

City of Sanford



**From the Desk of
Steven R. Buck
City Manager**



Memorandum

To: City Council
Subject: Manager's Report for January 5th, 2016
Date: January 5th, 2016

Congressional Meeting on Federal Issues:

Administration has been working with Congresswoman Pingree's staff to facilitate one of three meetings in January for the Washington Staff to seek local input on a myriad of topics. Representative Pingree's Staff has identified the people, with the City's assistance, and will be contacting them directly by invitation to attend the meeting in Sanford. The meeting will be held on January 23rd, 2016 with the time to be finalized.

Major areas for discussion will include, as a minimum, Education, Agriculture, Health Care, Environment, Intergovernmental Relations and Programs, Business, and Economic Development. Key leaders in all of these areas have been identified and are being coordinated for the meeting.

The City of Sanford is grateful for being selected to host and for the opportunity to assist in the planning and facilitation of the meeting.

Emerson School/Cumberland Farms Development:

Administration continues to work with the development team for Cumberland Farms on obtaining their Site Plan and Permit to construct an approved new facility on the current site of the former Emerson School off Main Street. The Developers have worked with the Planning Board on the majority of the Site Plan up to a point whereby the Project was mutually tabled pending the receipt of two outstanding permits. One permit from Maine Department of Environmental Protection for a variance for siting their underground tanks and the second completion of the details associated with the Maine Department of Transportation turning Movement Permit.

The DEP just closed the public comment period on the Permit on December 31st, 2015. Absent unforeseen elements at this point, it is fully expected that the DEP will issue a Variance Permit under 06-096 CMR 692 (4)(c)(3)(a) and (4) for the installation of a retail underground oil storage facility located at 975 Main Street.

The Maine Department of Transportation also issued the Turning movement Permit to the Project. Administration with the Developer's Representative on 1/5/16 to review the Turning Movement's requirements and affirm the improvements to be made by the Developer and the City as part of the overall Site Plan development. The meeting was very productive and able to identify and resolve all remaining issues due to a significant level of input form

within MDOT, the Developer's Representatives, as well as City Administration. The result will be a newly formed 4-way Intersection for entry/exit of the Project onto Main Street with lane improvements on Main Street. Due to the favorable developments, the Developer has requested to bring the Project back to the Planning Board as early as January 20th, 2016, thereby keeping the Project on its originally anticipated timeline.

As Manager, I would like to both recognize and thank the City's Administrative Team Members from within Planning, Codes, Engineering, Public Works, Economic Development, and the Manager's Office for their knowledge, capacities, and ability to work with Developers to identify a best path of development to achieve mutual goals. Acknowledgement is made of the progress Administration has made regarding Site Permitting and the ability to cooperatively work with Developers.

Medication Assisted Opiate Treatment Program:

There were major developments over the Holiday two weeks since the last Council meeting. The State Legislature came back into Session today, January 5th, 2016 to work on LR 2599 **“An Act To Combat Drug Addiction Through Enforcement, Treatment and Recovery,”** the Legislature's Substance Abuse Plan. The City received notice on December 30th through the Mayor's Coalition that a Public Hearing would take place on the 5th. I worked with Chief Connolly who dedicated his time to writing testimony in support of the Medication Assisted Opiate Treatment Program or MAT that is being developed between the Sanford Police Department and Maine Behavioral Health.

LR 2599 is the Legislatures Plan that provides the following:

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SUMMARY

8 The purpose of this bill is to address drug addiction by increasing the number of drug
9 enforcement agents and by increasing the availability of prevention, treatment and
10 recovery programs.

11 1. Part A provides ongoing funding for 10 investigative agents in the Department of
12 Public Safety, Maine Drug Enforcement Agency.

13 2. Part B directs the Department of the Attorney General to administer grants to local
14 law enforcement agencies and county jails located in geographically diverse communities
15 throughout the State to fund projects designed solely to facilitate pathways to community-
16 based treatment, recovery and support services.

17 3. Part C directs the Department of Health and Human Services to provide grants to a
18 substance abuse treatment entity to develop and operate a 10-bed social detoxification
19 center located in the greater Bangor area.

20 4. Part D provides ongoing funding for annual grants to the Maine Association of
21 Substance Abuse Programs for the establishment and expansion of peer support recovery
22 centers and the coordination and provision of substance abuse prevention and education
23 in schools and communities.

24 5. Part E provides funding to increase substance abuse residential treatment and
25 substance abuse outpatient services for the uninsured.

26 6. Part F transfers \$725,000 in fiscal year 2015-16 and \$1,775,000 in fiscal year
27 2016-17 from the funds received pursuant to the court order in State of Maine v.
28 McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. and Standard & Poor's Financial Services, LLC, Kennebec

29 County Superior Court Docket No. BCD-CV-14-49, to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

Chief Connolly provided testimony under Parts B-F seeking funding for Sanford's Evidence Based medication assisted diversion program. There was a very large turnout today with the Chief not able to testify until 3:45PM today. By his account his testimony was well received. He was also able to distribute copies of his recent Book, "Heroin, What You Need to Know and Why" to each of the Joint Standing Committee Members on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, Criminal Justice, Public Safety and or Health and Human Services.

The Chief will also be returning to August on January 11th to testify on behalf of the City and Mayor's Coalition on LD 1488 **An Act To Establish the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program in Maine.**

SUMMARY

8 This bill establishes the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program to address
9 drug crimes by diverting low-level offenders into community-based treatment and
10 support services. The program includes, but is not limited to, the provision of case
11 management services to program participants in order to secure appropriate treatment and
12 support services such as housing, health care, job training and mental health services for
13 program participants. The Attorney General, in consultation with the district attorneys, is
14 directed to implement the program by establishing 8 pilot projects in communities around
the State.

The request is to implement 8 Pilot Programs of evidence based diversion and treatment programs within the Mayor's Coalition membership. The Bill seeks \$2,000,000 in funding in FY 2016-2017 or \$250,000 per Pilot Program. This would adequately fund the MAT Program as is being cooperatively developed.

Administration will update the progress on the Initiatives and Legislative actions as they progress.