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From: Mike Kanarick <mike@burlingtonvt.gov>
Date: July 13, 2012 10:44:43 AM EDT
To: Mayor's Office <mayor@burlingtonvt.gov>
Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- MAYOR MIRO WEINBERGER: Weinberger Calls for Creation of Airport Strategic Planning Committee and Appoints Gene Richards as Interim Director of Aviation

OFFICE OF MAYOR MIRO WEINBERGER
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 13, 2012
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Mayor Miro Weinberger Calls for Creation of Airport Strategic Planning Committee to Chart Course for Future Success of Burlington International Airport
Appoints Gene Richards as New Interim Director of Aviation

Burlington, VT – Mayor Miro Weinberger today from the mezzanine of Burlington International Airport called for the creation of an Airport Strategic Planning Committee to chart a course for the future success of the Airport. Weinberger, who served as a member of the Burlington Airport Commission for nine years immediately prior to being elected Mayor, also appointed Gene Richards, the current Chair of the Airport Commission, as the new interim Director of Aviation. Weinberger asked the City Council both to approve a resolution creating the Airport Strategic Planning Committee and to confirm his appointment of Richards at its July 16, 2012 meeting.

“The airport is on the path to recovery after some difficult years,” said Weinberger. “It is time to create a strategic plan that will continue this improvement and allow the airport to fully realize the opportunities ahead.”

“Gene Richards has been a force for change, a person who has driven the improvement of the past 18 months,” said Weinberger. “He is the right person to run the airport until a permanent Aviation Director is named approximately six to nine months from now.”

“I am passionate about the importance of the Burlington International Airport to this region,” said Richards. “The airport has been one of northern Vermont’s economic success stories over the past two decades, and I am excited to play a significant role in keeping it that way.”

Please see attached documents, including:

- *Memorandum from Mayor Miro Weinberger to City Council Members requesting:*
 - *Passage of a Resolution Relating to Appointment of Airport Strategic Planning Committee*
 - *Approval of the appointment of Gene Richards, as Interim Director of Aviation at Burlington International Airport*
- *Copy of Resolution Relating to Appointment of Airport Strategic Planning Committee*
- *Resume of Gene Richards*