

2025 Annual Report

Annual Report

2025



Durham, New Hampshire

For Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2025

*Cover photos of Packers Falls Bridge and Lamprey
River by Bill Doucet, Newmarket, NH*

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*Town Report created by Karen Edwards,
Administrative Assistant to the Administrator*

*Photos within the Town Report by Craig Stevens, DCAT
Coordinator, unless otherwise stated*

*8 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 868-5571
www.ci.durham.nh.us*

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Honorable Mentions

In 2025, many town citizens volunteered their time, talents, and efforts to serve on various elected and appointed boards, commissions and committees. We would like to take this opportunity to thank and recognize the following individuals for the important contributions they made to the community.

Town Council

James Bubar
Eric Lund

Library Board of Trustees

Charlotte Ramsay
Andrew Sharp
Erik Waddell

Agricultural Commission

Daniel Winans
Raymond Laroche Jr.

Cemetery Committee

Eric Lund, Council Rep.

Conservation Commission

Wayne Burton, Council Rep.
Erin Hardie Hale

Energy Committee

Ti Crossman
Charles Forcey
Michal Konopko
John Lannamann
Michael Lehrman
Eric Lund, Council Rep.

Historic District/Heritage Commission

Eric Lund, Council Rep.

Housing Task Force

Al Howland
Michael Mulhern
Eileen E. Murphy
Michael Saputo
Judith Spang
Sally Tobias
Heather Grant, Council Rep.
Paul Rasmussen, Planning Board Rep.

Human Rights Commission

Sally Needell, Council Rep.

Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee

James Bubar, Council Rep.

Land Stewardship Subcommittee

Darrell Ford, Council Rep.

Parks & Recreation Committee

Myrta Janosz

Planning Board

Tom DeCapo
Emily Friedrichs, Council Rep.
Erika Naumann Gaillat
Eric Lund, Council Rep.

In Memoriam

Robert (Bob) Brown

Robert “Bob” Brown, 75, passed away peacefully at home on September 13, 2025, surrounded by his devoted wife and four children.

Born on October 1, 1949, in Barre, Vermont, Bob grew up in Randolph before attending Champlain College and then Plymouth State, where he met the love of his life, Cathy. This year they would have celebrated 53 years of marriage—a lifelong partnership filled with devotion, laughter, and unshakable love.

In retirement, Bob and Cathy moved to Durham, New Hampshire, to be close to their children and grandchildren, while frequently traveling to Gainesville, Florida, to visit more of their beloved family. Home for Bob was always wherever his family gathered.

Bob was a former member of the Durham Planning Board and Economic Development Committee, serving on both from 2016 to 2018. Town Planner Michael Behrendt said, “Bob was just a wonderful person. He was always congenial, positive, and enjoyable to work with. He took his job on the Planning Board seriously, but my main image of him now is with a big smile or that great laugh. I am sure that members who served with Bob back then have warm memories of him.”

Barbara J. Dill

Barbara Jones Dill, passed away peacefully on July 23, 2025, under the extraordinary care and compassion of the Carriage Hill Assisted Living community and Wentworth Hospice, with family visiting and caring for her daily. Barbara’s life was deeply rooted in community, family, and purpose.

Born in Phoenix, Arizona, on November 19, 1943, Barbara moved across the country at the age of two with her mother, Katherine Pitrat Jones, and her Aunt Ruthie. They settled in Philadelphia to await the return of her father, William Arrott Jones, who had been held in a German POW camp in World War II.

A gifted artist, writer, and designer, Barbara earned a certificate in graphic design from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. She built a successful freelance business from home—her dining room transformed into a studio filled with rulers, T-squares, spray adhesive, paints, markers, pencils and her enormous orange drafting table (later she was among the first to dabble in desktop publishing software developed by Apple). In 1982, she joined Wheaton College as College Designer, a role she embraced for 30 years. Her creativity, professionalism, and warm presence left a lasting imprint on the Wheaton community until her retirement in 2012.

In 2013, after retiring, she relocated to Durham, New Hampshire, to be near family in Madbury and Newburyport. Barbara quickly became an engaged member of her new community, serving on the Durham Planning Board from 2015 to 2023. In her capacity as Planning Board member, she served as a representative on the Conservation Commission, Energy Committee and the Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee. Town Planner Michael Behrendt said, “Her dedication and commitment were remarkable. Barbara cared deeply about the work of the board and insisted on thinking through applications thoroughly, following a transparent process, and presenting in a quality manner, especially concerning the precision of written materials. Barbara’s contributions were extensive, serving as vice chair, providing input into the master plan, designing graphic materials, participating on subcommittees, and always offering her unvarnished opinion on matters before the board. She will be missed.”

In Memoriam

Dr. Eric J. Lund

Dr. Eric Jon Lund, 58, passed away on August 17, 2025, following a diagnosis of a brain tumor. A devoted scientist, public servant, and crusader for justice, Eric made a lasting impact on the communities and institutions he served.

Eric earned a B.S. in Physics, with a minor in music, from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1989. He completed his Ph.D. in astrophysics at Dartmouth College in 1995 on a NASA fellowship and spent time at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Geophysical Institute as part of his early research trajectory. Following his doctorate, Eric joined the University of New Hampshire in Durham, where he spent the remainder of his career as a Research Scientist in the Department of Physics.

Committed to public service, Eric was elected to his first term on the Durham Town Council in March 2023 and was reelected in 2025. As Councilor, he served as a representative on the Historic District Commission, the Cemetery Committee, and as an alternate representative on the Planning Board. Even during his illness, he continued to attend meetings virtually. In recent years, he believed strongly that working for change at the local level had the most meaningful impact on daily life, and he devoted himself to that work with energy and integrity.

Elisabeth Vail (Huppertz) Keen, Maurice

Elisabeth Vail (Huppertz) Keen, Maurice passed away on February 13, 2025 surrounded by her loving family. Lisa was born in Boston on June 30, 1936, a daughter of the late Stephen Vail and Elisabeth (Colson) Huppertz and grew up in Waban, MA. Lisa emitted sparkles of joy to everybody she encountered and was the light of every room she walked into. She loved her family, her children, her grandchildren, and her great-grandchildren. She enjoyed knitting, line dancing, dogs, ice cream, traveling, the island of Montserrat, reading, genealogy, and attending all of her grandchildren's events. She had such a dedication to her family and friends, she was mostly referred to as Grandmother by everyone she knew because of her loving presence.

Lisa's purpose in life was to volunteer and give back. She truly was a most generous person. She served in the elected position of Supervisor of the Checklist for Durham from 1980-1998 and again in 2000, and then as the Assistant Moderator for Durham from 2002-2014. She continually served as a volunteer at the election polls up until 2024.

Emma Louise (Wood) Rouse

Emma Louise (Wood) Rous, age 80, passed away on February 1, 2025, at her home following a year and a half bout with cancer. For 53 years, she was the beloved wife of Walter Rous.

Her BA was from Mount Holyoke College and her masters in education from Columbia University. She began her teaching career at Weeks Jr. High in Newton, MA and taught English at Oyster River High School for more than 20 years, where she developed a course called Literature and the Land, and wrote a book of the same title.

Emma represented the Durham-Lee-Madbury district in the NH State Legislature for eight years, six of which she chaired the Education Committee. She was a member of Temple Israel in Portsmouth, the Farmers Hill Group of East Andover, ME, and the J Street NH Chapter.

New Faces in 2024 & 2025



Alexander Andruzzi
Police Officer
Hire Date: 12/9/24



Daren Baumgardt
Parking Enforcement Officer
Hire Date: 5/27/25



Gregory Bush
DPW Project Engineer
Hire Date: 10/14/25



Nicole Escobar
Library Asst. Youth Svcs.
Hire Date: 9/24/25



Joshua Gaultier
Firefighter
Hire Date: 4/21/25



Ryan Gooding
Police Officer
Hire Date: 4/14/25



William Graham
Police Officer
Hire Date: 9/23/25



Allen Hatfield
Police Officer
Hire Date: 4/14/25



Veronique Ludington
Land Stewardship Coord.
Hire Date: 12/18/24

New Faces in 2024 & 2025



Michelle Patrick
Admin. Asst. Fire Dept.
Hire Date: 10/20/25



Kenneth Richard
Firefighter
Hire Date: 4/21/25



Alexander Scopa
Police Officer
Hire Date: 12/9/24



Chloe Scott
Police Officer
Hire Date: 9/3/24



Loran Sheley
Firefighter
Hire Date: 10/6/25



Maura Slavin
Asst. to Town Clerk
Hire Date: 3/24/25



Marc Wiltfong
DPW Fleet Svcs. Div. Super.
Hire Date: 10/27/25

Officers, Boards, Commissions And Committees

ELECTED OFFICIALS

OFFICIAL/BOARD	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	TERM	EX-PIRES	APPT. AUTH.
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DURHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Joe Friedman, Chair	24 Woodman Road	603-957-1600	Joe.Friedman42@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/28	Elected
Sally Needell, Chair Pro Tem	36 Bagdad Road	603-868-1552	sneedelltc@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Wayne Burton	106 Madbury Rd.	508-517-7188	wburton@northshore.edu	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Darrell Ford	26 Perley Lane	603-973-6883	dford@ci.durham.nh.us	3 Yrs	3/27	Elected
Emily Friedrichs	18 Garden Lane	603-706-8174	emilyfriedrichs@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Heather Grant	7 Emerson Rd.	603-285-2913	hgrant@ci.durham.nh.us	3 Yrs	3/27	Elected
Curtis Register	6 Rocky Lane	919-525-4383	cregister@ci.durham.nh.us	3 Yrs	3/27	Elected
Robin Vogt	16 Oyster River Road	603-969-5720	rvogt@ci.durham.nh.us	3 Yrs.	3/28	Elected
Carden Welsh (appt. 9/8/25)	3 Fairchild Drive	-----	cnwelsh@me.com		3/26	Appointed

DURHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robin Glasser, Chair	1 Roysann Way	508-530-2933	durhamplglasser@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Sudie Blanchard	14 Stone Quarry Dr. Apt. 317	207-351-5467	sudieb@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/28	Elected
Katharine Gatcomb	22A Simons Lane	603-512-3020	katharinegatcomb@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/28	Elected
Callie Langton	14 Ross Road	925-579-4020	callie.langton@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/27	Elected
Beth Newkirk	40 Mill Pond Road	603-969-1148	bethnewkirk48@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/28	Elected
Kimberly Sweetman	6 Morgan Way	646-408-9831	kimberly.sweetman@mac.com	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Susan Wagner	10 Edendale Lane	978-499-1831	susanwagner31@icloud.com	3 Yrs	3/27	Elected
Martha (Martie) Gooze, Alt.	9 Meadow Rd.	603-781-1111	mtgooze@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/26	Council
Laura Mason, Alt.	129 Durham Pt. Rd.	603-475-4154	laura.mason@comcast.net	1 Yr	4/26	Council
Joe Warzin, Alt.	102 Madbury Road	586-933-6336	warzin@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/26	Council

MODERATOR

Christopher T. Regan	16 Littlehale Rd.	603-868-2293	chrisregan@durhamnhlaw.com	2 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Lee Skinner, Deputy	14 Stone Quarry Dr.	603-590-9197	lwskinner@comcast.net	2 Yrs	3/26	Moderator

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Ann Shump, Chair	10 Fogg Dr.	603-868-1342	shump@comcast.net	6 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Deborah Hirsch Mayer	19 Garden Ln.	603-868-7150	hirschmayer2@gmail.com	6 Yrs	3/28	Elected
Christian N. Kuhn	3 Razorbill Circle	603-841-0895	christian.n.kuhn@gmail.com	6 Yrs	3/30	Elected

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Rachel Deane	8 Newmarket Rd.	603-868-5577	rdeane@ci.durham.nh.us	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
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TOWN TREASURER

Karl Van Asselt	17 Fairchild Dr.	603-868-6353	vanasselt@aol.com	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Catherine Leach, Deputy	14 Fairchild Dr.	603-868-5992	leachfam@comcast.net	3 Yrs	3/26	Treasurer

ELECTED OFFICIALS (CONTINUED)

OFFICIAL/BOARD	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	TERM	EX-PIRES	APPT. AUTH.
<u>TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS</u>						
Theodore Howard, Chair	12 Burnham Ave.	603-868-1152	ted.howard@unh.edu	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Alberto Manalo, Sec.	11 Sumac Lane	603-502-0539	alberto.manalo@comcast.net	3 Yrs	3/28	Elected
Tom Bebbington	25 Park Court	603-498-5881	tpbebbington@mac.com	3 Yrs	3/27	Elected
James Bubar, Alt	4 Old Piscataqua Rd.	603-343-7890	jamesabubar@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/26	Council
Victor Sosa, Alt	45 Edgewood Road	603-498-9114	vgsosa@yahoo.com	1 Yr	3/26	Council

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Tom Bebbington, Chair	25 Park Court	603-498-5881	tpbebbington@mac.com	3 Yrs	3/27	Elected
Theodore Howard	12 Burnham Ave.	603-868-1152	ted.howard@unh.edu	3 Yrs	3/26	Elected
Alberto Manalo	11 Sumac Lane	603-502-0539	alberto.manalo@comcast.net	3 Yrs	3/28	Elected
Darrell Ford, Cncl Rep	26 Perley Lane	603-973-6883	dford.council@yahoo.com	1 Yr	3/26	Council
Curtis Register, Cncl Rep	6 Rocky Lane	919-525-4383	curtis.register2024@gmail.com	1Yr	3/26	Council
Heather Smith, Cncl Rep	7 Emerson Rd.	603-285-2913	hgrant@ci.durham.nh.us	1 Yr	3/26	Council

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Dwight Trueblood, Chair	11 Tall Pines Road	603-205-1775	dwight.trueblood@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Neil Slepian, Vice Chair	12 Fairchild Drive	781-690-7625	neil.slepian@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Jacob Cragg	127 Durham Point Rd	501-860-3398	jacobcragg@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Nicholas Lanzer	12 Ambler Way	603-391-1978	nicholaslanzer@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Anne Lightbody	95 Madbury Road	Private	annelightbody@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Steve Moyer, Alt.	13 Fellows Lane	571-274-0593	stevemoyer13@outlook.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
John Nachilly, Alt.	260 Packers Falls Rd.	603-953-3638	nachilly@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Benjamin Phelps, Alt	341 Lee Hook Road	207-807-0718	ben.phelps@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Darrell Ford, Cncl Rep	26 Perley Lane	603-973-6883	dford@ci.durham.nh.us	1 Yr	4/26	Council
Robert Sullivan, PB Rep.	193 Packers Falls Road	603-502-3670	robert.sullivannh@icloud.com	1 Yr	4/26	Council

LAND STEWARDSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE

Neil Slepian, Chair	12 Fairchild Drive	781-690-7625	neil.slepian@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Con. Comm.
Veronique Ludington		603-479-8824	vludington@ci.durham.nh.us	N/A	N/A	Contract staff
Carolyn Singer	5 Woodridge Rd.	603-498-6570	nhgrantwriter@aol.com	N/A	N/A	HDC
John Carroll	54 Canney Rd.	603-868-2935	john.carroll@unh.edu	N/A	N/A	Ag Comm
Lynda Kuhne	119 Dame Road	603-312-6031	lakuhe@aol.com	N/A	N/A	Parks & Rec
Theodore Howard	12 Burnham Ave.	603-868-1152	ted.howard@unh.edu	N/A	N/A	Trustees of the Trust Fund
Gale Carey	49 Oyster River Road	603-969-4165	gale.carey@comcast.net	N/A	N/A	At large Mem.
Marty Gorham	11 Burnham Ave		marty.gorham@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	At large Mem.
Ann Welsh	3 Fairchild Dr.	-----	annwelsh@mac.com	N/A	N/A	At-large Mem.
Sara Callaghan, Alt.	4 Fogg Drive	603-686-4679	fireflystewardship@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Alternate
Elliot Ng, Alt.	12A Griffiths Drive	603-229-8160	y.sheng.ng@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Alternate
Emily Friedrichs, Cncl Rep	18 Garden Lane	603-706-8174	emilyfriedrichs@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/26	Council

HISTORIC DISTRICT/HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Larry Brickner-Wood, Chair	1 Colony Cove Rd.	603-988-4470	revlarry77@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Charlotte Hitchcock, V.	14 Stone Quarry Dr.	603-590-9164	charlotte.rose.hitchcock@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Michael Hoffman	300 Durham Pt. Rd.	603-817-8071	mhoffman33@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Carolyn Singer	5 Woodridge Rd.	603-498-6570	nhgrantwriter@aol.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Aaron Wolfson-Slepian	47 Newmarket Rd.	603-767-0348	aaron.slepian@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES (CONTINUED)

OFFICIAL/BOARD	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	TERM	EX-PIRES	APPT. AUTH.
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HISTORIC DISTRICT/HERITAGE COMMITTEE (Continued)

Jennifer Becker, Alt.	2 Bartlett Road	603-953-6465	dayhoofj@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Thomas Janosz, Alt.	23 Durham Point Rd	603-623-5439	tomjano@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
VACANT, Alt.				3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Wayne Burton, Cncl Rep	106 Madbury Road	508-517-7188	wburton@northshore.edu	1 Yr	3/26	Council
Sally Tobias, PB Rep	107 Madbury Road	603-397-0802	sally.tobias@me.com	1 Yr	4/26	Plan Board

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Cathy Leach, Chair	14 Fairchild Dr.	603-969-0785	leachfam@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Chris Gowland	28 Newmarket Road	978-649-9222	cjgowland@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Erin Guyotte	14 Old Landing Road	603-312-8717	ering257@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Al Howland	32 Ffrost Drive	603-868-5928	thehowl@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Tracy Schroeder	18 Bagdad Road	603-868-7575	tlsinnh@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Matthew Swiesz	17 Sumac Lane	603-817-7536	drswiesz@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Lynda Kuhne, Alt.	119 Dame Road	603-312-6031	lakuhe@aol.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
VACANT Alt.				3 Yrs	4/26	Council
VACANT, Alt.				3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Joe Friedman, Cncl Rep	24 Woodman Road	603-957-1600	joe.friedman42@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/26	Council

PLANNING BOARD

Paul Rasmussen, Chair	5 Glassford Lane	570-620-7859	pnasmus@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Sally Tobias, V. Chair	107 Madbury Road	603-397-0802	sally.tobias@me.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Peyton McManus, Sec.	54 Ross Road	603-479-3764	peyton_mcmamus@yahoo.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Richard Kelley	5 Garden Ln.	603-767-9795	richard.kelley@hdrinc.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Robert Sullivan,	193 Packers Falls Rd	603-502-3670	robert.sullivan@icloud.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Gary Whittington	6 Old Piscataqua Rd.	319-573-2972	whittington10@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Peter Howd, Alt.	99 Durham Point Rd.	727-439-6517	peterhowd@icloud.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Munish Nanda, Alt.	30 Sumac Lane	603-321-0394	nandamunish64@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Julian Smith Alt.	3 Chesley Drive	912-771-9119	whalerock@smith-family.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
VACANT, Alt.				3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Heather Grant, Cncl Rep	7 Emerson Rd.	603-285-2913	hcgrantdb@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/26	Council
Darrell Ford, Alt. Cncl Rep	26 Perley Lane	603-973-6883	dford@ci.durham.nh.us	1 Yr	3/26	Council

ZONING BOARD

Neil Niman, Chair	10 Cold Spring Road	603-659-8853	neil.niman@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Micah Warnock, Vice Chair	45 Woodman Rd.	540-421-3705	warnockmr@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Kevin Lemieux, Sec.	11 Bartlett Road	617-999-4489	lemieux_kevin@hotmail.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
James Bubar	4 Old Piscataqua Rd.	603-343-7890	jamesabubar@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Mark Morong	21 Emerson Rd.	603-661-1296	mduffm@comast.net	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Joseph Warzin, Alt.	102 Madbury Road	586-933-6336	warzin@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
VACANT, Alt.				3 Yrs	4/27	Council
VACANT, Alt.				3 Yrs	4/26	Council

TOWN WORKING COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Theresa Walker, Chair	62 Bennett Rd.	603-659-7226	theresawalker@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Anton Bekkerman	2 Stone Wall Way	406-589-0079	anton.bekkerman@unh.edu	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
John Carroll	54 Canney Rd.	603-868-2935	carroll@unh.edu	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Alberto Manalo	11 Sumac Dr.	603-868-9883	alberto.manalo@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/26	Council

TOWN WORKING COMMITTEES (CONTINUED)

OFFICIAL/BOARD	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	TERM	EX-PIRES	APPT. AUTH.
<u>AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION (Continued)</u>						
Holly Philbrick	35 Cedar Point Road	603-997-1781	holly@emeryfarm.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
VACANT				3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Lee Alexander, Alt.	32 Dover Rd.	603-868-5822	leealex64@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Bryan Cassidy, Alt.	342 Dame Rd.	603-819-1397	bryancassidy77@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Ellen Karelitz, Alt.	113 Madbury Rd.	603-868-6070	ellenkare51@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
David Langley, Alt.	234 Longmarsh Rd.	603-793-9331	davelangleydesign@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
David Marcouillier, Alt.	7 Fairchild Drive	603-205-2914	davidmarcouillier@hotmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Curtis Register, Cncl Rep	6 Rocky Lane	919-525-4383	curtis.register2024@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/26	Council
VACANT, PB Rep				1 Yr	4/26	Planning Board
<u>ENERGY COMMITTEE</u>						
Michael Klein, Chair	28 Sumac Lane	603-401-2914	mike@pwiconsulting.net	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Malcolm Brown	310 Newmarket Road	603-359-8894	mb13brown@icloud.com	3 Yrs.	4/28	Council
Andrew Coppens	9 Deer Meadow Road	734-417-8868	andrew.d.coppens@gmail.com	3 Yrs.	4/28	Council
Matthias Dean Carpentier	265 Packers Falls Rd.	678-907-1837	matthiasdeancarpentier@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Steven Fellows	14 Stone Quarry Dr. Apt. 115	603-590-9173	Steven_fellows@hotmail.com	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Steve Holmgren	20 Perley Lane	732-977-6142	sholmgren2@outlook.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
VACANT				3 Yrs	4/26	Council
VACANT				3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Robin Vogt, Cncl Rep	16 Oyster River Road	603-969-5720	rvogt@ci.durham.nh.us	1 Yr	3/26	Council
Matthew Davis UNH Rep.	James Hall Rm. 230	603-862-1718	matt.davis@unh.edu	N/A	N/A	UNH President
Paul Rasmussen, PB Rep.	5 Glassford Lane	570-620-7859	pnrasmus@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/26	Plan Board
<u>HOUSING TASK FORCE</u>						
Sally Tobias, Chair	107 Madbury Road	603-397-0802	sally.tobias@me.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Al Howland, Citizen Rep	32 Ffrost Drive	603-868-5928	al.howland.13@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Michael Mulhern, Citizen Rep	91 Bagdad Road	603-234-3189	mmulhern@servicecu.org	N/A	N/A	Council
Eileen E. Murphy, Citizen Rep	9 Bayview Road	443-626-7203	eemurphy.5@gmail.com	N/A	N/A	Council
Judith Spang, Citizen Rep	55 Wiswall Road	603-828-6419	judith@kestrelnet.net	N/A	N/A	Council
VACANT, Citizen Rep				N/A	N/A	Council
VACANT, Citizen Rep				N/A	N/A	Council
Nick Taylor, Advisor			director@seacoastwhc.org	N/A	N/A	
Mimi Kell, Advisor			mkell@madburyproperties.com	N/A	N/A	
Heather Grant, Cncl Rep	7 Emerson Rd.	603-285-2913	hcgrantdb@gmail.com	1 Yr	10/25	Council
Paul Rasmussen, PB Rep	5 Glassford Lane	603-397-5359	pnrasmus@gmail.com	1 Yr	10/25	Planning
<u>HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION</u>						
Richard Belshaw, Chair	2 Cutts Road	603-498-4935	rwbelshaw@earthlink.net	3 Yrs.	4/26	Council
Kathy Collins, Citizen Rep.	31 Oyster River Road	603-502-8436	kcollins15@mac.com	3 Yrs.	4/27	Council
Deborah Hirsch Mayer, Citizen Rep.	19 Garden Lane	603-397-7730	hirschmayer2@gmail.com	3 Yrs.	4/28	Council
Janet Perkins-Howland, Citizen Rep.	32 Ffrost Dr.	603-234-5905	thehowl@comcast.net	3 Yrs.	4/26	Council
Leslie Schwartz, Citizen Rep	P.O. Box 799	Private	totographs@comcast.net	3 Yrs.	4/27	Council
Robin Vogt, Cncl Rep	16 Oyster River Road	603-969-5720	rvogt@ci.durham.nh.us	1 Yr	3/26	Council
Todd Selig, Admin.	8 Newmarket Rd.	603-868-5571	tselig@ci.durham.nh.us	N/A	N/A	Council

TOWN WORKING COMMITTEES (CONTINUED)

OFFICIAL/BOARD	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	TERM	EX-PIRES	APPT. AUTH.
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INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Nell Neal, Chair	11 Riverview Rd.	603-866-2153	Nellneal3@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Julie Kelley, Vice Chair	5 Garden Ln.	603-767-9796	Ricjulkelley@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Naomi Kornhauser	27 Edgewood Road	603-868-6698	naomi.kornhauser@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Mike Pazdon	163 Dame Road	603-770-9414	mpazdon@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
Susan Richman	16 Cowell Drive	603-868-2758	susan7richman@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/26	Council
Peter Yost	32 Worthen Road	802-380-4744	payost@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Janet Perkins-Howland, Alt	32 Ffrost Drive	603-234-5905	jperkinshowland@mgb.org	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
VACANT, Alt				3 Yrs	4/29	Council
VACANT, Alt				3 Yrs	4/28	Council
Sally Needell, Cncl Rep	36 Bagdad Rd.	603-868-1552	sneedelltc@gmail.com	1 Yr	3/26	Council
Paul Rasmussen, PB Rep	5 Glassford Lane	603-397-5359	pnrasmus@gmail.com	1 Yr	4/26	Planning Bd.

LAMPREY RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Richard Lord	85 Bennett Rd.	603-659-2721	rhlord@comcast.net	3 Yrs	7/29/28	State-NHDES
David Steinberg	271 Packers Falls Rd.	215-262-0214	steinbds@gmail.com	3 Yrs	3/9/26	State-NHDES
Matt Lake	266 Newmarket Road	516-633-1295	mattwlake@gmail.com	3 Yrs	4/25/28	State-NHDES
VACANT						State-NHDES

OYSTER RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jim Hornbeck	19 Woodridge Rd.	603-868-5419	jnhornbeck@comcast.net	3 Yrs	5/11/28	State-NHDES
Michael Sullivan	UNH Ritzman Lab	603-862-1437	Michael.sullivan@unh.edu	3 Yrs	2/14/26	State-NHDES
VACANT				3 Yrs		State-NHDES
VACANT				3 Yrs		State-NHDES

PEASE AIRPORT NOISE COMPATIBILITY STUDY COMMITTEE

Michael Lehrman	20 Cedar Point Road	603-560-5024	mdlwindham@comcast.net	3 Yrs	4/27	Council
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STRAFFORD REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Michael Lehrman	20 Cedar Point Road	603-560-5024	mdlwindham@comcast.net	4 Yrs	4/26	Council
Paul Rasmussen	3 Glassford Lane	570-620-7859	pnrasmus@gmail.com	4 Yrs.	4/29	Council
VACANT				4 Yrs.	4/28	Council

Special Recognition



February 28, 2025 marked the 25th anniversary of employment for Administrative Assistant Karen Edwards. Karen began working as the Administrative Assistant to the Planning, Zoning, Building and Assessing Offices in 2000. She helped support all four departments as well as the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Historic District Commission. Over the years, she worked to keep the departments organized and to implement new computer technology to keep things running efficiently.

In 2023 when Administrative Assistant Jen Berry retired from the Administrator's Office, Karen moved into Jen's position. She now works to support Administrator Todd Selig and the Town Council. In 2024 Karen took over the development of the Town Report, which previously had been contracted out.

Congratulations, Karen! Twenty-five years of service to the Town of Durham and its citizens is a significant accomplishment!

October 10, 2025 marked the 30-year anniversary of Administrative Assistant Jennifer Johnson's dedicated service with the Durham Police Department. Jen's journey with the department began as a police explorer, and after graduating from college, she joined the agency full-time as an Administrative Assistant.

Chief Rene Kelley describes Jen as the department's "go-to person for all things—big or small." Over the years, she has taken on a wide range of critical responsibilities that are essential to maintaining the agency's professional excellence. Often one of the first to greet community members who visit the station or call by telephone, Jen plays a key role in shaping the department's customer service experience.

Jen's professionalism, organization, and commitment to service have made her an indispensable member of the department. Congratulations, Jen, on 30 years of outstanding service to the Durham Police Department and the Durham community!



Retirements



Code Administrator Audrey Cline retired from full-time employment on February 28, 2025, after more than nine years of service to the Town. Her responsibilities have included that of Code Enforcement Officer (CEO), Building Official, Health Inspector, and Zoning Administrator. It is a demanding position, yet people have responded well to Audrey's thoughtful but firm approach. Residents of Durham appreciate her effectiveness in ensuring that duly adopted laws are respected.

Audrey started her own firm "fugueform" in 1992 (with homage to Bach and Handel), doing design and drafting for residential building projects. She designed more than 60 houses over a 14-year span. Eventually growing uninspired with traditional designs, she pursued certification as a building official and took a job with the Town of Wolfeboro. After eight years in Wolfeboro, Audrey worked for the Town of Stratham. She then became Durham's Building Inspector/Code Officer when Tom Johnson retired in 2015. Audrey has since returned to work part-time in Durham.

Sandra Hebert began her full-time employment with the Town of Durham Police Department in 2013. After twelve years of dedicated service, Sandra retired on December 28, 2025.

Throughout her tenure, Sandra served in the unique and critically important dual role of Parking Enforcement Officer and Evidence Manager. She brought thoughtful, innovative approaches to managing parking in a community with continually shifting supply and demand, helping ensure fairness, efficiency, and accessibility.

As Evidence Manager, Sandra oversaw a transformative period for the department. She led the transition from a small, limited evidence storage space to a modern, state-of-the-art evidence room completed during the 2018 building renovations. Her attention to detail and professionalism were instrumental in maintaining the integrity of the department's evidence system.

Sandra will be greatly missed, and we extend our sincere gratitude for her years of service. We wish her all the best as she begins this next chapter and establishes new roots out of state.



Retirements



Deputy Chief David Holmstock retired on July 16, 2025, from the Durham Police Department, culminating an exceptional career spanning more than three decades in New Hampshire law enforcement. Over his 36-year tenure, Deputy Chief Holmstock has served in numerous leadership roles, including as Cadre member of the 113th New Hampshire Police Academy staff, supervisor of the Detective Division, Accreditation Manager, and supervisor of all patrol operations.

Deputy Chief Holmstock's career reflects a dedication to public safety and organizational excellence. His leadership has strengthened departmental operations, enhanced investigative capabilities, and supported the professional growth of those under his command. Known for his integrity, steady guidance, and passion for service, Deputy Chief Holmstock leaves behind a legacy of mentorship and community-focused policing that will continue to shape the Durham Police Department for years to come. His retirement marks the close of a distinguished chapter defined by dedication, expertise, and an unwavering commitment to the people of Durham and the broader law enforcement community across New Hampshire

Firefighter Ken Lundberg retired from the Durham Fire Department effective March 1, 2025. Ken began his career in the fire service in 2001 and was hired as a full-time Firefighter by the Durham Fire Department on January 20, 2004.

Ken has frequently been a key player in innovative fire department community outreach and public education ranging from developing firefighter story time videos, organizing neighborhood parades through the COVID period, firefighters reading at the Durham Public Library, or supporting numerous Durham Main Street events with the Firefighter's Association. His passion for public service and grounding in family values has had an impact on the department and in the community. Ken also served for several years as president of the Durham Professional Firefighters Association.



Retirements



Dan Peterson retired on June 30, 2025, after a stellar career which began at Durham Public Works in July 2007. Prior to arriving in Durham, Dan joined the United States Air Force, right out of high school, and worked at the Pease Air Force Base as an environmental support specialist. Dan's career also included work at the Portsmouth wastewater treatment plant.

Dan has always led his team by example with a positive attitude which serves as a model for all other Durham Public Works team members to aspire to. Dan has unfailingly provided the highest level of service in an exceedingly professional manner to the citizens of Durham. He has skillfully undertaken his responsibilities as Wastewater Division Superintendent with the highest level of professional integrity and expertise. Throughout Dan's career and during his time in Durham he has been recognized on many occasions for providing invaluable public service, managing complex wastewater systems. Dan was honored with a "Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Excellence Award" by the EPA and featured in Treatment Plant Operator magazine.

DCAT Coordinator, Craig Stevens, retired from full-time employment on June 30, 2025, after 22 years of service with the Town. After taking a month off, Craig returned to serve as the DCAT Coordinator on a part-time basis.

Craig began his employment by helping the Town expand its ability to video tape public meetings and broadcast them on a local TV station. He started recording with VHS tapes (remember those?!), and now he does everything through cloud-based programming. Over the years Craig has helped to establish a 2nd local TV Channel and began livestreaming meetings over Facebook and YouTube.

Craig oversees two part-time employees and one volunteer who help him in the recording of meetings. He has worked tirelessly to keep the Town updated in its technology for the best broadcast experience, even unexpectedly having to integrate Zoom into the mix when the pandemic hit. The Town is indebted to Craig for his work over the years in keeping town meetings accessible to all of Durham's residents. We are grateful that he has decided to continue on in a part-time capacity.



Retirements

Assistant Chief Randall Trull retired on October 5, 2025. Assistant Chief Trull began his fire service career in 1985 when he was hired as a call member with the Greenland, NH Fire Department. Since that time, he continued his fire service career serving with fire departments in South Louisiana and later, Berlin, NH where he served as the fire chief for sixteen (16) years before coming to Durham in 2017.

Assistant Chief Trull was instrumental in the development of the department's first safety management system (SMS) and implementation of the department's modern records management system (RMS) First Due, both of which are vital to solidifying the safety-minded culture and reporting critical data and information required for the department's future success.



*The American Flag hangs from Durham's fire truck ladder during the Memorial Day celebration.
Courtesy, Todd Selig*

Town Election Results

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

ARTICLE 1:

TOWN COUNCILOR (Three, 3-year terms)

Joe Friedman – 665

Eric J. Lund – 675

Robin Vogt – 660

PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEE (Three, 3-year terms)

Sudie Blanchard – 686

Katharine Gatcomb – 673

Beth Newkirk - 713

TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUND (One, 3-year term)

Alberto B. Manalo - 724

Total regular ballots: 770

Total absentee ballots: 36

Total ballots cast: 806

Town Warrant

Election, Tuesday, March 10, 2026

To the inhabitants of the Town of Durham, the County of Strafford, New Hampshire.

You are hereby notified to meet at the Oyster River High School, Multipurpose Room, located on Coe Drive in said Durham, New Hampshire, on Tuesday, the 10th day of March 2026 (the polls will be open between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM) to act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1:

To bring in your votes for three (3) Councilors (3-year terms); one (1) Councilor (2-year term); two (2) Durham Public Library Board of Trustees (3-year terms); one (1) Moderator (2-year term); one (1) Supervisor of the Checklist (6-year term); one (1) Town Clerk/Tax Collector (3-year term); one (1) Town Treasurer (3-year term); and one (1) Trustee of the Trust Fund (3-year term)

Given under our hands and seal this 1st day of DECEMBER in the year of TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FIVE (2025)

Joe Friedman, *Chair*

Sally Needell, *Chair Pro Tem*

Wayne Burton

Darrell Ford

Emily Friedrichs

Heather Grant

Curtis Register

Robin Vogt

Carden Welsh

COUNCILORS OF DURHAM

Administrative Summary

ADMINISTRATOR

Todd Selig, Administrator

2025 was a year of both meaningful progress and mounting challenges for the Town of Durham. Town staff, along with elected and appointed officials, remained focused on transparency, integrity, respect, a welcoming atmosphere, fair elections, high-quality service delivery, and continuous improvement. At the same time, the community entered a more complex fiscal environment, with slowing development, rising costs, and pressure on both municipal and UNH budgets that will require difficult choices in the years ahead.

The Town's financial position remains fundamentally sound, with strong management practices, stable reserves, and continued recognition of Durham's prudent fiscal stewardship. The FY 2026 budget process, however, has been among the most difficult in many years, driven by expiring collective bargaining agreements, projected health insurance increases, general cost inflation, reduced interest earnings, and requests for additional staffing in several departments. The one-time use of approximately \$420,000 in undesignated fund balance to help stabilize the FY 2025 tax rate cannot be repeated indefinitely, underscoring the urgency of broadening the tax base and managing spending carefully. Several large capital projects have increased debt service, making it ever more challenging to maintain a stable tax rate in the years ahead.

Economic development and tax-base diversification remained priorities, although it was met in many cases with concern from residents desirous of protecting Durham's natural resources and sustainability goals, as well as the New England small town character of our community. The Town Council, Administrator, Planning Board, and Housing Task Force continued to promote taxable business development in the commercial core and at key sites such as Technology Drive and Stone Quarry Drive, while working closely with UNH on potential projects at The Edge at West End and 66 Main Street. A successful innovation district such as The Edge at

West End would leverage UNH's research strengths to spark new partnerships and entrepreneurship while supporting downtown businesses and helping to moderate mounting future tax pressures on residents.

On the capital side, Durham continued to invest in critical infrastructure and multimodal transportation. Phase 2 of the Madbury Road Complete Streets Project between Main Street and Garrison Avenue reached substantial completion, and Phase 3 between Garrison Avenue and Edgewood Road moved into active construction, with completion expected in summer 2026. Durham Public Works is also working to secure over \$1.8 million in Transportation Alternatives Program funding to construct a multi-use path along Madbury Road, in conjunction with parallel Phase 4A and 4B improvement projects, from Edgewood Road to beyond Route 4 at Pendexter Road interconnecting with a new NHDOT roundabout at Route 4, improving safety and connectivity for vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists.

The Town's shoreline and stormwater resilience agenda advanced significantly. Building on earlier National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and U.S. EPA grants, Durham Public Works and its consultant completed design, permitting, and bid documents for Wagon Hill Farm Phase 2 shoreline improvements. Scheduled for bid award in late 2025 and construction in 2026, the project will stabilize eroding tidal marsh and upland slopes, rebuild marsh habitat, install a new trail and fencing, and construct a trail bridge, protecting both natural resources and public access.

The rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of the historic Bickford-Chesley House at Wagon Hill Farm also moved forward. With support from LCHIP, Moose Plate grants, and local capital funding from undesignated fund balance, plans call for a rental or caretaker's apartment on the second floor, public exhibit and meeting space on the first floor, and safe, code-compliant three-season use of the barn. The Bickford-Chesley House Gallery is anticipated to host rotating exhibits on Durham's history and local artists, honoring the site's Indigenous and agricultural heritage while expanding cultural and

educational opportunities for residents. At the heart of the project is addressing long-deferred repairs and maintenance for this historic property within the Town's inventory in order to protect it for future generations.

Durham's long-term water, wastewater, and storm-water partnership with UNH remains an important asset for both Durham and the University alike. Through the joint administrative Water, Wastewater, Stormwater, and Roads Committee, the Town and UNH continued to manage the combined water system, address water quality concerns in the Great Bay Estuary, meet Total Nitrogen General Permit and MS-4 stormwater requirements, and coordinate on infrastructure such as the Lee water line. Together with the new UNH-funded water treatment plant and the jointly funded Lamprey River–Spruce Hole Aquifer artificial recharge system, these efforts place the community in a strong position to manage future drought, growth, and climate-related pressures on water resources.

Climate and sustainability work continued to be integrated into everyday municipal practice. In 2025, the Town worked toward final adoption of the 2025–2030 Climate Action Plan, reaffirming goals of a 42.8% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 2019 levels by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050. Staff improved greenhouse gas inventory planning by tracking local heat pump installations and growth in electric and hybrid vehicle registrations, which now represent a larger share of Durham's vehicle registrations versus just a few years ago.

Durham Public Works moves ever closer toward a volume-based, standardized solid waste and recycling cart collection system, targeted for implementation in 2026. This work, involving a close partnership with the Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee, included evaluating outsourced collection options and securing an extension of the DERA electric vehicle grant (should the Town ultimately move toward an EV collection vehicle), preserving flexibility as the Town selects the most cost-effective and sustainable path forward. Once in place, the program is expected to reduce per-household waste generation, support higher recycling rates, and improve worker safety through automated collection.

Housing policy remained a key focus area. Building on the 2024 Housing Needs Assessment and the adoption of the Attainable Housing Overlay District, the Housing Task Force and Planning Board developed zoning amendments to expand housing opportunities, diversify housing types, and enable higher density where appropriate. A comprehensive rewrite of the Conservation Subdivision ordinance is underway to make it more user-friendly, less burdensome, and better aligned with both conservation and attainable housing objectives.

Public safety operations experienced continued staffing and labor-market pressures. Recruitment and retention challenges in both the Fire and Police Departments, driven by retirements, medical leaves, and competition from other communities, has been a major focus of collective bargaining in 2025–2026 as three contracts -- firefighters, middle managers, and public works/AFSCME -- come up for renewal. The Fire Department pursued a major grant application for replacement SCBA equipment to enhance firefighter safety, while the Police Department prepared for and successfully completed a full CALEA reaccreditation review cycle, affirming Durham's commitment to national best practices in policing.

Long-term planning for emergency services facilities continued in coordination with UNH. While the UNH Master Plan identifies "B-Lot" as a preferred future location for the fire station and possible adaptive reuse of existing buildings, neither the Town nor the University currently has funding to move a



l-r: Administrative Assistant Karen Edwards and Administrator Todd Selig

new facility forward. In the interim the Fire Department is working with designers on targeted renovations to the existing College Road station location within the UNH General Services Building to improve living, training, and workspaces so the department can effectively operate in its current location for the next decade.

Parks & Recreation and Durham Public Library once again played important roles in supporting community well-being and connection. Traditional community-wide events such as Durham Day and the Downtown Trick-or-Treat event, combined with classes, low-impact athletic and wellness programming, and intergenerational activities were planned in order to provide residents with diverse recreational and educational opportunities. At the same time, land stewardship work under the Land Stewardship Coordinator and the Land Stewardship Subcommittee continued to improve management of Town-owned lands, trail systems, and conservation easements.

The Human Rights Commission developed educational materials on residents' rights in relation to federal immigration enforcement, and the Business Office updated forms and policies to be inclusive of non-binary gender options. An Arts Commission for Durham has been proposed for consideration by the

Town Council Chair to further enhance cultural life and provide additional opportunities for civic engagement.

Durham's cooperative relationship with UNH and neighboring communities continued to be an area of focus. Regular coordination with UNH leadership addressed issues ranging from transportation and off-campus housing to economic development and shared infrastructure. Discussions with Madbury about potential shared fire and business office services, along with active participation in state-level policy debates in Concord concerning issues surrounding off-campus student housing, reflected Durham's commitment to regional collaboration and the defense of the practice of local control.

Town-wide communication and civic engagement remained robust. The weekly "Friday Updates" continued to expand its subscriber base and function as a central platform for municipal information and emergency communications. The Town's website and social media presence are being refreshed and modernized to improve accessibility, navigation, and online service delivery, meeting residents where they are and encouraging informed participation. Look for improvements in 2026.

All of this work is accomplished by a modest but mighty team of municipal employees in public works, police, fire, planning, zoning, the town clerk/tax collector's office, the business office, information technology, DCAT, and other departments. These professionals, together with a thoughtful and dedicated Town Council and an engaged network of citizen volunteers serving on boards, committees, and commissions, as well as an active and engaged citizenry, ensure that Durham remains a strong, vibrant, inclusive, and forward-looking community despite fiscal and operational headwinds



The view from Town Landing looking towards the General Sullivan house Courtesy, Scott Schaier

BUSINESS OFFICE

Gail Jablonski, Manager

The Business Office provides the accounting, purchasing, payroll, accounts payable, assessing, accounts receivable billing and collection and cash management services for the town, as well as support services to all town departments. In addition, the Business Office provides Human Resources services and handles employee relations, payroll and benefits. The Business Manager serves as the Welfare Director for the Town. Our goal is to provide timely and reliable information by which department managers, the Administrator and ultimately the Town Council can make informed decisions in the best interest of the Town.

Support was provided to the Administrator and Town Council in preparation and review of the annual operating budget and the ten-year capital improvement plan. On December 15, 2025 the 2026 Operating Budgets and Capital Improvement Plan was approved by the Durham Town Council. The 2026 budget, as approved, is projected to increase the current municipal tax rate of \$5.12 to \$5.89, a 14.96% increase.

In 2025, the Town began negotiations with the Durham Public Works AFSCME Council 93 Local 863, the Durham Professional Municipal Managers

Association and the Durham Professional Firefighters' Association Local #2253. All three of these union contracts are set to expire December 31, 2025. Focus has been centered on bringing the pay and benefits for all members to a competitive level with respect to other communities.

The firm of Plodzik & Sanderson presented the Town's 2024 audit to the Durham Town Council on November 3, 2025. There were no significant issues noted, and the Town received a "clean" audit. The 2024 Independent Auditors' Report for the year ended December 31, 2024, shows the Town's General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance is currently \$4,534,695 or 7.53% of the total appropriations and tax commitments including the Town, School and County Appropriations. The Town of Durham's General Fund - Fund Balance policy requires a minimum target balance of 5% with the goal of attaining an 8% fund balance.

The team of the Business Office is comprised of myself, Deb Ahlstrom, Financial Analyst, Dina Gosselin, Staff Accountant and Jessica Landry, Benefits/Payroll Specialist. I wish to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for all they do on a daily basis to ensure the functions of the Business Office are completed in a timely and professional manner



l-r: Business Manager Gail Jablonski, Benefits/Payroll Specialist Jessica Landry, Financial Analyst Deborah Ahlstrom, Accounting Clerk Dina Gosselin

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Luke Vincent, Manager

The Durham IT department operates as a small municipal team tasked with supporting a Town whose technology needs increasingly resemble those of a much larger city. Managing complex systems, evolving security requirements, and growing expectations from staff and the public presents ongoing challenges. In this environment, Durham IT provides reliable, secure, and forward-looking technology services that enable Town operations to function smoothly and efficiently.

2025 Accomplishments:

- **Website Platform Replacement, Project In Progress** Durham IT is in the early stages of replacing the Town's website. The team is actively working with the project manager to finalize the project schedule and implementation plan. The project is moving forward with a target launch window between March and June of 2026.
- **Wireless Infrastructure Modernization Across Town Hall** Wireless hardware was replaced in Town Hall, resulting in improved performance and support for updated wireless standards, including the addition of Wi-Fi 7. These upgrades enhance both staff and public access to reliable network services.
- **Cybersecurity Policy Development** Durham IT, in collaboration with the AtOM Group, drafted four critical policies to strengthen the Town's overall security posture. The Acceptable Use Policy sets expectations and responsibilities for proper use of IT resources. The Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Policy establishes procedures to maintain operations and recover critical systems in the event of a disruption. The Information

Security Policy provides guidance on protecting sensitive information, managing risk, and enforcing security controls. The Backup Policy defines procedures for regular backups, retention, and recovery of systems and data. These drafts are in the final stage of review and are expected to be adopted as administrative regulations. Together, these policies improve operational consistency, reduce risk, and help the Town meet compliance requirements for fiscal audits as well as regulatory standards such as the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) guidelines.

2026 Goals:

- **Completion of Website Platform Replacement** Work in 2026 will focus on completing the website replacement, including content conversion, staff training, full launch, and thorough testing. The new site will include improved accessibility features, enhancements to the delivery, management, and archiving of the "Friday Updates" newsletter, and a chatbot to improve navigation and search functionality.
- **VoIP and Telephony System Modernization** During 2025, Durham IT evaluated options to modernize the Town's hosted PBX system. In 2026, the department will move forward with a more definite plan and potential implementation. The focus will be on reducing overall costs and creating synergies across the Town's communication platforms.



l-r: Volunteer Jay Gooze, GIS Program Administrator Steve Lutterman, Manager Luke Vincent, Assist. Manager Michael Rohr, DCAT Coordinator Craig Stevens

ORDINANCES 2025

Ordinance #	Description	Pass or Deny	Date
2025-01	Amending Chapter 175 “Zoning,” Article II, “Definitions,” Article XII.1, “Use and Dimensional Standards,” Article XV, “Flood Hazard Overlay District,” Article XVI, “Aquifer Protection Overlay District,” Article XVII, “Durham Historic Overlay District,” Article XVIII, “Personal Wireless Service Facilities Overlay District,” Article XX.1, “Standards for Agricultural Uses,” and Article XXIII, “Signs and Communications Devices.”	Passed	2/17/25
2025-02	Amending Chapter 175, “Zoning,” Article XVII, “Durham Historic Overlay District,” Section 175-94, “Purview of the Board,”	Passed	2/17/25
2025-03	Amending Chapter 175, “Zoning,” Article II, “Definitions,” Article XII.1, “Use and Dimensional Standards,” and Article XX, “Standards for Specific Uses,” Regarding Student Rentals	Passed	2/17/25
2025-04	Amending Chapter 175, “Zoning,” Article XII.1, “Use and Dimensional Standards,” of the Town Code to change the minimum front setback in the Office – Research 108 (OR) District on minor streets and collector roads	Passed	4/7/25
2025-05	Amending Chapter 175, “Zoning,” Article XVI, “Aquifer Protection Overlay District,” Section 175-86, “Use Regulations” of the Town Code to amend site drainage and permitted uses	Passed	5/5/25
2025-06	Amending Chapter 175, “Zoning,” Article II, “Definitions,” Article XII, “Base Zoning Districts,” Section 175-42, “Central Business District, Article XII.1, “Use and Dimensional Standards,” Section 175-53, “Table of Land Uses,” and Section 175-54, “Table of Dimensions,” and the Zoning Map of the Town Code to create two new Central Business Zoning Districts	Passed	5/19/25
2025-07	Amending Chapter 175, “Zoning,” Article XII.1, “Use and Dimensional Standards,” Section 175-53, “Table of Uses,” and Section 175-54, “Table of Dimensions,” of the Town Code to separate CB-1 and CB-2 in the tables and to permit by right multi-unit residential in the PO, CH and C Zoning Districts	Passed	7/7/25
2025-08	Amending Chapter 175, “Zoning,” Article XII, “Base Zoning Districts,” Section 175-42, “Central Business District, and Article XII.1, “Use and Dimensional Standards,” Section 175-54, “Table of Dimensions,” of the Town Code to eliminate the three-story height limit for portions of CB-1 Zoning District and to change the standard for commercial in five story buildings in CB-1 District from requiring two floors to requiring only one floor.	On going	
2025-09	An Ordinance Amending Chapter 175, “Zoning,” Article II, “Definitions,” Article XII.1, “Use and Dimensional Standards,” Section 175-53, “Table of Land Uses,” Article XXI, “Off Street Parking,” Section 175-111, “General Requirements,” of the Town Code to include Lodging Houses within the Zoning Ordinance	Tabled	8/4/25

ORDINANCES 2025

Ordinance #	Description	Pass or Deny	Date
2025-10	Amending Chapter 153, "Vehicles & Traffic," Section 153-28, "Permitted Parking, Durham Resident Parking Permits," of the Durham Town Code, to expand upon the explanation of neighborhood parking passes	Passed	11/17/25
2025-11	An Ordinance Amending Chapter 175, "Zoning," Article II, "Definitions," Article XII.1, "Use and Dimensional Standards," Article XVIII.1, "Attainable Housing Overlay District," Article XX, "Standards for Specific Uses," and Article XXI, "Off Street Parking," of the Durham Town Code to align the Zoning Ordinance with recent changes in State legislation.	Tabled	

RESOLUTIONS 2025

Resolution #	Description	Pass or Deny	Date
2025-01	Recognizing the 101 st anniversary of the UNH Theatre and Dance program.	Passed	2/3/25
2025-02	Opposing House Bill 457, which prohibits a zoning ordinance from restricting the number of occupants of a Dwelling Unit to fewer than 2 occupants per bedroom and prohibits the adoption and enforcement of any Zoning Ordinance that discriminates based on familial, non-familial or marital status; and supporting instead an amendment to HB 457 (January 28, 2025 2025-0125h 09/02), introduced by Rep. Al Howland (Straf. 20).	Passed	2/17/25
2025-03	Recognizing Outgoing Elected Officials for their dedicated services to the Town of Durham .	Passed	3/3/25
2025-04	Establishing Regular Town Council Meeting Dates for April 2025 through March 2026	Passed	3/17/25
2025-05	Objecting to the freezing of federal grant programs to states and municipalities and to agencies and organizations that support Durham residents.	Passed	3/17/25
2025-06	Supporting a Statewide Petition requesting that Grocers Reduce the Distribution of Single-Use Plastic Bags	Passed	3/17/25
2025-07	A Resolution Opposing the proposed \$50 million reduction in the state appropriation to the University System of New Hampshire for the 2026/2027 biennium	Passed	4/7/25
2025-08	Creating the "Wagon Hill Farm Heritage Expendable Trust"	Passed	4/21/25

RESOLUTIONS 2025

Resolution #	Description	Pass or Deny	Date
2025-09	Rescinding resolution #2011-11 and Implementing new local objectives and guidelines for reviewing applications Under New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated (RSA) 79-E “Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive” Enabling Municipalities to Provide for Short-Term Property Assessment Tax Relief	Passed	4/21/25
2025-10	A Resolution Calling for the Elimination of the Purchase of Single-Use Plastic Bags and Food Service Products, and Styrofoam Food Containers for use by the Town of Durham and Town-Sponsored Events.	Passed	5/5/25
2025-11	Authorizing the Issuance of Long-term Bonds or Notes not to Exceed Fourteen Million, Three Hundred and Thirty-Seven Thousand, and Three Hundred Dollars (\$14,337,300) for the Purpose of Bonding 2014-2025 Capital Projects and Equipment Purchases	Passed	5/19/25
2025-12	Authorization of Bonds and Approval of Loan Agreement With the New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank	Passed	6/2/25
2025-13	Reaffirming Juneteenth Independence Day as a Legally Recognized Holiday and Reaffirming Durham’s Opposition to Any Form of Oppression	Passed	6/2/25
2025-14	Recognizing the 200 th Anniversary of General Marquis de Lafayette’s visit to Durham	Passed	6/16/25
2025-15	A Resolution Reaffirming the Town’s obligation and commitment of Police and Legal Protections for all Durham residents and visitors	Passed	7/7/25
2025-16	Authorizing the Acceptance and Expenditure of a FY 2026 New Hampshire Department of Safety – Office of Highway Safety Grant in the Amount of \$16,795.75 From the New Hampshire Department of Safety – Office of Highway Safety for the Enforcement of Traffic Safety Laws and the Purchase of Traffic Safety Equipment and Authorizing the Administrator to Sign and Submit Grant Paperwork on Behalf of the Town of Durham	Passed	9/8/25
2025-17	Amending Resolution #2023-07 by Updating the Completion Date of a FY22 Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation (LPDM) grant from the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, for the Durham Emergency Generator Project, In the Amount of \$427,612.49 with a Required 25% Match of \$142,537.51 – for a total Project Cost of \$570,150.00 - and Authorize the Administrator to Sign and Submit Grant Paperwork and all Documents related to the Grant on Behalf of the Town of Durham	Passed	9/8/25
2025-18	Authorizing the Acceptance and Expenditure of Funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Community-Based Restoration Program, for the Mill Pond Dam Removal and Oyster River Restoration Project, In the Amount of Up to \$3,247,201, and Authorize the Administrator to Sign and Submit Grant Paperwork on Behalf of the Town of Durham	Passed	10/6/25

RESOLUTIONS 2025

Resolution #	Description	Pass or Deny	Date
2025-19	Amending Resolution #2009-08 to add Two additional Alternate Members to the Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee	Passed	10/20/25
2025-20	Proclaiming Saturday, November 29, 2025, as “Small Business Saturday” in Durham, NH	Passed	11/3/25
2025-21	A Resolution to approve the new Site Lease Agreement with T-Mobile Northeast LLC for 100 Durham Point Road and authorize the Administrator to sign all relevant documents	Continued to 2026	
2025-22	Town Council Approval of the FY 2026 General Operating Budgets, the Capital Fund Budget and the 2026-2035 Capital Improvement Plan	Passed	12/15/25



A new mural on the side of the Mill Plaza building created by artist Liv Mileika. Courtesy, Robin Mower



TOWN COUNCIL

Joe Friedman, Chair

The preceding section of this Town Report summarizes the resolutions and ordinances enacted by the Town Council during 2025, reflecting a continued commitment to responsible governance, fiscal stewardship, and community well-being.

It has been a privilege to serve in the Council alongside such an engaged and thoughtful group. Throughout the year, Council members worked collaboratively and effectively across the Town's eleven committees and commissions. These groups have the benefit of the expertise and dedication of Durham residents who volunteer their time. The Council is grateful for the commitment shown by those who serve. Residents interested in joining a committee or commission are encouraged to contact the respective Chair or the Administrator's office.

This year, the Council mourned the loss of Councilor Eric Lund, whose thoughtful and analytical approach strengthened the Council's work throughout his years of service. His presence and contributions are deeply missed.

The Council's work in 2025 centered on several key areas, foremost among them the annual budget. Recognizing that municipal costs continue to rise and that residents expect a high level of public services, the Council focused on managing expenses while also pursuing opportunities to broaden the Town's revenue base. A major element of this strategy involved creating a framework for higher-density development in appropriate areas of town.

By encouraging a healthy mix of new and existing businesses, the Council seeks to broaden the tax base and reduce the burden on current taxpayers.

Important zoning advancements included adoption of an enabling ordinance for a Workforce Housing Overlay Zone and dividing the Central Business District into two distinct zones to encourage diverse development. Additional ordinances are currently in progress to support greater density downtown.

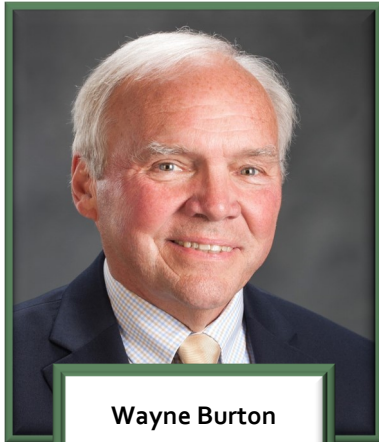
Several significant accomplishments marked the year. In November, the Town adopted the 2025–2030 Climate Action Plan, establishing a clear roadmap for environmental stewardship and climate resilience. A comprehensive multi-year report evaluating Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park, which will guide future improvements and investments, was completed with the assistance of the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Council also approved a major Cable TV franchise agreement, resulting in multiple cable and internet service providers operating within Durham and increasing options for residents. Substantial progress was made on the multi-phase Madbury Road improvement project, with Phases I and II fully completed and Phase III nearing completion, expected to finish in Summer 2026.

The Town continued to advance efforts to remove the Mill Pond Dam to restore natural habitat along the Oyster River and more broadly to improve the Town's and region's ecological health.

The Town Council's economic development priorities for 2026 focus on strengthening the downtown business district, advancing development at The Edge while supporting the University of New Hampshire's Innovation District, fostering growth in advanced manufacturing on The Edge and Technology Drive, and encouraging the creation of high-quality housing options throughout Durham.

As we look ahead to 2026, the Council remains committed to fostering a thriving, resilient, and inclusive community. Through careful planning, collaborative leadership, and a continued focus on environmental, social, and fiscal responsibility, we will build on the progress of 2025 and advance the goals that matter most to the residents of Durham.



Wayne Burton
Term: 3/23—3/26



Darrell Ford
Term 3/24—3/27



Emily Friedrichs
Term 3/23—3/26



Heather Grant
Term 3/24—3/27

TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS



Sally Needell
Term 3/23—3/26



Curtis Register
Term 3/24—3/27



Robin Vogt
Term 3/25—3/28



Carden Welsh
Term 9/25—3/26

Culture & Recreation

CHURCHILL RINK

Bill Page, Manager

As the 2025-2026 skating season nears the halfway point at the time of this writing, we are well into another amazing season of skating at Jackson's Landing Park and the future is bright!

This year, for the first time in history, we took delivery of a brand-new Zamboni ice-resurfacer! The 2025 Zamboni Model 526 was paid for with funds generated at the facility. We will keep our old resurfacer as back-up, which is redundancy every rink wishes for. With limited space, storage is a challenge, but we have come up with a temporary solution to keep our 30-year-old workhorse on-site and ready.

There is ongoing planning for a major renovation to ensure the longevity of skating and recreation in Durham. Schematic architectural plans have been updated to include a new home for the recreation department and related year-round recreation activities in addition to skating. This new space at the rear of our existing building is currently designed to include a multi-purpose room large enough for two pickleball courts, a large community room with a view of Great Bay, and new recreation department headquarters.

Recent work by outside professionals includes wetland delineation and documentation on a Standard Boundary Survey of all town-owned Jackson's Landing property and site work design to determine feasibility of fitting the new design on the site. We are very close to wrapping up the preliminary design and planning phase of this exciting but complicated project. Next steps include further project cost estimating and completion of a funding feasibility study. There is much work to be done on this potential project, but if we are successful, Churchill Rink will be transformed into a community recreation center offering a full 12 months of recreation opportunities for the Oyster River community. *Churchill Rink and Recreation Center* is one idea for a new name which would better represent the new and improved facility with its expanded offerings for recreation and leisure activities.

Churchill Rink has been funded by revenue generated at the facility, not tax dollars, since management was passed from ORYA to the town in 2006. The revenue generated comes from 2 primary sources. "Group Rentals" to various youth, high school & adult groups who practice and play games weekly during the ice season. And, what we call "Weekly Receipts" which include fees collected for public skating & hockey sessions, skate sharpening, and other ancillary sales such as snacks and drinks.

Since 2019, except during Covid times, Group Rental revenue has remained somewhat flat at approximately \$200-\$225,000 per Fiscal Year. This can be attributed to the fact that our product is the sale of ice "time" which is of course limited, and modest increases in ice rates. We are making a conscious effort to keep rates in check until we can improve the facility to include amenities such as a heated lobby, bleachers, and shower facilities.

Weekly receipts, on the other hand, have grown from about \$70,000 in 2019 to a projected \$200,000 by year end in 2025. This increase in revenue is representative of the public's response to our innovative programming and fun welcoming staff. Fiscal year 2024 was the first year ever with over \$400,000 in revenue. With expenses of only \$303,000, our net income was \$116,000, or just enough to purchase a brand-new Zamboni!

I must again recognize the amazing staff who all play a role in our success. Our core group of dedicated employees (all of whom are part-time) include Jim Chambers, Derek Swenson, Stephanie Morgan, Sadie Wright-Ward, Keegan Horne, and Sarah LaPointe. We also have a group who work fewer hours as needed including Griff Richard, Rori Coomey, Scott Nemet, Cal O'Brien, Caeden Nash, Sam Archey, Charlie Kell, James Kinsey, and Grady Gault. When hiring staff, emphasis is placed on happy, outgoing, smiling individuals whose skills interacting with the public are second to none. Again, this year, I am super proud of, grateful for, and appreciative of all my staff!

2025 Accomplishments:

- Took delivery of a new Zamboni!
- Made excellent progress on planning for renovations.
- Increased public session attendance & related revenue by continuing to offer a fun, enjoyable experience for our guests.
- Continued making off-season improvements with a goal toward keeping costs low and improving facility appearance and efficiency.
- Held our Holiday Skate with Santa event.
- Held Slush Cup Tournament.
- Continued growth of our Learn To Skate program

2026 Goals:

- Continue with planning and preparation for major renovation and finalize.
- Complete financial feasibility study with help of outside agency.

- Develop a plan for funding renovation.
- Continue to make noticeable, pleasing improvements to further enhance participant experience.



The new Zamboni. Courtesy, Bill Page

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Dwight Trueblood, Chair

The Conservation Commission has worked to align its annual work, planning process, and core activities, with the Town Council's 2024-2025 goals in mind. Presented below are the Commission's 2025 accomplishments in relation to the relevant 2024-2025 goals.

2025 Accomplishments

- *Pursue long-term environmental sustainability and resiliency* – Much of what the Commission does addresses this Town goal. Accomplishments this year include review of development applications and advice to the Planning Board; management of Town conservation properties; and education efforts through public events and seminars and the Friday Updates. To this end, the Commission this year developed a set of conservation articles for the Friday Update's "Conservation Corner" that are strategically aimed to provide information to the public around seasonal conservation issues.

This year the Commission approved the commitment of \$50,000 from the Town's Conservation fund toward the acquisition of a 29-acre parcel of land on Durham Point Road (Map 227, Lot 36) owned by the Gsottschneider Family Trust. The acquisition is being coordinated by the Southeast Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy.

The Commission finished a draft of the proposed Wetland and Shoreland Overlay District, which updates and combines the Shoreland Protection Overlay District and Wetland Conservation Overlay District ordinances. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission briefed both the Planning Board and Town Council on its progress, and at the request of the Planning Board, has solicited and received public feedback of the proposed ordinance changes.

- *Leverage town committees and subcommittees to develop tactical plans* – The Commission has synchronized its annual work plan cycle to the spring release of the Town goals.
- *Facilitate continued optimal funding of Town government* – The Commission continues to support the Land Stewardship Subcommittee

2025 Accomplishments (Continued)

and Land Stewardship Coordinator's activities, actively encouraging the Town Council to financially support the Land Stewardship Coordinator as a full-time position to better support the protection and maintenance of the Town's trails and conservation lands. The Commission also recommended to the Planning Board an updated list of invasive plant species for use in the Site Plan Regulations which were subsequently approved.

- *Continue cooperative and collaborative efforts with UNH* – Durham's Land Stewardship Coordinator has worked collaboratively this year with UNH's Land Use Coordinator from the Office of Woodlands and Natural Areas on a range of issues including rogue trail issues like illegal fire pits, trail rerouting, seating for the Jackson's Landing Nature Trail observation platform and leading Discover Durham Trail walks at Thompson Farm. Different groups of UNH students have also participated in trail work, removing invasive species, and helping with trail maintenance. Additionally, three UNH students are focusing their Capstone projects on the Durham Bioblitz organization this fall and hosted a bioblitz presentation at the Durham Public Library. Finally, UNH's Northeast Passage Team has helped Durham's Land Stewardship Coordinator to determine priorities for trail accessibility at Jackson Landing.
- *Protect public health and provide ongoing service continuity* – There were no significant activities in direct support of this goal in the past year.
- *Pursue long-term economic strength and resiliency* - There were no significant activities in direct support of this goal in the past year.

The Conservation Commission's 2025 activities support the following goals of the Town's 2015 Natural Resources Master Plan:

Wetland Protection

- Continue comprehensive protection of wetlands and shorelands through regulatory, educational and voluntary efforts.
- Protect and, where appropriate, restore salt water and other important wetlands.

Forest Land and Open Space

- Continue the efforts of the Land Stewardship Subcommittee to identify future conservation projects, enhance coordination among Town commissions and committees, and support on-going stewardship and maintenance of the Town's open spaces and properties.
- Reduce the trend of continued loss of forested and other natural areas, and increase the quantity and quality of existing forest cover in developed areas.

Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat

- Increase landowner awareness of the potential presence of sensitive species on their property to ensure that development projects are designed in such a way as to protect these species.
- Continue to partner with national, regional and local agencies and groups to leverage conservation dollars to protect lands with conservation values through a variety of funding mechanisms.

Climate Change and Sea Level Rise

- Minimize the ecological impacts of climate change.

2026 Goals

- Conduct communication and education activities through public events, seminars, and the Friday Updates based on priority issues identified by the Commission, other Town bodies, and public input.
- Gather public input on the proposed Wetland and Shoreland Overlay District and submit it to the Planning Board for their consideration and review.
- Support the Land Stewardship Coordination as needed during the Durham Bioblitz.
- Support the Planning Board through the review of permitted use and conditional use applications as needed.
- Continue to review the recommendations contained in the Natural Resources Master Plan chapter.

LAND STEWARDSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Neil Slepian, Chair

It is the mission and mandate of the Land Stewardship Subcommittee of the Conservation Commission (LSSC) to be responsible for the ethical care and management of our *green infrastructure* - our public lands, parks, open spaces, forests, meadows, wetlands, waterways, and trails - to ensure their long-term health, public accessibility, ecological integrity and sustainability for future generations. *Green Infrastructure* is critical for mental and physical well-being, flood control, temperature rise mitigation, wildlife habitat, biodiversity, clean air, and carbon sequestration. The LSSC is responsible for:

- 18 Town-owned Conservation Properties
- 5500 Acres of public land
- 20 miles of trails
- 7 Town-held Conservation Easements

To accomplish their goals, the Subcommittee

- Develops guidelines and action plans for land management by collaborating with multiple committees/commissions, Town departments, and members of the Public.
- Provides a forum to discuss and act on invasive plants, herbicide treatments, wildlife habitat, forestry, agriculture, infrastructure, historical



Volunteers repairing the bridge at Longmarsh Preserve. Courtesy, Veronique Ludington, Land Stewardship Coordinator

resources, recreation, ecological integrity and other issues that come before the Subcommittee.

- Organizes stewardship project priorities and timelines.
- Updates signage, website, educational and outreach materials for public engagement.
- Prioritizes and supports the work of the Land Stewardship Coordinator.

2025 was a year of transition for the Subcommittee. The founding Chair, Ann Welsh, handed the torch to a current member, and became a member-at-large. We have had three different Town Council representatives, and two different members from the Durham Historic Commission. We also welcomed our first member from UNH, a graduate student with extensive experience in trail building, trail maintenance, and public land stewardship.

2025 Accomplishments:

- Construction completed of a scenic bridge over Crommet Creek at Longmarsh Preserve.
- Consulted with a contractor for the design and construction of a Spruce Hole Bog viewing platform.
- Contracted for, and received an Accessibility Study of four key properties: Jackson's Landing, Wagon Hill, Spruce Hole/Oyster River Forest, Thompson Forest.
- Completed a survey of Jackson's Landing.
 - Approved a survey for Stolworthy Wildlife Sanctuary.
 - Created four Working Groups to update and upgrade user experience, including Signs; Maps; Kiosks; Heritage and Historical sites.
 - Held a Public Forum to discuss herbicide treatments on Town Rights-of-Way.
 - Prioritized and supported work of Land Stewardship Coordinator.

2026 Goals:

- Create user-friendly graphic signs for all properties to communicate Permitted/Not Permitted Uses, Amenities, Special Features, Etiquette
- Update trail maps, including historical sites, benches, viewpoints.

2026 Goals (Continued)

- Build and install new kiosks to new standards design and materials on all properties that need one.
- Repair existing kiosks to new standards.
- Build observation platform at Spruce Hole Bog.
- Build a more accessible trail at Jackson's Landing for mobility-challenged users.
- Map invasive plants on properties and create management plans for eradicating them.
- Support DPW partners at Oyster River Forest to upgrade bridges and wet area crossing.
- Repair and upgrade infrastructure where needed.

- Research and apply for alternate funding, grant and other support opportunities

The Land Stewardship Subcommittee encourages all Durham residents to visit and enjoy the family-friendly outdoor recreational opportunities and mental health benefits that our diverse and public lands provide, preserved for you. Whether you want wooded trails to explore, beaver dams to marvel at, or a place for quiet contemplation, Durham has an outdoor place for you.

We also welcome feedback on any of the Town properties, and initiatives undertaken by the LSSC. Please visit the Town Website for detailed descriptions of our beautiful and varied preserved public lands. We want you to go outside and play!

LAND STEWARDSHIP COORDINATOR

Veronique Ludington, Land Stewardship Coordinator

Thank you to the Land Stewardship Subcommittee, Conservation Commission, DPW and Parks and Rec Department for their invaluable support and shared knowledge while I made myself familiar with the Town's properties and engaged a lot of different groups during this year.

2025 Accomplishments:

- Successfully coordinated volunteer workdays with local organizations (Troop 154 Scouts, UNH sports teams, Oyster River Middle School) and community members at Doe Farm, Longmarsh Preserve, Stolworthy Wildlife Sanctuary, Pike, Stevens Woods and Thompson Forest.
- Completed invasive plants removal alongside education at Longmarsh Preserve, Milne Nature Sanctuary, Stolworthy Wildlife Sanctuary, Thompson Forest.
- Promoted the Land Stewardship Trail Steward program, recruited and trained new trail stewards.
- Oversaw overall about 760 hours of volunteer work, an added value to the Town of \$26,440.
- Put together a presentation on the Town's Conservation Properties and Trails, held

programs at the Durham Public Library and Riverwoods.

- Wrote articles for Friday updates newsletter on a regular basis.
- Updated several Conservation Properties webpages on the Town's website.
- Did some outreach about invasives management with different neighborhood associations in town and actual removal to impart different approaches depending on plant targeted.
- Finished repairing the Longmarsh Preserve main bog bridge.
- Rerouted trails and closed rogue trails at several properties.
- Mentored UNH Capstone students and held a joint presentation at the Durham Public Library on the organization and role of a Bioblitz.
- Worked with members of the Land Stewardship Subcommittee on the organization of Discover Durham walks and events throughout the year.
- Developed educational materials and hosted a booth with the Conservation Commission at Durham Day and Durham Farm Day.
- Completed the routine annual monitoring of the Town's six conservation easements, coordinated and attended the seventh one.
- Coordinated the surveying of Jackson's Landing and Stolworthy Wildlife Sanctuary.

2026 Goals:

- Continue to perform all routine stewardship duties on Town Conservation Properties.
- Continue working with volunteer groups and individuals to maintain trails, repair or upgrade infrastructure, build new accessible benches and picnic tables.
- Continue to provide community opportunities to learn about invasives species identification and management techniques.
- Develop more opportunities to engage our future generations on conservation issues through the school system and science teachers, with the support of the Conservation Commission.
- Engage with senior residents at Riverwoods and the UNH Active Retirement Association to inform about Trails and their amenities.
- Map new or rerouted trails and infrastructure/ highlights on Conservation Properties.
- Work with the Subcommittee to develop new Trail Head signs and Kiosks where needed.
- Work more closely with the Heritage Commission to include historical components on signs and Discover Durham walks.
- Complete infrastructure repair and upgrade at Oyster River Forest Blue Trail by beaver dam with DPW support and volunteers.
- Work cooperatively with DPW and hired contractors to manage invasive species along Mill Pond.
- Work cooperatively with DPW and Strafford Regional Planning Commission on public outreach on the Wagon Hill Farm shoreline restoration project Phase II.
- Upgrade trails and infrastructure for accessibility at different properties, starting with Jackson's Landing with the support of Parks & Rec and UNH's Northeast Passage.
- Create real-time GoPro videos of selected trails for website and social media.



Veronique Ludington standing next to a duck nesting box on the Sweet Trail. Courtesy, Veronique Ludington, Land Stewardship Coordinator

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION/HERITAGE COMMISSION

Larry Brickner-Wood, Chair

We begin this 2025 Annual Report with remembering Eric Lund, the Town Council Representative to the Historic District and Heritage Commission for several years up until his death in August of 2025. Eric was an excellent member of the HDC/HC, fastidious in detail, thoughtful in discussion and discernment, and fair and objective in all of his relationships with colleagues, applicants, citizens, staff and volunteers. It was an

honor and a blessing to have served with Eric, and we miss him dearly.

First and foremost, we want to thank the members of the Town staff for their outstanding support and guidance to the HDC/HC. We sincerely appreciate the outstanding work of Town Planner Michael Behrendt as our professional staff and primary point of contact for the public on historic preservation matters. Likewise, we receive the excellent support and expertise of Administrator Todd Selig, Public Works Director Rich Reine, Assistant DPW Director Sam Hewitt, Administrative Assistants Karen Edwards and Tracey Cutler, Minute Taker Lucy Bryar, and the DCAT Team who record and stream our meetings.

In this capacity we especially thank Craig Stevens, DCAT Coordinator and Rachel Stevens, our primary DCAT Technician. Our work would not be possible without our wonderful Town staff.

I also want to thank the HDC/HC members. We are all volunteers, care deeply about our community and spend hours on HDC/HC business and projects. They are a pleasure to serve with and make a great team. A special thank you to the Durham Historic Association who are invaluable resources and advocates for historic and cultural preservation in our community. Lastly, a heartfelt appreciation to the citizens of our community, for whom we serve.

