperative rather than a private entity controlled by a handful of stockholders. Denying Burlingtonians the chance to benefit from cooperative ownership would be to work against the interest of all Burlingtonians

Member governance of consumers will ensure accountability and transparency which may not be the case if Burlington Telecom is privatized.

BT is already one of the most innovative, and affordable communications utilities. Why risk that tradition by selling to a private, profit-driven entity.

Burlington was created, funded and built by City Government. Just because the City mismanaged it…is no reason to give up public ownership. Transforming it to a local cooperative with the City as a minority shareholder will continue that progressive and democratic tradition.

BT is currently profitable. Keep BT Local's bid will repay City debt over the long-term. Current and expanding membership will ensure equity and increase public involvement and oversight that was lacking when the City was the sole manager of BT and will be lacking if BT is privatized.

There are hundreds of telecom cooperatives throughout the USA that return billions of dollars of profits to their members and communities. Why deny Burlingtonians the right to see a return on their investments?

BT subscriber - David Schein
Burlington like At least the non-profit bidding, Keep BTC local

--

David Schein
716-640-4639
120 Cottage Grove, Burlington, VT 05408 USA
http://scheinarts.com

Check out my book
My Murder and Other Local News
Performance poems published by Fomite Press
http://www.fomitepress.com/FOMITE/My_Murder.html
Please keep it local!
Cinse Bonino
Burlington
keep it local!!!!

I do not support privatizing any of our utilities!!! That is why Wright lost in the past.

carole lambert
I want to keep this company local!!!!

Joan Bombard
I will be there on Monday and I have spoken with both of my councilors and a few other as well.

Brian Pine
To whom it may concern,

I have been a resident of Burlington for 10 years. One of the things that attracted me to Burlington and that seemed quintessentially Vermont, was the fact that Burlington Telecom was a city utility and provided excellent service at a reasonable cost. I am an IT professional and need a good, solid service to perform my work. I am concerned at the possibility that Burlington Telecom will be sold to a for-profit company. Even if net neutrality is worked into the negotiations, there are a hundred other ways that a company could profit at the expense of the customers.

Fast, reliable and affordable internet access is critical to optimal growth of any community and Vermont should be a leader in this area (as we are in so many others), by ensuring that the citizens of Burlington have control and most benefit from the huge investment that was made by us all.

Sincerely,
Greg Tolman
3 Clymer St.
Burlington, VT 05401
The long-term benefits to the people of Burlington will come only through the local BT group. please please, City councillors, please support the local BT bid. We will be forever grateful as will your children and grandchildren
I really really do.

Utilities should be owned by the people, not private corporations.
Dear City of Burlington

While the "Keep BT Local" group has done an admirable job in its attempt to turn BT into a locally owned coop, their bid of $12 million does not stack up against those of its competitors, who are offering $27.5 and $30.8 million. And while the competitors are offering cash, "Keep BT Local" would borrow $10 million at 14% interest, a very high rate, which would put it in a tenuous financial position on day one. Plus, the two competitors have decades of experience in running a telecom business, while the coop would be a brand new start-up. And finally, the city would lose roughly $5 million in cash with the coop bid, since the City stands to collect 25% of proceeds in excess of the funds needed to pay off the current creditors.

The City simply cannot afford to take a chance with "Keep BT Local" and needs to accept one of the other, higher bids.

Dave Maher
Burlington
i want to see the coop KBTL become the owner of burlington telecom. it is truly local.
Maureen O’Connell
Lyman Ave.
All of BT's value stays local, all of BT's equity stays local, all of BT's profits stays local, and sole control of BT stays local.

In addition, privatizing BT to either of the two high bids will mean paying higher service fees (that means homes, businesses, city offices, and schools) because there is no way to support a reasonable return on an investment of $30 million without rate increases, and either bid nearly guarantees that BT will be eventually sold to Comcast.
Hello, I live on Lakeview Terrace. Burlington Telecom has been my internet and telephone provider (i do not have a TV) since their inception. My previous provider was Verizon. BT saved me $60/month. Their service is exceptional, their rates can’t be touched by competitors, their high speed internet works great.

Please keep BT locally owned and serviced. This is what our city unique and desirable as a livable city.

