



Burlington Police Department

Technology Unit

Forty years ago, technology provided the exciting prospect that officers would be able to communicate with the police station and other officers by portable radios they could carry on their duty belts. At that time, we would purchase the new equipment and replace it only as necessary.

The rapid expansion of technology in the 21st century has made its way into the public safety sector, and the choices, training and maintenance have become correspondingly complex. The digital age has brought to Vermont the possibility of immediate access to information to officers in the field through the use of mobile computers.

Digital cameras, voice recorders, sophisticated evidence collection instruments and new computer systems have improved officer and community safety, yet also provide challenges as well.

Each piece of equipment requires specialized training and maintenance. While we have discovered that information that filled rooms can be stored on a single disc, it is also critical that this technology be adequately backed up and secure.

Our Network Administrator, supported by an Application Support Specialist, maintain and administer the host of technology that facilitates public safety operations in Burlington.

We are fortunate to have the support of our congressional delegation, the Queen City Police Foundation, and the Vermont Department of Homeland Security to provide the critical funding to make our projects a reality.