The Historic District Commission/Heritage Commission, the same body with two roles, has broad responsibility to preserve and promote the historic, architectural, and cultural resources in the designated Durham Historic District and in the larger community. The Historic District, under the purview of the Historic District Commission (HDC), starts at the intersection of Main Street and Madbury Road and proceeds southeasterly along Main Street to Newmarket Road as far as Laurel Lane. The commission reviews applications covering residential, commercial, and Town properties. The Heritage Commission advocates for preservation outside the district, but it does not have regulatory authority to formally review and approve projects. The commission advises and educates property owners, Town departments, boards and commissions, and others about our important historic and cultural resources.

In 2025 the HDC reviewed one application within the Historic District, at 39-41 Main Street. We approved an application to remove all wooden windows and replace them with white vinyl triple glazed windows with an exterior and interior grille; the removal of 43 storm windows and repairing and repainting of four exterior doors. Frank Silva is the property owner and Jeff McMath was the contractor and applicant.

2025 Accomplishments:

- **Chesley-Bickford House at Wagon Hill Farm.** Led by a talented planning and implementation team of Carolyn Singer, Charlotte Hitchcock, Nancy Sandberg and Janet Mackie of the HDA, Public Works Director Rich Reine, and Administrator Todd Selig, we have been helping to oversee the renovation of the historic house and to plan for the exhibit space that will be utilized when the construction is completed. Utilizing a NH Mooseplate Grant for planning and a NH LCHIP to assist in the renovation combined with reserve funds allocated by the Town Administrator Selig and the Town Council in the Capital Improvements Plan, work began in 2025 to stabilize the structure, restore and revitalize the building for an apartment on the second floor, and to create exhibit and meeting space on the first floor and functioning bathrooms. Many thanks to Carolyn Singer for her amazing work on securing successful grants and managing this complex project. Sincere thanks to Administrator Selig and the Town Council for their support of this project. We are very excited for this important and long overdue project to be completed and the first exhibits to be open in 2026.
- **Historical Sign for the Old Brick Town Hall.** A sign explaining the history of this building was designed and created in 2025 and will be installed in early 2026. Many thanks to Charlotte Hitchcock and Town Planner Michael Behrendt for their work on this.



Bickford Chesley House at Wagon Hill Farm. Courtesy, Craig Stevens, DCAT Coordinator.

2025 Accomplishments (Continued)

- **Oyster River Raid Sign.** Beginning in December of 2023, a group of stakeholders came together around a table to develop a consensus of new language for the sign formerly titled “Oyster River Massacre.” Artfully facilitated by Charlotte Bacon and Barbara Will of Montgomery Will Associates, representatives of the HDC/HC, the NH Commission on Native American Issues, the Durham Historic Association, The NH Division of Historic Resources, and the NH Department of Transportation, a consensus was developed and submitted to the State of NH for approval. The language was approved and the new sign was installed at Jackson’s Landing in 2025.
- **Lafayette Bicentennial Event.** An event to commemorate Lafayette’s tour of New Hampshire and visit to Durham in 1825 was held on June 22, 2025. Many thanks to Charlotte Hitchcock for coordinating this project.
- **New Bench at Lafayette Park.** A new bench was installed at Lafayette Park on Newmarket Road just up from the Durham Town Hall. Deep thanks to Riverwoods-Durham for the donation of the bench and to Durham DPW for its installation.



General Lafayette (Ben Goldman) reads a proclamation upon his arrival to Durham as part of the celebration of the 200th anniversary of Lafayette's original visit to Durham. Courtesy, Todd Selig

- **Open House at Smith Chapel.** Led by HDC/HC member Carolyn Singer and the Land Stewardship Committee of the Conservation Commission, an open house was held at Smith Chapel on Mill Pond Road in October of 2025. This is part of our efforts to enhance the maintenance of this historic building and property, and to increase its utilization for the future.
- **Historic Preservation Trust Funds.** We continue to build the Historic Preservation Trust fund for historic and cultural resource projects, and a new fund for the displays, exhibits and events at the Gallery and exhibit space at the Bickford -Chelsey House at Wagon Hill Farm.

2026 Goals:

- **Historic District Boundary Signs.** We continue the process of examining our Historic District boundary signs, designing new and more visible signs, and adding ones at borders of the Historic District that are not currently marked.
- **Plaque/Kiosk for Schoolhouse Lane Cemetery.** Working with the Durham Historical Association, we are designing an historic plaque and kiosk for the cemetery on Schoolhouse Lane.
- **Plaque Commemorating the History of Durham Grange Hall.** Working with property owner Peter Murphy, Executive Director of the Freedom Café, Bryan Bessette and the Durham Historic Association, we are working on research and design of a plaque and other materials to commemorate the history of this historic landmark in our Durham Historic District.
- **Reviews.** We plan to review the Historic District section of the Zoning Ordinance, and to review and update the Durham Historic District Commission and Heritage Commission website in 2026.
- **Signage on Private properties.** We are exploring a program that facilitates and encourages private property owners to install historical signs on their properties.

LAMPREY RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Durham Representatives:

Matt Lake

Richard Lord

David Steinberg

As required by RSA 483 and the NH Rivers Management & Protection Program, representatives from eight towns in the Lamprey River watershed continued implementing the *2013 Lamprey Rivers Management Plan* with help from multiple partners. The *2025 Lamprey River Management Plan* was approved on Sept. 16, 2025, and is available at town offices and on www.LampreyRiver.org.

History: In a joint effort, the Lee Historical Society and the LRAC designed and installed a new Indigenous and mill history kiosk at the Lee Public Canoe Launch.

Land Protection: As of October 2025, the LRAC has provided funding for the permanent protection of 3,860 acres and 19.1 miles of river frontage in five towns.

Project Review: By statute, local river advisory committees are asked to review proposed projects that fall within 1,500 feet of a designated river and send their comments to NHDES. The committee cannot approve or deny permits, but NHDES must

consider its comments. This year, the LRAC reviewed and commented on 24 projects in 5 towns.

Public Engagement: Highlights of the year included completion and sharing of the *2025 Lamprey River Management Plan*, Herring Aid, setting up information booths at local events, and offering public presentations.

Recreation: Thanks to a Community Grant from the LRAC, the Newmarket Conservation Commission has replaced a wetland crossing that was in disrepair at the 160-acre Wiggin Farm Conservation Area.

Water Resources: The LRAC continued to fund bacterial tracking research at six recreational sites along the river and at 6 sites on Newmarket's Moonlight Brook to help isolate the source(s) of human fecal bacteria that have been contaminating the outfall at Schanda Park.

Wildlife and Ecology: Continuing a grant from 2024, additional research was undertaken to investigate the prevalence of a novel pathogen in American toads in the Lamprey River watershed. Using a grant from the LRAC, Durham updated the Doe Farm Forest Management Plan to focus on sustainability, enhancing forest health, ensuring water quality, and promoting native vegetation.

(Funds to support LRAC's work were provided by the National Park Service under CFDA 15.962 – National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.)

PARKS & RECREATION

Rachal Gasowski, Director

Durham Parks & Recreation (DPR) continues to offer a broad range of outdoor and indoor recreational activities for residents of all ages, abilities, and interests. Residents can rely on programs and events that bring the community together in our parks, facilities, and throughout our downtown spaces that are both welcoming and safe.

2025 was another busy and successful year for DPR, with more than 200 program opportunities offered for community members, from youth to adults. The department hosted nine special events, including three large community gatherings—*Downtown Durham Day*, *Downtown Trick-*



Asst. Director Kellie DeSimone and Director Rachel Gasowski

or-Treat, and Frost Fest-all held on Main Street and drawing hundreds of people to our downtown. The *Trot in the Trees 5K Trail Race* (held in partnership with Madbury Recreation & Oyster River Youth Association) returned to our annual event schedule after a one-year hiatus, welcoming 158 runners.

Summer camps were once again based out of the Oyster River Middle School for the third consecutive year, a location that continues to be an ideal fit for our growing and dynamic program. Our summer was filled with full rosters, sunscreen, smiling faces, and unforgettable memories!

We hosted 9.5 weeks of summer camps, including two weeks of STEM-based programs, five weeks of REACH Summer Camp (in partnership with Oyster River Cooperative School District), and three outdoor adventure-based camps.

In late spring, the Community Needs Assessment and Visitor Use Management Study for Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park was completed by the UNH Applied Recreation Research Collaborative (ARRC). This was a worthwhile project that provided valuable, data-based community input, which we will use as a roadmap for planning future updates, renovations, and additions to our parks to keep them safe, modern, inclusive and adequately serving the community for many years to come.

DPR and our primary after-school program partner, Seven Rivers Paddling, continued to offer a robust after-school enrichment program for Oyster River School District families. Participants engaged in a variety of outdoor and nature-based activities each seasonal session and were able to build a part-time or full-time weekly schedule throughout the school year. The program combines outdoor projects, activities, and games that teach skills and foster community. We value our strong partnership with Seven Rivers and their dedication to getting participants outside each day to develop new skills and an appreciation for our natural environment. In addition to the after-school program with Seven Rivers, DPR successfully hosted a variety of after-school programs through partnerships with local businesses including The Wheel House (pottery), Mad Science (STEM), and the Local B (workout).

2025 Accomplishments:

- Successfully hosted nine community events, including three major downtown events that brought hundreds of community members and visitors to Main Street.
- Reintroduced the *Trot in the Trees 5K Trail Race* in partnership with Madbury Rec & Oyster River Youth Association.
- Expanded adult program offerings.
- Offered 200+ programs for youth and adults.
- Collaborated with the Conservation Commission and the Land Stewardship Coordinator to continue the *Discover Durham's Trails* educational series.
- Continued work with the Parks & Recreation Committee and the UNH ARRC to complete the Community Needs Assessment and Visitor Use Management Study for Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park.
- Offered twenty-two summer camp opportunities for grades K–8 across 9.5 weeks.



The Aerial Adventure Course at Take Flight in Kittery, Maine, during an Outdoor Adventure Camp. Courtesy, Parks & Rec

2025 Accomplishments (Continued)

- Successfully hosted a variety of after-school programs through partnerships with local businesses including The Wheel House, Seven Rivers Paddling, Mad Science, and the Local B.
- Partnered with Gunstock Mtn. to offer the Outreach Ski and Ride Program for the Oyster River Community, with 160 participants enrolled in the program.

2026 Goals:

- Use the completed Community Needs Assessment and Visitor Use Management Study to create a roadmap for future park updates and renovations at Woodridge Park and Jackson's Landing.
- Continue offering specialty camps during February and April school vacation weeks.
- Continue to foster positive partnerships that have been established with UNH, various community organizations and businesses, Town departments, ORCSD, ORYA and the Town of Madbury.
- Support Churchill Rink with renovation plans to update and enclose the rink and add community recreation spaces that can be used year-round.
- Support local businesses by hosting community events downtown and at our recreation spaces/facilities including Wagon Hill Farm, Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park.

- Explore new partnerships to expand program and event opportunities.
- Develop annual and long-term maintenance plans for Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park.
- Enhance the Jackson's Landing waterfront with the installation of a community kayak storage rack and upgrade the playground area with new ADA-compliant recycled plastic picnic tables.
- Make safety improvements to the Woodridge Park tennis/pickleball courts by repairing a large crack within the playing area.

We are extremely grateful for our positive working relationships with other Town departments. Their continued support allows us to offer a wide range of programs, events, and operations that benefit our community. We are equally thankful for our small but mighty DPR team-*The Rec Squad!* - whose dedication, hard work, and willingness to support after-school programs, teacher workshop day field trips, and community events, in addition to our summer camp program, make our work possible.

Special thanks to the members of the Parks and Recreation Committee for their guidance, support, and involvement in a variety of initiatives and DPR events throughout the year.

Lastly, we appreciate the ongoing support and trust from the community. We remain committed to working hard and thinking creatively as we roll out new recreation opportunities that bring our community together in our parks and facilities year-round. The benefits of recreation are endless!

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

Cathy Leach, Chair

The purpose of the Parks & Recreation Committee is to serve in an advisory role to the Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) Director. The committee's overlying goal is to support the DPR to strengthen recreational opportunities for the community through a broad range of recreational, healthy, fun and enriching opportunities. Municipal Parks and Recreation plays an essential role in fostering a cohesive and vibrant community.

2025 Accomplishments:

- UNH ARRC Project: Collaborated with UNH ARRC (Applied Recreation Research Collaborative) to conduct a Community Needs Assessment and Visitor Use Management Study. The final report was presented to the committee in May. The outcome is a comprehensive study with specific recommendations focused on improvements at Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park, based on the wants and needs of the community. It will inform future decisions made by the DPR and the Town regarding park impacts, resources, and investment.

2025 Accomplishments (Continued)

- We are grateful for the ARRC partnership and the outcome of this important work. Since receiving the final report, the DPR Director formulated immediate recommendations, with the committee's support, for 2026 CIP and budget requests. The committee will continue to work with the director to create recommendations with timelines, necessary resources, and community impacts. The ARRC report underscored the importance and impact of parks and recreation in our community. Residents cited benefits associated with recreation to include emotional and physical well-being, and preventative health benefits. Residents also recognized the part parks and recreation plays in multigenerational community building.
- Town Trails Awareness: A committee subgroup & the DPR staff worked with the Land Stewardship Subcommittee to facilitate multiple 'Discover Durham Trails' events.



A summer camp field trip group aboard a Gundalow for an educational sail around Portsmouth. Courtesy, Parks & Rec

- Monthly Meetings: Updates from the Parks & Recreation director, and an annual report from the Churchill Rink manager. Committee members assist with community events organized by DPR. In 2025, we heard a presentation from the Town's Land Stewardship Coordinator.

2026 Goals:

- Assist DPR director in utilizing ARRC survey data, research, and recommendations to develop next steps for potential Jackson's Landing and Woodridge Park improvements, based on the expressed needs of the community.
- Continue to raise awareness of Durham's trails.
- Support the Director by assisting in community events and advising on challenges.
- Remain updated and support the Churchill Rink manager with current and future needs, including potential facility upgrades.
- Compile data and report on the impact of parks and recreation in the community.

Finally, the committee wishes to extend its thanks to Rachel Gasowski, Kellie DeSimone and Bill Page of the Parks and Recreation Department, as well as all staff and volunteers involved in the many aspects of the department's offerings and planning. It's continually obvious to committee members that this is a creative staff who put so much time into determining how to best serve Durham residents. This is one of the more public-facing town departments, and its impact is immeasurable in bringing the community together. We are grateful to have this staff in Durham.

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robin Glasser, Chair

Operational Authority: The Trustees of the Durham Public Library operate under the authority of New Hampshire RSA 202-A, a body of statutes that govern public libraries within the state. RSA 202-A:1 opens with this statement: *"Mindful that, as the constitution declares, 'knowledge and learning, generally diffused through a community' are 'essential to the preservation of a free government' the legislature recognizes its duty to encourage the people of New Hampshire to extend their education during and beyond the years of formal education. To this end, it hereby declares that the public library is a valuable supplement to the formal system of free public education and as such deserves adequate financial support from government at all levels."*

Role of the Board of Trustees: The Durham Public Library Board of Trustees is the sole governing body of the Library, vested with the entire custody and management of the Library. The Board hires the Library Director and Library staff, adopts policies to govern the Library's operation, and advocates for adequate financial support of the Library. It controls all funds provided to the Library and determines how they will be spent. The Board consists of seven Trustees who are elected to three-year terms by the citizens of Durham. Up to three Alternate Trustees can be recommended by the Board to the Town Council for appointment to one-year terms.



Library Squishmellow Paint Party. Courtesy, Durham Library

Mission and Core Values: The mission of the Durham Public Library is to enhance the quality of life in Durham through open access to ideas and information, to encourage exploration and learning in people of all ages, and to support cultural enrichment by establishing the library as a center of our community. Our library's mission is guided by core values that shape our service. We create a welcoming environment where all feel valued, build collaborative partnerships, and uphold credibility as a trusted resource. We prioritize sustainability for the future, foster compassion, and remain adaptable in service to evolving needs. Through expertise, we continually grow to provide the highest quality support, ensuring lasting community impact.

Annual Appeal: The Board of Trustees is committed to raising funds to contribute to the annual operating budget provided by the Town and to provide for social projects not covered by the operating budget. The 2024-2025 Appeal raised \$23,690. The Trustees are deeply grateful for the support of the Durham community in ensuring the library remains a vital resource for all residents.

BENEFACTORS: Steven Fellows, Jay and Martie Gooze, Tom and Beth Newkirk, Callie and J. Asher Langton, James Bass, Shirley (Kate) Glanz, Marilyn Rial, Ronald and Ann Rodgers, Kimberly and Peter Sweetman, Ann and Carden Welsh, and Susan Wagner and Willem deVries.

COLLECTORS: Robin and Alan Glasser, Larry and Annmarie Harris, Katherine and David Hewitt, John and Lynn Aber, Riverwoods at Durham, Peter and Trudy Brown, Carol and Jay Ehlen, Lorna Ellis and Mark Chutter, Alix Handelsman and Andrew Christie, Elizabeth Larocca, Dave and Cindy Limauro, Charlotte Ramsay, Sandra Rodeffer D.M.D./Paul Pasternack D.M.D, Laura and Donald Smith, Judith Spang, Peggy Thrasher, Katherine Wells Wheeler, Michael and Penelope Drooker, Al Howland and Janet Perkins-Howland, Doug and Becky Karo, Joe & Maggie Moore, and Ruth Moore.

PATRONS: John and Jean Parsons, Kurk and Marion Dorsey, Dr. Monica E. Chiu & Mr. Brian Locke, Maria Niswonger and Wilfred Wollheim, Brenda Sargent, Tracy Schroeder, Donna Shuman, Kelly Warren, Jay Wilson, Sheryl Bass and Paula Goff, Audra Lurvey, Mical Allopenna, Ray and Joanne Celentano, Linda Johnson, Susan Long, Doug and Mary Bencks, Kathleen Betts, Kathryn and Stephen Brunet, George and Gale Beliveau Carey, Carol Dodge, Adam and Brooke Fleit,

Charlotte Hitchcock, Dawn and Theodore Meredith, Bob and Christine Moynihan, Homeschool Offerings, Doug Ramsay, Leslie Pasternack and Paul Runcy, Laura and Donald Smith, Amy Woodrow, ElderPet, Ellen Andrick, Judith Austin, Juddie Barrett, Lisa Beaudoin, Lowell Berry, Robert and Cathy Brown, Mary-Lou and Bruce Campbell, John and Diana Carroll, Marcia Comer, Bob and Janet Doty, Robert and Lorraine Dusinberre, Heather Grant Patricia Haarr,

Mrs. Beryl Harper, Phyllis Heilbronner, Bob and Sally Heuchling, Joanne Jacobs, Barbara Jasinski, Robert Kline and Megan Ryan Kline, Martin Lee and Nancy Lambert, Gerald Lang, Eleanor Lonske, Susan and Robert Mair, Alberto and Leila Manalo, John and Linda Mengers, Amanda Merrill and Ken Fuld, Gerald and Patricia Mouser, Robin Mower, Kathleen Northrop, Jane and Lawrence O'Connell, Judith Parks, Donna and Thomas Pistole.

Funds held by the Trustees as of 12/31/24		
Accounts	Balance	Description
FACILITIES FUND	\$60,406.77	Restricted to items or services needed to modify, improve, maintain the facility.
UNRESTRICTED OPERATIONS	\$42,738.93	For items needed to run the library's operations (ex. Special purchases or projects that are approved above the Town appropriation.)
RESTRICTED GENERAL FUND	\$29,068.23	For restricted purchases designated by donors for specific items.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$14,191.14	Donated funds restricted to professional development activities of staff and/or Trustees
ENDOWMENT	\$6,682.39	Interest earned from restricted Endowment CD.
PRIOR YEAR ANNUAL APPEALS	\$19,382.21	From prior year annual appeals and used for purchases and projects designated therein.
CURRENT ANNUAL APPEAL	\$35,456.08	Funds being actively collected during the current year annual appeal.
RESTRICTED EQUIPMENT	\$34,149.39	Funds restricted to replacing, replenishing, repairing items that produce revenue (copier/copies, K-cups, lost books)
Total accounts	\$242,075.14	

CDs as of 12/31/24		
CD 1 Facilities Fund	\$216,628.06	Restricted funds for special facilities-related projects in addition to the DPW's budgeted funds for library upkeep.
CD 2 Restricted Endowment	\$54,157.02	Restricted funds from the original Milne endowment to the library. The library may only spend the interest earned on these funds.
TOTAL Investment funds	\$270,785.08	
Total All Funds	\$512,860.22	

Revenues		
Town-appropriated operating budget	\$633,515.00	
Trustees contribution to library operations	\$29,133.95	
Donations/grants received by the Town on behalf of the Library	\$5,100.00	
Friends of the Library contribution	\$10,816.83	
TOTAL Revenue	\$678,565.78	

Expenditures		
Library operational expenditures	\$643,740.86	
Additional expenditures paid by the Trustees	\$24,008.09	
Expenses paid by the Library Friends	\$10,816.83	
TOTAL Expenditures	\$678,565.78	
Balance	\$0.00	

DONORS: Jim Griffin, Kathryn Ellis and Thomas Crossman, Suzanne Loder, Mary Cabral, David and Lynn Holmes, Eve Kornhauser, Vicky Barrette, Edward and Carolyn Bauer, Peter and Susan Blanchard, Richard and Olivia Breton, Louise Buckley, Wayne Comer, Giovanna and Carmelo Filippone, Diane Foos, Stephen and Donna Hardy, James and Carly Hellen, Jim and Nancy Hornbeck, Carolyn and Steve Jenks, Philip and Nancy Johnson, Ingeborg Judge, Paul Kilian and Julia Salsbury, Anne Knight, Catherine and Robert Kyle, William and Jill Lockhardt, Richard Meyer, Thomas and Karin Mullin, William and Margaret Naumes, Nancy Neville, Judith and John Rystar, Nancy Schieb and Alfred Ackerman, Henry Smith, Bill and Susan Tanguay, Ann Joslin Williams, Dwight and Barbara Baldwin, Elise and Warren Daniel, Susan Deese, Amy and Bob Caldicott, Ginger Berger, KJ Meline, Stephen and Kimberly Nadeau, Ruth Bobick, Barbara Flynn and Carl Starr, Deborah Forster, Raymond and Helen

Goodman, James and Johanne Jelmsberg, Richard and Eleanor Lilly, Wolfgang and Cecilia Nauck, Diane and Chet Riley, Marian Stanton, John and Joanne Connolly, Earl Judd, John Parry, John Burke, Brenda Murray, and Joan Hart.

Friends of the Durham Public Library: The Friends of the Library is an auxiliary organization that raises supplemental funds for the library through their membership drive and by operating the Library Bookstore, hosting periodic book sales, and selling cookies at the circulation desk. They enhance Library services by funding museum passes, a children's literacy program and nature activities, plus summer concerts on the library lawn.

The trustees are grateful for the steadfast support from the Town of Durham, for the generosity of individual citizens who give so faithfully to the Annual Appeal, and for the support of the Friends of the Library.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Sheryl Bass, Director

The Durham Public Library (DPL) had a vibrant and productive year marked by resiliency, growth, and strong community engagement. Guided by our mission, vision, and values, and with the 2025-2027 Library Strategic Plan as our roadmap, the Library continued to provide inclusive and equitable access to information, lifelong learning opportunities, and meaningful connections for residents of all ages.

2025 Accomplishments:

- **Community Connections.** During the year 2025, the Library further enhanced its position within the community through enhanced programming and patron engagement. Adult and youth programming flourished throughout the year, with strong interest in book groups, Community Café events, art exhibits, yoga and wellness programs, and shared virtual offerings through library partnerships with the Lee, Madbury and UNH Libraries. Youth Services expanded outreach through monthly intergenerational storytimes at Harmony Homes, school visits at all four ORCSD schools, Teen Advisory Board activities, and an expanded Summer Reading Program that saw exceptional

participation and enthusiasm. Collaborative initiatives with organizations such as the UNH Center for Digital Health Innovation, Cornerstone VNA, Durham Great Bay Rotary, Pope Memorial Humane Society, individual community members, and local schools strengthened community ties and enriched service offerings.

- **Access for All.** Despite the long months of road construction on Madbury Road, the Library worked hard to ensure that anyone willing to weave their way through the cones and detours could still count on uninterrupted access to our services. We continued expanding both our physical and digital offerings so that all patrons could find what they needed, in whatever format worked best for them. The addition of LibCal made it much easier for patrons and staff to schedule meeting rooms, register for events, and reserve museum passes. Our virtual programming grew through new regional partnerships, and our Library of Things continued to expand, giving the community more hands-on items resources to explore. We also upgraded our building's security cameras and completed major technology updates, including preparing staff and public computers for Windows 11, to ensure a safer, more reliable experience for everyone who walks through our doors.

2025 Accomplishments (Continued)

- **Communication & Marketing of Services.** The year 2025 was a significant one for outreach and communication. The Library saw considerable success with a successful transition to a new user-friendly website platform, improved visibility through newsletters, social media, in-library promotion, and UNH U-Day. The new partnership for internships with UNH helped with social media content creation, and joint promotion with UNH helped to build ties with the UNH community strengthening community awareness of shared services.

- **Focus on the Future.** The Library continued to look ahead in 2025, investing in the people, tools, and ideas that will keep our services strong for years to come. Staff took part in statewide conferences, leadership and HR trainings through Primex, and continuing education in library law—learning that directly strengthens the support we offer our community.

The Ozone Gardening Project grant allowed us to bring new hands-on, outdoor STEAM experiences to young patrons, and we began exploring cooperative partnerships with nearby libraries to share resources and reduce costs. We also updated policies to meet new state requirements and devoted time to carefully maintaining and refreshing our collection so that the materials on our shelves remain engaging, relevant, and reflective of our community's needs.

2026 Goals :

In alignment with the Strategic Plan, the Library has identified three major priorities for the coming year:

- Secure Adequate Funding for the Print Collection through grant and donor support.
- Conduct a Comprehensive Community Needs



l-r back: Lucy Kirby, Mel Graykin, Susan King, Audra Lewis

*l-r front Kevin Maier, Debbie Jarvis, Margo LaPerle, Nicole Escobar, Kelly Montagano
Director Sheryl Bass,*

Assessment to guide future services and expenditures.

- Strengthen and Expand Community Partnerships to enhance programming, outreach, and shared resources.

The Library extends heartfelt thanks to the Friends of the Durham Public Library for their dedicated fundraising and volunteer contributions. We also thank the Town Council, Administrator, and all Town Departments for their ongoing partnership and support throughout the year.

2025 Durham Public Library Statistics	
Circulation	
Adult Physical Items Circulated	28,527
Juvenile/ YA Physical Items Circulated	40,684
Total Physical Circulation	72,013
Total Digital Circulation*	36,536
Total Library Visits	70,220
Total Library Cardholders	6,358
Total Interloan Transactions	4,451
Total Outreach Materials Delivered	1,950
Library Programs	555
Program Attendance	8,387
*Digital items include eBooks, audiobooks, television, movies and digital magazines through Libby, Hoopla and Kanopy	

General Government

ASSESSOR

Darcy Freer, Assessor

The assessor's office is responsible for ensuring equitable assessments, which distribute the Town's tax burden in accordance with NH State Statutes. Assessments are based on fair market value of property and are applied in a fair, equitable, and consistent manner. The assessing office strives to provide the best possible customer service. Information regarding assessments, tax exemptions, tax credits, tax deferrals, current use assessments, conservation restriction assessments, discretionary easements, abatement requests, and timber tax are available through this office. Information regarding assessments as well as deed and property ownership information can be found in this office, or on the Town's website at www.ci.durham.nh.us/assessing.

2025 Accomplishments:

- **Statistical Revaluation.** The last full revaluation was completed in 2023. Due to the continued increase in the real estate market between April 1, 2023 and April 1, 2025 the statistical revaluation was necessary to bring property values back in line with the market to ensure equity and proportionality. The Town of Durham contracted with Whitney Consulting Group, LLC to work in conjunction with Town Assessor Darcy Freer to update all residential and commercial properties. Additionally, the Town engaged the services of George Sansoucy, PE, LLC to update the utility assessments. The revised assessments reflect market value as of April 1, 2025, and were used for the second and final tax bill of 2025. The Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP) reports will outline the methodology used during the update that will be audited by the Department of Revenue Administration for compliance purposes.
- **Current Use Property.** In 2025 there were no land use change taxes in Durham. Land that is disqualified from the Current Use program (per RSA 79-A), primarily due to new construction, generating revenue in land use change taxes, all

of which are deposited into Durham's Conservation Fund.

- **Updating Exemption & Credit files.** During 2025, the assessing office has continued to review the files for all properties that are receiving an exemption or credit. This State-mandated process is to ensure that all the necessary paperwork is within the file, it is updated, current, and relative to the current property owner. The office will begin a formal review process starting in 2026, including mailing notifications to properties owners whose records need updating.
- **2025 Sales Data.** The sales period used for the 2025 equalization process began on October 1, 2024 and ended on September 30, 2025. During this period there were 53 valid property sales, which are reflective of market value. Market value is the most probable price a property would bring in an open and competitive market. Since 2023 the number of sales have been relatively slow in comparison to 2022 and 2021.

2026 Goals:

- Review and inspect those properties where building permits were issued after 4/1/25.
- Review and inspect properties that have had ongoing construction and/or demolition.
- Review qualified exemptions and credits and process new applicants.
- Review all abatement requests and make recommendations to the Town Council.
- Review Board of Tax and Land Appeals and Superior Court appeals.
- Continue updating Exemption and Credit files.
- Measure and inspect all properties that have transferred between October 1, 2025, through September 31, 2026. The purpose for this process is to ensure that the information on the assessment record cards was correct at the time of transfer, and for the equalization ratio study which is used to determine Durham's 2026 equalization ratio.

2025 Statistics:

The following is a breakdown of the 2025 assessments and exemptions used to calculate the net taxable valuation, which is used to compute the municipal, county, and local tax rates.

Summary Inventory of Valuation:

Residential (land & buildings):	\$1,557,115,000
Commercial/Industrial (land & buildings)	\$ 516,959,294
Current Use Land (per RSA 79-A):	\$ 764,891
Conservation Restriction Assess. (per RSA 79-B)	\$ 1,710
Utilities:	<u>\$ 114,050,600</u>
Valuation <i>before</i> Exemptions and TIF Retained Value	\$2,188,891,495

<u>Exemption</u>	<u>Exemption Amount</u>	<u>Total Granted</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>
Blind	\$37,000	3	\$111,000
Elderly			
65-74	\$175,000	3	\$525,000
75-79	\$225,000	4	\$900,000
80+	\$275,000	9	\$2,475,000
Solar	Varies	161	<u>\$4,029,003</u>
Total Exemptions			\$8,040,003

<u>Veteran's Tax Credit</u>	<u>Tax Credit Limits</u>	<u>No. Veteran's Approved</u>	<u>Total Tax Credit</u>
Standard Veteran's Credit	\$500	189	\$94,500
Surviving Spouse	\$2,000	0	0
Service Connected Disability	\$3,500	23	\$80,500
All Veteran's Tax Credit	500	5	<u>\$2,500</u>
Total Veteran's Tax Credit		217	\$177,500

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Tom Bebbington, Chair

Year-to-date we have had eleven burials in the cemetery, three full-body (28%) and nine cremains (82%). Two were veterans.

There were eleven sales, comprised of nine full-body graves and two cremains plots. Total revenue from plot sales was \$7,550, split between the Cemetery Trust and the Cemetery Improvement Fund.

- The Cemetery Care Trust – into which 50% of grave sale proceeds are deposited – had a fund balance of \$273,559.96 as of October 31, 2025.
- The Cemetery Improvement Trust – into which the other 50% of grave sale proceeds are deposited for non-routine improvements to roads, grounds, plantings, structures etc. – had a balance of \$49,696.90 as of November 30, 2024.
- The Cemetery Special Project Trust – created to

accept donations by private individuals, groups or organizations for maintenance and improvements in the Town Cemetery – had a balance of \$1,311.79 as of November 30, 2024.

The Department of Public Works again did a great job maintaining the grounds and roads, and I received a number of positive comments about the overall appearance of the cemetery. A special word of thanks to Ken Mitchell and the Scouts, who placed flags on all veterans' graves.

In 2026 I intend to convene the Cemetery Committee to discuss repairs to the stone wall along Main Street, which has started to collapse, as well as the laying out of a new cremains area in Section C, as the current one in Section D, laid out in 2022, is almost completely sold.

It has been a privilege to continue serve the Town of Durham as Cemetery Committee Chair this past year, and to help ensure that the Durham Cemetery remains an affordable, well-maintained place of rest, honoring the deceased members of our community.

DOWNTOWN TAX INCREMENT FINANCE (TIF) DISTRICT

Todd Selig, TIF Administrator

On September 24, 2012, the Town Council adopted a Development Program and Financing Plan for the establishment of the Downtown Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District pursuant to Revised Statutes Annotated (RSA) 162-K:5 to Fund Improvements that Enhance the Economic Vitality of the Downtown Area, effective April 1, 2013. That document was then amended on March 2, 2015, with a new effective date of April 1, 2015.

The objectives of this Downtown Durham Development Program and TIF Plan are to:

- Create new or improved infrastructure including, but not limited to, roads, traffic patterns, utilities, power distribution, water distribution, sewer, stormwater management, lighting, sidewalks and parking;
- Resurface existing roadways that service properties within the district;
- Improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety;
- Create traffic calming and improve traffic management and safety;
- Stimulate development or redevelopment of commercial property that will provide new commercial and office space, cultural and performance venues, professional services, conference and hotel services, restaurants, or other businesses consistent with a vibrant downtown;
- Expand the property tax base;
- Expand and enhance employment and earning opportunities for Durham and area residents;
- Create green space, community meeting areas and an improved sense of community to help attract Durham residents and consumers from outside the community that will patronize existing and new businesses in the downtown as well as in other areas of the community; and
- Stimulate other businesses to locate or expand within the community.

The Development Program and TIF Plan included five projects focused on the downtown that were consistent with Durham's Master Plan and the recommendations of the 2009 Durham Commercial Core Strategic Plan:

- Traffic calming and streetscape improvements to the Pettee Brook Lane Corridor - \$75,000;

- Deploying parking Kiosks or other technologies to manage parking resources - \$118,080;
- Planning, engineering and implementation of two-way traffic patterns along Main Street, lower Madbury Road and Pettee Brook Lane, and related intersection improvements - \$651,875;
- Planning, design, and construction of structured parking to support the TIF district - \$3,500,000; and
- Resurfacing of Pettee Brook Lane and Main Street (East) - 1" Overlay on Pettee Brook Lane (1,100 feet) - \$26,121; 1" Overlay on Main Street (East) (4,230 feet) - \$116,041.

Subsequent projects are to be developed in cooperation with current and future property owners, developers, and other stakeholders and may include:

- Parking facilities including structured parking;
- Road construction or improvements;
- Sidewalk construction or improvements;
- Bicycle lanes;
- Street lighting and landscaping;
- Improvements to utilities and power distribution;
- Improvements to water and sewer capacity; and
- Traffic calming and vehicular safety.

The proposed TIF district contains approximately thirty-four and a half (34.5) acres, which represents approximately 0.24% of the 14,336-acre land area in the Town of Durham. The maximum area percentage allowed under the statute is 5%. As of the date the initial Downtown TIF District was approved by the Town Council on September 24, 2012, the assessed value of all property in the district excluding tax exempt was \$58,627,900 or 6.39% of the total assessed value of taxable property in the town (\$917,477,049). The maximum allowable value allowed under the statute is 8%. Thus, the district complies with the size and value standards of RSA 162-K: 5.2. Values for 2012 were used for illustrative purposes at the time the District was originally approved by the Town Council on September 24, 2012 because 2013 values were not yet available. The District went into effect on April 1, 2013.

The assessed value of the Downtown TIF District as of April 1, 2013 was \$61,432,700, or 6.44% of the total assessed value of taxable property in the town at that time (\$906,003,460).

The total estimated capital cost to implement the five proposed projects was approximately \$4,487,117. This number excluded annual maintenance and operations costs. The Town Council must ultimately determine priority of funding with input from the District Administrator and Advisory Board. Future projects as recommended by the District Administrator and Advisory Board and approved by the Town Council will be funded with grants, private investment, accumulated captured increment, public borrowing or a combination thereof as determined appropriate by vote of the Town Council. A TIF Downtown District Advisory Board was established in late-fall 2015, and the first meeting took place in January 2016. Additional meetings have taken place infrequently but on an as-needed basis due to relative inaction within the TIF.

The Town of Durham generally intends to use multiple funding sources to complete the proposed development program as indicated above. A combination of private investment, state, federal & foundation grants, municipal appropriations and betterment/special assessments may be utilized along with any other funding sources that may be identified and successfully pursued during the life of this District.

Uses of Captured Incremental Tax Revenues

Pursuant to RSA 162-K, II (a), the full captured assessed value (100%) for tax year 2014 was designated for development within the Downtown TIF District. However, effective April 1, 2015 and all subsequent years, the Town of Durham shall designate seven percent (7%) of the captured assessed value for the retirement of bonds, notes and the operation and further development of the tax increment financing district. The remaining 93% of captured assessed value shall be deemed excess captured assessed value and shall be returned to the tax lists (general fund) per RSA 162-K:10, II (b).

The Downtown TIF District will exist until any debt issued and borrowing initiated to fund the development program is retired and all improvements anticipated within the Plan for the District as originally adopted or subsequently amended by action of the Town Council have been completed.

The captured assessed value as of 4/1/2025 was estimated to be \$127,512,000 by the Assessor. The *retained* captured assessed value is estimated to be \$8,925,840.

Actual tax dollars received (7% of Captured Assessed Value) within the Downtown TIF since its inception have totaled as follows:

2014 - \$	95,491
2015 - \$	47,294
2016 - \$	105,613
2017 - \$	109,165
2018 - \$	142,894
2019 - \$	147,176
2020 - \$	169,108
2021 - \$	171,403
2022 - \$	180,647
2023 - \$	174,443
2024 - \$	174,481
<u>2025 - \$</u>	<u>168,431</u>
Total:	\$1,686,146

Projects undertaken within the Downtown TIF in 2015 (and from the district's inception) through 2022 were as follows: Resurfacing of Pettee Brook Lane and Main Street (East) with a budget of \$142,162. Of this, \$45,422 was expended on shimming the designated roadways in 2015, and the balance was spent in 2016 to apply a finish coat of pavement.