Regards,
Maggie Sherman
maggiesherman.60@gmail.com
www.maggieshermanstudio.com
802-862-5576
I am a long time Burlington resident and have watched our politicians play with the taxpayers interest in BT. I support KBTL's bid. I DO NOT support privatization.
City Councilors: The coop's bid is the only one that keeps the control and the profits on a local basis. If one looks at BED as a model, it is clear that local cooperative ownership is far preferable to privatization. Thank you for wholeheartedly supporting Keep BT Local's bid.

--Dan Albert, Burlington
Let's keep corporate interests out of our telecom please and let the people of Burlington have control

All the best
Julie

Sent from my iPhone
E-vokeMarketing.com
Evoke Creative Marketing Group

732-284-0013
Julie@e-vokemaking.com
Hello,
I want to affirm my support for Keeping BT Local and reject the notion that we should go with the highest bidder! City Market is our best possible example of how going with a community-owned model rather than a corporate one (whose primary interests lie way outside of Vermont—and in one bidder's case, the country) for a fundamental resource gives back to the community 100 fold, financially and otherwise. Let's look at the long-term with this decision rather than just the short-term!

Thank you,

Rachel Jolly
We live in Burlington, are BT customers, and strongly support the KBTL option. This non-profit option will serve Burlington better than a stream of "going bankrupt" for profit providers.

Anthony and Katherine Stamper

--

Thanks, Tony
KEEP BURLINGTON TELECOM LOCAL.

Jeanne Plo

Sent from my iPhone
Jordan Redell

From: Anna Carey <annacarey2@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 22, 2017 8:42 PM
To: BT Feedback
Subject: Burlington Telecom

Coops have a lively and enriching history in US history as more importantly VT and Burlington's history. I am so tired of Mayor Miro's persistent position to promote unregulated growth of development and practices such as the rapacious parking meter situation. BT could be a model for further cooperative vs competitive business ventures. Please keep BT local and cooperative.

Anna Carey MD
363 1575
Keep it local! Thanks
I recommend that the City Council select the cooperative model proposed by Keep BT Local.

Thanks

Kathleen Ryan

---
Kathleen Ryan ~Landscape Architect
274 Maple Street, Burlington VT 05401

802 863 4091
cell 802 373 1662
I strongly support KBTL. I believe that it will keep prices down and be better in this respect compared with the other two bidders. I also believe that it is something for Burlington residents to be proud of and will be attractive to newcomers to our city.

Barb Kester
82 Grant Street

Sent from my iPhone
Dear Burlington Telecom,

As a new resident of Burlington, I can attest that you have something special here, and I hope you don’t lose it.

I moved from NYC/Williamsburg/Brooklyn a few months ago, and my neighborhood was the home of the ‘connected blogger’ and ‘the East Coast upstarts’, and I can tell you that we had nowhere near the speeds and customer service you guys have here. Why? Because of greed. When TimeWarner (which had crappy service to begin with) sold out and became Spectrum, not only did the service remain slow, but it jumped 20% in price immediately. The minute someone owns a utility and has a financial interest versus a functional one (meaning, they live there and use it) quality always suffers over profits.

Across all of the bids the idea of ‘keeping up with technology’ has been floated around often; most likely, to stoke fear in people who don’t think a small town like Burlington can muster the resources going forward to be world class. It assumes you’ll need to call in ‘some professionals. But the truth is…I’ll bet you have one of the best Internet services right now in the country. You’re delivering double, triple, and even higher speeds than some of the most progressive cities in the nation. Every bid should scratch that point from their proposal, because Burlington has already proven they can be better than everyone else. Point…KBTL.

If the bid were up to me, I would either give the bid to KBTL and continue growing together, or allow TuCows to have a minority stake with a time limit to prove themselves. Having a minority stake in anything doesn’t do anyone any good, unless it’s purely for financial purposes; and that’s not what this is about in the long run. Right now in Burlington you have – great speeds, great prices, and great customer service. Name me one utility company in the country that can say that?! (And this comes from the guy who just left, supposedly, ‘the greatest city in the world‘.)

Finally, I would classify ‘internet service’ as an essential service these days. It’s definitely essential to my business and my life. So, let’s treat it the same way we would our other essentials: fire, schools, police, etc…Let’s keep it hyper local. Why? Cause we’re doing a hell of a job already.

Thank you for your time and good luck with making the right decision.

