

**2007-2008
Council Work Plan
Adopted August 21, 2007**

Guiding Principals

The following principals and goals shall guide the Council and Staff in their work during the 2007/2008 Fiscal Year.

1. The property tax is a regressive tax that falls disproportionately on the less well to do. The Staff and Council will work to develop a Fiscal Plan so that the Town remains strong financially while striving to lessen the tax burden by staying within the guidelines established by LD 1.
2. The Town Council and Staff will strive to conduct Town business in an open and professional manner that invites citizen involvement and keeps citizens informed of the issues facing the Town.
3. The Town shall work collaboratively with the School Committee to improve the Sanford community
4. The Town Council and Staff will continue to collaborate with other municipalities, special service districts, and with state and county government to improve services and save tax payer dollars.
5. The Town Council and Staff will work to improve the economic well being of Sanford's citizens by supporting an aggressive economic development strategy that provides assistance to existing businesses and seeks to attract new businesses to Sanford.
6. The Town Council and staff will strive to make Sanford an attractive and livable community by providing quality municipal services and by maintaining our streets, sidewalks, parks and other public facilities to a high standard.

Council Tasks for 07/08

Work to Streamline and Improve Government Services

Task A - Complete the review of the Town's current methods of handling trash and recyclables and adopt a method of providing these services that better conforms to the Council's "Guiding Principals".

Task B- Determine the appropriate location of a police station and begin the design process.

Task C – Establish a Charter Advisory Committee to determine if there are changes that need to be made in how the Town is governed.

Task D - Do a staffing analysis of the police and fire departments by comparing state and national averages for similar communities to determine if additional staffing is necessary.

Task E – Hire a full-time grant writer who would also assist with economic development and intergovernmental relations.

Work to make Sanford a more Attractive and Livable Community

Task F – Complete the development of a Capital Improvements Plan that includes a pavement management program for streets and sidewalks and a plan for the repair and maintenance of Town Facilities. The pavement management plan should include a plan for funding the improvement of our roads and sidewalks.

Task G - Continue the process of implementing the Blue Ribbon Plan including the following components:

- Support the Sanford Downtown Legacy group in its efforts to improve the Downtown;
- Improve the Mid-Town Mall;
- Creation of a Downtown Historic District;
- Acquire Properties along #1 Pond;
- Continue work to redevelop the Mill Yard.

Task H – Develop a strategy for improving the enforcement of drug laws in Sanford.

Task I - Improve the appearance of Sanford / Springvale through the writing of a Design Standard's Ordinance using the Kent Study concepts

Task J – Support the development of a Trail System and other outdoor recreation opportunities through our work with Developers and with the leadership of the Trails Committee.

Task K - Develop an ordinance that will encourage good maintenance and management of residential rental properties in Sanford.

Task L - Meet with School Committee on a regular basis to:

- Work to find areas where the consolidation of Town and School functions will result in efficiencies;
- Work with Acton on the State required consolidation of Schools;
- Continue to work with the University of Maine and the York County Community College to make certain that Sanford citizens have access to post secondary education opportunities;
- Participate in the planning for new schools in Sanford;
- Support the improvement and expansion of a Regional Vocational Technical School in Sanford;
- Consider forming a regional Board of Education.

Task M – Complete the work authorized by the Brownfields grant on CGA, Aerofab, #1 Pond, etc.

Support an aggressive economic development strategy

Task N - Improve transportation access to Sanford by advocating for a turnpike connector and by improving the serviceability of Routes 111, 109 & 202.

Task O - Develop a parking Plan for the Downtown and Mid-Town Mall area.

Addendum to Goals

Following is the original list of goals and tasks that were developed by the Town Council at their retreat on July 24, 2007. If the item has been “crossed out” it now appears in the formal work plan for 2007/2008. The numbers in parenthesis show the number of Council votes each item got.

1. **Work To Streamline & Improve Government Services**
 - ~~a. Trash & Recyclables (5)~~
 - ~~b. Streamline permitting process (0)~~
 - ~~c. Regional Dispatching Services~~
 - ~~d. Police Station (5)~~
 - ~~e. Strengthen Intergovernmental affairs’ efforts (1)~~
 - ~~f. Join NLC (1)~~
 - ~~g. Town Meeting, look at how we govern ourselves (4)~~
 - ~~h. Aggressively pursue all regionalization opportunities.~~
 - ~~i. Right to Know Ordinance/Policy~~
 - ~~j. Townwide revaluation.~~
 - ~~k. Mail tax bills once with two stubs for payments~~
 - ~~l. Charge for Fire apparatus/accident (2)~~
 - ~~m. Work to reduce Health Insurance Costs~~
 - ~~n. Do a staffing analysis of police and fire to more accurately reflect the average statewide/nationwide (4)~~
 - ~~o. Full time grant write & coordinator of intergovernmental affairs. (or ED) (3)~~
2. **Work to make Sanford a more attractive and livable community**
 - ~~a. Improve the CIP (3)~~
 - ~~b. Continue to improve Downtown (3)~~
 - ~~c. Design Review Ordinance (2)~~
 - ~~d. Support development of the Trail System & Outdoor Recreation (2)~~
 - ~~e. Improving Roads & Sidewalks (5)~~
 - ~~f. Drug enforcement Team/Funding (7)~~
 - ~~g. Tenant/Landlord Nuisance Ordinance (5)~~
 - ~~h. Meet with School Committee (7)~~
 - ~~i. Work with School Committee to consolidate back office.~~
 - ~~ii. Work with Acton & Sanford School Committee on consolidation~~
 - ~~iii. Coordination & support of educational opportunities. Form a regional board/education~~
 - ~~iv. New School construction~~
 - ~~v. Regional Vocational Technical School~~
 - ~~i. Review Special amusement ordinance~~
 - ~~j. Work with the Downtown Committee on a Design Plan for Main Street from Route 202 to Roberts (or Emery?)(1)~~
 - ~~k. Dam Management Plan~~
 - ~~l. Improve #1 Pond~~
 - ~~m. Complete Brownfields work (CGA, #1 Pond, Mills, etc.) (3)~~
 - ~~n. Townwide implementation of the Kent Study concepts~~

- o. Provide incentives for owner occupied housing**
 - p. East side youth/community center**
 - q. Improve signage for entrances into Sanford & Springvale.**
 - r. Hockey Rink/Sports Center.**
- 3. Support an aggressive economic development strategy**
 - a. ~~Improve transportation access to Sanford (4)~~**
 - b. ~~Parking Plan for Midtown Mall & Downtown(3)~~**
 - c. Work to develop a hotel/conference center.**
 - d. Establish Farmers market**