On May 3, 2021, the District Administrator, after consulting with the TIF Advisory Committee, recommended to the Town Council that the Town of Durham purchase the vacant lot located at 66 Main Street for the assessed price of \$2,045,000. The recommendation for this purchase stemmed from months of research, discussion and analysis as seen in the document, "Recommendation that the Town of Durham Acquire 66 Main Street" that was provided as part of the April 19, 2021 Town Council packet.

The property, owned by the University of New Hampshire, had languished for years with no expressed plans for development. The property provided an excellent opportunity for public parking and commercial development, which will generate new tax revenue. The town had been in discussions with a developer (Elliott Sidewalk Communities) and the University about a plan that would bring desirable commercial development to the site, yet those discussions were ultimately unsuccessful in 2021 and came to a close.

The purchase of 66 Main Street by the Town of Durham on June 1, 2021 was funded using parking impact fees (\$714,194), TIF funds (\$674,578), and a 20-year TIF bond (\$740,000). The financing therefore did not impact the budget or future town tax rate. Additionally, the parking impact fees that were utilized to help purchase the site were to begin to expire starting in August 2021 and would have had to be returned to the developers if they had not been used.

The Council ultimately authorized moving forward with the acquisition of 66 Main Street and the construction of municipal surface parking in that location.

Currently, future redevelopment in the downtown is limited by the lack of available parking. Public

parking on this site will enable future redevelopment of underutilized buildings elsewhere in the downtown adding to the local Durham tax base.

As of December 31, 2024, the unaudited net balance remaining in the TIF is \$573,270.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE OFFICER

Gail Jablonski, General Assistance Officer

NH RSA 165 requires that each City and Town in the State of NH provide for any persons who are poor and unable to provide for themselves and that the Governing Body of each City and Town establish written guidelines relative to general assistance. Section 4-10 A-7 of the Administrative Code of the Town of Durham identifies the Business Management Department, headed by the Business Manager, as being responsible for overseeing Welfare services.

The Town of Durham is dedicated to providing for those in need without regard to age, race, sex or national origin. The Business Office is compassionate towards all those seeking assistance. We work with everyone who applies, whether the applications are approved or denied, to assist them towards self-sufficiency in the future.

In 2025 the Business Office was able to allocate more employee hours to training and case management. As a result, we were able to cut Welfare

Direct Assistance spending from \$104,000 in 2024 to an anticipated \$15,000 in 2025. A major part of this case work has been connecting applicants with other resources that they can apply for and following up to make sure this is being done. The Business Office works closely with several non-profit service providers in the area as well as the NH Local Welfare Administrator's Association for guidance and assistance with the more complicated cases.

We assisted nine individuals and three families with expenses such as rent, electricity, and heating fuel. This year we processed eighteen applications, up from fourteen in 2024. We currently have two active cases of public assistance open. The Business Office cautiously steps into 2026 knowing that welfare applicants are facing never-before-seen rental rates and a housing crisis which further limits options. The local Housing Authorities have 3 to 5+ year waitlists for affordable housing and Section 8 vouchers and the few local shelters that we have are always working from a waitlist.

Our welfare regulations and the application for public assistance can be located at <http://www.ci.durham.nh.us/businessoffice/welfare-assistance>

PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Michael Behrendt, Planner

Michael serves as staff to the Planning Board, Historic District Commission, and Conservation Commission, and provides assistance to the Town Council and other boards as needed.

2025 Accomplishments:

Planning Board. The Planning Board reviewed numerous project applications and conditional uses for activities within the wetland and shoreland overlay zones. The board also prepared several significant amendments to the Zoning Ordinance.

- **Riverwoods.** Phase II for Riverwoods will be built on the northerly side of Stone Quarry Drive. The project includes two senior housing buildings with a total of 55 units, a club house, and a maintenance building.
- **Mill Plaza.** The project involves façade improvements and site enhancements for the rear building. The work is nearly completed now.
- **121 Technology Drive.** R. J. Kelly, owners of 121 Technology Drive, presented a preliminary plan to the board to develop two 162,000 square foot industrial/warehouse buildings on the site.

2025 Accomplishments (Continued)

- **Dunkin Donuts.** At long last, the site with the vacant building on Dover Road, just past the Holiday Inn Express, will be redeveloped. Scott and Jim Mitchell, owners of the Irving Station property across from Town Hall, are building a new Dunkin Donuts for the present owner who will relocate to this site. The Circle K at the Irving Station is expanding into the space currently occupied by Dunkin Donuts.
- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Building (NOAA).** UNH gave a courtesy presentation to the board about the planned new NOAA Center for Excellence in Ocean Mapping building to be constructed soon at The Edge.
- **Zoning Amendments.** The Board developed or reviewed several significant amendments dealing with downtown development, changes in how student housing is treated (driven by new state laws), and accessory dwelling units. The board prepared a detailed Planned Unit Development ordinance which will be used to review large scale development at The Edge being planned now by UNH.

Historic District Commission/Heritage

Commission. The HDC/HC helped to organize a bicentennial event for Lafayette's visit to Durham and an open house at Smith Chapel. The commission is planning to develop signage for the Schoolhouse Lane Cemetery, signage for The Grange and new entrance signage for the Historic District.

Conservation Commission. The commission reviewed several applications for activity and structures to be located within the Wetland and Shoreland Overlay Districts. Members reviewed changes to the Aquifer Overlay District and the invasive species list. The commission voted to donate \$50,000 from the Conservation Fund toward the acquisition of a 30-acre parcel on Durham Point Road being conveyed by the Gsottschneider Family. The commission started to submit regular pieces to Friday Updates about protecting natural resources.

The Conservation Commission completed a total rewrite of the wetland and shoreland overlay districts after several years of research and development. The amendment will be presented to the Planning Board in the coming year.

Housing Task Force. The Town Council sunsetted the Housing Task Force after the it achieved its main goals: developing a housing assessment, conducting extensive outreach to the community, preparing an affordable housing ordinance (adopted as the Attainable Housing Overlay District), and writing numerous proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance to enhance housing opportunities. In recognition of the work of the task force the Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast recognized the task force with their annual Municipal Leadership Award.

2026 Goals:

- Write a new Conservation Subdivision Ordinance.
- Develop a final version of the Wetland Shoreland Overlay District
- Review proposed zoning amendments prepared by the Housing Task Force
- Work with UNH and the designated developer of The Edge to complete the Planned Unit Development ordinance.
- Start review of proposed new Subdivision Regulations.



Looking down Main Street. Courtesy, Lori Mendelsohn



l-r: Planner Michael Behrendt, Administrative Assistant Tracey Cutler, Assessor Darcy Freer, Intern Siena Schaier, Zoning, Code Enforcer & Health Officer Audrey Cline, Electrical Inspector Tom Richardson

PLANNING BOARD

Paul Rasmussen, Chair

This year saw approvals for two significant projects. The first represents a replacement of the old Cumberland Farms structure with a new building for Dunkin Donuts on Dover Road. The second is an expansion of the Riverwoods facility on Stone Quarry Drive. We are eagerly awaiting construction to commence for both projects.

The Board re-worked the Definitions Chapter of the Zoning Ordinance this year. The Central Business District was also split in preparation for improving the transitional transect between downtown and the nearby residential neighborhood.

Efforts to revitalize the downtown business situation are in active back and forth discussions with the Town Council.

Other work consisted of efforts to adapt to the changing rules coming down from the State Legislature regarding student rentals and the preparation of a new Planned Unit Development (PUD) Ordinance

to accommodate prospective development of The Edge located at UNH. The Planning Board has a draft PUD, but we are awaiting an official designation by UNH of the developer for the project so that we can receive their collective input prior to a public hearing.

COMPARISON OF NUMBER OF APPLICATION APPROVALS 2023-2025

Application Type	2025	2024	2023
Subdivision	3	2	0
Site Review/Conditional Use	9	4	12
Boundary Line Adjustment/ Subdivision Modification/Voluntary Lot Merger	4	2	3
Other*	8	9	4
Total	24	17	19

**Includes Conceptual Consultations, Design Reviews, Modifications and Amendments to Previous Approvals, Government Projects Public Hearings, and Scenic Road Public Hearings.*

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Ann Shump, Chair

There is usually only one election during odd numbered years, and 2025 has been no exception. However, people do still move in and out of town, so the Supervisors are always busy updating the Voter Checklist. There have also been many changes to the state Voter Laws, which makes everyone's lives a little more complicated.

2026 will be another busy year. The School Deliberative Session is scheduled for February 3 at Oyster River Middle School, with the Town/School election on March 10 at Oyster River High School. Then the State Primary will be Tuesday September 8, and the General Election will be November 3.

In New Hampshire you can vote in a Primary no matter how you are registered. If you are registered as a Republican, you must vote on the Republican ballot. If you are registered as a Democrat, you must use the Democratic ballot. If you are registered Undeclared, you may choose which ballot to mark, but then you will be considered a member of that party until you return to Undeclared. You may do this as you leave the polls at that Primary or later either in the Clerk's office, at a meeting of the Supervisors of the Checklist, or at the Town Election in March. The final date to change your party is early in June.

2025 Accomplishments:

- As of this writing, there are 12,587 registered voters in Durham.
- We spent many hours finishing the clean-up of the checklist after the presidential election in 2024.
- We prepared for the School Deliberative Session in February and the Town/School election in March.
- The Checklist was kept updated with additions and deletions.
- There were 85 people removed from the Checklist based on the National Change of Address (NCOA) list received from the US Post Office.

2026 Goals:

- The Town/School Election will be held on March 10, 2026.
- During the summer we will prepare for the State Primary in September and the General Election on November 3.
- There have been several changes to the Voter Registration laws. As a result, we will spend more time than usual on Voter Education, both for ourselves and for potential voters.
- We plan to hold several registration drives, both at UNH and at local assisted living facilities. These will be more challenging than in the past because of the new laws.
- We will need to keep the Voter Checklist updated as we proceed through the year.

TOWN CLERK-TAX COLLECTOR

Rachel Deane, Certified Town Clerk
Tax Collector

The year 2025 was busy and productive for the Town Clerk-Tax Collector's Office. The Clerk's Office staff continued to provide efficient, friendly, and accurate service to Durham residents across all areas of operation.

Elections

In March, the Annual Town Election was conducted successfully, ensuring a smooth and well-organized

voting process despite statewide changes to election laws, including updates to voter registration procedures. The clerk's office extends appreciation to all election workers and volunteers for their continued dedication to the Town of Durham.

Town Clerk-Tax Collector Rachel Deane attended a New Hampshire legislative session to provide testimony on SB 223 before the NH Senate Election Law Committee. The bill sought to remove college IDs as an acceptable form of identification for obtaining a ballot. The bill did not pass and was deemed Inexpedient to Legislate. The Clerk's Office will continue to monitor election legislation in 2026.

New Hours

This year also marked the introduction of new office hours in response to resident and staff needs. Office hours were extended from 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The office is now closed to the public on Wednesdays, which are reserved for emergency transactions such as bedside notary services, staff training, and online transaction management.

Motor Vehicle Registrations

The Durham Town Clerk–Tax Collector’s Office is proud to report that it received a perfect score on the 2025 New Hampshire DMV audit. This accomplishment reflects the office’s commitment to accuracy, efficiency, and accountability. All plate and decal inventory was verified and reported correctly, and state ACH transfers were completed promptly and without error. A special thanks goes to Deputy Town Clerk–Tax Collector Audrey MacKenzie for her exceptional attention to detail in keeping track of all DMV inventory. This perfect audit score underscores the dedication of our staff to maintaining the highest standards of service for Durham residents.

Property and Utility Collection

On the property tax and utility billing side, the office completed two property tax warrant preparations and billings and issued four quarterly water and sewer billings. Durham continues to see a high property tax collection rate, with nearly 98% of the warrant collected within 30 days of the due date.

These processes represent a significant portion of the annual workload, and the cooperation of residents in meeting payment deadlines is greatly appreciated.

Professional Development

The Clerk’s Office welcomed Maura Slavin to the staff as Assistant Town Clerk–Tax Collector. Maura brings enthusiasm, strong attention to detail, and adaptability to her role, making her a valuable addition to the team.

Deputy Town Clerk Audrey MacKenzie completed the second year of the four-year NH Clerk Certification Program through the New Hampshire City and Town Clerks Association, further enhancing the knowledge and professional standards of the Clerk’s Office.



Town Clerk/Tax Collector Rachel Deane, Asst. Town Clerk/ Tax Collector Maura Slavin, Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Audrey MacKenzie

Office Management

Many residents continued to use the Town’s website for Clerk and Tax Collector services, including vehicle registration renewals, tax payments, water/sewer payments, and access to forms and information.

In addition to administrative responsibilities, the Clerk’s Office performed numerous wedding ceremonies and assisted with the swearing-in of new Police and Fire Department personnel, as well as newly elected officials and appointed board members throughout the year.

Top Dog Contest

The Durham Town Clerk–Tax Collector’s Office was pleased to host the 2025 Durham Top Dog Contest, an annual tradition that brings joy to residents and promotes timely dog licensing. This year’s winner was Mia Slama, a beloved Corgi known for her friendly personality and spirit. Mia is owned by Fred and Emily Slama, who proudly accepted the honor on her behalf. As part of the celebration, Mia and her family received a gift basket donated by the Durham Town Clerk. Mia was formally presented with the Top Dog Award at the Durham Town Council meeting in May 2025, where councilors and attendees congratulated the Slama family.

2026 Goals:

In 2026, the Town Clerk–Tax Collector’s Office will launch several initiatives aimed at improving voter services and increasing public awareness of election-related requirements. A key initiative will be a partnership with the New Hampshire Secretary of State’s Office to introduce updated materials and guidance reflecting recent changes to state election laws.

These updates will include:

- New voter registration materials to help residents better understand eligibility requirements and necessary documentation.
- Revised absentee voting information based on law changes enacted in 2025, taking effect in 2026.
- Outreach efforts to ensure voters are informed of updated procedures well ahead of local, state, and federal elections.

ONLINE TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN 1/1/2025-12/30/2025

Title	# Trans.	Amount
MV Renewals	1,832	\$464,218.76
Dog License Renewals	339	\$2,525.00
Vital Record Request	53	\$1,215.00
Property Tax and Utility Billing	2,139	\$2,122,621.70
Duplicate MV Registration	5	\$90.00
MV Replacement Decals	2	\$8.00
New Dog Licenses	64	\$478.00
Total	4,434	\$2,591,156.46

Property Tax Collection January 1 Thru December 31, 2025 (2025 Final Payment Due on 1/12/26)

	2025	2024	2023	2022
DEBITS				
Uncollected Taxes		\$792,935.83		
Taxes Committed To Collector	\$40,855,671.00			
Overpayments	\$416.00	\$365,833.00	\$213,464.00	\$23,543.00
Collected Costs		\$4,451.52		
Collected Interest	\$8,836.34	\$18,801.55		
Total Debits	\$40,864,923.34	\$1,182,021.90	\$213,464.00	\$23,543.00
CREDITS				
Remitted To Treasurer	\$26,971,657.42	\$778,787.15		
Remitted Costs		\$4,451.52		
Remitted Interest	\$8,836.34	\$18,801.55		
Abatements		\$371,154.00	\$213,464.00	\$23,543.00
Carry-Over		\$8,285.70		
Uncollected Taxes 12-31-25	\$13,884,429.58	\$541.98		
Total Credits	\$40,864,923.34	\$1,182,021.90	\$213,464.00	\$23,543.00



A painter on the shore of Wagon Hill Farm. Courtesy, Jean McPeak

Tax Lien Report 2025

	2024	2023	2022
Unredeemed Liens		\$87,332.68	\$19,850.16
Liens executed During Year	\$120,166		
Interest & Costs After Lien	\$513.11	\$4,227.88	\$5,376.52
Total Debits	\$120,679.16	\$91,560.56	\$25,226.68
Lien Payments	\$20,534.68	\$39,666.40	\$19,658.15
Lein Costs			\$30.00
Lein Interest		\$ 4,227.88	\$5,346.52
Unredeemed Liens	\$99,631.37	\$47,451.03	\$48.05
Total Credits	\$120,679.16	\$91,560.56	\$25,226.68

Water & Sewer Collection 1/1/2025-12/31/2025

Committed To Tax Collector

1st Quarter Warrant	\$758,296.36
2nd Quarter Warrant	\$659,689.75
3rd Quarter Warrant	\$703,566.74
4th Quarter Warrant	\$810,603.70
Total	\$2,932,156.55

Payments Received

Water	\$1,605,114.11
Sewer	\$1,365,398.98
Total	\$2,970,513.09

Abatelements

Water	\$15,763.13
Sewer	\$1,210.38

Refunds

Outstanding Balances	
2024 Sewer	\$4,012.66
2024 Water	\$5,052.16
2025 Sewer	\$45,517.72
2025 Water	\$57,721.91
Total	\$113,304.45

Revenue Collection 1/1/2025-12/31/2025

Auto Registrations	\$1,356,084.49
Boat Registrations	\$5,054.70
Title Applications	\$2,456.00
Municipal Agent Fees	\$22,311.00
Trans improvement	\$27,745.00
Marriage Licenses	\$1,900.00
Vital Statistics Copies	\$4,131.00
Dog Licenses	\$10,050.00
Miscellaneous	\$1,931.46
eB2Gov Fee	\$1,442.50
Total	\$1,433,106.15
Cars Registered	7,245
Dogs Registered	1,064



Walking trail at Wagon Hill Farm. Courtesy, Jean McPeak

TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS

Theodore Howard, Chair

Financial results for 2024: Portfolio income from reserve and trust investments for 2024 was \$157,895.21 (See Table). Part of this income was spent for the purposes of the various reserves and trusts, and the remainder was accumulated to the available income balances of the reserves and trusts. Income and market appreciation for the year totaled \$444,459.38, an 8.62% return on the beginning of the year portfolio value.

Portfolio value at the end of 2024 had decreased from the end 2023 due to significant withdrawals (Benefit Stabilization Trust Fund \$250,000.00; Special Education Trust Fund \$250,000.00; and Wastewater (Sewer) Capital Reserve Fund \$120,650.76) which were larger than the combined income and market appreciation amounts.

One-Year Results to 30 September 2025: The portfolio value as of 30 September 2025 was \$5.947 million, representing approximately a \$184K increase from 30 September 2024. With three months remaining in Calendar Year 2025, income and market appreciation may be slightly higher for 2025 than in 2024. With uncertainty in world geopolitical issues, US monetary and trade policies, and inflation, the overall 2025 rates of returns are expected to be slightly less than those of 2024.

A more detailed report on the Town's Reserves and Trusts is in the financial section of the Town annual report. The trustees have adopted a moderately conservative investment policy with the primary goal of preserving the ability to carry out the purposes of the Town's reserves and trusts.

Management of Doe Farm: We continue to be part of the Land Stewardship Subcommittee (LSSC), which coordinates the Town's conservation interests. The trustees are specifically responsible for the management of the Doe Farm and the associated trust fund. We now have an updated forest management plan for the Doe Farm prepared by Moreno Forestry Associates; it will be publicly available on a Town webpage soon. A major section of the plan addresses climate change impacts and mitigation. As part of the plan's implementation, a formal invasive species monitoring plan will be developed in cooperation with UNH, the Town's land stewardship coordinator, and the

trustees. We have been certified by the American Tree Farm System as practicing sustainable forestry and will seek to be recertified in 2026.

Transparency Efforts: The trustees have maintained a good record of timeliness in posting agendas and minutes. We have been able to respond promptly to communications from residents. Due to changes in DCAT support availability, we have shifted our monthly meeting to the fourth Tuesday rather than the fourth Friday of each month beginning with the November 2025 meeting. By doing so, we will be able to retain Zoom capability for public access and for recording of meetings.

Improved Record Keeping: We continue reviewing records to winnow unnecessary documents, and to maintain those that explain how, when, and why the various funds in our custody were established and investment performance reports.

Investment Policy: The trustees adopted its present investment policy in 2022. Each year, the trustees review, edit, and approve that policy and transmit the approved policy to the Attorney General as required by statute (RSA 35:9). The policy is available to the public on the trustees' website. This year, the policy was approved with minor edits at the March 28, 2025 meeting. Updates to the performance benchmarks were approved by the trustees in November 2025 and will be incorporated into the policy when it is further reviewed and approved at either the January or February 2026 meeting.

Investment Records: Monthly statements listing all holdings and account balances are on file in the Town Business office and are also available upon written request to the Chair of the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Quarterly reports prepared by the investment advisors, Cambridge Trust, are also available.

Alternate Trustee Appointment: The Town Council approved the appointment of James Bubar as our second alternate trustee. Although they do not vote unless they are sitting for an elected trustee, the alternate trustees regularly attend meetings and participate in discussions.

Cemetery Committee: The trustees and three Town Council members operate the Town Cemetery Committee, under the leadership of Trustee Bebbington. The committee oversees sales of burial plots and works closely with the Department of Public Works on maintenance of the Durham Cemetery.

2026 Goals:

- We will continue to be prudent custodians of the funds entrusted to us, while seeking the best possible returns on the investment of these funds.
- We will seek ways to maintain and improve our relationships with town departments and related committees, commissions, and board.
- We will continue to work on items in the above Activities section.
- In support of our responsibilities for the Doe Farm, we will implement recommendations in

the new forest management plan and continue to participate on the Land Stewardship Subcommittee.

- We will review the process for recommending veterans to be recognized on the plaques on monuments in Memorial Park.
- We will continue to manage the Durham Cemetery as an affordable, well-maintained place of rest, honoring the deceased members of our community by preserving its beauty, dignity, and historical and cultural values.

FUND PERFORMANCE				
Year End 31 December 2024				
Measure	Capital Reserves	Trust Funds	Cemetery Funds	Total
Beginning Portfolio Value	\$ 4,030,424.33	\$ 1,078,412.42	\$ 48,857.72	\$ 5,157,694.47
Net Contributions/Withdrawals	\$ (539,982.98)	\$ (26,721.93)	\$ -	\$ (566,704.91)
Income Earned	\$ 126,315.21	\$ 30,036.08	\$ 1,543.92	\$ 157,895.21
Market Appreciation	\$ 229,834.42	\$ 54,108.94	\$ 2,620.81	\$ 286,564.17
Ending Portfolio Value	\$ 3,846,590.98	\$ 1,135,835.51	\$ 53,022.45	\$ 5,035,448.94
Total Return	8.84%	7.80%	8.52%	8.62%
Measure	One Year Account Flows as of 30 September 2025			
Beginning Portfolio Value	\$ 4,531,213.68	\$ 1,178,934.89	\$ 53,843.11	\$ 5,763,991.68
Net Contributions/Withdrawals	\$ (181,636.42)	\$ (33,228.45)	\$ (351.90)	\$ (215,216.77)
Income Earned	\$ 129,057.51	\$ 32,172.58	\$ 1,616.91	\$ 162,847.00
Market Appreciation	\$ 184,663.84	\$ 49,618.09	\$ 2,036.66	\$ 236,318.59
Ending Portfolio Value	\$ 4,663,298.61	\$ 1,227,497.11	\$ 57,144.78	\$ 5,947,940.50
Total Return	6.92%	6.94%	6.79%	6.93%
HOLDINGS	Allocation as of 30 September 2025			% of Portfolio
Equities	42.9%	42.7%	52.0%	
Fixed Income	54.3%	53.8%	42.6%	
Cash	2.8%	3.5%	5.3%	
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR, BUILDING INSPECTOR, CODE ENFORCER, HEALTH OFFICER

Audrey Cline, CBO

Building Department has continued to experience a moderate number of applications for building permits in 2025. The primary building at 121 Technology Drive has been completed and is attracting tenants, and we anticipate future proposals for

additional buildings in the complex. Several downtown tenant spaces have been filled with new businesses; The Blue Flame at 56 Main, Insomnia Cookies at 9 Madbury, and The Grind, on Jenkins Court, among others.

Residential permit applications continue to show homeowners investing in their property by upgrading, and sometimes up-sizing, their present living spaces, often creating room for additional family members or small accessory dwelling units sufficient to rent.

As the Zoning Administrator, the CEO works with applicants preparing documents for appeals, variances, and special exceptions from the Zoning Ordinance. Sometimes the process can be complicated, with several types of relief necessary. We endeavor to assist applicants toward understanding of the documents and protocols when approaching the Zoning Board of Appeals; please contact us early and often.

CONSTRUCTION PERMITS PROCESSED	2025	2024	2023
Building Permits	200	209	232
Building Permits Denied	1	1	1
Building Permits Withdrawn	2	5	7
Demolition Permits	5	6	4
Septic Permits/Test Pits	15	13	9
Electric Permits	168	182	205
Plumbing/Mechanical Permits	167	228	213
Total Permits	558	644	671

	2025	2024	2023
Value of Building Permits Given	\$19,127,535	\$22,574,626	\$32,787,544
Fees Collected for all Permits	\$131,023.00	\$157,179.81	\$230,520.99

This year we have said goodbye to two of the department’s finest members; Durham’s Plumbing and Mechanical inspector Mr. Richard Kearney has fully retired. Our Code Enforcement Officer, Andrea Seledée, has been accepted into training as a Sherriff’s Deputy. We miss their dedication and knowledge.

BREAKDOWN OF BUILDING PERMITS	2025	2024	2023
New Single-Family House/Duplex Dwelling	10	11	3
Additions, Renovations	87	175	169
Commercial (New & Renovations)	14	14	19
Demolition			
Single Family Home	4	4	3
Commercial Building	1	2	0
Other	3	0	1
Swimming Pools	4	1	1
OTHER PERMITS			
Signs	5	8	6
Sidewalk Cafes	2	2	3
Totals all Permits	130	217	205

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Neil Niman, Chair

The primary responsibility of the Board is to provide relief from the zoning ordinance. It meets monthly to hear cases and render decisions.

The Board continues to see a small number of cases. The table below shows the types of cases and their disposition.

The Board is always looking for new members. Interested town residents are encouraged to apply through the Town Administrator’s Office or are welcome to approach any member of the board for additional information about serving.

2025 ZBA Applications	Requested	Granted	Denied	Continued
Variance	7	5	1	1
Special Exception	1	1	0	0
Administrative Appeal	1	0	1	0
Equitable Waiver	0	0	0	0
Request for Rehearing	0	0	0	0
Request for Extension	0	0	0	0

Public Safety

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dave Emanuel, Chief

The Durham Fire Department is an organization of dedicated professionals whose purpose is to provide Fire, EMS, Rescue, Prevention, and Education services to protect lives, property, and the environment for our community. The department is jointly funded (50%-50%) by the town and University of New Hampshire (UNH).

2025 Accomplishments:

- Firefighter/EMT Joshua Gaultier was hired to fill the position created by the retirement of Firefighter/AEMT Kenneth Lundberg.
- Administrative Assistant Michelle Patrick was hired to fill the position created by the resignation of Administrative Assistant Aimee Routhier.
- Michael Rosen and Michael Cousineau were hired as Call Firefighters and the department recognized Call Firefighter Brian Raynes for his ten (10) years of service as he left the organization.
- The department hired Firefighter/EMTs Kenneth Richard and Loran Sheley to fill two sixth-person positions. This increased staffing provided more flexibility in addressing fatigue by reducing extended shifts and mandatory overtime, all of which impact the safety and wellbeing of department members. By implementing the drop-down model, a significant savings of overtime was realized and mandatory overtime to cover these positions was avoided.
- As of this writing, a hiring process is underway to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Assistant Chief Randall Trull.
- Firefighter/EMTs Finnegan Brown and Joshua Boldebook successfully completed their one-year probationary training.
- The department provided training to ensure skill proficiency in topics including: a 40-hour confined space rescue technician program, 32-hour rescue boat operator program, vehicle extrication skills, high rise firefighting, NH Fire Academy live fire training, Rapid Intervention Team, 30-hour online Blue Card Incident Management, 200-hour Advanced Emergency Medical Technician, and two two-week recruit orientation programs. Members also engaged in advanced learning at: the National Fire Academy, First Due Record Management System Conference, Fire Department Instructor Conference, Fire Rescue International, International Association of Fire Chiefs Baltimore Hazardous Materials Conference, Science to the Station Conference, and the NH Women's Leadership Institute.
- Implemented policy and practice for department-wide behavioral health wellness consultations with a licensed practitioner.
- Consultants were hired to assist the department with policy and procedure development, graphic arts, and a functional task analysis.
- With the support of the department and community, the Durham Professional Firefighters conducted their annual toy drive in conjunction with the Seacoast Firefighters Toy Bank.



Newly hired firefighters Joshua Gaultier & Kenneth Richard training during their two-week orientation recruit school. Courtesy, Fire Dept.

The department completed several projects as approved through the Capital Improvements Program:

- Accepted delivery of a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) fill station.
- Accepted delivery of a new rescue boat, motor, and trailer to replace legacy watercraft.
- Accepted delivery of a new staff vehicle.
- Accepted delivery of new electric rescue tools to replace legacy hydraulic equipment.
- Installed new replacement apparatus bay doors, a new hot water system, and prepared a renovation program with architectural plans and cost estimates to renovate the second floor of the fire station.

Members of the Durham Fire Department would like to express their appreciation to the Town and University community for their ongoing and unwavering support of the Fire Department.

2025 Fire Department Community Risk Reduction

Complaints & Referrals	73
Site Inspection	47
Fire Alarm Inspection	39
Mobile Food Unit Inspection	32
Housing Standards & Inspections	31
Fire Drills	28
Assembly (Town-Wide, Issued by Durham Fire)	22
Public Education	16
Life Safety	13
Heating System Inspection	12
Child Safety Seat Inspection	10
Other	30
Total Inspections	353

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Dave Emanuel, Chief

The Durham Fire Department participates in the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands online electronic permitting process to best serve Durham residents. Under State law (RSA 227-L:17), a fire permit is required for all outside burning, unless the ground is completely covered with snow. Fire permits may be obtained by visiting <https://nh.burnsafeamerica.com> or by scanning the QR code.



From January through November 2025, there were approximately 195 burn permits issued to Durham residents and of those, approximately 61% were seasonal permits and 39% were daily burn permits. Failure to obtain a permit or to control your fire may result in being held liable for: 1. Payment of damage to property of another; 2. Payment of suppression costs to the town; 3. Prosecution for failure to comply with regulations.

On September 22, 2025, Governor Ayotte and the Executive Council enacted a proclamation prohibiting all outdoor burning within the State of New

Hampshire due to extremely high fire danger. The ban was subsequently lifted on October 29, 2025. Thank you Durham residents for your understanding and assistance in protecting our forests and keeping our community safe.

Many homes in Durham are located within the wildland urban interface, where homes and flammable wildland fuels intermix. Homeowners are encouraged to take preventative measures such as keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles and maintaining adequate green space around your home free of flammable materials to mitigate fire risks. Additional information about wildfire and homeowner recommendations are available at www.firewise.org and <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/wui/>

Safe open burning requires your diligence and responsibility. Please heed Smokey's message about personal responsibility and follow his ABC's: **Always Be Careful** with fire. If you start a fire, put it out when you are done. **"Remember, Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!"** For more information, please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at (603) 271-2214 or online at <https://www.nhdfl.dncr.nh.gov>. For up-to-date information, follow DFL on Twitter: @NHForestRangers. Thank you for helping us to protect Durham's forest resources.

2025 Fire Department Incident Reporting

Incident #	Incident Type	Responses	%	Mutual Aid Given	Mutual Aid Received
100	Fire	55	2%	30	4
	Building Fire	17		14	1
	Cooking Fire	9		0	1
	Forest, Woods, or Wildland Fire	6		5	1
	Other	23		11	1
200	Overpressure/Rupture	1	>1%	0	0
300	Rescue / EMS Incident	1426	60%	11	14
	EMS Call, Excluding Vehicle Accident With Injury	1290		5	14
	Removal Of Victim(s) From Stalled Elevator	49		0	0
	Motor Vehicle Accident With No Injuries	34		2	0
	Motor Vehicle Accident With Injuries	24		3	0
	Other	29		1	0
400	Hazardous Condition	61	3%	1	4
	Power Line Down	17		1	0
	Overheated Motor	9		0	0
	Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	9		0	2
	Other	26		0	2
500	Service Call, Other	353	15%	15	2
	Trouble Signal	123		0	0
	Check Detector	47		1	0
	Public Service	26		0	0
	Other	157		14	2
600	Good Intent Call, Other	147	6%	42	2
	Dispatched & Cancelled En Route (Includes EMS & Fire Calls)	82		39	1
	Good Intent Call, Other	23		0	1
	Smoke Scare, Odor Of Smoke	15		1	0
	Other	27		2	0
700	False Alarm or False Call	328	14%	2	8
	Smoke Detector Activation due to Malfunction	60		0	0
	Alarm System Activation, No Fire, Unintentional	55		0	1
	Smoke Detector Activation, No Fire, Unintentional	52		0	1
	Other	161		2	6
800	Severe Weather or Natural Disaster	19	>1%	1	0
900	Special Incident Type, other	0	>1%	0	0
	Total Incidents	2390	100%	102	34

MCGREGOR

MEMORIAL EMS

Chris Lemelin, Executive Director

This year marked McGregor's 57th year of service as the regional 9-1-1 ambulance service for Durham, UNH, Lee, and Madbury. In 2025, the organization took significant steps toward addressing long-term issues that will shape our future ability to provide the level of care rightfully expected by our patients.

At the heart of McGregor's success and our ability to adapt are our volunteers and staff. We believe that anyone can save a life, and we encourage all who read this to become involved by either taking a First Aid, CPR, or Stop the Bleed Course, or volunteer as an EMT. To learn more, visit www.McGregorEMS.org/volunteer

2025 Accomplishments:

- Maintained strong volunteer ambulance coverage with members donating over 35,730 scheduled hours in 2025. This allowed us to cover 99.1% of all calls.
- Responded to 2,471 calls in 2025 (compared to 2,460 calls in 2024.)
- Recruited and trained 25 new volunteers in 2025 out of a total of 47 applicants.
- The Quality Assurance Committee reviewed 100% of high acuity calls (107 runs in total), providing feedback to providers and measuring care against nationally recognized benchmarks. A subset of the committee also reviewed nearly 800 additional moderate-acuity runs.
- Offered CPR and first aid training at all local libraries and UNH, certifying 505 people.
- Achieved the American Heart Association's Lifeline Silver award for care of high-risk heart attack and stroke patients.
- Completed numerous safety upgrades, including the installation of two power load stretchers, four-point seat belts, and dash cameras.
- Completed a feasibility study evaluating funding mechanisms for a new facility designed to meet the organization's needs into the future.
- Actively advocated for state EMS legislation (SB 245), which was ultimately signed into law,



l-r: Mary Davis, Chris Lemelin, Sonya Marshall, Henry Poynter, & Allie Fehl at Durham Day 2025 Courtesy, McGregor

protecting patients from balance billing and establishing a new reimbursement framework for emergency ambulance services such as McGregor.

- Presented at national public health conferences on the benefits of community paramedicine.
- Placed the organization's newest paramedic intercept vehicle in service and placed an order for our next ambulance to be delivered in 2028.
- Established a state "Educational Training Agency" in partnership with the University of New Hampshire to ensure continued local EMT and Advanced EMT courses.

2026 Goals:

- Complete credentialing process to operate under the new NH Advanced SEPSIS Protocol.
- Continue working with the University, towns, and other stakeholders to address McGregor's future station needs. Enhance the public's understanding of McGregor as a nonprofit EMS provider and the organization's contributions to the community.
- Integrate our newest ambulance, expected in the first quarter of 2026, into our operations.
- Continue active participation in the Lee, Madbury, and Barrington regionalization evaluation.
- Monitor the progression of the new statewide reimbursement structure and actively participate in the cost study process to be undertaken by the NH Insurance Department.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Rene Kelley, Chief

The Durham Police Department continues to focus on delivering professional, community-oriented police services with a guardian philosophy of policing. This past year was marked by significant progress in staffing, accreditation, community partnerships, and public safety initiatives. I am proud of the dedication demonstrated by every member of the department as we worked to meet the expectations of our residents, businesses, and visitors.

For the first time in many years, the Durham Police Department enters the new year fully staffed. Five new officers successfully graduated from the New Hampshire Police Academy in 2025, completing months of rigorous training and immediately contributing to the operational readiness of their patrol shifts. At a time when law enforcement agencies across the country continue to face unprecedented recruiting challenges, achieving full staffing places Durham among only a handful of New Hampshire police agencies to have reached this benchmark.

This year also included a major milestone in our long-standing commitment to professional excellence. After a thorough assessment process following our successful conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, the Durham Police Department was awarded its ninth CALEA accreditation. Even more

notably, the department was again recognized as a *Meritorious Agency*, a designation reserved for departments that have demonstrated continuous compliance and excellence over multiple accreditation cycles. Only a small number of police agencies nationwide hold this distinction, and it reflects the hard work and professionalism of our entire team.

Our partnership with the University of New Hampshire's Homeland Security Studies program continued once again as we supported senior capstone projects focused on real-world public safety needs. In 2025, students assisted the department in assessing best practices for large-scale emergency notification systems within the region, contributing valuable insights for future planning.

Throughout the year, the department continued to evaluate and enhance our downtown parking operations. One significant improvement was the replacement of aging parking kiosks with a modern pay-and-display system. This update provides a more user-friendly experience for residents, visitors, and business patrons, improving efficiency and reducing operational disruptions.

We also made substantial investments in public outreach, communication, and safety education. Our officers produced and disseminated a wide range of social media content—including e-scooter safety reminders, distracted driving awareness messages, and a public instruction video for the new parking kiosks. These campaigns continue to be an effective tool in increasing public engagement and delivering important safety information to our community.

One of the most memorable additions to the department this year was the arrival of Jett, our new comfort dog. Jett quickly became an invaluable part of our community outreach program, providing support during stressful incidents, assisting in victim-advocacy settings, and helping officers build positive relationships with community members of all ages. Jett has already made a meaningful impact, particularly with our youth, seniors, and residents in crisis.

I am also pleased to report that Detective Emily Bolton was recognized as the Strafford County Child Advocacy Center's 2025 "Everyday Hero." This award is presented annually to one outstanding member of the multidisciplinary team who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to supporting child victims and advancing the mission of the CAC. Detective Bolton's compassion, professionalism, and advocacy are exemplary and reflect the highest values of this department.



l-r back: Capt. John Lavoie, Chief Rene Kelley, Assistant Chief Jack Dalton. l-r front: Admin Asst. Sarah Douglas, Admin Asst. Jen Johnson

I am very pleased to report that our commitment to community partnerships remained strong throughout the year. Officers continued to support the New Hampshire Special Olympics, participate in University of New Hampshire educational forums, assist with holiday toy drives, contribute to End 68 Hours of Hunger food drives, and participate in Prescription Drug Take Back initiatives. These collaborations highlight our continued focus on service and strengthening relationships throughout the community.