Jordan Buntain
Chief Creative Director
buntain+partners
marketing + advertising for cloud companies
m: 347 668 4121
In reading the summary of the KBTL proposal, there seem to be several slanted/biased descriptions:
In the summary regarding management experience, the summary seems to ignore the extensive description of the management structure and staffing proposed by KBTL, including, as first priority, the retention of current management. Beyond that, there is no recognition of the very real expertise of the financial partner, having extensive experience in telecom co-op operation.
It might be assumed, from the summary statement that the other two competing proposals are “all cash”, that there will be no expense to those entities for that equity, while KBTL will be paying 14% for its $10M loan. In fact, the folks providing that roughly $30M in cash are expecting a SUBSTANTIAL return on their equity, likely in excess of 14%. They seem to be silent on that. Unlike a publicly owned co-op, as proposed by KBTL, those parties are solely motivated by maximizing their return on investment and that will be IMMEDIATELY reflected in their rates when their rate stabilization periods have expired. “All cash” most assuredly does not mean “free” or even “low cost”. They are proposing this purchase because they see an opportunity to make more money on this investment than on ANY other possible investment available to them! They can’t do that and keep the welfare of the citizens of Burlington foremost in their planning.
The difference between KBTL’s proposed purchase amount and the other’s will be more than made up by the returns in the future by the co-op, both directly and in the savings from lower usage costs, to the City and the subscriber/members. I don’t see that calculation anywhere in these summaries.
Thank you for consideration.
Sincerely,
Frank M Guillot
284 S. Union St.
KEEP BT LOCAL ! Do not fall for the short term buck ; telecommunications are a long term investment. BT will show a profit ; it must be - it can be - up to the residents of Burlington to decide, year to year, how to return the profits as part of the city commonwealth, as lower rates or investment in infrastructure, but in either case as profits for everyone instead of profits to corporate shareholders in other communities, with other goals. Accept one of the other bids and BT is gone, just another product..
Louis Mannie Lionni

--
This e-mail was sent from Louis Mannie Lionni. It may contain information that is privileged or confidential. If you suspect that you were not an intended recipient, please delete it and notify me as soon as possible. Before printing this e-mail, think about your responsibility towards the environment
Good afternoon city of Burlington

Please count me as one person who strongly feels that our community commitment should be expressed in making our city not only energy independent, as we do with Burlington Electric, but that we should also make our city a place where access to information is every bit as accessible.

We must have a cooperative owned utility for the infrastructure for information access. Burlington Telecom should be owned by the community.

The City wisely made a commitment to building Burlington Telecom, and should now do everything necessary to preserve it as a public city utility or as a community owned cooperative.

Our information infrastructure should not be dedicated to the profit making of investors, but rather it should be a tool for the inventiveness we need to make the future more sustainable.

Sincerely

Hugo Martinez Cazon
83 Catherine Street
Has anyone considered getting the opinion of the employees of BT. Reps from Dorman and Fawcett, the BTAB, the City Council, and the Mayor will all make their recommendations without getting the opinion of the employees of BT. Public option is fantastic but shouldn't the employees voices be heard.
Hi,

As an admirer of Burlington Telecom over the years my vote is to keep BT as local as possible. I remember a few years back when Kurt Wright thought it would be a great idea to sell off BED. What a mistake that would have been. In my opinion.

Burlington Telecom is a gem in the sea of greedy telecom's of today. I certainly hope that whoever acquires BT will be mandated not to sell our citizens information off. Its been very refreshing to have a telecom that understands what its users want. I do not want to see it get lost in some massive corporate entity.

With that said I am not sure what is best for the employees of BT in their eyes. They should be kept in mind because they are all great people and an important resource for a city that is on the rise.

Thanks,

--

Scott Hook / IT / Web Development
802.861.7528/ shook@gearx.com

Outdoor Gear Exchange / Gearx.com Office: 802.860.0190 / Fax: 802.860.0169
37 Church Street Burlington, VT 05401
http://gearx.com
I sincerely hope a decision is taken for Keep BT Local and not let our service provider slip into the hands of a domineering corporate provider. I’m a BT customer and I’ve been a BT customer since the day the service was available to me because I love the local option.

--
Lincoln
Thanks
I firmly believe that BTV should be owned locally. The Keep BT Local might not have the most cash up front, but is the best long-term solution for Burlington Telecom, Burlington Telecom customers, Burlington residents, and Burlington itself. A rich family or private company in Canada or Indiana should not be the future beneficiaries of all the hard work that the City and its people have put in to make BT viable. By keeping this company local, our money will stay local as much as possible. This fits the values that we have here in this city – to own our infrastructure and be self-sufficient. Selling to rich people out of state, who will make a profit either now or in the future when they sell to someone else, does not fit our values, and does not help the local economy.

