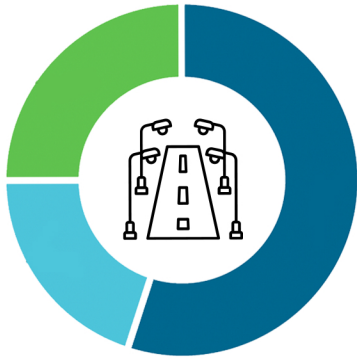


Overdose Prevention Centers: Community Impacts

As Burlington decides where to place a potential overdose prevention center, some may have concerns about public safety and order. Would an overdose prevention center help?

Currently, in Burlington, outdoor drug use is an issue. In a survey of people with living experience, many reported using outdoors.



55% said they used drugs outdoors at least once a day or more

25% said they used only once or never

20% said they used a few times a week

WHEN AN OPC OPENS:

research says

PUBLIC DRUG USE GOES DOWN:



Sydney, Australia saw a **decrease** in reports of public drug use from business owners (**38% to 28%**) after an OPC opened.¹
Copenhagen, Denmark saw a **decrease of 56%** in self reported public injection.²

THERE IS NO INCREASED POLICE ACTIVITY AND DECREASED EMS NEED:

Recent work on New York's overdose prevention centers shows **no change** in pedestrian police stops.³ There was **no change** in drug related arrests.⁴

Work from France shows that amongst those who used an OPC, there was a **59%** decrease in emergency room visits. This saves lives, time and money.⁵

BUSINESS DOES NOT SUFFER:

In NYC, studies that looked at anonymized foot traffic and credit card data found **no impact** on purchases or foot traffic for businesses near the OPC. Similarly, property values and rents **did not decrease**.^{6,7}