Lastly, I report to the community a change in the command staff at DPD. In July, 36-year veteran David Holmstock retired from the Durham Police Department. David joined the department in 1989, and held positions as Patrol Officer, Master Patrol Officer, Sergeant, Detective Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain and Deputy Police Chief. David was an adjunct instructor and served as Cadre at the New Hampshire Police Academy. David is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. Upon David's retirement, 27-year veteran Jack Dalton was promoted from the rank of Captain to Deputy Chief of Police. Fifteen-year veteran John Lavoie was promoted from the rank of Detective Sergeant to Captain. School Resource Officer Michael Nicolosi was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, and Patrol Officer Noah Young was promoted from the rank of Patrol Officer to Sergeant.

I want to thank the entire team that makes up the Durham Police Department for their commitment,



Officer CJ Young and K9 Jett Courtesy, Police Dept.

professionalism, and resilience. Their dedication allows us to successfully fulfill our public safety mission and maintain the high standards that the Durham community expects. We look forward to continuing this important work in 2026 and beyond.

Public Works

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Richard Reine, M.S.C.E, CA, Director

On behalf of the entire Durham Public Works team, I am pleased to present the 2025 Annual Report. This past year was marked by substantial progress across all Divisions including Operations, Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste, and Engineering, despite persistent staffing challenges affecting the public works sector region-wide. Through strategic planning, expanded use of qualified contractors, and the dedication of our staff, Durham Public Works continued to deliver exceptional service while supporting numerous major infrastructure projects critical to the community.

In 2025, our efforts centered around maintaining essential services, advancing large-scale capital projects, improving environmental stewardship, and strengthening the resilience of the Town's infrastructure. A part of the year for engineering and operations staff was devoted to supporting Phase 2

and Phase 3 of the Madbury Road Complete Streets Project, which included major water, sewer, stormwater, streetscape and roadway improvements. Also completed in 2025 was the ongoing work for the annual Road Program, stormwater compliance, grounds and facility maintenance and upgrades, improvements to the Department's fleet, along with advancing the Town's solid waste management program.

2025 Accomplishments:

- **Operations Division.** The Operations team ensured continuity of core municipal public works services, responding to 22 winter weather events, maintaining 120 lane miles of roadway, completing roadway crack sealing and pavement marking programs, supporting major construction projects, maintaining the Department's vital vehicle and equipment fleet and providing year-round maintenance of Town facilities and parks. The team also conducted 184 catch basin cleanings, constructed several culvert replacements, and assisted in various community events, including election support.



l-r: Admin. Assistant John Baker, Director Richard Reine, GIS Program Administrator Steve Lutterman, Project Engineer Gregory Bush, Admin. Assistant Shannon Shaw, Engineer April Talon & Assistant Director Sam Hewitt

2025 Accomplishments (Continued)

- **Sanitation Division.** Curbside collection and transfer station operations remained stable as the Division prepared for the Town's transition to contract operations with an automated curbside collection program in 2026. A major Facility Permit Modification for the Transfer Station was submitted with an NHDES determination of "application complete rendered" and now ready for review. A five-year solid waste disposal and recycling processing contract extension was successfully negotiated with Waste Management. The Division continued evaluating efficiency, safety, and sustainability improvements in solid waste operations.
- **Water Division.** The Water Division ensured the delivery of safe, reliable drinking water to approximately 1,350 customer accounts while supporting major infrastructure work on Madbury Road. Critical accomplishments included ongoing construction of emergency generators at key water production and pumping facilities, comprehensive regulatory sampling, SCADA monitoring, water main break repairs, and 402 Dig Safe mark outs. The Division also coordinated closely with UNH/Durham water plant contractor, Woodard and Curran, to manage system demands.
- **Wastewater Division.** In coordination with the Engineering Division and Contractor Cardillo Construction, the Wastewater team completed Phase 2 sewer replacement on Madbury Road, continued compliance with the Great Bay Nitrogen General Permit, and supported completion of major system upgrades at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- **Engineering Division.** The Engineering team supported a wide-ranging number of capital projects, including completion of Madbury

Road Phase 2 utility and roadway improvements, advancement of the UNH/Durham critical facilities emergency generator project, and ongoing MS4 stormwater compliance. High-impact initiatives such as the Mill Pond Dam removal and Oyster River restoration, Bennett Road culvert rehabilitation, and future roadway and bridge repairs continued through design, permitting and funding. The Division also processed 27 driveway permits and 16 excavation permits.

2026 Goals:

As we move into 2026, Durham Public Works will build on the progress made in 2025. Major initiatives include:

- Construction of the next phases of the Madbury Road Complete Streets Project
- Implementation of the automated curbside solid waste and recycling collection program
- Continued stormwater infrastructure upgrades and shoreline resilience work
- Advancement of the Mill Pond Dam removal and fish passage restoration
- Execution of final design and permitting of the federally funded Bennett Road culvert repairs
- Continued modernization of the water and wastewater systems to ensure system dependability and resilience

I extend my sincere appreciation to the entire Public Works Team, whose commitment and professionalism make our accomplishments possible. I am equally grateful to the residents, businesses, elected officials, and community partners whose support ensures our continued success. Together, we remain dedicated to maintaining a safe, sustainable, and resilient community for all who live, work, study, and visit Durham.

ENGINEERING DIVISION

April Talon, P.E., Town Engineer
Greg Bush, Project Engineer

The Engineering Division of the Durham Public Works is responsible for managing the Town's infrastructure including water, sewer, stormwater, bridges, roads, and dams. The following are highlights of projects completed or ongoing in 2025 and those coming for 2026.

Integrated Watershed Planning/Grants/ Stormwater

- EPA Stormwater MS4 Permit Compliance/ Seacoast Stormwater Coalition - *Ongoing*
- Community Oyster Garden at Old Landing Park – *Annual Program Ongoing*
- Great Bay Pollution Tracking and Accounting Pilot Project (PTAPP) – *Annual Program Ongoing*

Water Projects

- Madbury Road Water Main Replacement - *Phase 2 Construction Completed 2025.*
- UNH/Durham Water System and Critical Facilities Emergency Generators Project - *Ongoing*
- Monthly Water Meter Reading and Quarterly Billing – *Annual Program Ongoing*
- Lead and Copper Rule Revision (LCRR)/Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) – *Annual Program Ongoing*
- Cross Connection Control Program/Backflow Prevention Program – *Annual Program Ongoing*

Wastewater Projects

- Madbury Road Sewer Main Replacement – *Phase 2 Construction Completed 2025.*
- WWTP Facilities Plan Update – *Ongoing 2025/2026*
- WWTP Major Components Upgrade – *Completed 2025.*
- EPA Great Bay General Nitrogen Permit Compliance – *Annual Program Ongoing*
- NH Medium WWTP Draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit – Issued November 3, 2025. In effect February 1, 2026.

Road/Bridge/Dam/Culvert Projects

- Madbury Road Complete Streets/Reconstruction

Project –*Phase 2 Segment 2, Phase 3 Construction Completed 2025. Future Phases Design Ongoing, Construction Proposed 2026.*

- Mill Pond Dam Removal/Oyster River Restoration/ Oyster River Reservoir Dam Fishway – *Design Ongoing/Const. 2026, ARPA Design Grant Funded \$284,000, Fed Funding 3 Years \$3.5 million+*
- Culvert Rehabilitation, Bennett Road – *Design Ongoing, Federal Funding \$2 million*
- 2025/2026 Road Program – *Ongoing*
- Crommet Creek/Durham Point Rd Bridge Steel Girder Repair – *Proposed Design/Construction 2026*
- Main Street Rail Bridge: Blast Plate Removal and Concrete Repairs – *Proposed Design/Construction 2026*

Other Projects

- Bickford Chesley House Restoration – *Construction Ongoing 2025 – Project Completion January 2026*
- Wagon Hill Farm Phase 2 Shoreline Restoration – *Construction 2026 – Contract award planned December 2025*

As always it has been a very busy year for permitting with 27 driveway permits and 16 excavation permits. It's been a pleasure serving the Town of Durham this year and we are looking forward to what 2026 holds!

GIS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Steve Lutterman, Administrator

In 2025, the Town's GIS program continued to focus on projects that improve public safety, strengthen infrastructure planning, and make better use of Town data. These efforts are aimed at providing practical tools that help Town staff and committees work more efficiently while giving residents greater transparency into how services are delivered.

One of the key projects underway is the Fire Department Call Response Dashboard. This interactive tool brings together fire and emergency call

data in a single, easy-to-understand map and dashboard. It allows Town staff and leadership to see where calls occur, how response times vary across town, and how demand changes over time. By better understanding these patterns, the Fire Department can plan resources more effectively and ensure timely emergency response for residents.

The GIS program is also working closely with the Traffic Safety Committee to develop a Traffic and Speed Dashboard. This dashboard combines information from traffic counters, Waze and traffic data to show how traffic moves through different parts of town. The goal is to give the committee and Town staff a clearer picture of where speeding or congestion may be an issue, helping guide discussions about safety improvements, enforcement efforts, and future roadway investments.

In addition to these new tools, the GIS program is continuing its work on mapping and improving the Town's water and wastewater system data. By collecting more accurate location and asset information, the Town can better plan maintenance, respond to issues more quickly, and support long-term infrastructure planning. Keeping this information current helps protect past investments and ensures public funds are used wisely.

Looking ahead to next year, the GIS program will be taking on a few new projects that will make it easier for staff and residents to access helpful information about the community. One of the big efforts will be creating a Rental Housing Inventory Layer, which will map out where rental properties are located around town. This will help with everything from inspections to understanding housing trends.

LINDA H. HOLLISTER SWAP SHOP

Sally Needell & Karen Dyer, Volunteers

2025 has been another outstanding year for the Durham Swap Shop. More residents visited the Swap Shop than ever, and many discovered the Swap Shop for the first time. The Swap Shop has no budget and is run entirely by volunteers with assistance from the Transfer Station staff. Forty-one volunteers worked shifts and additional volunteers helped part-time for more than 1000 hours.

The weather challenged us in multiple ways. Durham had a rainy spring; for 12 consecutive Saturdays we had rain. Summer brought drier days often accompanied by high temperatures, and those temperatures tended to be even higher as the Transfer Station's blacktop absorbed the sun's radiation. Volunteers had the option to close the Swap Shop on days over 90 degrees F. The fall weather was the most accommodating until the arrival of the first snowfall of the season on December 2nd. Volunteers prepared the Swap Shop for winter by storing books, games, and office supplies in bins, and delivering other items to Savers, Goodwill, or other organizations.

The Swap Shop supports Durham's residents and also offers support to needs in the Seacoast region. Cell phones were collected for reuse as emergency phones, the lenses of prescription glasses were used

We'll also be building a Cemetery Management Tool to modernize how cemetery plots and records are tracked, making it easier for staff to find information and keep things up to date.

Another major focus for the coming year is updating the Town's trail maps for open spaces like Doe Farm, Wagon Hill, and Oyster River Forest. This work includes checking trail routes, mapping any changes, and creating clear, easy-to-use maps for the public. These updates will help trail users navigate more easily while also improving information for stewardship and emergency response.

Together, these projects reflect the Town's ongoing effort to use data and technology to deliver reliable services, improve safety, and support informed decision-making for the Durham community.

to produce glasses for those in need, sleeping bags and tents were donated to the unhoused, and reusable grocery bags and small wheeled-suitcases and duffels went to a food pantry. In addition, school supplies were shared with the Durham Public Library for school children, and books were taken for a new library at a Women's shelter.

Our volunteers strongly support our mission to keep reusable items out of the landfill. If asked, I think that they would also tell you that they appreciate the camaraderie and the sense of belonging that comes with a shared purpose. At the Swap Shop residents interact with other residents with whom they might not otherwise interact. Residents and volunteers alike share their stories with what they bring to and/or take from the Swap Shop. Old friends are reunited and new friends are made.



OPERATIONS DIVISION

Richard Reine, M.S.C.E, CA , Director
Sam Hewitt, Assistant Director
Shane Bickford, Operations Manager

Durham Public Works' Operations Division faced substantial challenges in 2025. One of these challenges that the entire Department continues to contend with is staff shortages and the lack of qualified candidates. Many public works and DOT agencies are experiencing this same scarcity of qualified personnel which has the potential to impact service levels. Fortunately, Durham Public Works recognized these challenges early and strategically and deliberately shifted its approach to identifying highly qualified contractors and relying to a greater extent on these resources to complete core tasks and essential responsibilities. The Durham Public Works team played a strong supporting role in the second and third phases of the Madbury Road Complete Street Project and the 2025 Road Program. Weak La Niña conditions influenced global weather patterns during the 2024-2025 winter and resulted in 22 emergency responses for snow and ice control.

2025 Accomplishments:

- Assisted in three separate major infrastructure replacement/improvement projects as part of the larger Madbury Road Complete Streets Project.
- Picked up 69 tons of brush and leaves during the curbside Fall Brush/Leaf Collection Program.
- Picked up hundreds of trees during the curbside Holiday Tree Collection Program.
- Completed the annual Roadway Crack Sealing Program.
- Painted 30 miles of center and edge pavement markings across Town. Symbols including crosswalks, sharrows, bike lanes, and stop bars were also completed within the Downtown corridor.
- Continued to provide scheduled, preventative, and unscheduled repairs to the majority of town-owned vehicles, including 33 NH State Inspections.
- Coordinated several volunteering events with numerous entities to assist with Public Works functions.
- Provided year-round maintenance of all town-owned parks, property, and facilities including numerous repairs of failed building system components.
- Coordinated traffic control packages with the Parks and Recreation Department for several special events.
- Responded to 22 winter weather events, providing snow and ice control for 120 lane miles of roadway and 15 miles of sidewalk.
- Completed the replacement of 95' of culvert pipe at the corner of Stevens Way and Orchard Drive as part of the Road Program.
- Coordinated with the Oyster River Cooperative School District and Town Clerk's office with the setting up and tearing down of the local elections in March.
- Installed one retroreflective rapid flashing beacon system on Mill Road at the Commons Way crosswalk for pedestrian safety.
- Consistent with the Town's EPA issued NPDES MS4 Stormwater Permit requirements, Durham Public Works cleaned 184 catch basins and swept the gutter lines of all Town roadways.
- Completed a Spring and Fall Preventive Maintenance Program on Town facility HVAC equipment.
- Completed roadside mowing activities along dozens of arterial, collector, and local roads.
- Accepted delivery of a new 2026 International 26k GVW vehicle for general Public Works operations.
- Accepted delivery of a new 2025 Caterpillar CB1.7 vibratory roller for general Public Works operations.
- Successfully recruited and hired Fleet Services Supervisor, Marc Wiltfong.
- Replaced twelve failed cobra head utility pole lights.

SOLID WASTE DIVISION

Richard Reine, M.S.C.E, CA , Director

Sam Hewitt, Assistant Director

Shane Bickford, Operations Manager

The Solid Waste Division focused on maintaining uninterrupted services in 2025, while also navigating its own staffing shortages as noted in the Durham Public Works, Operations Division narrative. The Division relied heavily on a hired contractor to haul dumpsters, ensuring continuity of operations. A significant administrative focus for the year was the preparation and submission of a major Facility Permit Modification for the operation of the Raymond A. LaRoche Sr. Transfer Station and Recycling Facility. Also in focus was further preparations for a conversion to an automated Curbside Collection Program, now scheduled for 2026, and a transition to contract solid waste collection operations, utilizing a private solid waste firm for curbside collection of solid waste and single stream recycling.

2025 Accomplishments:

- Continued to provide weekly curbside collection of solid waste and recycling for approximately 1,900 residential customers and 34 commercial recycling customers.
- Continued to offer drop-off service at the Raymond A. LaRoche Sr. Transfer Station and Recycling Center on Tuesdays and Saturdays.
- Filed a major Facility Permit Modification for the operation of the Raymond A. LaRoche Sr. Transfer Station and Recycling Center.
- Continued to evaluate options/methods for disposal and recycling programs to increase efficiencies, reduce cost, improve employee safety, and promote environmental sustainability.
- Advanced the conversion to an automated Curbside Collection Program by successfully procuring the standardized collection carts and engaging with contractors to assess the cost implications of potentially outsourcing the collection service.
- Successfully negotiated a 5-year contract extension with Waste Management for the disposal of municipal solid waste.
- Maintained nine employee NHDES Solid Waste Certifications through required training programs.
- Worked with the Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee to further promote recycling and the diversion of municipal solid waste from landfills.

Solid Waste Division Statistics 2025

Recyclable Material (tons):

Mixed Paper - Route	138.51
Mixed Paper - Transfer Station	87.15
Cardboard	100.14
Scrap Metal	110.04
Car Batteries	2.32
Ballasts	0.07
Single Stream - Commercial Route	109.54
Commingled Containers - Transfer Station	65.1
Comingled Containers - Route	112.73
Aluminum Cans	4.29
Compost (tons) - Transfer Station	28.0
Electronics (tons)	5.52

Total (tons) 763.41

Recycling Revenue	\$18,763.75
Tip Fee Avoidance - Landfill	\$67,462.54

Other Material Recycled (Unit):

Car Tires (tons)	4
Waste Oil (gallons)	0
Antifreeze (gallons)	55
Yard Waste (tons)	325
Fluorescent Bulbs (#)	408
Propane Tanks (individual)	425
Fire Extinguishers (each)	70
Air Conditioners (each)	316
Refrigerators (each)	152

Materials Disposed (tons):

MSW - Curbside	1,056.50
MSW - Transfer Station	512.24
Bulky Waste	194.83
Construction and Demolition	64.48
Electronic Stickers Sold (each)	709

TREE WARDEN

Richard Reine, M.S.C.E, CA , Director
ISA Certified Arborist NE-7337A

The Town of Durham once again achieved status as a Tree City USA for the 47th consecutive year. Durham is proud to be recognized as the longest standing Tree City USA municipality in New Hampshire by the Arbor Day Foundation. This award recognizes communities who have developed and continue to invest in a healthy community forestry program with adherence to the four core standards developed by the Arbor Day Foundation and National Association of State Foresters.

The Town celebrated Arbor Day with staff and the public on April 25, with the planting of a Sargent's cherry (*Prunus sargentii*) at Memorial Park located at the intersection of Main Street and Mill Road. This planting is part of the Town's Public Shade Tree Planting program which includes the planting of multiple flowering crabapples trees on Madbury Road as part of the Madbury Road Complete Streets Project.

The Town and its utility partners, including Eversource Electric, have made steady progress this past year in standard and enhanced maintenance trimming, planting and removal, inclusive of the scheduled removal of dead, diseased and dying hazard trees. Durham Public Works, working with Orion Tree and Eversource Electric/Lucas Tree removed several dead or hazardous trees during 2025.



WASTEWATER DIVISION

Richard Reine, Director of Public Works
Samuel Hewitt, Assistant Director of Public Works
Matt Collins, Superintendent, Wastewater Div.
Adam Jenness, Chief Operator, Wastewater Div.

We would be remiss not to mention that the year's biggest change at the wastewater treatment facility was the retirement of Wastewater Superintendent Daniel Peterson. With over 18 years of service with the Town of Durham, Dan has transformed the wastewater treatment facility into shining example of what can be done when it comes to cleaning water and protecting public health. He is now enjoying a much-deserved retirement. He is succeeded by the new Superintendent, Matt Collins.

2025 Accomplishments:

- The treatment facility saw a major upgrade with their two secondary clarifiers. All internal mechanisms for both units, from motors and drives, to piping and skimmer arms, were replaced over the summer through the work of Apex Construction Inc. and Environmental Partners Group Engineers. The old mechanisms that had been demolished were over 20 years old and at the

end of their useful life. The installation of these new units will allow for the treatment process to continue on efficiently and effectively for many more years to come.

- The Madbury Road Project continued with more sewer being replaced along Madbury Road and side streets. Additionally, four sewer covers and frames were replaced and repaved along a section of Route 108 in Town, between the Irving and Mobil gas stations. This section of road sees a large volume of car and truck traffic from day to day, so sturdy new frames and covers are a welcome sight.

Two sections of sewer pipe in other parts of Town were repaired after a few unexpected breaks—an easement by Strafford Avenue, on March 24 and run of Faculty Drive on June 10. On both occasions, the Wastewater Division Team acted quickly and accordingly to prevent sewage from overflowing into the street and nearby waterways. Along with the help of contractors JTI Inc, and JP Cardillo & Sons, Inc., respectively, both breaks were quickly repaired with new plastic SDR-35 pipe, ensuring safely conveyed sewage throughout Durham.

2025 Accomplishments (Continued)

- Finally, the Sludge Dewatering Building garage door has been extended in height so that our Vactor jet/vac truck can be stored safely inside during the cold winter months.

2026 Goals

- **Plant Water Piping & Pumping System** – At UNH/Durham WWTF, large volumes of water area used. Cleaning tanks and equipment, filling up the jet/vac truck, priming pumps, etc. Nearly all the water used is actually recycled wastewater. However, the system used to pump and distribute that “plant water” is reaching the end of its useful life. New piping, suction valves, and strainer basket are planned to be installed in the summer of 2026.
- **Yard Lighting** – The grounds of the Wastewater Treatment Facility are in need upgraded yard lighting. There are many hazards to be found at a treatment facility, and emergencies can occur during all hours. Working with lighting and other energy providers, the Town is planning an upgrade to soft solar LED lighting to ensure the safety of its operators and facility users while providing security mindful of limiting light pollution.
- **PLC/SCADA Upgrade** - The treatment facility’s Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) were evaluated by Wright-Pierce Engineering over this past year and a report indicated condition and made recommendations on replacement. This computer-controlled system runs the facility 24/7/365, making changes throughout the plant as well as any alarms that may fall out of set parameters based upon the wastewater operators’ settings. This highly complex system is in need of an upgrade, so that the plant can continue to operate efficiently and be monitored accurately. These upgrades are set to take place in the summer of 2026.

- **Rehabilitation of Town Sewer** – A few areas in Town were marked as priorities when it comes to sewer rehab, such as Park Court, Chesley Drive and Dennison Road. These sections of sewer, depending on their condition can be upgraded with Cured-In-Place-Piping (CIPP), which is a cost effective and non-invasive technology that the Town of Durham has used on other parts of the sewer system such as Edgewood Road in 2023.
- **Stormwater Improvements** - Working with engineering firm Environmental Partners, a new storm water treatment plan and BMP’s in conjunction with a new pavement rehabilitation plan is in the design phase. This future project will ensure that any stormwater surface pollutants will be collected and removed at the treatment facility, while also reducing nitrogen prior to discharging into the impaired Oyster River as required in the Town’s NPDES Wastewater Permit Adaptive Management.

As always, the Wastewater Division Team looks forward to serving the Town in the coming year, continuing to clean water while protecting public health and the environment.



Superintendent, Matt Collins, showcasing the work of the Wastewater Treatment Plant at the Oyster River Sustainability Committee’s Community Dinner held at the Oyster River Middle School. Courtesy, Public Works Dept.

Wastewater Division Statistics 2025

<u>Permit Parameters</u>	<u>2023 Avg.</u>	<u>2024 Avg.</u>	<u>2025 Avg.</u>
Influent Flow MGD	0.94	0.84	0.81
Effluent Flow MGD	0.94	0.83	0.77
Effluent TSS	1.4	2.1	2.7
% TSS Removal, min. 85%	99.2	99.0	99.0
Effluent BOD	4.2	3.5	2.3
% BOD Removal, min. 85%	97.7	98.0	98.0
 Total Influent Flow MG	 308	 307	 269
Total Effluent Flow MG	308	301	262
 Total Septage Received Gals.	 261,050	 220,274	 176,886

MGD—Million Gallons/Day

TSS—Total Suspended Solids

BOD—Biochemical Oxygen Demand

mg/L—Milligrams per Liter

MG—Million Gallons

Gal.—Gallons

WATER TREATMENT & DISTRIBUTION DIVISION

Richard Reine, Director

Sam Hewitt, Assistant Director

April Talon, P.E., Town Engineer

Dwight Richard, Chief Operator

The Durham Water System team's primary focus in 2025 was maintaining the safety and cleanliness of the drinking water for its approximately 1,350 customer accounts while balancing critical support for the Madbury Road Complete Streets Project. An extended leave in the Water Division resulted in the Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, Nick Bennion assuming many of the duties of this Division for half the year. Nick did an exceptional job supporting the critical tasks within the Water Division while continuing to manage his Building and Grounds Division responsibilities.

2025 Accomplishments:

- Assisted in the completion of the Phase 2 Water/Sewer Project on Madbury Road, which involved the replacement of ~3,700 feet of buried cast iron pipe and its associated appurtenances.
- Assisted in the Generator Project, which began in the Fall, to install backup power generators at the Lee Well Water Production Facility, Lamprey River Pump Station, and Spruce Hole Water Production Facility.

- Conducted routine in-person inspections and remote SCADA system checks of all Town-owned water facilities to ensure quality and compliance were continuously achieved.
- Managed production at the Lee Well Water Production and Treatment Facility and coordinated the finish water introduction into the distribution system.
- Ensured regulatory compliance sampling for total coliform, lead, copper, VOC's, SOC's, IOC's, uranium, nitrates, and disinfection by-products as required by the EPA and NHDES.
- Coordinated water production needs with the UNH Facilities Department and Water Treatment Plant personnel to meet system demands for the UNH/Durham water system.
- Completed monthly water meter readings and coordinated with the quarterly water billing.
- Coordinated all water system maintenance requirements with UNH Water/Facilities Department, including the annual flushing program of watermain lines, and gate valve exercising.
- Repaired or replaced 100 water meters.
- Maintained four employee NHDES Drinking Water Treatment and Distribution Licenses through required training programs.
- Located and marked water utilities at 402 excavation sites through the Dig Safe Program.

Town Supported Organizations

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Kimberley Diemond, Director of Operations and Special Projects

Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire and Vermont's mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. Our vision is that all youth have the opportunity to achieve their full potential through mentorship. Our program remains free of cost to youth and their families thanks to the generosity of foundations, corporations, donors, volunteers and town support, including the Town of Durham.

In September 2025, our organization merged with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Vermont to form *Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire and Vermont*, a unified youth mentoring organization sharing staff, administrative resources, and best practices. For more information on the merge please visit www.bigsnhvt.org

In New Hampshire, 54% of youth served are from low-income households, 72% have experienced significant trauma: 17% of which have a parent with a substance use disorder, 11% identify as BI-POC, 38% have experienced some form of abuse

and/or neglect, 44% have an anxiety/panic disorder, or depression, and 42% have ADHD/ADD or a learning disability.

In 2025, BBBSNHVT supported 378 New Hampshire matches, including one mentoring match from the Town of Durham. In addition, 13 Durham volunteers generously dedicated their time to mentoring youth in Durham and surrounding communities.

2026 Goals:

- Continue to expand volunteer recruitment outreach.
- Continue to provide training and resources to staff and mentors in areas such as diversity and inclusion, trauma-informed practices and opioid/substance misuse.
- Strengthen and create new relationships with individual and corporate donors as well as local businesses to promote program substantiality and sense of community around the need for mentoring.
- Improve and strengthen strategies to best tell our story and raise awareness of the value of mentorship.

COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP OF STRAFFORD COUNTY

Aimee E. Rothman
Communications Coordinator

Community Action Partnership (CAPSC), a 501(c)(3) private, non-profit organization, offers a

full suite of services and programs- designed to have a positive impact on individuals within Strafford County. Without the services and programs provided by our organization, many residents would go without several basic human needs, including food, education, childcare, utilities, transportation, housing, and other services. Working to ensure access to resources, CAPSC has offices located in several towns, including Farmington, Dover, Rochester and Somersworth.

Our mission is “to reduce barriers to help clients improve their economic stability and well-being through education, advocacy, and partnerships.” Our vision is to eliminate poverty – a bold dream necessary to tackle this global challenge. Through community partnerships we know that this work is possible. But as the needs within Strafford County grow exponentially, funding from the Town of Durham has become a critical support for our neighbors throughout Strafford County.

In FY25, CAPSC programs supported 21,730 Strafford County residents on their journey to become more independent and self-sufficient. In response to a growing need for community services within Strafford County, CAPSC has adapted and expanded rapidly, creating both an expanded food pantry and extending its hours of operation, in response to the government shutdown. This expansion demonstrates our commitment to meeting the growing needs of the populations we serve.

2025 Fiscal Year Accomplishments:

- 12 households in Durham received \$16,795 in Fuel Assistance.
- 32 households in Durham received \$11,063.34 in Electric Assistance.
- 492 rides were given to Durham seniors on the CAPSC Senior Transportation Bus.

- Durham food pantries received 48,658.71 pounds of food from The Emergency Food Assistance Program, coordinated and distributed by CAPSC.
- In total, 64 households in the Town of Durham received \$238,256.36 worth of services from CAPSC.

2026 Goals:

- Strengthen family engagement by providing tools, resources and support to help families set, pursue and achieve personal and collective goals
- Set children up for success early by providing exceptional early childhood care and education that supports children’s needs.
- Decrease poverty rates in Strafford County.
- Expand access to affordable housing throughout Strafford County and provide support to ensure that individuals and families remain housed in Strafford County.
- Bridge critical gaps for community members facing rising costs of food, transportation, and other necessities.

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA)

Tarah Bergeron
Development Associate

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of New Hampshire strives to protect the rights of our state’s most vulnerable children to live, learn and grow in the embrace of a loving family. Our trained volunteer advocates (CASAs) speak for abused and neglected children’s best interests in New Hampshire’s family court system.

2025 Accomplishments:

Fiscal Year 2025 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) by the Numbers (Statewide)

- 664 carefully screened, trained and supervised volunteer advocates
- 138 new volunteers trained

- 1,487 children had advocates by their side
- 951 families
- Over 12,000 children had advocates since 1989
- Over 80,000 hours of volunteer time in FY 25
- Over 730,000 miles traveled in FY 25

In FY 2025, CASA of New Hampshire served 49 children at the Dover District Court, the court that serves the children of Durham. Currently, five Durham residents are working hard to make a lasting difference in a child’s life by volunteering as CASA advocates. Each volunteer advocate typically works with 2.5 children over 3.5 years, so residents in your community are impacting the lives of more than 12 children. Children with a CASA advocate spend fewer months in foster care, experience fewer out of home placements and perform better in school than children without a CASA.

2026 Goals:

- We continue to strive to reach our goal of having trained advocates available to serve 100% of child abuse and neglect cases that we are presented with. During FY25 CASA was able to accept 86% of cases presented.
- We are focused on volunteer recruitment and retention as we spread our reach farther throughout New Hampshire. With 700 volunteer advocates we believe CASA could effectively provide a voice for 100 percent of the state's children.
- We cannot get there alone. Your support, together with many other municipalities across the state, makes it possible for CASA to provide advocates for victimized children in your community. We will continue to find multiple avenues of support including from individuals, businesses, foundations, and federal, state and local government--NH towns, cities, and municipalities.

HAVEN

Abby Gerbino, Community Engagement Coordinator

For over 40 years, HAVEN, whose mission is to prevent sexual assault and domestic violence, and to empower women, men, youth and families to heal from abuse and rebuild their lives, has provided services to Durham residents.

One of the ways HAVEN accomplishes this mission is through its K-12 *Safe Kids Strong Teens* program that aims to prevent child sexual abuse, sexual harassment, bullying and teen dating violence. The goals of the *Safe Kids Strong Teens* program aim to influence attitudes and behavior and thereby reduce the likelihood of youth becoming victims or perpetrators of sexual or teen dating violence and to create a positive atmosphere for people to build self-esteem and improve their lives.

This prevention program is further supported by a comprehensive client services program that includes:

- Emergency Shelter and Supportive Housing Program
- 24-hour confidential crisis and support hotline 603-994-7233
- 24-hour accompaniment to police stations and hospital emergency rooms
- Accompaniment to courts and assistance obtaining restraining orders
- Safety planning
- Support and accompaniment for families at the Strafford County Child Advocacy Center

- Support groups for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and parents.

With support from the Town of Durham, HAVEN was able to assist 48 Durham residents with 202 units of service in our client services program and hundreds of children and teens through the *Safe Kids Strong Teens* program. HAVEN reached 1,070 students and 113 adults (for a total of 1,183 children, parents and teachers) at Durham area schools with critical information about safety and awareness.

Domestic violence, sexual abuse and teen dating violence are costly public health issues. Victims are more likely to suffer from low self-esteem, substance abuse and suicidal behavior. Adult victims often experience a loss of work and difficulty maintaining a job due to safety concerns and depression in the aftermath of abuse. Since we know that youth are the most at risk, our *Safe Kids Strong Teens* school-based prevention program is critical to reaching out to current and potential victims. If HAVEN was not available to provide FREE services to the Town of Durham, the town would incur expenses related to the ongoing health and services required to meet the needs of those impacted by sexual violence.

Preventing domestic violence and sexual abuse and providing support for those impacted can lead to healthier and more secure children and adults. HAVEN has a strong history of producing positive results with programs and services as demonstrated in the following excerpts from students participating in the *Safe Kids Strong Teens* Program and individuals and families accessing support in the 24-hour client services program.

2025 Accomplishments:

- Expanded capacity to communicate with survivors who are unable to safely speak on the phone.
- Expanded capacity of shelter by working with local hospitality partners.
- Expanded housing program with federal grant providing support services for one year after long-term housing is secured; collaboratively working with state and local housing programs.
- Collaborated with housing authorities to provide housing opportunities for survivors.
- Increased collaboration with local therapist to offer clinical support groups to survivors.
- Created a senior management position to build Child and Family services.
- HAVEN partnered with Camp Hope America, the first evidence based camping and mentoring program to focus on youth impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault and trauma. It is offering Pathways which is a year long mentorship program and Camp Hope which is a week-long camp in the summer for these youths.
- HAVEN is currently doubling our impact on hospital visits, shelter requests, child advocacy accompaniments for non-offending caregivers during forensic interviews, and much more.

READY RIDES

Tahja Fulwider, Executive Director/
Volunteer Coordinator

Ready Rides Transportation Assistance organization provides free curb-to-curb rides to all medical related appointments for residents living in Durham that are 55+ or disabled. Our vetted volunteer drivers use their own vehicles to provide transportation services. Mileage reimbursement is available to drivers. Ready Rides also provides rides to residents living in Barrington, Madbury, Northwood, Newfields, Nottingham, Newmarket and Strafford. Rides are not bound by travel distance. Accessible rides are available.

2025 Accomplishments

- Number of Durham drivers: 3

- Total confirmed trips since 2012: 6,889
- Registered Durham residents using our service: 145
- Total confirmed trips up through December 2025: 483

We have now surpassed our ten-year mark and can proudly say we have provided free rides to those in need in NH communities for over 10 continuous years! Our volunteer base was impacted by Covid and has yet to recover, although ridership is at an all time high. We always focus on driver recruitment, but now it is imperative as our drivers in Durham have dropped from 6 to 3. As we rebuild our volunteer base and continue to seek support in the community, we will also strive to be well-known as a service in your community. As the town's population ages and the town grows, we work hard to remain an essential support for Durham needs.

STRAFFORD NUTRITION & MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM

Katy Cordova-Brooks, Executive Director

Strafford Nutrition & Meals on Wheels is a private, nonprofit (501 3C) agency who provides services to the residents of Strafford County, NH. Our mission is to promote the well-being of the elderly and disabled adults of Strafford County by providing services to foster independence in their own home and prevent or delay the need for

institutional care. Through the delivery of hot nutrition meals in home or community settings, daily safety checks, nutrition education, and nutritional assessments, SNMOW promotes physical and emotional health, protects their quality of life, and aides in the social & economic needs of the elderly and disabled.

All the Durham residents served were participants in our Meals on Wheels program. This program delivers meals directly to the homes of elderly and handicapped residents of Durham. There are age, disability, and/or income criteria for this service.

Drivers go to each person's home, deliver the meals, perform small tasks for the person, if needed, and report any noticeable change or problem to the site manager. The meals are geared to the nutritional standard set by the Older Americans Act which is approved by a Registered Dietitian. For Meals on Wheels clients whose situations warrant it, we can also provide weekend meals, night meals, holiday meals, and "Blizzard Bags" to be used during the winter when the driver is unable to deliver meals due to inclement weather.

In addition to the meals the following are some of the support services provided this past year:

- **Safety Checks:** with the delivery of each meal, we verify that the client is doing well. If the driver notes any changes in the client's behavior, habits, mannerisms, etc.; they will report it so a follow-up with their emergency contact will happen. In a serious situation that requires immediate action, 911 would be called and the driver would stay with the client until the EMT arrived.
- **Information:** refers to the information that is given to the clients via a SNMOW employee, and includes health tips, agency newsletters, notice regarding local information, etc.
- **Referrals:** made to the VNA, BEAS, Community Action, and other service organizations to

help mobilize resources to aid in the independent living of the client.

- **Home Visits:** refers to the visits that the Outreach Coordinator or Field Supervisor makes to a client's home. All homebound clients receive home visits. Reasons for the visits include intake application on a new client; redetermination assessment on a client already receiving meals; to check on a sick client having problems, etc.

SNMOW is grateful to Durham for its support this past year. This funding was used to provide meals to homebound elderly in the Town of Durham.

Services provided specifically to Durham residents this past year include:

- 31 Durham residents (on average we are feeding 12 Durham residents per day)
- 3,019 Meals served to Durham residents
- 1,951 Safety Checks and Support Services

Participant statistical information:

- 74.7% are over the age of 70
- 80% say that MOW meals are vital in their ability to remain in their homes
- 60.6% live alone
- Over 60% have an income below \$1,500 per month

STRAFFORD REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Jen Czysz, Executive Director

Strafford Regional Planning Commission works with municipalities, statewide organizations, and other partners to provide technical assistance with plans, outreach, projects and regulations. SRPC creates a space for stakeholders to connect, share information, and engage with important planning initiatives.

2025 Accomplishments

(Value of services provided at no additional cost to the town is in parentheses)

- Conducted 12 traffic counts that were uploaded into the NHDOT Traffic Count Data System for local and statewide planning efforts. (\$4,500)

- Ordered New Hampshire Planning and Land Use Regulation books for local land use boards. (\$190)
- Direct assistance with application for implementation grant through the Safe Streets and Roads for All program (SS4A) for safety improvements to Durham Point Rd. (\$2,020)
- Assistance with development of project proposal for Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) and regional project scoring. (\$1,130)
- Held two outreach events for the Regional Comprehensive Plan update at the Seacoast Eat Local Farmers Market and at the Amtrak UNH train station in September 2025. (\$1,490)
- Facilitated 1 Regional Comprehensive Plan workshop with Planning Board in November. (\$415)

2026 Goals :

- Implement safety improvements on Durham Point Rd.
- Provide guidance as Durham prepares for an update to their Master Plan.