Please don’t be tempted by the one-time payment. Staying local will pay dividends forever.

Jeremy Owens
Dear Elected Officials,

A few years ago now the City bent over backwards to assist the Onion River Food Cooperative to purchase, renovate and construct what became known as its first downtown store. What a fabulous success that project has become! Now, the Keep BT Local cooperative, led by a group of dedicated and professional community members and backed by an established and successful (and nearby) dark fiber leasing company, has made a bid to take-over ownership and management of the storied (yet successful) and municipally-owned Burlington Telecom.

That the City is even entertaining bids from private, for-profit companies as it seeks to wrap up BT’s temporary financing scheme, when a local, community-owned option exists makes one wonder whether the City Council and Mayor value maintaining local control and all the positives that would come along with local, not-for-profit, cooperative ownership. To me, this is a no brainer. In my early career, I worked in support of the cooperative model of housing ownership and for going on 30 years I’ve been a member of the Onion River Food Coop. I’m a longtime member of a cooperative sporting goods retailer in Canada, a cooperative insurance provider and I choose coop every time I can. And for good reason! I have a say in the operation when I am a coop member. I have a financial stake in the coops that I am a member of, therefore, I care what direction they take and how they do financially. If push comes to shove I will gladly pony up funds to further support my local cooperative. Who would ever say any such a thing about an out of state (or even out of country) for-profit corporation? Given all of the benefits bestowed upon the community and members, the cooperative model of ownership should be supported at every turn, especially by City government. This has happened in the past to great success and it needs to happen again, now.

Please lend your support to the Keep BT Local cooperative!

Thank you for your time.

Kai

Kai Mikkel Førlie
27 Germain Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401
Hello,
I'd like to register my support for Keep BT Local Coop's bid to purchase BT. I feel their bid is the only one that fully meets the expectations we have set for this process. They are the only bidder that truly offers local ownership. They are the only bidder which guarantees fair pricing.

We already spent the 17 million dollars. To sell off our investment for a quick buck today would be a huge slap in the face to the city and its people. The Coop offers the only way for Burlington Residents to actually receive a return on that investment. Let's see this through.

Thank you.

--
-Devon
Dear City Council,

Please support the Keep Burlington Telecom Local Co-op. Having local utilities is a point of pride for our city, one of the things that make Burlington a special place. In the short and long run, owning BT collectively rather than selling it to an outside company will only improve this place we call home. In a time of divisive politics what better move to bring the people of Burlington together than to say, we can do this together and make something we all use and depend on something we all own and support. Please take this proposal seriously and vote for the people. Keep Burlington Telecom Local.

Kate

--
Kate Kanelstein
Greetings,

My name is Davis McCarthy and have lived in Burlington, VT for just over four years. I currently study cybersecurity at Champlain College. My technical experience allows me to understand what a unique opportunity the City is facing and what it could mean for its residence given our country's shifting eco-political climate.

I used Comcast/Xfinity for the first several years after I moved to Burlington. My experience with them was at best abysmal. I hardly ever received the bandwidth I paid for, my connection would drop for extended periods of time without reason, and my rates increased the longer I remained their customer. The only way to increase my Internet speed was to purchase their "Triple Play" plan. This meant that I needed to pay for a TV, Phone and Internet plan through Comcast/Xfinity. The issue? I don't own a TV, nor watch TV and did not need a landline. They would call me weekly, explaining how I was one of the select few who qualified for a "special offer." To my surprise, I qualified for the same offer every week - I must be lucky.

After explaining to Comcast/Xfinity's customer service that they needed to fix their connectivity issues (as it interrupted my school work), or I would change providers, they did nothing.

The day I had Burlington Telecom installed was the same day I told Comcast/Xfinity to purposefully disconnect me. That wasn't the end of it, though. They called me four times asking why I left, and that if they gave me a promotional rate that was less than the $75.00/month for 25Mbps I had been paying if I would return. The answer was no. Burlington Telecom was offering me 200Mbps at $49.99 with the student discount. The one outage I experienced from Burlington Telecom was fixed quickly and the customer service transparent about the issue. Crazier was the notion that Burlington Telecom's customer service was enjoyable to engage with.

I think it's shameful that the City is selling off their asset for a short-term gain. Information Technology is the future, the Internet is the future. Why give it big business? Burlington has changed drastically in the four years I have been here. And this move to sell does not align with the values I once thought existed in this little City. To my surprise, other City assets have been sold this year, like the parking complex at the Burlington International Airport. This was sold to the Airport for an underwhelming low price - so I cannot fathom the City has a great need for the increased revenue offered by the other bidders over the co-op's 10.5 million.

I hope the city realizes that owning their own telecommunications company gives them the power to be different, successful and hold the rights of the service's privacy to a higher level. That this basic service will breathe life into the growing community, continuing Burlington's journey forward. Dealing with a service like Comcast/Xfinity is something I do not look forward to ever doing again.

Thank you for your time,

Davis McCarthy
It is my opinion that the Mayor has already decided who will buy Burlington Telecom. The Mayor likes to think that he is involving the people in the decisions but this is far from the truth. Just look at the North Ave. project. And he showed that he is willing to violate his own process when he chose to ask one of the bidders to remove their bid.

How can the City even begin to think that Keep BT Local is a serious bidder? The City would have to carry a $10M loan for Keep BT Local to complete the sale. First, where does this money come from? The same place the $17M came from. The taxpayers? Second, how can the City loan this much money without the residents being asked if they approve? Third, has Keep BT Local made the same commitments as the other companies in terms of total build out and expansion?

Get serious!!!

Norbie Lavigne
Please only consider making Burlington Telecom into a co-op. More democracy in our utilities and in everything is what we should also toward. The way I vote for mayor as well as City Council we be strongly influenced by this discussion. If Keep BT Local is not the right group to help make BT a co-op then rather than selling it to another candidate, please find another way to make it successful as a user owned democratic co-op.

Nikolaus Gruswitz
49 Murray St.
Burlington, VT 05401
Hi,

I am a downtown Burlington resident currently using Xfinity. However, if Burlington Telecom did become a local COOP, I would switch and buy in.

It obviously depends on the financials whether Keep BT Local should receive the offer or not, but I think you could have enough local support, like mine, to have more subscribers/owners and actually change the financials of the company.

That being said, if Ting or Shurz buys it up, I certainly will not switch over.

Regards,

David
Hi there,

I'm a Burlington resident & BT customer of 8ish years weighing in quick here about the upcoming sale.

Keith Brunner
19 Decatur St, Burlington (recently moved from 55 Lafountain in case that's on the records)

I'm 100% in favor of the Keep BT Local Coop -- I believe it is the only offer out of the three (now that one is out) which retains local accountability, transparency, and the potential for ongoing participation by the public and its users in decision-making.

I strongly urge the council and the administration to select the KBTL coop.

cheers,
Keith
Hello,

I'm probably one of only a few Burlington residents who's a current customer of Ting. Since they're one of the final bidders for Burlington Telecom, I figured I should talk about my experience with them.

* I have been a wireless customer with Ting for a few years.

* I recommend them to everyone I know.

* I used to work in Telecom, but every time I've called customer service, I'm instantly connected with someone who is way more knowledgeable than I am.

* Ting customer service has never told me that a problem is out of scope. Even when it should be. They work with me until the problem is fixed, even when it has nothing to do with them.

* I purchased a product on their online store without doing my research. It didn't work for me. I called support, they educated me about why that product would never work for me, and then they refunded the full cost, even though it was clearly my mistake.

I love Burlington Telecom. Their customer service is fantastic. I think Ting is the only company that could do even better. I would love to keep BT local, but Ting is a great option.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.
Hello,

I am not in favor of the locally owned BT telecom bid. We've already been burned once. Local ownership doesn't guarantee anything in terms of cost, quality or service. Go with one of the two other bidders who know how to run a business and have the best financial and customer service results. We can't even get service at our address - 18 Oak Beach Dr. in the south end.

Which are the 120 homes that would not be serviced by the two companies in a new build out and why wouldn't they be included? Regardless of the answer, I'm still not in favor of the locally owned option.

Julie Devins
18 Oak Beach Dr. (south end)
I strongly support the bid from “Keep BT Local.” We need to keep Burlington Telecom in local control and not larger out-of-city/state companies.

Larry Solt
l.solt@burlingtontelecom.net
111 Edgemoor Drive
Burlington, VT 05408
Good Morning.