2025 Regional Accomplishments:

- Kicked off the process to update the Regional Plan, which will include updates to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and Metropolitan Transportation Plan.
- Hosted a workshop for municipal officials, board members, and partner organization representatives to gather input on topics including Land Use & Environment, Housing, Transportation, and Economic Development.
- Distributed a region-wide, comprehensive public survey through multiple channels to gather public input. Received over 300 responses.
- Established a subcommittee of our Commission to support staff throughout the process of updating the regional plan, meeting six times in 2025.
- Staffed tabling events to share project information and gather community input at 7 events.
- Continued outreach with Planning Boards throughout the region to support plan development and gathering of key insights on inter-municipal collaboration.

Transportation Planning

- Approved an update to the four-year (2025-2028) Transportation Improvement Program.
- Advocated for local and regional projects and statewide transportation revenue increases at public hearings for the draft 10-year plan hosted by the Executive Council.
- Analyzed pedestrian access to public transit throughout the seacoast including an analysis of full sidewalk network.
- Developed and adopted a regional Safety Action Plan that establishes safety improvement priorities and enables all communities to apply for implementation funds.

Economic Development

- Adopted the 2025 Update to the 2021-2025 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.
- Completed phase 1 of a Childcare Project in conjunction with NYU graduate students.
- Held 12 Seacoast Economic Development Stakeholders Calls with topics ranging from tariffs to NHDES permitting processes.
- Entered into a new regional initiative to strengthen our partnership with neighboring Economic Development Districts hosted by Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission and the Regional Economic Development Center.
- Formalized our partnership with the Strafford Economic Development Corporation and information sharing initiatives.
- Updated SRPC Bylaws to formalize the Economic Development Strategy Committee and clarify the district's governance.

Data and GIS

- Published the 5th annual Regional Data Snapshot consisting of over 150 data metrics for the region.
- Updated Standard Map Series for the region and each of the municipalities.

2026 Regional Goals:

- Complete an integrated update of the Regional Plan, 5-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, and Metropolitan Transportation Plan.
- Work with consultant engineers from VHB to develop new transportation projects, with an emphasis on safety projects, and find alternative funding sources.
- Work with our partners at Nobis to continue efforts to conduct Brownfields Assessments at no cost to municipalities to spark reinvestment in properties that remain un- or underutilized due to real or perceived contamination.
- Complete Phase 2 of the NYU Regional Child-care Project.

TWENTY-ONE SENSES

Danielle Heaton, Co-Founder & Director

Twenty-One Senses works to educate, train, and provide safe spaces for those with invisible disabilities due to neurodiversity & sensory processing challenges. Since 2020, Twenty-One Senses, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has worked closely with businesses, schools, & organizations in the New Hampshire Seacoast to improve recognition and inclusion in the areas of disability, diversity and mental health. We provide education around sensory processing issues, nervous system regulation and neurodiversity in a relatable context to everyone, influenced by our lived experience. While 1-in-6 children and 1-in-20 adults struggle with sensory issues, the struggles are often not recognized. Through our outreach efforts, PROACTIVE training, “calm rooms” at public events, & public support initiatives, we bring awareness & relief for those struggling with this unseen disability, regardless of age.

The Calm Room, a part of our Outreach Services, originated in Durham and was prototyped in 2022. We have been proud to support Durham community events, in partnership with Durham Park & Recreation for the past four years.

2025 Accomplishments:

- Raised awareness to over 10,000 people about sensory needs through our Fidget Exploration Booth. This experience allows individuals to touch and try over 80 different fidgets, to better understand their own sensory profile.
- Hosted 3 exploration booths, which interacted with over 1,500 people, in partnership with Durham Park & Recreation and Oyster River Middle School.
- Educated through trainings, speaking events and webinars on the science of sensory processing, nervous system regulation and neurodiversity. Sharing knowledge and tools so over 430 parents and professionals are better able to recognize the underlying source of the trigger, instead of reacting to the behavior.

- Spoke to 80 individuals about the intersection of mental health and spirituality, emphasizing the importance of proactive mental health efforts in Durham.
- Supported Calm Rooms/Sensory Spaces at 34 community events. Provided a calm, welcoming environment where individuals of all ages and abilities can step away from overstimulating settings and find space to regulate and recharge in an inclusive, supportive space.
- Created three indoor calm rooms in partnership with local Durham Businesses, two outdoor sensory spaces and two indoor lactation support stations at Durham downtown community events.

2026 Goals:

- Expand our volunteer and committee recruitment, so as to be able to support the exponential year-on-year growth we are experiencing, as the community recognizes the need for these services.
- Continue to support existing community partnerships and work together with additional organizations for the betterment of the community.
- Challenge the stigma associated with mental health and neurodiversity.



An example of a calm room in Durham. Courtesy, Twenty-One Senses.

Town Working Commissions/Committees

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Theresa Walker, Chair

The Durham Agricultural Commission was established by the Town Council in July 2011 to “promote the production, availability, and sale of locally grown food, fiber, and forest products.” Since that time, the twelve members of the Agricultural Commission have been meeting at least once per month to work together and with Town staff and other Town boards and committees to further the mission of the Agricultural Commission, which is to encourage local food production and expand Durham’s working landscape of actively managed gardens, farms, and forests through the Town, including University land.



Patrick Walker of Liberty Hall Farm on Bennett Road greets visitors during the Annual Farm Day on August 16th. Courtesy, Theresa Walker

2025 Accomplishments:

- Continued working on programs and policies to enable more food production in Durham at the backyard and neighborhood scale, with an emphasis on sharing resources and knowledge.
- Continued to promote pollinator friendly land use management.
- Led demonstrations about neighborhood gardens, bee keeping, fruit tree pruning, sheep management, and more.
- Actively participated in the work of the Land Stewardship Committee.
- Participated in meetings to promote the role of Agricultural Commissions in New Hampshire.
- Via the Town’s newsletter and social media, shared information about food production in the region.
- Promoted the Seacoast Growers Association summer Durham Farmers’ Market and winter markets hosted by UNH and Seacoast Eat Local.
- Responded to Town official and resident concerns and questions regarding agricultural activity in town.
- Organized and hosted the 12th Annual Farm Day on August 16th.

2026 Goals:

- Supporting and mentoring residents interested in producing food in their backyards and neighborhoods by sharing knowledge, resources, and time.
- Working with farmers and food producers in Durham, Lee, and Madbury to promote growing and purchasing locally produced food.

2026 Goals (continued)

- Promoting the regional farmers' markets offered by Seacoast Eat Local and the farmers' market hosted by UNH.
- Working with the Town Planner, Planning Board, and Town Council to adopt changes to the Town's land use regulations to enable more food production.
- Implementing Master Plan recommendations regarding sustaining and expanding Durham's working landscape of farms, forests, gardens, and aquaculture.
- Developing more programs to support local agriculture, community gardening, home

gardening, neighborhood and cooperative gardening, and backyard composting.

- Hosting the 13th Annual Farm Day on August 15, 2026.

The Agricultural Commission believes our work is critically important to the Town Council's goal to, "Pursue long-term environmental sustainability and resiliency, taking into account existing and predicted impacts of climate change in multiple areas including drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, agriculture, food, society, transportation, ecology, solid waste, and economy." And in support of that goal the Agricultural Commission looks forward to working with residents and Town Government in the coming year.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Michael Klein, Chair

In 2025, the Durham Energy Committee advanced community energy awareness, supported municipal priorities, and helped residents and businesses transition to cleaner energy. These efforts align with Durham's Climate Action Plan and set the stage for continued progress in 2026.

GOAL 1: Support Durham's Climate Action Plan Durham won CPCNH's Seacoast Challenge, encouraging residents to choose higher renewable energy options. The committee shared CPCNH updates, explored group net metering for the wastewater plant, and reviewed building code appendices to strengthen local energy standards.

GOAL 2: Promote Renewable Energy Education DEC collaborated with Moharimet Elementary School on a renewable energy unit, hosted a parent showcase, and staffed an informational table at Durham Day. It also facilitated discussions on geothermal energy and environmental trade-offs.

GOAL 3: Improve Energy Efficiency The committee tracked heat pump adoption and electrification interest, reviewed Riverwoods' building plans for solar and all-electric design, and explored a C-PACER program to finance commercial energy upgrades.

GOAL 4: Expand EV Infrastructure DEC advanced EV initiatives through policy updates, charger expansion, and cost analysis despite losing grant funding. It monitored charger use and explored free charging opportunities.

GOAL 5: Strengthen Community Outreach Outreach included Durham Day events, partnerships with UNH on solar adoption and energy retrofits, and collaboration with the UNH Sustainability Fellow. Communications efforts featured energy updates for residents and a refreshed committee logo.

2025 marked significant progress and collaboration. The committee looks forward to advancing Durham's sustainability goals in 2026.



HOUSING TASK FORCE

Sally Tobias, Chair

Having completed all community outreach and data collection in 2024, the Housing Task Force spent 2025 evaluating the existing Durham Zoning Code for possible adjustments to encourage more housing. We looked at the allowed uses and dimensions to determine how and where we could increase building density, while still maintaining the essential charm that is important to the community.

In the summer of 2024, Administrator Selig requested that we concentrate some efforts in the central commercial core to increase housing density and improve its economic viability. We created a subcommittee which met on several occasions and consulted with various property owners about specific challenges to redevelopment. We also took into consideration particular community concerns. We made 4 distinct recommendations in zoning and incentivizing which we presented to the Town Council. To date three initiatives have passed and one still remains as pending.

The bulk of the Housing Task Forces' time in 2025 was spent reevaluating the Zoning Code. After considerable examination we came up with several changes to the code that could help increase density while creating more housing options. The final presentation of these suggestions was made to the community in October and can be found on the town website.

As the Housing Task Force completed these tasks we considered what was next. Chair Sally Tobias met with the Town Council in September to discuss the next steps. The Housing Task Force did feel that their mission was complete with the exception of seeing the zoning amendments through to final approval. The decision was made to sunset the Housing Task Force effective October 1, 2025. Our final meeting was October 7, 2025.

On December 18, 2025, the Durham Housing Task Force received the 2025 Municipal Leadership Award from the Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast. The award honored the Town's, "...exceptional efforts to address housing diversity, supply, and affordability at the local level."

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Rev. Richard Belshaw Chair

The HRC is an advisory commission whose primary role is to research issues of equality - particularly those pertinent to the Town of Durham - while advising town leadership and helping to educate and inform the public.

In 2025 the commission grew by two members. Where once the HRC was a small group of leadership voices advising the Administrator, it has evolved into a group of six local citizens, one of whom is a Town Council member, who meet with the Administrator.

In 2025 the issue that took center stage was to alert the public on proper and legal procedures for anyone stopped or confronted by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). This included the printing of two cards (one postcard size, the other brochure-sized) to place around town in public places, a dedicated web page on the town's website, and coordination with the town's police department.

In the fall the HRC began a focus on housing and shelter, an area of investigation that has broadened from what is going on in the seacoast region in general. Being a primary human rights issue, how is Durham responding to the basic needs for all to have at least basic shelter, much less affordable housing? The issue cannot be isolated to Durham but, of a necessity, must include our neighboring communities, as well as including how our state government is tackling the subject.



Photo Courtesy Farzaneh Farhoodi

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Nell Neal, Chair

As in past years, the Integrated Waste Management Advisory Committee (IWMAC) has worked closely with the Department of Public Works, aiming to advance the environmental and financial sustainability of waste management in Durham. Throughout the year we provided feedback to changes proposed by DPW. These included providing comments on the proposed shift to private haulers for solid waste, and discussing various practices such as bulky waste, brush removal and composting.

We explored with and recommend to DPW ways to reduce the cost of waste disposal by removing recyclable and compostable material from the waste stream, seeking to educate the community about the financial and environmental reasons for diverting recyclable and compostable material. We particularly explored ways to promote composting, thus diverting food scraps from the solid waste stream.

- This Fall's Compost Challenge had 21 participants, including the town's Administrator and all but one of the Town Councilors. Four UNH students helped to run the Challenge, through our partnership with the UNH Sustainability Institute.
- The Town Hall now participates in food scrap composting.
- Food scraps brought to the Transfer Station continue to require 7 bins which are emptied weekly by Mr. Fox.
- We applied for grant funding for a pilot program that would offer curbside compost pick-up to 190 households. While not awarded this round, the process provided valuable experience in program design that positions us well for future opportunities.

We continue to promote "reduce, reuse and recycle."

- The Council adopted a resolution initiated by IWMAC to ban using Town money for procurement of single-use food service products,



including plastic bags, Styrofoam food containers and single-use plastic water bottles. We met with the Police, Fire, and Recreation Departments to encourage them to minimize use of single-use plastics.

- Initiated a recycling program at the Swap Shop for plastic plant containers, which IWMAC members returned to local vendors.
- School supplies were solicited by the Swap Shop and sent to the Library, where they were offered for free to the Back-to-School community.

We continue efforts to educate the community.

- We continue to print and distribute educational pamphlets, bookmarks and stickers promoting "Sustainable Durham," explaining composting and recycling.
- We continue to rotate signage downtown encouraging sustainable practices.
- "Did You Know" appears weekly in Friday Updates, offering tips on reducing waste in our daily activities and providing readers with resources beyond the Transfer Station.
- Spoke with citizens about composting and recycling at Durham Day, Farm Day, an ORCSD community dinner, and a RiverWoods event.

2026 Goals:

- Strategize ways to reduce solid waste
- Educate citizens about the benefits of reusing, repurposing, recycling and composting
- Grow our collaboration with UNH's sustainability program and student outreach
- Pursue financing for a pilot program to evaluate the financial viability of curbside compost pick-up, particularly if State monies become available
- Create a "sustainability round table" for communication among Town committees
- Create a quarterly sustainability newsletter, to include Town committees and commissions concerned with sustainable practices
- Increase the number of households with curbside pickup that recycle, especially with our new finite-capacity bins.

Vital Statistics & Resources

BIRTHS 2025

Child's Name	Birth Date	Birth Place	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name
Murray, Jack Robert Russell	01/24/2025	Dover, NH	Murray, Timothy Stephen	Murray, Millicent Rose
Murray, Keith Francis	01/24/2025	Dover, NH	Murray, Timothy Stephen	Murray, Millicent Rose
Rancourt, Emanuel John	02/15/2025	Dover, NH	Rancourt, John Paul	Rancourt, Samantha Amanda
McNamara, Finnegan James	03/07/2025	Dover, NH	McNamara, Liam James	McNamara, Abigail Lauren
Brake, Sarah Deborah	03/25/2025	Dover, NH	Brake, Edward Allen	Brake, Emily Marie Guirguis
Schonfield, Hai-Tien	04/24/2025	Dover, NH	Schonfield, Zachary Joel	Leung, Yao
Jenkins, Oaklen Jon	05/30/2025	Dover, NH	Jenkins, Nicholas Scott	Jenkins, Robyn Lynn
Vogt, Kyleigh Elizabeth	06/04/2025	Ports. NH	Vogt, Robin Warren	Frost, Shaelyn Grace
Congin, Emerson David	06/15/2025	Exeter, NH	Congin, Gary Anthony	Congin, Megan Lynn
Lawson, Axel John	06/20/2025	Dover, NH	Lawson, Joseph Anthony	Lawson, Jacquelyn Irene
O'Brien, Nolan Thomas	06/21/2025	Dover, NH	O'Brien, Joseph Thomas	Breed, Emma Morgan
Economos, Leannah Waynette	06/21/2025	Dover, NH	Economos, Preston Wayne	Raimondo, Marayssa Jasmine
Lane, Gus John	07/12/2025	Dover, NH	Lane, Samuel William	Lovering, Kayla Marie
Mahveen, Eshal	07/13/2025	Dover, NH	Khandakar, Md Mehedi Hasan	Auyon, Shah Tasdika
Newcombe, Ryan Mischa	07/28/2025	Dover, NH	Newcombe, Ian Thomas	Newcombe, Mariya Andriyivna
Adane, Tesfa	08/16/2025	Dover, NH	Nigatu, Adane Sebsibe	Erda, Fikirte Gebresenbet
Pacchioli, Gabriella Colibri	09/12/2025	Dover, NH	Pacchioli, Luke Andrew	Pacchioli, Emma Janny
Ryder, Maxwell Dillon	09/18/2025	Dover, NH	Ryder, Michael Robert	Ryder, Casey Grace
Folmar, Piper Lee	10/03/2025	Dover, NH	Folmar, Christopher Lee	Folmar, Lauren Mello
Buckley, Charlie Elizabeth	10/14/2025	Dover, NH	Buckley, Robert Lisle Gould	Buckley, Sara Elizabeth
Buckley, Logan William	10/14/2025	Dover, NH	Buckley, Robert Lisle Gould	Buckley, Sara Elizabeth
Coffin, Wallis Rose	11/08/2025	Exeter, NH	Coffin, Eric Nickerson	Coffin, Marlee O'Neil
Osgood, Margot Joan	11/18/2025	Dover, NH	Osgood, Kevin Bradley	Osgood, Lauren Elizabeth
Wydola, Finnegan Everett	11/27/2025	Exeter, NH	Wydola, Daniel Richard	Schrader, Fern Eliza
Desiderio, Wesley Ryan	12/01/2025	Dover, NH	Desiderio, Nicholas Johns	Ryan, Tara Kathryn
Chagnon, Aurora Lee	12/05/2025	Dover, NH	Chagnon, Nicholas Andre	Belknap-Chagnon, Kaitlyn Christina
Matchett, Bennett Elizabeth	12/14/2025	Dover, NH	Matchett, Daniel David	Matchett, Keegan Elizabeth

DEATHS 2025

Decedent	Date of Death	Place of Death	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name
Gazda-Hamel, Marlene	01/07/2025	Dover	Gazda, Walter	Selep, Eleanor
Colligan, Marcia W	01/07/2025	Durham	Walsh, Francis	Boland, Catherine
McClure, Lawrence Alfred	01/15/2025	Dover	McClure, Ralph	Waser, Rita
Oidtman, Jerome Henry	01/18/2025	Durham	Oidtman, Julius	Westhues, Anna
Durnall Jr, Edward James	01/19/2025	Dover	Durnall, Edward	Witte, Elsie

DEATHS 2025 (Continued)

Decedent	Date of Death	Place of Death	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name
Rowe, Barbara Joy	01/21/2025	Durham	Smith, Harold	Romeo, Mary
Pach, Diane Lorraine	01/27/2025	Exeter	Martin, John	Martel, Lorraine
Rous, Emma Louise	02/01/2025	Durham	Wood, Joseph	Pepe, Filomena
Avery, Robin J	02/02/2025	Dover	Avery, William	Holmes, Priscilla
Winship, Robert	02/06/2025	Durham	Winship, William	Meckles, Evelyn
Wollmar, Mary Lou	02/07/2025	Durham	King, William	Spencer, Marion
Maurice, Elisabeth Vail	02/13/2025	Merrimack	Huppertz, Stephen	Colson, Elisabeth
Taylor, Warren Russell	02/15/2025	Durham	Taylor, Edward	Zinck, Winifred
Kilian, Paul Bernard	02/18/2025	Durham	Kilian, Bernard	Schad, Babette
Herd, Shirley Anne	02/21/2025	Durham	Robinson, George	Pirie, Anne
Welch, Evan Brook	03/10/2025	Durham	Welch, Thomas	Moffat, Marion
Stephens, Leontyna Kristina	03/19/2025	Concord	Krupski, Jan	Stankiewicz, Leontyna
Ohly, Frederick Congleton	03/25/2025	Dover	Ohly, John	Congleton, Elizabeth
Bellgardt, Russell A	03/26/2025	Durham	Bellgardt, Henry	Stone, Ruth
Harding, Roberta Louise	03/28/2025	Durham	Fabbro, Humbert	Scarsi, Eugenia
Campbell, Patricia Miller	04/02/2025	Durham	Miller, Bruce	Hook, Elizabeth
Chouinard, Irene May	04/05/2025	Dover	Laliberte, Lorenzo	Adams, Nellie
Barrett Jr, James P	04/10/2025	Concord	Barrett Sr, James	Martin, Juddie
Gettier, Jonathan M	04/10/2025	Durham	Gettier Iii, Edmund	Mingela, Lucia
Salsbury, Julia M	04/13/2025	Durham	Macartney, Frederick	Mckee, Dorothy
Lafler, Shirley Elizabeth Rogers	04/14/2025	Durham	Rogers, Fred	Shirley, Genevieve
Austin, Noel Frank	04/16/2025	Dover	Austin, Frank	Noel, Mabel
Sylvester, Donald Robert	04/21/2025	Durham	Sylvester, Robert	Bunker, Julia
Biron, Richard Donald	04/22/2025	Durham	Biron, Alfred	Lacroix, Anora
Demarco, Cherubina Maria	04/24/2025	Durham	Thow, Archibald	Garbati, Flora
Morgan, Virginia Marie	04/26/2025	Durham	O'malley, Stanton	Morrin, Mary
Zetterstrom, Clifford Edward	05/01/2025	Durham	Zetterstrom Sr, Clifford	Dubois, Mildred
Johnson, Nancy	05/02/2025	Durham	Davis, Victor	Hawkins, Madeline
Morris, Scott Rowland	05/17/2025	Durham	Morris, Norman	Grant, Evelyn
Fitzgerald, Geoffrey	05/18/2025	Durham	Fitzgerald, Gerald	Fitzpatrick, Josephine
Guilfoyle, Dennis T	05/20/2025	Durham	Guilfoyle, Thomas	Lee, Mary
Cooley, Judith E	05/23/2025	Durham	Althouse, Irving	Clapper, Helen
Clark, Bruce Ashley	05/24/2025	Durham	Clark, William	Colson, Violet
Kirk, Doris Lundin	05/27/2025	Durham	Lundin, Edgar	Ahlstrom, Gunhild
Hellen, James E	05/28/2025	Durham	Hellen, James	Mckinley, Nettie
Anastasi Jr, Thomas Edward	05/30/2025	Durham	Anastasi Sr, Thomas	Berry, Catherine
Sullivan, Edna Nathalie	06/06/2025	Dover	Ducett, Earle	Radford, Jeanne

DEATHS 2025 (Continued)

Decedent	Date of Death	Place of Death	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name
Klein, Jean E	06/10/2025	Durham	Carlton, Benjamin	Henderson, Mary
Lougee Jr, Laurence Wheeler	06/17/2025	Durham	Lougee Sr, Laurence	Taig, Mary
Hotaling, Alton Silas	06/19/2025	Dover	Hotaling, Alton	Radrger, Ellen
Burack, Bonney Lee	06/21/2025	Dover	Olson, Fritz	Stead, Joan
Dalton, Ruth Lillian	07/11/2025	Durham	Healy, John	Griffin, Elizabeth
Donahue, Florence Rose	07/21/2025	Durham	Hetherington, Henry	Garnet, Clara
Cook, Julia Nichols	07/25/2025	Durham	Nichols, Henry	Shears, Esther
Mitchell, Frederick M	07/27/2025	Dover	Mitchell, Roger	Deatrick, Anna
Butler, Mary	07/31/2025	Durham	Rollins, Weld	Wardner, Isabelle
Reil, Dorothy A	08/06/2025	Durham	Douse, Eustace	Carter, Nina
Deschuytner, Constance Violette	08/08/2025	Dover	Lemire, Eleodore	Barbeau, Jeanne
Ejarque, Elisabeth	08/10/2025	Rochester	Wagemans, Herman	Verzyl, Flora
Lund, Eric	08/17/2025	Dover	Lund, Donald	Hedman, Dorothy
Samilo, Michael	08/21/2025	Dover	Samilo, Nykola	Bode, Barbara
Horton, Duane John	08/30/2025	Durham	Horton, Ezra	Reynolds, Mazie
Lewis, Jerry Wayne	09/01/2025	Durham	Lewis, Skeet	Bell, Mattie
Locke, Lewis L	09/01/2025	Dover	Locke, Lewis	Vermette, Dorothy
Murphy, Harriet	09/11/2025	Durham	Rimmi, Matthew	Boss, Isabella
Brown, Robert	09/13/2025	Durham	Brown, Karl	King, Barbara
Pollard, Diane Anderson	10/06/2025	Durham	Anderson, John	Lane, Margaret
Conlon, Mary Agnes	10/08/2025	Durham	Conlon, John	Cox, Bridgette
Snow, Jeffrey Fred	10/09/2025	Dover	Snow, John	Bulka, Mildred
Weeman, Guy Arnold	10/20/2025	Durham	Weeman Jr, Howard	Hodgman, Hazel
Chase, David Jerome	10/22/2025	Durham	Chase, Malcolm	Boothroyd, Charlotte
Murphy, Mary K	10/26/2025	Durham	Kelley, Daniel	Holm, Arthis
Macdonald, Anne Marie	10/28/2025	Durham	Crowley, Patrick	Neilon, Esther
Holmes, Joan Margaret	10/31/2025	Durham	Long, Loy	Johnson, Edna
Adamovich, Frank W	11/02/2025	Dover	Adamonis, Kazimir	Dudul, Rosalia
McGinley, Barbara Olive	11/06/2025	Durham	Nagle, Norman	Apel, Hazel
Noble, Eleanor Francis	11/11/2025	Durham	Garland, Otto	Baldwin, Mary
O'Connell, Rosalie A	11/11/2025	Durham	Kelvik, John	Murphy, Mary
Zembrusky, Karol M	11/15/2025	Portsmouth	Zembrusky, Alexander	Grynaska, Anna
Guest, Hazel	11/16/2025	Durham	Guest, Jesse	Carlton, Edith
Lane, Alice Jean	11/18/2025	Durham	Unknown, Unknown	Canfield, Doris
Doura, Gisela	11/20/2025	Durham	Zubke, Fritz	Unknown, Hermine
Kiley, Mary Louise	11/21/2025	Durham	Kiley, Albert	Judge, Grace
Houle, Robert R	11/23/2025	Hampton	Houle, Richard	Tremblay, Gertrude

DEATHS 2025 (Continued)

Decedent	Date of Death	Place of Death	Father's/Parent's Name	Mother's/Parent's Name
Canfield, Lisa C	12/01/2025	Durham	Canfield, Raymond	Eastwick, Dorothy
Quigley, Barbara Jean	12/02/2025	Durham	Quigley, Paul	Dulong, Ruth
Clark, Margery A	12/04/2025	Durham	Schumacher, John	Rath, Florence
Shepard, Anne Elizabeth	12/07/2025	Durham	Dismukes, Arthur	Barber, Florence
Scheib, Kathleen Ann	12/11/2025	Durham	Eltringham, Donald	Sullivan, Catherine
Macbride, William Murdock	12/16/2025	Dover	Macbride, Arthur	Macdonald, Lillian
Pantier, Earl A	12/18/2025	Durham	Pantier, James	Earle, Clara
Foss, Stephen Danforth	12/20/2025	Dover	Foss, Fred	Kavanagh, Irene
Fortier, Jean E	12/22/2025	Dover	Fortier, Raymond	Grover, Hilda

MARRIAGES 2025

Person A's Name	Residence	Person B's Name	Residence	Date of Marriage
Carbo Zenteno, Carlos Luis	Durham, NH	Bastidas Reyes, Rosa Elizabeth	Durham, NH	05/24/2025
Gibson, Timothy Joshua	Durham, NH	Calawa, Kelly Joy	Barrington, NH	06/14/2025
Masse, Deborah Anne	Durham, NH	Carolan, Mark Douglas	Durham, NH	06/22/2025
Hollander, Emma Giselle	Durham, NH	Marcouillier, David John	Durham, NH	06/28/2025
O'Brien, Thomas Edward	Durham, NH	O'Connell, Jacqueline Elizabeth	Durham, NH	06/29/2025
Chase, Alexander Ritter	Durham, NH	Wang, Ziwen	Durham, NH	08/22/2025
Batchelder, Michael A	Durham, NH	Santos, Stephanie D	Durham, NH	08/27/2025
Graziano, Almerindo	Durham, NH	Beatty, Meghan Elise	Durham, NH	09/27/2025
Stroud, Ramsay Mae	Belmont, NH	Marquis III, Roland Paul	Belmont, NH	10/18/2025
Seide, Isaac Cedric	Durham, NH	Stewart, Amanda Jean	Concord, NH	11/26/2025

MISCELLANEOUS

Public Hearings & Public Forums: Notices for public hearings and public forums are published in the Foster's Daily Democrat, on the bulletin boards inside and outside the Town Hall, the Durham Public Library and the town's website.

Raymond A. Laroche Sr. Transfer Station & Recycling Center: Located at 100 Durham Point Road. Hours of operation are Tuesday and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (except holidays).

Bulky Waste Coupons and Electronic/Appliance Stickers: Bulky waste coupons and electronic/appliance stickers may be obtained at the Public Works Department at 100 Stone Quarry Drive, Monday thru Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon and 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Resident/Taxpayer Permit Sticker: A Resident/Taxpayer permit sticker may be obtained at the Public Works Department or the Town Clerk's Office Monday thru Friday during regular business hours. The permit sticker must be renewed every calendar year, and it allows residents/taxpayers entrance to the Transfer Station with regular trash and recycling at no extra charge. It also allows two-hour parking in existing downtown one-hour, non-metered spaces.

Tax Exemptions: For information regarding elderly, veteran's, blind, solar energy, totally disabled and physically handicapped exemptions, or information on current use taxation, contact the Town Assessor at 868-8064.

RESOURCE INFORMATION

Land Area

(2.48 sq. miles of which is water surface).....24.77 sq miles
Population (per 2020 census).....15,490
Incorporated.....1732
Durham's Congressional District Numbers.....10 & 20

Meeting Dates for Town Boards Committees and Commissions

(Notices are posted on the Bulletin Boards inside and outside the Town Hall, the Durham Public Library, and on the town's website – www.ci.durham.nh.us)

Agricultural Commission	Second Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Cemetery Committee	As needed
Conservation Commission	Fourth Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Energy Committee	First Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Historic District Commission/ Heritage Commission	First Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Human Rights Commission	As needed
Integr. Waste Mgmt. Adv. Com.	First & third Wednesdays of each month, 8:00 a.m., Town Hall
Land Stewardship Subcommittee	Second Wednesday of each month, 8:30 a.m., Town Hall
Parks & Recreation Committee	Fourth Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Planning Board	Second & fourth Wednesdays of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Town Council	First and third Mondays of each month, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
Trustees of the Trust Fund	Fourth Tuesday of the month, 8:30 a.m., Town Hall

Town Office Functions

Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office Hours	Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Closed Wednesdays
Town Hall Office Hours	Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Boat Registration	Additional \$5.00 charge to register a boat at Town Clerk's Office.
Car Registration	Registration in month of birth. New registrations and license plates can be purchased at the Town Clerk's office. Renewals can be done at the Town Clerk's office or online on the town's website, www.ci.durham.nh.us or at www.eb2gov.com .

STATE AND U.S. SENATORS & REPRESENTATIVES

Governor

The Honorable Kelly Ayotte
Office of the Governor
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301
Office: 603-271-2121
<https://www.nh.gov/index.htm>

U.S. Senators

Senator Maggie Hassan (D)
1200 Elm Street, Suite 2
Manchester, NH 03101
Office: 603-622-2204
<https://www.hassan.senate.gov/>

Washington Address:

B85 Russell Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20501
Office: 202-224-3324

Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D)
1589 Elm Street, Suite 3
Manchester, NH 03101
Office: 603-647-7500

Washington Address:

520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Office: 202-224-2841
<https://www.shaheen.senate.gov/>

U.S. Representative

Congressman Christopher Pappas
660 Central Avenue
Dover, NH 03820
Office: 1-603-343-1326

Washington Address:

323 Cannon House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515
Office: 202-225-5456

Executive Councilor

Joseph D. Kenney
P.O. Box 201
Union, NH 03887
Executive Council Office
(603) 271-3632
Cell: (603) 581-8780
joseph.d.kenney@nh.gov

Durham's Representative in the NH House - District 10

Rep. Wayne M. Burton
106 Madbury Road
Durham, NH 03824
Home: 508-517-7188
wayne.burton@leg.state.nh.us

Rep. Timothy Horrigan
7-A Faculty Road
Durham, NH 03824
Office: 603-271-3184
Home: 603-868-3342
timothy.horrigan@leg.state.nh.us

Rep. Marjorie Smith
100 Piscataqua Road
Durham, NH 03824
Home: 603-868-7500
msmithpen@aol.com

Rep. Loren Selig
3 Nobel K Peterson Drive
Durham, NH 03824
Office: 603-271-3125
Home: 603-953-3641
loren.selig@leg.state.nh.us

Durham's Representative in the NH House - District 20

Rep. Allan Howland
32 Ffrost Drive
Durham, NH 03824
Office: 603-271-3184
al.howland.13@gmail.com

Durham's NH Senator

Senator Rebecca Perkins Kwoka
Legislative Office Building
Room 103
Concord, NH 03301
Home: 603-271-2104
rebecca.perkinskwoka@leg.state.nh.us

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

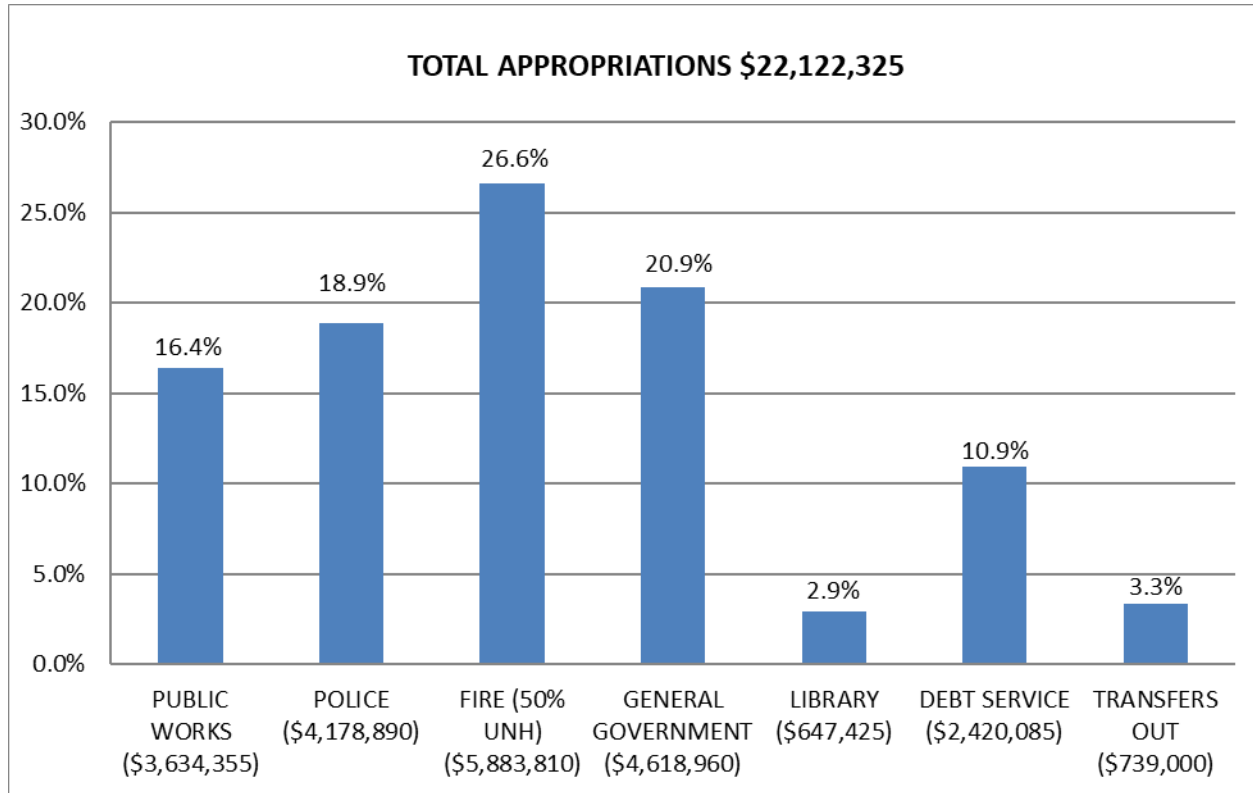
Fire/Police/Rescue Emergency—911

Fire/Police/Rescue Emergency from UNH campus only—*911

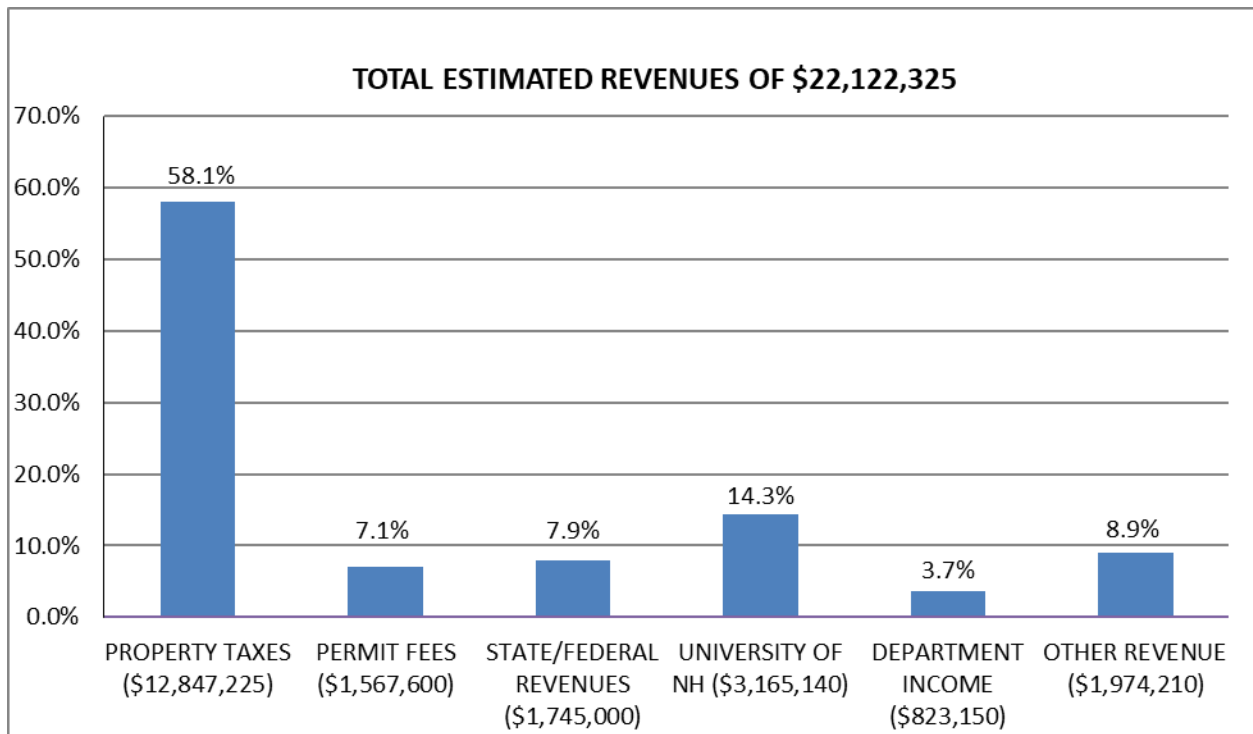
DEPARTMENT	TEL. #	FAX #	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Administration , 8 Newmarket Rd. Todd Selig, Administrator Karen Edwards, Admin. Assistant	868-5571	868-1858	tselig@ci.durham.nh.us kedwards@ci.durham.nh.us
Assessing , 8 Newmarket Rd. Darcy Freer, Assessor	868-8064	868-1858	dfreer@ci.durham.nh.us
Business/Finance , 8 Newmarket Rd. Gail Jablonski, Business Manager Deborah Ahlstrom, Financial Analyst Dina Gosselin, Accounting Clerk Jessica Landry, Benefits/Payroll Specialist	868-8043	868-1858	gjablonski@ci.durham.nh.us dahlstrom@ci.durham.nh.us dgosselin@ci.durham.nh.us jlandry@ci.durham.nh.us
Durham Cable Access Television , 8 Newmarket Rd. Craig Stevens, DCAT Coordinator	590-1383	868-1858	cstevens@ci.durham.nh.us
Fire Department , 51 College Rd. David Emanuel, Chief Robert Atwater, Assistant Chief Brendan O'Sullivan, Fire Marshall Kelley Fowler, Admin. Assistant Michelle Patrick, Admin Assistant	868-5531	862-1513	david.emanuel@unh.edu robert.atwater@unh.edu brendan.osullivan@unh.edu kelley.fowler@unh.edu michelle.patrick@unh.edu
Information Technology , 8 Newmarket Rd. Luke Vincent, IT Manager Michael Rohr, Assist. IT Manager Jay Gooze, IT Assistant	590-1380	868-1858	lvincent@ci.durham.nh.us mrohr@ci.durham.nh.us jgooze@ci.durham.nh.us
Parks & Recreation , 2 Dover Rd. Rachel Gasowski, Director Kellie DeSimone, Assistant Director	817-4074		rgasowski@ci.durham.nh.us kdesimone@ci.durham.nh.us
Planning & Comm. Development , 8 Newmarket Rd. Michael Behrendt, Planner Tracey Cutler, Admin. Assistant	868-8064	868-1858	mbehrendt@ci.durham.nh.us tcutler@ci.durham.nh.us
Police Department , 86 Dover Road Rene Kelley, Chief Jack Dalton, Deputy Chief John Lavoie, Captain Jen Johnson, Admin. Assistant Sarah Douglas, Admin. Assistant	868-2324	868-8037	rkelley@ci.durham.nh.us jdalton@ci.durham.nh.us jlavoie@ci.durham.nh.us jjohnson@ci.durham.nh.us sdouglas@ci.durham.nh.us
Public Library , 49 Madbury Road Sheryl Bass, Director	868-6699		sbass@ci.durham.nh.us
Public Works Department , 100 Stone Quarry Drive Richard Reine, Director Sam Hewitt, Assistant Director April Talon, Engineer Greg Bush, Project Engineer Steve Lutterman, GIS Director Shannon Shaw, Asst. to the Director John Baker, Admin. Assistant	868-5578	868-8063	rreine@ci.durham.nh.us shewitt@ci.durham.nh.us atalon@ci.durham.nh.us gbush@ci.durham.nh.us slutterman@ci.durham.nh.us sshaw@ci.durham.nh.us jbaker@ci.durham.nh.us