As a new homeowner in Burlington, I can't tell you how excited I was when I heard that for the first time in my years of living in the town, I wouldn't have to be a Comcast customer anymore. Burlington Telecom was - and now is - installing service up Village Green and into the Ethan Allen Park adjacent neighborhood where I live. This excitement was compounded by the unfortunate circumstance that all Americans who are customers of large cable conglomerates face, now that our service providers can legally sell our information to marketers, advertisers, who knows.

I believe we absolutely need to keep our local internet resource in the right hands, and I believe those hands are our own. If the city of Burlington now decides to sell out our utilities to the highest bidder, one thing is certain: Burlington will be on its way to being just like everywhere else. Lets try to keep the income in Vermont!

I am excited to be a customer of a Burlington Telecom that continues to operate in the way it has for years. I'm excited to be a customer of a local internet service provider that is not interested in selling my information to the highest bidder.

Thank you,
Vinny Marksohn
Dear Decision Makers,

I hope that you will choose Keep Burlington Telecom Local as the new owner of BT. I was an early supporter, giving financially to KBTL, even though I no longer live in Burlington, but live now in Essex Junction. I feel that cooperatives are the absolutely best way to go for a business model that values citizen input, democratic functioning, and service over profit—though I think that KBTL will be profitable.

My hope has been that KBTL will prove very successful in Burlington, my former hometown, and will think about expanding to surrounding areas. I would so welcome BT into Essex Junction, given the alternative (which I recently dumped because of outrageous price hikes.)

Please choose Keep Burlington Telecom Local as Burlington’s new owner of the city’s telecom backbone.

Thank you for your consideration.

Peter Spitzform
28 West St.
Essex Junction, VT 05452
802-310-9739
I don't think we should be selling BT to a non-local entity.

The KBTL bid is the only local offer on the table.

The taxpayers spent a lot of money making the BT network. I think some debt is tolerable in the deal if it means that the citizens have a chance to own this asset in a coop format. It is also the chance to continue to build something truly unique for the long term that we can all be proud of and have a stake in.

Selling to the other bidders may be a short-term gain for the City, but none of those entities will serve Burlington the way a well-run local coop will.

I support the KBTL bid.

-israel smith

N Champlain St.
the fact that there is even a debate about who to sell BT is ridiculous. The company should be sold to the highest bidder. Period, end of discussion.

We (the taxpayers) lost a ton of money, our money, through this debacle and it's time to recoup it.

Sell it to the highest bidder and move on.

Eli
Hi Chip and Others,

Thanks for your time in getting what is best for the City.

I have three bottom lines, the City has to believe that the "winning" bidder:

1. meets a threshold that ensures (to the best of one's knowledge) that the new owners have the necessary skills and financial backing to keep BT Telecom solvent.
2. is able to continue to provide the strong and reliable service that it does.
3. down the road, will not sell-out to or be swallowed up by one of the giant cable conglomerates, such as Comcast.

Therefore I strongly urge the City to choose Keep BT Local. To expand on my rationale:

1. One has to assume that all three finalists have the necessary skills and financial backing to keep BT Telecom solvent. Otherwise, why are they finalists?
2. Why does the City believe that either Schurz or Ting/Tucows will provide comparable service? BT Telecom provides a strong and competitive product with excellent service. By being locally based, the technicians and staff are part of our community (both from within Burlington and the surrounding communities) and provide the best customer service of any cable service that I have ever experienced in other areas including in Shelburne, VT, California, Seattle and NYC. The moment we work with a call center in Toronto or Maryland or India, the responsiveness and overall customer service will decline (and our dollars will leave the City and State, and potentially the Country).
3. The national trend in the telecommunications, digital and most other industries is to take profitable companies and either strip them of their assets and sell them off, or to sell them to even larger conglomerates, leading to less and less local control and accountability. I, and I am not a betting man, bet any of you $100 that within 5-10 years, if either Schurz or Ting/Tucows is the winning bidder that they will no longer be providing us with service or be the owners.

Beyond my three criteria, Keep BT Local is a tremendous opportunity to do just that: keep it local and using a cooperative model. One needs not look any further than another of our homegrown successful cooperatives, City Market, to see how this model can deliver so much for its customers and the city.

Again, I thank you for soliciting feedback and for the time that you give to our community.

All my best

--

Victor Prussack
Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. Normally I would be an advocate to keep local ownership but as a frustrated Comcast customer who is very upset at having paid (through taxes) for state of the art optic fiber without being able to use Burlington Telecom, I’m actually in favor of accepting the bid of a larger company that would have the resources to extend service to everyone in Burlington. Burlington Telecom is a smart and extremely valuable resource for the city and I appreciate investing in growth projects, the financial debacle of the Kiss administration aside. I just wish I could access Burlington Telecom’s service, whatever company will allow me to do that would get my vote.