DEPARTMENT	TEL. #	FAX #	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Solid Waste Division , 100 Durham Pt. Rd. Sam Hewitt, Assistant Director	868-1001	868-8063	shewitt@ci.durham.nh.us
Town Clerk/Tax Collector , 8 Newmarket Rd. Rachel Deane, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Audrey MacKenzie, Deputy TC/TC Maura Slavin, Asst. to the TC/TC	868-5577	868-1858	rdeane@ci.durham.nh.us amackenzie@ci.durham.nh.us mslavin@ci.durham.nh.us
Wastewater , 50 Piscataqua Road Matthew Collins, Superintendent	868-2274	868-8063	mcollins@ci.durham.nh.us
Water Division , 100 Durham Pt. Rd. Sam Hewitt, Assistant Director	868-5578	868-8063	shewitt@ci.durham.nh.us
Zoning, Code Enforcement, Health Officer , 8 Newmarket Road Audrey Cline, CEO/Zoning Admin	868-8064	868-1858	acline@ci.durham.nh.us
<u>Other Commonly Used Numbers</u>			
Churchill Rink at Jackson's Landing	868-3907		
Oyster River Youth Association	868-5150		
Durham Post Office	868-2151		
NH Fish & Game	868-1095		
<u>Oyster River School District</u>			
	Superintendent of Schools		868-5100
	Moharimet Elementary School		742-2900
	Mast Way Elementary School		659-3001
	OR Middle School		868-2820
	OR High School		868-2375

2026 Approved General Fund Appropriations



2026 Estimated General Fund Revenues



Approved Capital Improvements Program 2026-2035 - Page 1

<i>Business Department</i>	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Municipal Software Package		1,000,000								
<i>Fire Department</i>	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Replace Breathing Apparatus(SCBA) & Air Management	700,000									
Replace 2013 Chevrolet 2500 (Utility Truck)	70,000									
Fire Station Facility Improvements	400,000									
Replace Airbags for Technical Rescue		20,000								
Purchase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)		52,000			75,000			75,000		
Replace Thermal Imaging Cameras		12,000		12,000		12,000		12,000		12,000
Replace 2007 Ford F-350 (Forestry Truck)		300,000								
Replace 2017 Ford Explorer (Fire Prevention)		65,000								
Refurbish 2015 Marion Pumper		100,000								
Replace Hydraulic Rescue Tools			40,000							
Replace Portable Radios			250,000							
Replace 2021 Ford F-350 (Rescue 5)			175,000							
Replace Defibrillator/Monitor			75,000							
Replace 2015 Ferrara Aerial Truck				2,200,000						
Replace Automated CPR Device				16,000		16,000				
Refurbish 2018 Marion Pumper (Engine 2)					100,000					
Replace Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)					50,000					
Replace 2013 Can-Am UTV					55,000					
Replace 2021 GMC Yukon XL (Car 1)					95,000					
Replace 2015 Sleath Enclosed Trailer					25,000					
Replace 2022 GMC Yukon XL (Car 2)						95,000				
Replace 2012 Marion Tanker (Tank 4)							1,500,000			
Replace Land Mobile Radio (LMR) Communications Connectivity									1,200,000	
Replace 2024 Polaris UTV (UTV 2)									55,000	
Replace 2025 Chevy Tahoe (Car 3)									95,000	
New Fire Station										20,000,000
Replace 2015 Marion Pumper (Engine 1)										1,500,000
<i>GIS</i>	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
GIS Program			10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000			
<i>Information Technology</i>	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
IT Equipment Replacement	27,000	18,000	60,000	30,000	30,000	25,000	17,000	30,000	29,500	50,000
<i>Police Department</i>	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Vehicle Replacement	66,000	80,000	155,000	155,000	82,000	160,000	160,000	85,000	180,000	180,000
Sidearm (Pistol) Replacement		21,710								

Approved Capital Improvements Program 2026-2035 - Page 2

<i>Public Works- Buildings & Grounds Division</i>	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Seasonal Decorative Lighting		2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Dump Truck Replacement (One Ton)	79,000									
Pickup Truck Replacement (1/2 Ton)		61,000								
Courthouse/Old Town Hall Restoration		367,000								
Purchase of Solar Panels (Gravel Pit)						950,000				
Pickup Truck Replacement (3/4 Ton)							69,000			
Commercial Lawn Mower Replacement							30,000			
Dump Truck Replacement (One Ton)									101,000	
<i>Public Works - Operations Division</i>	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Road Resurfacing Program	516,000	530,000	830,000	739,500	791,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	750,000
Road Resurfacing Program - UNH	275,000									
Crack Seal Program	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Sidewalk Improvement Program	55,000	60,000	65,000	26,000	46,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Drainage System Rehabilitation Program	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000	85,000
Stormwater Management Program - Permit Compliance	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Facility Infrastructure Improvements	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Oyster River Dam Removal	900,000									
Madbury Roadway Phase IV-A - Edgewood to Emerson	1,374,020									
Madbury Roadway Phase IV-B - Edgewood to Route 4	1,530,400									
Madbury Roadway Phase V – Multi-Use Path	1,820,000									
Dump Truck Replacement (3-5 Ton)	237,900	245,700		261,800			290,300		302,200	316,500
Motor Vehicle Lubrication Distribution System Replacement	15,000									
Front End Loader Replacement	321,900									
Mobile Air Compressor Replacement		40,000								
Engineering Jeep Replacement		37,000								
Sidewalk Plow Tractor Replacement		216,500								
Pickup Truck Replacement (Dodge Ram)		73,000								
Rubber Tired Excavator Replacement (Cost share with Water Fund 25%)			292,500							
Longmarsh Road Bridge Replacement			1,300,000							
Roadway Sweeper Replacement							259,700			
Pickup Truck Replacement (3/4 Ton)									68,500	
Front End Loader Replacement									335,850	
Sidewalk Plow Tractor Replacement									242,000	
Aerial Bucket Truck Replacement										185,300
<i>Public Works - Sanitation Division</i>	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Rolloff Truck Replacement						270,400				
<i>Recreation Department</i>	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Tennis/Pickleball Courts - Woodridge Park		100,000								
Pavilion & Shade Structures - Woodridge Park			200,000							

Approved Capital Improvements Program 2026-2035 - Page 3

WATER FUND	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Town Water System Improvements	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Town/UNH Shared Water System Improvements	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	210,000
Rubber Tired Excavator Replacement (Cost Share with General Fund 75%/25%)			97,500							
Utility Truck Replacement (One Ton)							122,500			
WASTEWATER FUND	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Wastewater Facilities Plan	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000	425,000
Collection System Repair/Upgrade (Town/UNH)	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Collection System Repair/Upgrade (Town Only)	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000	65,000
WWTP Major Components Contingency	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Pickup Truck Replacement (One Ton)				76,000	76,000					
CHURCHILL RINK FUND	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Replace Refrigeration System Evaporative Condenser	150,000									
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Purchase of Parking Lot (Sammy's Lot)		1,500,000								
	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
TOTAL CIP PROPOSALS	9,552,220	5,916,410	4,567,500	4,543,800	2,452,500	3,345,900	4,266,000	2,009,500	4,416,550	24,051,300

**2025 Budget/Estimated General Fund
January 1 - December 31, 2025 UNAUDITED**

PROPERTY TAXES/ABATEMENTS/CREDITS	Estimated Revenue 2025	Revenues Ending 12/31/25	Revenues (Under) Over 2025	Percent Collected 12/31/25
Property Taxes	\$11,211,371	\$11,123,141	(\$88,230)	99.2%
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$992,850	\$1,002,722	\$9,872	101.0%
Abatements	(\$485,000)	(\$182,380)	\$302,620	37.6%
Veteran Service Credits	(\$158,000)	(\$177,500)	(\$19,500)	112.3%
REVENUES	Estimated Revenue 2025	Revenues Ending 12/31/25	Revenues (Under) Over 2025	Percent Collected 12/31/25
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	\$40,000	\$42,653	\$2,653	106.6%
Permit Fees	\$1,586,550	\$1,644,140	\$57,590	103.6%
State/Federal Revenues	\$1,742,000	\$1,907,694	\$165,694	109.5%
Intergovernmental Revenues (ORCSD-SRO)	\$102,480	\$102,484	\$4	100.0%
UNH - Shared Services, School, Fire & Debt Service	\$2,962,395	\$2,954,551	(\$7,844)	99.7%
Departmental Income	\$412,600	\$395,176	(\$17,424)	95.8%
Fire and Police Special Details	\$138,000	\$166,420	\$28,420	120.6%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$1,086,230	\$1,045,547	(\$40,683)	96.3%
Fund Balance	\$3,100,425	\$3,100,425	\$0	0.0%
Total General Fund Revenues	\$11,170,680	\$11,359,090	\$188,410	101.7%
EXPENDITURES	Council Budget 2025	Expended Through 12/31/25	Expenditures (Under) Over 2025	Percent Expended 12/31/25
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
Town Council	\$87,250	\$75,956	(\$11,294)	87.1%
Town Treasurer	\$6,030	\$5,985	(\$45)	99.3%
Town Administrator	\$450,500	\$464,174	\$13,674	103.0%
Elections	\$14,050	\$15,938	\$1,888	113.4%
Tax Collector/Town Clerk	\$311,390	\$296,327	(\$15,063)	95.2%
Accounting	\$563,300	\$534,746	(\$28,554)	94.9%
Assessing	\$299,175	\$292,960	(\$6,215)	97.9%
Legal - Attorney Fees	\$80,000	\$68,683	(\$11,317)	85.9%
Planning	\$241,900	\$234,215	(\$7,685)	96.8%
Boards/Commissions/Committees	\$58,950	\$44,612	(\$14,338)	75.7%
DCAT	\$161,488	\$120,278	(\$41,210)	74.5%
GIS	\$124,410	\$122,841	(\$1,569)	98.7%
MIS	\$598,770	\$597,927	(\$843)	99.9%
Building Inspection	\$226,600	\$156,268	(\$70,332)	69.0%
Emergency Management	\$1,000	\$0	(\$1,000)	0.0%
Other General Government	\$372,100	\$342,002	(\$30,098)	91.9%
General Government Total	\$3,596,913	\$3,372,912	(\$224,001)	93.8%
PUBLIC SAFETY				
Police Department	\$3,898,855	\$3,942,445	\$43,590	101.1%
Police Department Special Details	\$72,300	\$95,689	\$23,389	132.3%
Fire Department	\$5,437,350	\$5,065,704	(\$371,646)	93.2%
Fire Department Special Details	\$38,700	\$27,897	(\$10,803)	72.1%
Communication Center	\$40,400	\$39,549	(\$851)	97.9%
Ambulance Services	\$153,600	\$153,605	\$5	100.0%
Public Safety Total	\$9,641,205	\$9,324,889	(\$316,316)	96.7%

2025 Budget/Estimated General Fund—Unaudited - Page 2

EXPENDITURES	Council Budget 2025	Expended Through 12/31/25	Expenditures (Under) Over 2025	Percent Expended 12/31/25
PUBLIC WORKS				
Administration	\$429,800	\$431,409	\$1,609	100.4%
Engineer	\$163,500	\$123,514	(\$39,986)	75.5%
Stormwater Permitting	\$1,100	\$1,441	\$341	131.0%
Town Buildings	\$351,850	\$323,275	(\$28,575)	91.9%
Town Cemeteries & Trusted Graveyards	\$11,150	\$5,518	(\$5,632)	49.5%
Wagon Hill & Parks & Grounds Maintenance	\$222,660	\$207,640	(\$15,020)	93.3%
Equipment Maintenance	\$300,400	\$323,882	\$23,482	107.8%
Roadway Maintenance	\$200,800	\$100,874	(\$99,926)	50.2%
Drainage & Vegetation	\$147,600	\$104,087	(\$43,513)	70.5%
Snow Removal	\$349,800	\$364,017	\$14,217	104.1%
Traffic Control	\$179,100	\$151,242	(\$27,858)	84.4%
Bridges & Dams	\$310,550	\$238,337	(\$72,213)	76.7%
Public Works Use of Donations	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Public Works Total	\$2,668,310	\$2,375,236	(\$293,074)	89.0%
SANITATION				
Solid Waste Administration	\$244,575	\$217,808	(\$26,767)	89.1%
Rolloff Vehicle Operation	\$76,600	\$29,630	(\$46,970)	38.7%
Curbside Collection	\$236,400	\$261,637	\$25,237	110.7%
Litter Removal	\$27,800	\$19,942	(\$7,858)	71.7%
Recycling	\$174,800	\$154,596	(\$20,204)	88.4%
Solid Waste Management Facility (SWMF)	\$151,000	\$204,874	\$53,874	135.7%
Sanitation Total	\$911,175	\$888,487	(\$22,688)	97.5%
HEALTH & WELFARE				
Health Inspector	\$150	\$0	(\$150)	0.0%
Social Service Agencies	\$13,925	\$13,925	\$0	100.0%
Direct Assistance (Welfare)	\$50,000	\$14,037	(\$35,963)	28.1%
Health & Welfare Total	\$64,075	\$27,962	(\$36,113)	43.6%
CULTURE & RECREATION				
Parks & Recreation Department	\$565,385	\$515,089	(\$50,296)	91.1%
Parks & Recreation Committee	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	100.0%
Memorial Day	\$500	\$245	(\$255)	49.0%
Conservation	\$68,150	\$59,781	(\$8,369)	87.7%
Culture & Recreation Total	\$635,535	\$576,615	(\$58,920)	90.7%
DEBT SERVICE				
Principal	\$1,314,480	\$1,378,127	\$63,647	104.8%
Interest	\$298,300	\$307,044	\$8,744	102.9%
Debt Service Charges	\$6,000	\$5,600	(\$400)	93.3%
Debt Service Total	\$1,618,780	\$1,690,771	\$71,991	104.4%
TRANSFERS				
Transfer to Library	\$635,683	\$635,683	\$0	100.0%
Transfer to Capital Project Fund	\$2,915,225	\$2,915,225	\$0	100.0%
Transfer to Capital Reserve Fund	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$0	100.0%
Debt Service Total	\$3,595,908	\$3,595,908	\$0	100.0%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	\$22,731,901	\$21,852,780	(\$879,121)	96.1%

2025 Budget/Estimated Other Funds Summary January 1 - December 31, 2025 UNAUDITED

Water Fund	Estimated 2025	Ending 12/31/25	Under (Over) 2025	Percent as of 12/31/25
Revenues	\$1,585,707	\$1,608,603	(\$22,896)	101.4%
Expenses	\$1,585,707	\$1,354,995	(\$230,712)	85.5%
Sewer Fund	Estimated 2025	Ending 12/31/25	Under (Over) 2025	Percent as of 12/31/25
Revenues	\$3,299,084	\$3,269,983	\$29,101	99.1%
Expenses	\$3,299,084	\$3,176,177	(\$122,907)	96.3%
Parking Fund	Estimated 2025	Ending 12/31/25	Under (Over) 2025	Percent as of 12/31/25
Revenues	\$448,000	\$432,606	\$15,394	96.6%
Expenses	\$417,950	\$294,382	(\$123,568)	70.4%
Depot Road Fund	Estimated 2025	Ending 12/31/25	Under (Over) 2025	Percent as of 12/31/25
Revenues	\$141,000	\$152,493	(\$11,493)	108.2%
Expenses	\$37,000	\$26,602	(\$10,398)	71.9%
Churchill Rink Fund	Estimated 2025	Ending 12/31/25	Under (Over) 2025	Percent as of 12/31/25
Revenues	\$360,000	\$302,661	\$57,339	84.1%
Expenses	\$360,000	\$299,181	(\$60,819)	83.1%
Library Fund	Estimated 2025	Ending 12/31/25	Under (Over) 2025	Percent as of 12/31/25
Revenues	\$654,933	\$654,933	\$0	100.0%
Expenses	\$654,933	\$652,271	(\$2,662)	99.6%

PLODZIK & SANDERSON

Professional Association/Certified Public Accountants

193 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301

Phone: 603-225-6996, Fax: 603-224-1380

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Town Council and Town
Administrator Town of Durham

Durham, New Hampshire

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major governmental fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Durham, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Durham's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major governmental fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Durham, as of December 31, 2024, the respective changes in financial position and the respective budgetary comparison for the major general and sewer funds for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Town of Durham and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matters - Changes in Accounting Principles

As discussed in Note 2-D to the financial statements, in the year ending December 31, 2024, the Town adopted new accounting guidance, GASB Statement No. 100, *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections - an Amendment to GASB Statement No. 62*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Also, as discussed in Note 2-D to the financial statements, in the year ending December 31, 2024, the Town adopted new accounting guidance, GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

The Town of Durham's management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Durham's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Independent Auditor's Report - Page 2

Auditor's Responsibilities/or the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Durham's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Town of Durham's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the following be presented to supplement the basic financial statements:

- Management's Discussion and Analysis,

- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability,

- Schedule of Town Contributions - Pensions,

- Schedule of the Town's Proportionate Share of Net Other Postemployment Benefits Liability,

- Schedule of Town Contributions - Other Postemployment Benefits,

- Schedule of Changes in the Town's Total Other Postemployment Benefits Liability and Related Ratios,
and

- Notes to the Required Supplementary Information

Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Independent Auditor's Report - Page 3

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Durham's basic financial statements. The combining and individual fund schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, as required by *Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining and individual fund schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Award are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining and individual fund schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 29, 2025 on our consideration of the Town of Durham's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Town of Durham's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



October 29, 2025
Concord, New Hampshire

PLODZIK & SANDERSON
Professional Association

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of the Town of Durham, New Hampshire (the Town), we offer readers this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Town for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the basic financial statements. The basic financial statements are comprised of three components (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to financial statements. This report also contains required and other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of our finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on all assets, liabilities, and deferred outflows and inflows of resources with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the Town's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes and earned but unused vacation leave).

The government-wide financial statements distinguish functions that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges. The governmental activities include general government, public safety, highways and streets, sanitation, water distribution and treatment, health and human services, welfare, culture and recreation, and conservation.

Fund Financial Statements

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The Town's funds can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary funds

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating the Town's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the Town's near-term financing decisions. Reconciliations are provided to facilitate the comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

Independent Auditor's Report - Page 5

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the Town. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the Town's programs.

Notes to Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Required and Other Supplementary Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information which is required to be disclosed by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and other supplementary information.

Financial Highlights:

- As of the close of the current fiscal year, net position in governmental activities was \$28,427,299, a change of \$3,190,223.
- As of the close of the current fiscal year, governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$13,485,074, a change of \$(2,066,890) in comparison to the prior year.
- At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$4,517,515, a change of \$(3,240,275) in comparison to the prior year.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

The following is a summary of condensed government-wide financial data for the current and prior fiscal year.

NET POSITION

Governmental Activities

	2024	2023
Current and other assets	\$ 27,204,556	\$ 29,009,010
Capital assets	50,919,985	47,282,805
Total assets	78,124,541	76,291,815
Deferred outflows of resources	1,597,553	2,385,745
Other liabilities	12,907,387	12,114,874
Long-term liabilities	36,898,037	40,111,411
Total liabilities	49,805,424	52,226,285
Deferred inflows of resources	1,489,371	1,462,346
Net position:		
Net investment in capital assets		32,029,390
Restricted	5,486,718	5,033,029
Unrestricted	(8,971,317)	(12,073,490)
Total net position	<u>\$ 28,427,299</u>	<u>\$ 24,988,929</u>

Independent Auditor's Report - Page 6

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the Town's financial position. At the close of the most recent fiscal year, total net position was \$28,427,299, a change of \$3,190,223 in comparison to the prior year.

The largest portion of net position \$31,911,898 reflects our investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery, equipment, and infrastructure), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. These capital assets are used to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

An additional portion of net position \$5,486,718 represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of unrestricted net position reflects a deficit of \$(8,971,317), primarily resulting from unfunded pension and OPEB liabilities

CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Revenues:		
Program Revenues:		
Charges for services	\$ 4,153,455	\$ 3,978,077
Operating grants and contributions	5,181,099	4,964,312
Capital grants and contributions	2,821,824	1,897,079
General Revenues:		
Taxes	11,734,262	11,718,452
Licenses and permits	1,740,765	1,865,199
Unrestricted grants and contributions	1,974,838	1,284,909
Miscellaneous	554,418	1,184,070
Total revenues	<u>28,160,661</u>	<u>26,892,098</u>
Expenses:		
General government	3,543,789	3,169,381
Public safety	8,983,985	8,830,167
Highways and streets	5,426,483	4,915,912
Sanitation	3,180,466	2,892,542
Water distribution & treatment	1,084,532	1,056,835
Health	12,050	12,390
Welfare	92,228	88,032
Culture and recreation	1,941,559	1,732,385
Conservation	42,108	59,074
Interest on long-term debt	663,238	602,141
Total expenses	<u>24,970,438</u>	<u>23,358,859</u>
Change in net position	3,190,223	3,533,239
Beginning net position	<u>25,237,076</u>	<u>21,455,690</u>
Ending net position	<u>\$ 28,427,299</u>	<u>\$ 24,988,929</u>

The beginning net position was restated by \$287,147 to recognize unrecorded revenue in the capital project fund.

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Governmental activities for the year resulted in a change in net position of \$3,190,223. Key elements of this change are as follows:

General Fund operations	\$ 327,258
Capital project operations	(2,949,536)
Capital outlay exceed depreciation expense	3,637,180
Repayment of debt exceeded new insurances	1,479,608
Other	695,713
Total	<u>\$ 3,190,223</u>

Financial Analysis of the Town's Funds

As noted earlier, fund accounting is used to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds

The focus of governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of the Town's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

General Fund

The General Fund is the chief operating fund. At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance of the General Fund was \$4,517,515, while total fund balance was \$10,539,090. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unassigned fund balance and total fund balance to General Fund expenditures. Refer to the table below.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>December 31, 2024</u>	<u>December 31, 2023</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Total General Fund Expenditures</u>
Unassigned fund balance	\$ 4,517,515	\$ 7,757,790	\$(3,240,275)	24%
Total fund balance	\$ 10,539,090	\$ 10,211,832	\$ 327,258	57%

The unassigned fund balance of the General Fund changed by \$(3,240,275) during the current fiscal year. Key factors in this change are as follows:

Use of fund balance to reduce taxes	\$ (385,000)
Revenues in excess of budget	58,360
Expenditures less than budget	198,827
Council authorization to use unassigned fund balance for 2025 appropriations	(2,615,425)
Increase in abatement contingency	(410,000)
Other	(87,037)
Total	<u>\$(3,240,275)</u>

The total fund balance of the General Fund changed by \$327,258 during the current fiscal year. Key factors in this change are as follows:

Use of fund balance to reduce taxes	\$ (385,000)
Revenues in excess of budget	58,360
Expenditures less than budget	198,827
Change in blended parking fund	226,395
Change in blended capital reserve funds	222,171
Other	6,505
Total	<u>\$ 327,258</u>

Independent Auditor's Report - Page 8

Included in the total fund balance of the General Fund are the Town's capital reserve account with the following balance:

Capital reserves	<u>December 31, 2024</u>	<u>December 31, 2023</u>	<u>Change</u>
	\$ 1,885,221	\$ 1,663,050	\$ 222,171

Nonmajor Governmental Funds

The fund balance of nonmajor governmental funds changed by \$611,415, primarily from excess of water and Depot Road parking fund revenues over expenditures.

Major Governmental Funds

The fund balance of the Capital Project Fund changed by \$(2,949,536) primarily due to construction and renovation project costs incurred prior to the issuance of the authorized bonds.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

Differences between the original and final budget of the general fund are shown on Exhibit D-1

Capital Assets and Debt Administration

Capital Assets

Total investment in capital assets for governmental activities at year-end amounted to \$50,919,985 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, land improvements, buildings and improvements, machinery, equipment, furnishings, and infrastructure. Major capital asset events during the current fiscal year included the following:

- \$5,930,911 added to various construction in progress projects, including 2023 Road Program, 2024 Road Resurfacing, Edgewood Rd Culvert, Madbury Rd Culvert, Madbury Road Streetscape and WWTP major components rehab.
- \$1,893,765 reclassified from construction in progress to depreciable assets as projects were completed during the current fiscal year.
- \$193,934 purchase of police cruisers
- \$37,187 Off Road Vehicle

Additional information on capital assets can be found in the Notes to Financial Statements.

Long-Term Debt

At the end of the current fiscal year, total bonded debt outstanding was \$19,008,087, all of which was backed by the full faith and credit of the government.

Additional information on long-term debt can be found in the Notes to Financial Statements.

Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Town of Durham, New Hampshire's finances for all those with an interest in the Town's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Office of the Business Manager
Town of Durham, New Hampshire
8 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824

TOWN OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Governmental Funds
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2024

	General	Sewer	Capital Projects	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$16,109,644	\$1,786,345	—	\$1,916,315	\$19,812,304
Investments	2,032,9463	725,968	—	1,064,355	3,823,266
Taxes receivable	891,706	—	—	—	891,706
Accounts receivable	116,883	63,832	—	144,125	324,840
Intergovernmental receivable	30,151	—	1,315,823	47,937	1,393,911
Interfund receivable	2,602,732	14,125	—	14,429	2,631,286
Prepaid items	184,310	13,000	—	7,500	204,810
Tax deeded property, subject to resale	—	—	—	—	—
Total Assets	<u>\$ 21,995,111</u>	<u>\$ 2,603,270</u>	<u>\$ 1,315,823</u>	<u>\$ 3,194,661</u>	<u>\$ 29,108,865</u>
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable	\$776,428	\$105,639	\$1,015,904	\$58,282	\$1,956,253
Accrued salaries and benefits	471,757	26,073	—	18,345	516,175
Retainage payable	—	—	330,910	—	330,910
Intergovernmental payable	9,662,299	—	—	—	9,662,299
Interfund payable	28,554	—	2,598,485	4,247	2,631,286
Escrow and performance deposits	172,354	—	—	—	172,354
Other	4,336	—	—	1,198	5,534
Total liabilities	<u>11,115,728</u>	<u>131,712</u>	<u>3,945,299</u>	<u>82,072</u>	<u>15,274,811</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES					
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>340,293</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>8,687</u>	<u>348,980</u>
FUND BALANCES (DEFICIT)					
Nonspendable	211,052	13,000	—	442,286	666,338
Restricted	710,923	2,458,558	—	2,088,346	5,257,827
Committed	4,500,646	—	—	573,270	5,073,916
Assigned	598,954	—	—	—	598,954
Unassigned (deficit)	4,517,515	—	(2,629,476)	—	1,888,039
Total fund balances (deficit)	<u>10,539,090</u>	<u>2,471,558</u>	<u>(2,629,476)</u>	<u>3,103,902</u>	<u>13,485,074</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	<u>\$ 21,995,111</u>	<u>\$ 2,603,270</u>	<u>\$ 1,315,823</u>	<u>\$ 3,194,661</u>	<u>\$ 29,108,865</u>

TOWN OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Governmental Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2024

	General	Sewer	Capital Projects	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES					
Taxes	\$11,496,218	—	—	\$234,081	\$11,730,299
Licenses and permits	1,632,250	—	—	108,515	1,740,765
Intergovernmental	4,562,243	1,921,563	3,006,942	—	9,490,748
Charges for services	829,688	1,330,824	—	1,992,943	4,153,455
Miscellaneous	889,379	118,894	—	142,177	1,150,450
Total revenues	<u>19,409,778</u>	<u>3,371,281</u>	<u>3,006,942</u>	<u>2,477,716</u>	<u>28,265,717</u>
EXPENDITURES					
Current					
General government	3,495,283	—	—	14,314	3,509,597
Public safety	8,816,609	—	—	—	8,816,609
Highways and streets	2,042,500	—	—	20,234	2,062,734
Water distribution and treatment	—	—	—	875,934	875,934
Sanitation	918,243	1,600,145	—	—	2,518,388
Health	12,050	—	—	—	12,050
Welfare	92,228	—	—	—	92,228
Culture and recreation	1,469,600	—	—	303,045	1,772,645
Conservation	41,508	—	—	600	42,108
Debt service:					
Principal	1,379,194	1,190,075	—	305,860	2,875,129
Interest	344,684	285,789	—	97,314	727,787
Other	—	4,760	—	—	4,760
Capital outlay	—	—	8,520,256	—	8,520,256
Total expenditures	<u>18,611,899</u>	<u>3,080,769</u>	<u>8,520,256</u>	<u>1,617,301</u>	<u>31,830,225</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>797,879</u>	<u>290,512</u>	<u>(5,513,314)</u>	<u>860,415</u>	<u>(3,564,508)</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in	319,659	312	1,085,931	—	1,405,902
Transfers out	(790,280)	(346,851)	(19,771)	(249,000)	(1,405,902)
Bond proceeds	—	—	1,497,618	—	1,497,618
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(470,621)</u>	<u>(346,539)</u>	<u>2,563,778</u>	<u>(249,000)</u>	<u>1,497,618</u>
Net change in fund balances	327,258	(56,027)	(2,949,536)	611,415	(2,066,890)
Fund balances, beginning, restated	10,211,832	2,527,585	320,060	2,492,487	15,551,964
Fund balances (deficit), ending	<u>\$ 10,539,090</u>	<u>\$ 2,471,558</u>	<u>\$ (2,629,476)</u>	<u>\$ 3,103,902</u>	<u>\$13,485,074</u>

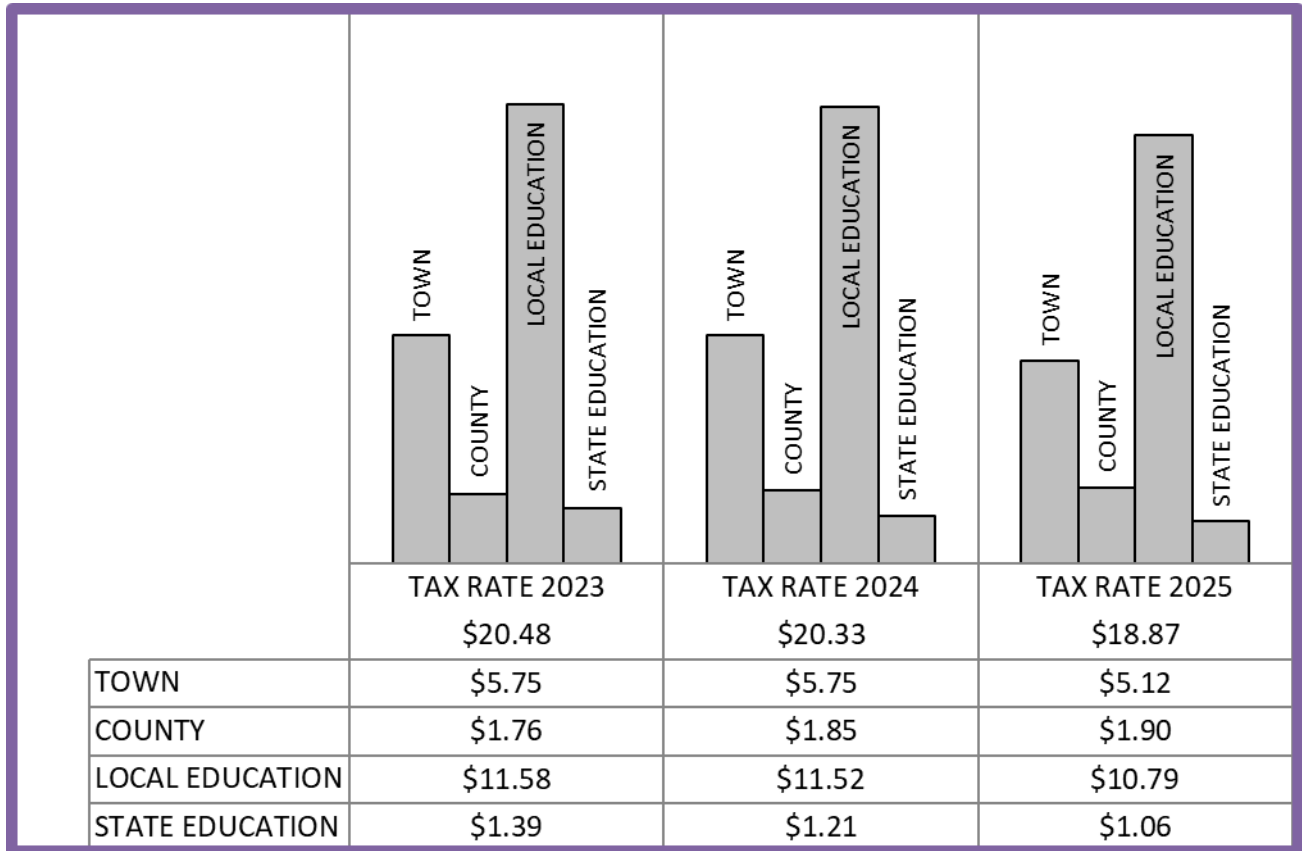
TOWN OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Combining Balance Sheet
December 31, 2024

	Special Revenue Funds						
	Water	Depot Road Parking Lot	Church Hill Rink	Conservation Commission	Downtown TIF District	Permanent Fund	Total
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$385,663	\$431,466	\$513,106	—	\$573,270	\$12,810	\$1,916,315
Investments	375,643	—	—	165,733	—	522,979	1,064,355
Accounts receivable	104,468	—	39,657	—	—	—	144,125
Due from other governments	47,937	—	—	—	—	—	47,937
Interfund receivable	14,429	—	—	—	—	—	14,429
Prepaid items	6,000	—	1,500	—	—	—	7,500
Total assets	<u>\$934,140</u>	<u>\$431,466</u>	<u>\$554,263</u>	<u>\$165,733</u>	<u>\$573,270</u>	<u>\$535,789</u>	<u>\$3,194,661</u>
LIABILITIES							
Accounts payable	\$44,994	\$58	\$13,230	—	—	—	\$58,282
Accrued salaries and benefits	9,039	—	9,306	—	—	—	18,345
Interfund payable	—	—	—	—	—	4,247	4,247
Other	—	—	—	1,198	—	—	1,198
Total liabilities	<u>54,033</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>22,536</u>	<u>1,198</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>4,247</u>	<u>82,072</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS							
	—	—	8,687	—	—	—	8,687
FUND BALANCES							
Nonspendable	6,000	—	1,500	—	—	434,786	442,286
Restricted	874,107	431,408	521,540	164,535	—	96,756	2,088,346
Committed	—	—	—	—	573,270	—	573,270
Total fund balances	<u>880,107</u>	<u>431,408</u>	<u>523,040</u>	<u>164,535</u>	<u>573,270</u>	<u>531,542</u>	<u>3,103,902</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	<u><u>\$934,140</u></u>	<u><u>\$431,466</u></u>	<u><u>\$554,263</u></u>	<u><u>\$165,733</u></u>	<u><u>\$573,270</u></u>	<u><u>\$535,789</u></u>	<u><u>\$3,194,661</u></u>

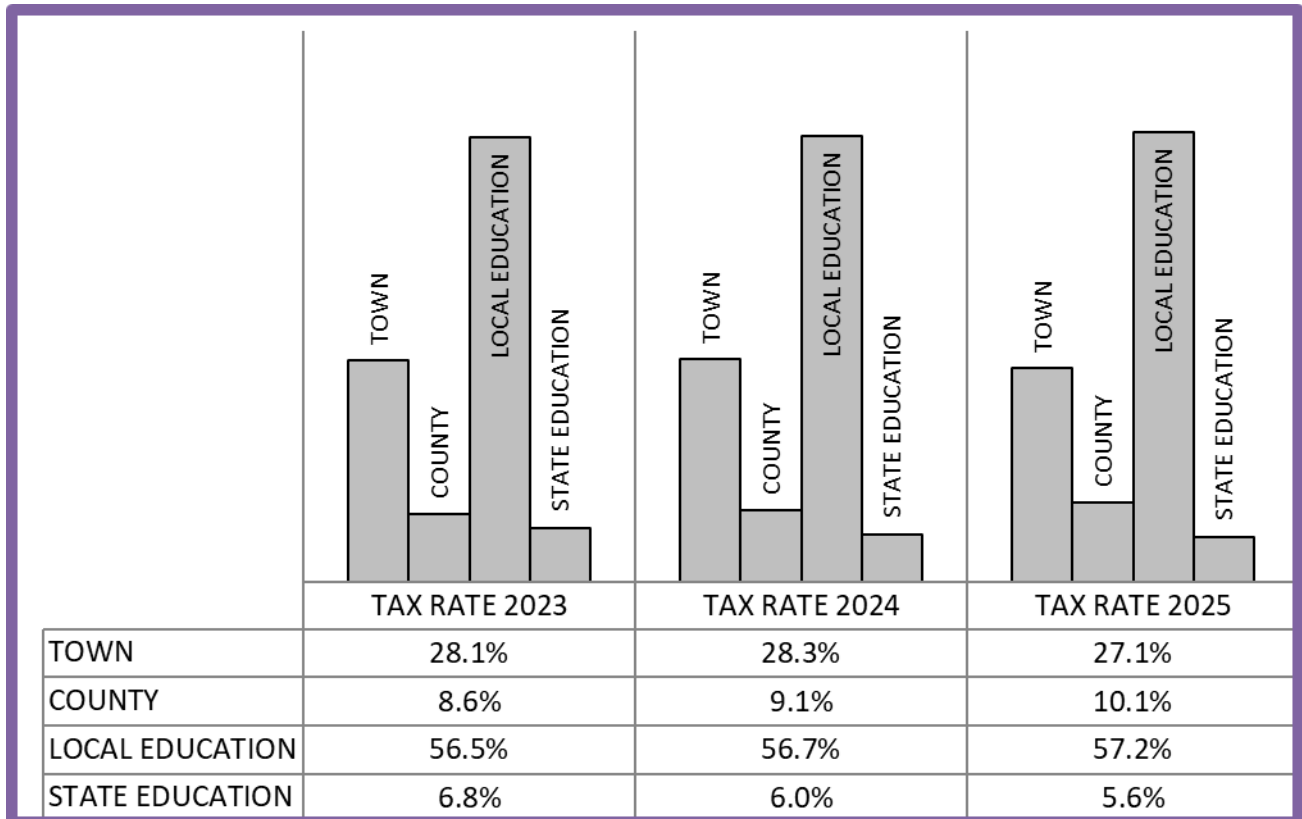
TOWN OF DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE
Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures,
and Changes in Fund Balances
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Special Revenue Funds						
	Water	Depot Road Parking Lot	Church Hill Rink	Conservation Commission	Downtown TIF District	Permanent Fund	Total
REVENUES							
Taxes	—	—	—	\$59,600	\$ 174,481	—	\$ 234,081
Licenses and permits	—	108,515	—	—	—	—	108,515
Charges for services	1,523,391	53,738	415,814	—	—	—	1,992,943
Miscellaneous	86,631	—	4,052	7,007	—	41,487	142,177
Total revenues	<u>1,613,022</u>	<u>162,253</u>	<u>419,866</u>	<u>66,607</u>	<u>174,481</u>	<u>41,487</u>	<u>2,477,716</u>
EXPENDITURES							
Current							
General government	—	—	—	—	—	14,314	14,314
Highways and streets	—	20,234	—	—	—	—	20,234
Water distribution and treatment	875,934	—	—	—	—	—	875,934
Culture and recreation	—	—	303,045	—	—	—	303,045
Conservation	—	—	—	600	—	—	600
Debt service:							
Principal	270,210	—	—	—	35,650	—	305,860
Interest	73,041	—	—	—	24,273	—	97,314
Total expenditures	<u>1,219,185</u>	<u>20,234</u>	<u>303,045</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>59,923</u>	<u>14,314</u>	<u>1,617,301</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>393,837</u>	<u>142,019</u>	<u>116,821</u>	<u>66,007</u>	<u>114,558</u>	<u>27,173</u>	<u>860,415</u>
OTHER FINANCING USES							
Transfers out	(249,000)	—	—	—	—	—	(249,000)
Net change in fund balances	144,837	142,019	116,821	66,007	114,558	27,173	611,415
Fund balances, beginning	735,270	289,389	406,219	98,528	458,712	504,369	2,492,487
Fund balances, ending	<u>\$880,107</u>	<u>\$431,408</u>	<u>\$523,040</u>	<u>\$164,535</u>	<u>\$573,270</u>	<u>\$531,542</u>	<u>\$3,103,902</u>

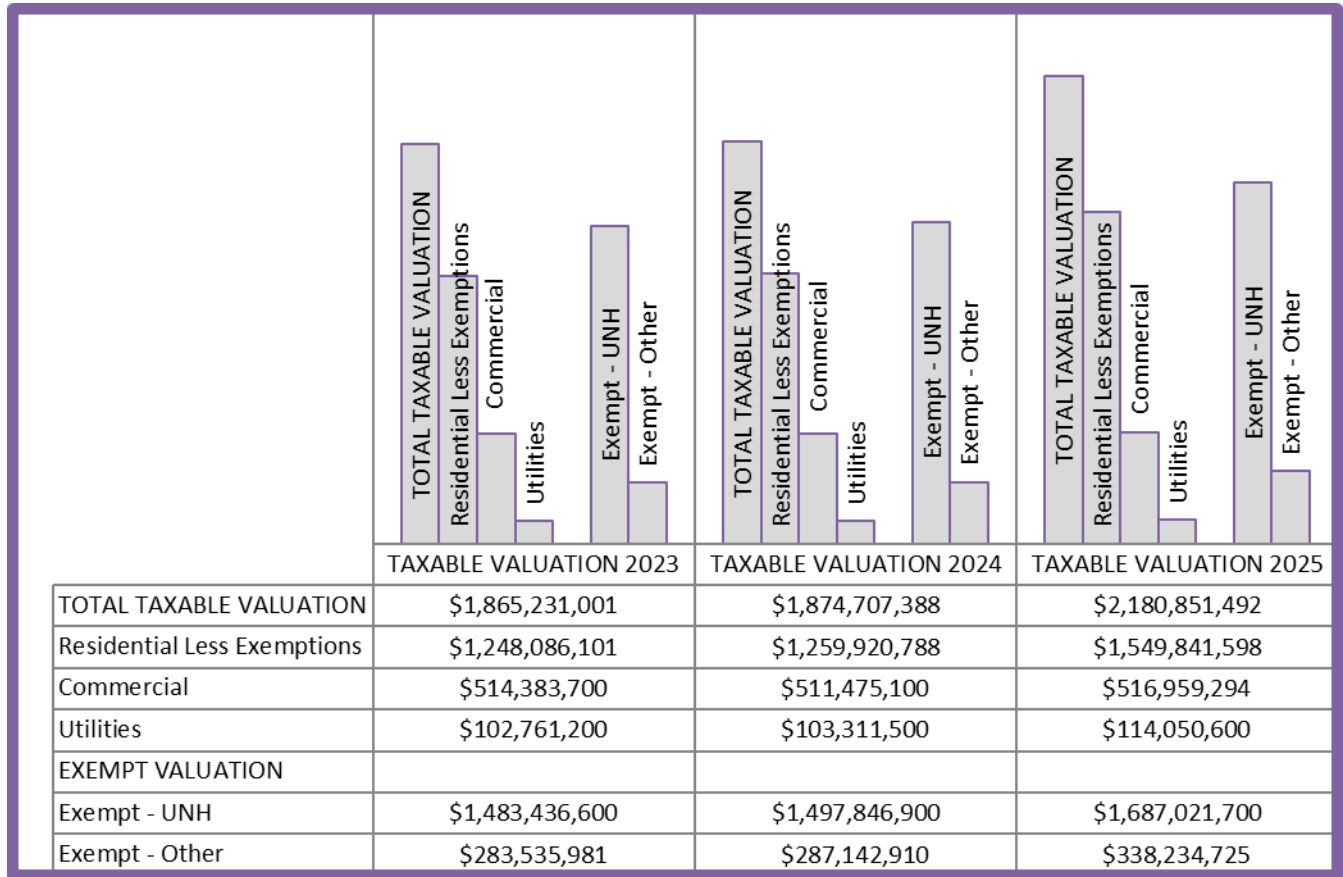
Property Tax Rate Comparisons 2023-2025



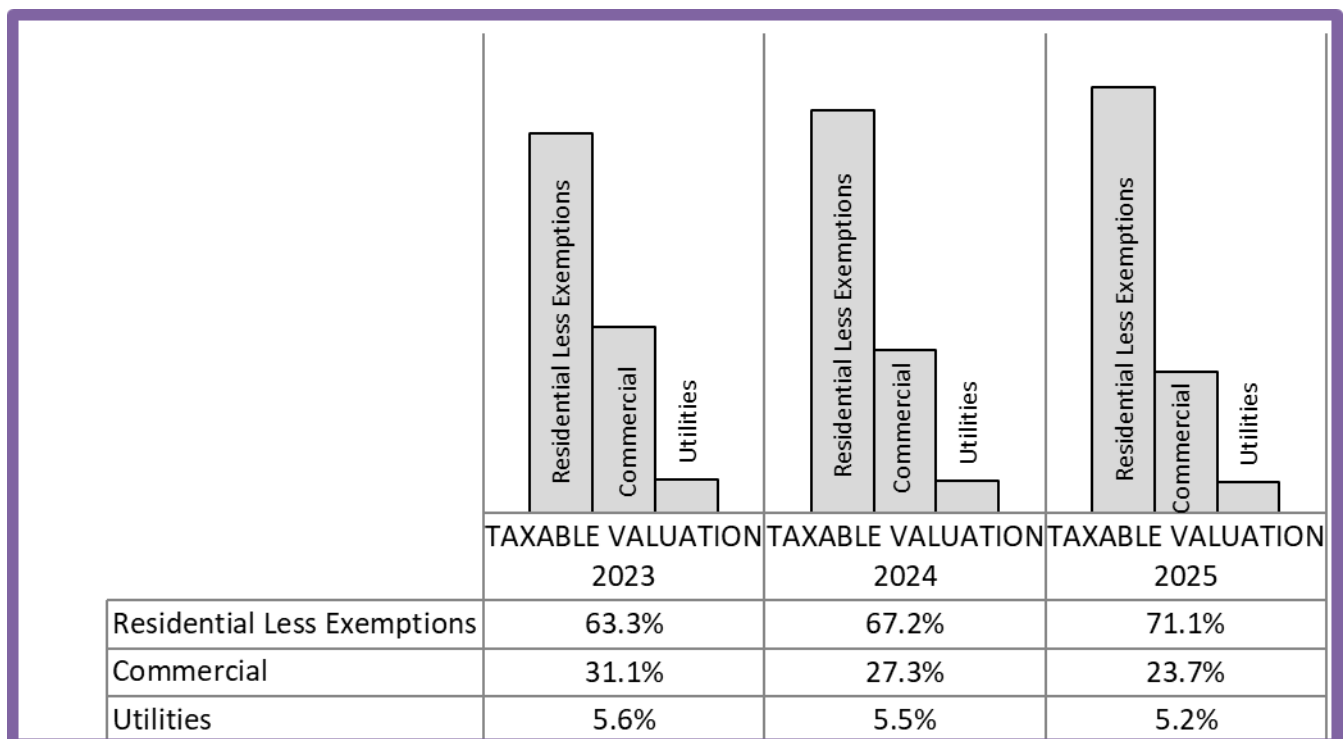
Property Tax Rate Percentage Comparisons 2023-2025



Property Valuation Comparisons 2023-2025



Taxable Property Valuation Percentages 2023-2025



Report of Trust and Capital Reserve Funds - Page 1

Town of Durham, New Hampshire MS-9 Report of Trust and Capital Reserve Funds 2024(Audited & Accepted by DOJ)

Name		Purpose				Creation Date				EOY Bal. Cost Basis	Unrealized	MARKET EOY Value	
Principal:		BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income:	BOY Balance	Change				EOY Balance
Taxpayer Funds: Capital Reserve (RSA 34 / RSA 35) Funds													
	DURHAM EMPLOYEE EARNED LEAVE BUYOUT TRUST	77,002.89	26,635.06	1,391.16	332.05	104,697.06	Discretionary/Benefit of the Town	3,671.49	(3,671.49)	0.00	104,697.06	6,825.60	111,522.66
	FIRE EQUIPMENT AND SERVICE CRF	907,146.93	117,168.79	13,016.66	139,744.77	897,587.61	Police/Fire	57,311.52	(57,311.52)	8/18/2014	897,587.61	58,517.19	956,104.80
	JOINT TOWN/UNH WATER SYSTEM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS CRF	289,016.56	77,820.38	5,293.78	1,242.23	370,888.49	Maintenance and Repair	26,670.53	(26,670.53)	1/9/1917	370,888.49	24,179.64	395,068.13
	MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT CRF	114,096.51	40,941.70	2,226.69	518.89	156,746.01	Discretionary/Benefit of the Town	8,977.21	(8,977.21)	1/14/2008	156,746.01	10,218.87	166,964.88
	ORCSD FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT CRF	232,014.19	28,958.71	3,795.21	900.51	263,867.60	Capital Reserve (Other)	20,895.62	(20,895.62)	3/9/1973	263,867.60	17,202.54	281,070.14
	ORCSD FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT, MAINTENANCE, AND BEAUTIFICATION	256,206.82	150,943.68	5,792.92	1,331.29	411,612.13	Beautification	13,939.39	(13,939.39)	3/11/2017	411,612.13	26,834.57	438,446.70
	ORCSD SPECIAL EDUCATION STABILIZATION FUND	407,735.86	135,474.51	8,132.96	251,785.70	299,557.63	Educational Purposes	119,612.60	(119,612.60)	3/11/2015	299,557.63	19,529.31	319,086.94
	PARKING CRF	97,280.96	23,944.38	1,704.94	405.52	122,524.76	Capital Reserve (Other)	10,318.21	(10,318.21)	3/10/1989	122,524.76	7,987.86	130,512.62
	SEWER SYSTEM CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT CRF	713,462.86	164,605.91	12,206.05	173,494.76	716,780.06	Maintenance and Repair	139,236.19	(139,236.19)	4/5/2017	716,780.06	46,729.64	763,509.70
						Taxpayer Funds: Capital Reserve (RSA 34 / RSA 35) Funds Total End of Year Balance: \$ 3,344,261.35							
Taxpayer Funds: Trust (RSA 31:19-a) Funds													
	ORCSD BENEFITS STABILIZATION FUND	398,499.50	84,389.11	7,255.71	251,577.53	238,566.79	Educational Purposes	70,390.92	(70,390.92)	3/11/2015	238,566.79	15,553.08	254,119.87
	UDAG CRF (COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXPENDABLE TRUST	7,687.39	1,208.48	129.36	30.70	8,994.53	Discretionary/Benefit of the Town	933.61	(933.61)	12/16/1991	8,994.53	586.39	9,580.92
						Taxpayer Funds: Trust (RSA 31:19-a) Funds Total End of Year Balance: \$ 247,561.32							
Donated Funds: Expendable Trust Funds													
	CEMETERY IMPROVEMENT TRUST	36,034.84	4,450.00	462.33	176.16	40,771.01	Maintenance and Repair	1,161.64	1,093.50	6/20/2016	43,026.15	2,212.75	45,238.90
	CEMETERY SPECIAL PROJECTS TRUST	1,147.22	0.00	14.23	5.31	1,156.14	Maintenance and Repair	42.39	33.11	3/11/2016	1,231.64	63.34	1,294.98
	CYNTHIA DUNN LIBRARY FUND	502.01	0.00	6.23	2.32	505.92	Educational Purposes	112.25	14.51	8/16/2004	632.68	32.54	665.22
	DURHAM CONSERVATION LAND USE TRUST	8,968.75	0.00	111.20	41.42	9,038.53	Environmental Purposes	1,199.34	258.85	6/9/2017	10,496.72	539.83	11,036.55
	DURHAM HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCE TRUST	719.80	300.00	9.39	3.66	1,025.53	Maintenance and Repair	22.39	23.12	7/6/2020	1,071.04	55.08	1,126.12
	DURHAM TOWN LAND STEWARDSHIP PATRON'S TRUST	16,989.30	200.00	210.59	78.64	17,321.25	Environmental Purposes	2,874.45	491.34	2/19/2018	20,687.04	1,063.90	21,750.94
	FIRE INJURY PREVENTION TRUST	5,434.58	0.00	35.84	5,169.38	301.04	Educational Purposes	1,684.66	(1,679.12)	5/2/2005	306.58	15.77	322.35
	FIRE STATION EXPENDABLE TRUST	225,266.46	0.00	2,792.82	1,040.52	227,018.76	Fire Department Donation	52,374.02	6,500.95	12/27/1995	285,893.73	14,702.94	300,596.67
	HAMILTON SMITH MEMORIAL CHAPEL TRUST						Maintenance and Repair			3/11/2009			

Report of Trust and Capital Reserve Funds - Page 2

Town of Durham, New Hampshire

MS-9 Report of Trust and Capital Reserve Funds 2024(Audited & Accepted by DOJ)

Name		Purpose				Creation Date								
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market	EOY Bal. Cost Basis	Unrealized	MARKET EOY Value	
HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP - EXPENDABLE	6,006.51	162.50	74.93	28.09	6,215.85		202.94	175.33	378.27	8/16/2004		339.12	6,933.24	
	95,483.60	10,577.00	1,257.91	23,418.79	83,899.72	Scholarship	0.00	630.20	630.20	3/5/2018	84,529.92	4,347.21	88,877.13	
JULY FOURTH CELEBRATION TRUST	117.00	0.00	1.45	0.56	117.89	Celebration/Old Home Day	16.06	3.39	194.5	1997	137.34	7.06	144.40	
LOIS E. BROWN WAGON HILL FARM TRUST	17,601.96	0.00	218.23	81.31	17,738.88	Maintenance and Repair	3,569.85	507.99	4,077.84	3/11/2012	21,816.72	1,121.99	22,938.71	
MARGERY & LORUS MILNE MEMORIAL TRUST	1,190.17	0.00	14.75	5.51	1,199.41	Public Monument	153.52	34.37	187.89		1,387.30	71.35	1,458.65	
MARGERY MILNE TRUST	15,069.39	0.00	186.84	69.60	15,186.63	Environmental Purposes	540.23	434.87	975.10	12/3/2012	16,161.73	831.17	16,992.90	
MEMORIAL DAY PARADE FUND	44.68	0.00	0.56	0.22	45.02	Celebration/Old Home Day	498.05	1.30	499.35	3/11/2000	544.37	28.00	572.37	
AMY PATHWAY TRUST	9,965.32	0.00	122.93	2,542.86	7,545.39	Educational Purposes	248.16	270.52	518.68	3/31/2023	8,064.07	414.72	8,478.79	
TECHNOLOGY DRIVE TRUST	27,736.97	0.00	343.87	128.13	27,952.71	Environmental Purposes	3,775.71	800.47	4,576.18	1/28/2013	32,528.89	1,672.90	34,201.79	
WAGON HILL TRUST	1,655.63	0.00	20.53	7.65	1,668.51	Maintenance and Repair	149.41	47.80	197.21	3/11/1997	1,865.72	95.95	1,961.67	
Donated Funds: Expendable Trust Funds Total End of Year Balance: \$												536,975.76	\$	564,591.38
Donated Funds: Income-only Trust Funds														
BRUCE SMITH LIBRARY FUND														
	26,309.98	0.00	326.19	121.53	26,514.64	Educational Purposes	8,738.63	759.27	9,497.90	3/11/2008	36,012.54	1,852.06	37,864.60	
FFROST GEORGE FUND	4,939.40	0.00	61.24	22.82	4,977.82	Educational Purposes	8,520.20	142.56	8,662.76	3/11/1976	13,640.58	701.51	14,342.05	
HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP - NON-EXPENDABLE	30,278.98	0.00	375.40	139.86	30,514.52	Scholarship	11,437.29	873.82	12,311.11	8/16/2004	42,825.63	2,202.44	45,028.07	
OLINTHUS DOE FUND	34,109.06	0.00	422.88	157.56	34,374.38	Maintenance and Repair	5,567.70	984.33	6,552.03	3/11/1988	40,926.41	2,104.77	43,031.18	
SSMITH CHAPEL TRUST	9,494.94	87.50	117.95	44.04	9,656.35	Maintenance and Repair	2,178.17	275.04	2,453.21	3/11/1983	12,109.56	622.77	12,732.33	
SSMITH TOWN IMPROVEMENT TRUST	20,439.72	0.00	253.39	94.41	20,598.70	Beautification	3,058.38	589.88	3,648.26	3/11/1985	24,246.96	1,246.98	25,493.94	
WILCOX TRUST FUND	67,784.24	0.00	840.37	313.10	68,311.51	Maintenance and Repair	14,584.18	1,956.19	16,540.37	12/21/2009	84,851.88	4,363.77	89,215.65	
Donated Funds: Income-only Trust Funds Total End of Year Balance: \$												254,613.56	\$	267,707.86
Cemetery Funds														
CEMETERY CARE TRUST														
	229,080.56	4,450.00	2,855.66	1,067.82	235,318.40	Cemetery Trust (Other)	40,587.80	6,664.46	47,252.26	6/20/2016	282,570.66	14,532.11	297,102.77	
DURHAM CEMETERY TRUST total of 45 individual trusts	34,563.51	0.00	(51.88)	189.60	34,322.03	Cemetery Perpetual Care	13,019.49	1,449.00	14,468.49	3/11/1881	48,790.52	4,186.03	52,976.55	
Cemetery Funds Total End of Year Balance: \$												331,361.18	\$	350,079.32
GRAND TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS												4,714,773.17	\$	5,008,365.92

Statement of Long-Term Indebtedness and Payments 1/1/25 – 12/31/25 - Page 1

GENERAL FUND	LOAN DATE	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	RATE	MATURITY DATE	PRINCIPAL PAID 2025	INTEREST PAID 2025	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/25
2006 General Obligation Bond (includes Land Conservation)	11/15/2006	\$2,929,216	3.9555%	11/15/2026	\$94,076	\$7,526	\$94,034
2010 General Obligation Bond	7/22/2010	\$674,100	3.5512%	08/15/2025	\$20,000	\$1,000	\$0
2012 General Obligation Bond (includes Library)	8/30/2012	\$4,560,000	1.8990%	08/30/2032	\$185,000	\$28,953	\$1,020,000
2013 General Obligation Bond	9/6/2013	\$1,028,000	3.4430%	09/06/2033	\$35,000	\$12,381	\$280,000
2014 General Obligation Bond	7/17/2014	\$2,168,000	3.0428%	08/15/2034	\$65,000	\$20,225	\$460,000
2016 General Obligation Bond	1/12/2017	\$1,189,000	2.2000%	01/15/2027	\$73,720	\$4,055	\$147,440
2018 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2018	\$3,669,010	2.8635%	08/15/2038	\$265,000	\$71,873	\$1,590,000
2019 General Obligation Bond	1/19/2019	\$697,050	2.1300%	02/15/2029	\$65,000	\$7,250	\$112,000
2020 General Obligation Bond	7/14/2020	\$774,775	1.6700%	08/15/2040	\$85,000	\$17,700	\$315,000
2022 General Obligation Bond	1/6/2022	\$1,366,100	1.6400%	02/15/2032	\$178,350	\$45,972	\$830,850
2023 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2023	\$1,328,760	3.3600%	02/15/2043	\$161,770	\$52,054	\$1,005,200
2024 General Obligation Bond	1/9/2024	\$420,010	2.8900%	02/15/2029	\$86,500	\$19,215	\$333,510
2025 General Obligation Bond	7/15/2025	\$6,735,500	4.2200%	08/15/2045	\$0	\$0	\$6,735,500
2025 SRLF - Edgewood Road at Littlehale Creek	10/14/2025	\$825,807	5.3600%	11/01/2044	\$41,290	\$11,468	\$784,517
2025 SRLF - Madbury Road at Littlehale Creek	10/14/2025	\$448,415	5.6360%	11/01/2044	\$22,421	\$7,391	\$425,994
					\$1,378,127	\$307,063	\$14,134,045

WATER FUND	LOAN DATE	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	RATE	MATURITY DATE	PRINCIPAL PAID 2025	INTEREST PAID 2025	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/25
2006 General Obligation Bond	11/15/2006	\$545,469	3.9555%	11/15/2026	\$25,262	\$2,021	\$25,260
2008 General Obligation Bond	11/15/2008	\$724,900	4.8526%	11/15/2028	\$36,400	\$6,497	\$109,200
2014 General Obligation Bond	7/17/2014	\$784,000	3.0428%	08/15/2034	\$40,000	\$14,985	\$345,000
2015 General Obligation Bond	8/25/2015	\$459,038	2.0000%	09/01/2025	\$69,685	\$1,394	\$0
2020 General Obligation Bond	7/14/2020	\$672,650	1.6700%	08/15/2040	\$35,000	\$17,910	\$475,000
2022 General Obligation Bond	1/6/2022	\$448,150	1.6400%	02/15/1932	\$47,475	\$16,381	\$305,725
2023 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2023	\$81,140	2.8500%	02/15/2028	\$18,580	\$2,716	\$43,960
2025 General Obligation Bond	7/15/2025	\$3,751,300	4.2200%	08/15/1945	\$0	\$0	\$3,751,300
					\$272,402	\$61,904	\$5,055,445

TIF DISTRICT	LOAN DATE	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	RATE	MATURITY DATE	PRINCIPAL PAID 2025	INTEREST PAID 2025	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/25
2022 General Obligation Bond	1/6/2022	\$620,700	1.6400%	02/15/2042	\$31,100	\$19,362	\$527,400
2023 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2023	\$36,370	2.6900%	02/15/2031	\$4,550	\$1,275	\$27,270
					\$35,650	\$20,637	\$554,670

Statement of Long-Term Indebtedness and Payments 1/1/24–12/31/24 - Page 2

WASTEWATER FUND	LOAN DATE	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	RATE	MATURITY DATE	PRINCIPAL PAID 2025	INTEREST PAID 2025	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/25
2013 SRF - Dover Road Pump Station/Aeration Blowers	10/29/2013	\$1,313,272	2.7200%	10/29/2032	\$65,664	\$14,288	\$459,645
2014 SRF - Old Concord Road Pump Station	2/1/2015	\$207,824	3.1400%	02/01/2034	\$10,391	\$3,225	\$93,520
2021 SRLF - Dover Road Force Main	2/1/2020	\$1,815,342	2.0000%	02/01/2040	\$90,767	\$29,045	\$1,361,506
2021 SRLF - Grit Project	4/1/2020	\$816,764	2.0000%	04/01/2040	\$40,838	\$13,068	\$612,573
2006 General Obligation Bond	11/15/2006	\$325,469	3.9555%	11/15/2026	\$15,662	\$1,253	\$15,663
2008 General Obligation Bond	11/15/2008	\$1,663,860	4.8525%	11/15/2028	\$73,600	\$13,138	\$220,800
2010 General Obligation Bond	7/22/2010	\$709,900	3.5512%	08/15/2030	\$30,000	\$5,408	\$130,000
2013 General Obligation Bond	09/06/2013	\$2,500,000	3.4430%	09/06/2023	\$120,000	\$53,063	\$1,225,000
2014 General Obligation Bond	7/17/2014	\$783,000	3.0428%	08/15/2034	\$40,000	\$14,985	\$345,000
2015 General Obligation Bond	8/25/2015	\$1,615,962	2.0000%	09/01/2025	\$245,314	\$4,906	\$0
2016 General Obligation Bond	1/12/2017	\$345,000	2.2000%	01/15/2027	\$34,500	\$1,898	\$69,000
2018 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2018	\$207,455	2.8635%	08/15/2038	\$20,000	\$2,805	\$45,000
2019 General Obligation Bond	1/19/2019	\$573,850	2.1300%	02/15/2029	\$30,000	\$5,870	\$105,000
2022 General Obligation Bond	1/6/2022	\$279,250	1.6400%	02/15/2032	\$30,575	\$10,090	\$187,525
2023 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2023	\$1,227,300	3.3600%	02/15/2043	\$68,420	\$51,678	\$1,090,450
2024 General Obligation Bond	1/9/2024	\$884,910	2.8900%	02/15/2029	\$180,300	\$40,553	\$704,610
2025 General Obligation Bond	7/15/2025	\$2,927,850	4.2200%	08/15/1945	\$0	\$0	\$2,927,850
		\$18,197,008			\$1,096,031	\$265,273	\$9,593,142

PARKING FUND	LOAN DATE	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	RATE	MATURITY DATE	PRINCIPAL PAID 2025	INTEREST PAID 2025	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/25
2023 General Obligation Bond	1/10/2023	\$46,100	2.8500%	02/15/2028	\$9,220	\$2,116	\$27,660
2024 General Obligation Bond	1/9/2024	\$105,425	2.8900%	02/15/2029	\$21,500	\$4,828	\$83,925
2025 General Obligation Bond	7/15/2025	\$104,700	4.2200%	08/15/1945	\$0	\$0	\$104,700
		\$256,225			\$30,720	\$6,944	\$216,285

	ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL	PRINCIPAL PAID 2025	INTEREST PAID 2025	PRINCIPAL BALANCE AS OF 12/31/25
GENERAL FUND	\$28,813,743	\$1,378,127	\$307,063	\$14,134,045
WATER FUND	\$7,466,647	\$272,402	\$61,904	\$5,055,445
WASTEWATER FUND	\$18,197,008	\$1,096,031	\$265,273	\$9,593,142
PARKING FUND	\$256,225	\$30,720	\$6,944	\$216,285
TIF DISTRICT	\$657,070	\$35,650	\$20,637	\$554,670
TOTAL	\$55,390,693	\$2,812,930	\$661,821	\$29,553,587

VALUATION, TAX HISTORY & INVENTORY

Valuation Figures 2021-2025

YEAR	PERCENT OF VALUATION	TAXABLE VALUATION
2025	96%*	\$2,171,925,652
2024	82.5%	\$1,866,124,968
2023	94.2%	\$1,865,231,001
2022	61.5%	\$1,250,243,962
2021	72.5%	\$1,258,475,281

MS1 Summary 2025

Total Taxable Land	\$ 797,633,501
Total Taxable Buildings	\$1,277,207,394
Total Taxable Public Utilities	\$ 114,050,600
Valuation Before Exemptions and TIF Retained Value	\$2,188,891,495
Total Dollar Amount of Exemptions	\$ (8,040,003)
TIF Retained Value	\$ (8,925,840)
Net Valuation on which local tax rate is computed	\$2,171,925,652

**Estimated*

Tax Rate in Durham 2021-2025

YEAR	TOWN	LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT	STATE SCHOOL	COUNTY	TOTAL
2025	\$5.12	\$10.79	\$1.06	\$1.90	\$18.87
2024	\$5.75	\$11.52	\$1.21	\$1.85	\$20.33
2023	\$5.75	\$11.58	\$1.39	\$1.76	\$20.48
2022	\$8.13	\$16.56	\$1.53	\$2.82	\$29.04
2021	\$7.86	\$15.28	\$1.98	\$2.79	\$27.91

Town Property Inventory

Street Name	Description	Tax Map & Lot	Assessed Valuation
Bagdad Road	Stolworthy Wildlife Sanctuary	107-14 & 15	\$404,600
Beech Hill Road	Water Tank Site	201-3	\$1,056,100
Bennett Road	Lord Property	224-21	\$485,400
Bennett Road	Doe Farm	224-1	\$681,500
Canney Road	Conservation Easement	209-16	Easement only
Coe Drive	Beard's Creek Scenic Easement	107-32	Easement only
Dame Road	Willey Property	231-6	\$259,100
Dame Road	Westerly Side	231-21	\$173,400
Davis Avenue	Conservation easements	105-40 & 45	Easement only
Depot Road	Former Commercial Property	105-1 & 106-2	\$1,206,000
Dover Road	District Court and Museum	108-68	\$854,500
Dover Road	Police Facility	209-29	\$2,157,500
Dover Road	Sewer Pumping Station	209-94	\$287,100

Street Name	Description	Tax Map & Lot	Assessed Valuation
Durham Point Road	Solid Waste Mgmt. Facility	214-27	\$1,189,600
Durham Point Road (off)	Conservation Land	214-19	\$321,900
Durham Point Road (off)	Conservation Land	219-13	\$190,400
Durham Point Road (and Sunnyside Dr.)	Scenic Easements	114-29	Easements only
Durham Point Road	Town Pound	114-23	\$35,900
Foss Farm Road	Water Tower	112-1-LNK-D	\$4,986,000
Ffrost Drive	Vacant Land	116-35 & 119-2	\$291,200
Littlehale Road/US4	Vacant Land	103-14	\$18,800
Longmarsh Road	Colby Marsh/Beaver Brook Conservation	219-17	\$218,200
Longmarsh Road	Langmaid Farm/adjacent to Beaver Brook	219-14 & 16	\$535,100
Madbury Road	Library	106-29	\$4,540,600
Magrath Road	Tot Lot	113-29	\$134,600
Main Street	Cemetery	203-6	\$421,200
Mast Road	Exec. Interest in Conservation Easement	211-1	Easement only
Meserve Road	Father Lawless Park	111-14	\$399,600
Mill Pond Road	Mill Pond Road Park	108-90	\$456,600
Mill Pond Road	Smith Chapel	218-65	\$784,600
Mill Pond Road	Milne Property	108-91	\$456,000
Mill Road	Vacant Land	112-55	\$148,300
Mill Road	Vacant Land	113-70	\$81,600
Mill Road	Oyster River Forest	222-72	\$8,956 CU*
Mill Road/Main Street	Bicentennial Park	109-3	Easement only
Near Madbury Line	Exec. Interest in Conservation Easement	205-1	Easement only
Near Oyster River	Conservation Easement	203-9	Easement only
Newmarket Road	#281 – Vacant Land	232-81	\$150,700
Newmarket Road	Easterly Side	117-18	\$9,400
Newmarket Road	Mill Pond Dam	108-87	\$313,000
Newmarket Road	Town Hall	108-1	\$2,379,900
Newmarket Road	Sullivan Monument	108-76	\$2,362,700
Newmarket Road	Vacant Land	114-44	\$240,900
OldLanding Road	Town Landing	108-54	\$372,300
OldLanding Road	Town Landing Footbridge	108-53	\$336,200

Street Name	Description	Tax Map & Lot	Assessed Valuation
Old Piscataqua Road	Jackson's Landing	209-89 & 90	\$2,657,900
Old Piscataqua Road	Near Jackson's Landing	209-85	\$180,500
Orchard Drive	Scenic Easements	113-83 & 86	Easements only
Orchard Drive	Protected Open Space	113-87	\$480,200
Orchard Drive	Protected Open Space	220-6	\$133,200
Oyster River Road	Access Easement	Access Easement	Easement only
Oyster River Road	Vacant Land	113-42	\$390,700
Packers Falls Road	Vacant Land	233-56	\$34,300
Packers Falls Road	Conservation Easement	222-1	Easement only
Packers Falls Road	Conservation Easement	222-2	Easement only
Packers Falls Road	Spruce Hole Conservation Area	212-6	\$216,900
Packers Falls Road	Abutting Spruce Hole	222-71	\$1,388 CU*
Packers Falls Road	Pike Property	223-40-1	\$434,300 CU*
Pettee Brook Lane	Town Parking Lot (multiple parcels)	106-56 & 57	\$1,742,400
Piscataqua Road	Thatch Bed	215-27	\$14,700
Piscataqua Road	Wagon Hill Farm	215-18 & 19	\$1,550,201 CU*
Piscataqua Road	Sewer Treatment Plant & Quarry Log	209-78	\$7,464,600
Schoolhouse Lane	Cemetery (owned by heirs, town maintained)	108-74	\$26,300
Simons Lane	Two Small Lots	232-85 & 237-15	\$42,100
Simons Lane	Vacant Land	237-12	\$144,300
Stone Quarry Drive	Public Works Site	209-36	\$1,446,200
Wednesday Hill Road	Vacant Land	222-39	\$560,000
Williams Way	Boat Landing Lot	215-4	\$94,900
Wiswall Road	Wiswall Dam Site	223-4	\$1,009,500
Wiswall Road	Vacant Land	224-39	\$920 CU*
90 Turtle Pond Road, Lee	Vacant Land	Lee 6-7-700	\$110,100
411 Packers Falls Road, Lee	Gravel Pit	Lee 15-1-900	\$3,340,100
411 Packers Falls Road, Lee	Vacant Land	Lee 15-1-901	\$142,300
Snell Road, Lee	Water Pump Station	Lee 5-6-100	\$981,300
Snell Road, Lee	Vacant Land	Lee 5-6-101	\$128,300
*Current Use			

2025

TOWN OF DURHAM
8 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824

603-868-5571

www.ci.durham.nh.us