Thanks again,

Susan Robbins
Burlington
From: Walter Judge <WJudge@drm.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 6:53 PM
To: BT Feedback

KBTL is a joke of a bid. There are only two bidders left who are financially responsible. On all terms but the amount of the bid, they seem essentially the same. Pick the $30.8M option.

Sent from my iPhone
Thank you!
Linda Sukop
North Ave.
Hello,
I have lived and worked in Burlington over the past 2 decades and voice my support for the offer from Keep BT Local and maintaining a locally owned telecom utility.
Sincerely,
Madalaine Baer

Resident in 05408
This city loves co-ops! I really want the co-op to be chosen! That will guarantee it stays local.

Wendy Coe

Sent from my iPhone
Friends,

I'm a Burlington taxpayer and a strong advocate for keeping utilities and communications infrastructure local—locally owned, managed, and maintained. This tends to increase community input on decision-making, and keeps local dollars in the local economy with a resulting positive economic benefit to the community of those dollars.

I encourage you to:

1) re-engage with the 4th bidder as promised
2) highly value the effect of local control vs. pure cash
3) Ideally select one of the local options - even if it means leaving money on the table. Long term I believe the economic and quality benefits will more than pay for that short term loss.

Yours,

Nathan Suter

Nathan Suter, Partner
BUILD.
Strategy Leadership Culture Change
415.310.7197 c
I did try the first email address and all it did was connect me to yelp and there was no place to make comments or feedback about the issue. The second one you gave me worked a lot better

Sent from Outlook

Hi Kenneth,
The email address btfeedback@burlingtonvt.gov (cc'd on this message), is set up to receive public comments regarding the Burlington Telecom sale. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to email directly.

More information is also available on the BT website at https://www.burlingtontelecom.com/settlement/

Regards,
Scott

Scott Duckworth
Sr. Software Engineer
City of Burlington, VT
802-540-0081
Message: Seven days gave the wrong email address to check on information about the Burlington Telecom issue, they gave btfeedback@burlingtonvt.gov which connects to Yelp and they have no such page..

Submitted on Wednesday, September 20, 2017 - 15:05

Questions about this form? e-mail webmaster@burlingtonvt.gov

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.
Hello! I am a long-time resident of Burlington. I have lived in the city since 2005.

I also have been a Burlington Telecom customer since 2007. Ten years as a customer of what is, hands down, the best service provider (of any service whatsoever, not only telecom) that I have ever had for anything.

The primary reason that BT offers such exemplary service is because the telecom company is locally owned and operated. While I am extremely disappointed that Burlington Telecom will be sold at all, I strongly urge you to go with the offer from Keep Burlington Telecom Local. It is critical that the city do all it can to preserve the true value of a public telecom utility for its residents, and the only option that will continue to provide that value is Keep BT Local.

Allowing a private company from out of state to purchase our local, home-grown telecommunications utility will suck far more value from the utility over time than even the scandal that initially led to the necessity of this sale.

Please, keep BT Local and select the local co-operative, Keep BT Local, as the buyer.

Thank you,
Kelly Riel

--
-Kelly Riel
Hi Kenneth,
The email address btfeedback@burlingtonvt.gov (cc'd on this message), is set up to receive public comments regarding the Burlington Telecom sale. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to email directly.

More information is also available on the BT website at https://www.burlingtontelecom.com/settlement/

Regards,
Scott

Scott Duckworth
Sr. Software Engineer
City of Burlington, VT
802-540-0081

-----Original Message-----
From: webmaster@burlingtonvt.gov [mailto:webmaster@burlingtonvt.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 3:06 PM
To: Scott Duckworth <sduckworth@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: Form submission from: Contact Us [Website]

You are receiving this message because you are a designated recipient for: Website

Received from: kenneth atwood

Reply to e-mail Address: kenatwood52@hotmail.com

Subject: email address given by 7 days

Message: Seven days gave the wrong email address to check on information about the Burlington Telecom issue, they gave btfeedback@burlingtonvt.gov which connects to Yelp and they have no such page..

Submitted on Wednesday, September 20, 2017 - 15:05

Questions about this form? e-mail webmaster@burlingtonvt.gov
Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.