



## CITY OF CONCORD

### REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Thomas J. Aspell, Jr.  
City Manager

**DATE:** March 6, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Calendar Year 2024-2025 City Council Priorities

#### **Recommendation**

Review, approve and adopt the City Council Priorities as developed by Mayor Champlin and members of City Council at their March 4, 2024 City Council Priority Setting Session.

#### **Background/Discussion**

Members of City Council met on March 4, 2024 to discuss and set priorities for 2024-2025. The following items are the top priorities members of Council chose for 2024-2025.

- Finance & Technology:
  - Balance the Budget Minimizing Tax Rate Impact
  - Maintain AA+ Bond Rating
  - Maintain Compliance with Fiscal Policy Goals (Debt Ratio)
  - Enterprise Resource Planning Implementation
  - Assessing Full Measure & List
  - Pursue Federal / State Funding
  - Cost Containment – Health Insurance Costs
  - Technology Infrastructure Projects
  
- Organizational:
  - Recruitment & Retention
  - Class & Compensation Study
  - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice and Belonging Implementation to prevent racism and discrimination in the community
  - Solid Waste Contract Implementation
  - Community Communication
  
- Housing / Homelessness – Continue to Enter in Public-Private Partnerships to Support Housing Projects (market rate / workforce / affordable) Utilizing Available Tools and Programs to Support Partners & Developers:
  - RSA 79-E Community Tax Relief Incentives
  - Community Development Block Grants

- Revolving Loan Fund Program
- Sale of City Owned Development Sites / Surplus Real Estate
- Zoning Amendments
- High Functioning, Coordinated, Quantified Approach to Homelessness with Public Updates
- Pursue City / County / State Partnerships
  
- Transportation & Utility Infrastructure; a system of systems
  - Fully Fund Street Paving & Sidewalk Program
  - New Airport Terminal
  - Loudon Road Bridge
  - Heights Sewer Improvement Project
  - Broken Ground Water Booster Pump Station
  - McKee Square
  - I-93 Project w/ or w/out Bridge Deck (including Storrs Street Extension)
  - State Parking Garages
  - Public Transportation
  
- Community & Economic Development:
  - Interim Zoning Amendments / Initiate Master Plan Update / Concord Next 2.0
  - Implement Economic Development Advisory Committee
  - Economic Development Website Overhaul / Digital Marketing Package
  - Destination Marketing
  - New Airport Terminal
  - Heights Sewer Project
  - Pursue Public / Private Partnerships
  - Placemaking / Gateways / Community Art / Murals (Food Trucks)
  - Regulatory Amendments – Review Charitable Gaming
  - Mayor’s Business Visitation Program
  - Historic Preservation Initiatives
  
- Energy / Environment / Sustainability:
  - Community Power Review
  - Complete Solar Arrays at Old Turnpike Landfill / Hall Street Waste Water Treatment Plant
  - Convert Remaining Ornamental Street Lights to LED
  - EV Charging Stations (Parking Garages, Surface Lots, Parks)
  - Energy Diversification / Efficiency
  - Street Trees / Open Space
  
- Public Safety:
  - New Police Station
  - City Hall Campus Master Plan & Schematic Design
  - Fire Gear Replacement
  - Build Out Police Department Social Worker Staffing and Funding Options
  - Community Policing
  - Fire Department Equipment Replacement
  - Continuous Improvement in Public Safety Effectiveness

- Recruitment / Retention
- Recreation & Leisure:
  - Complete Construction of New Canal Street Riverfront Park
  - White Park Inclusionary Playground
  - Complete New Penacook Library & Activity Center (Divest 3 Merrimack Street)
  - Memorial Field Design & Partnership Review
  - Keach Park Lights
  - Bicentennial Square “Light Renovation” (Paver Replacement)
  - Merrimack River Greenway Trail (MRGT)
    - Complete Purchase of Horseshoe Pond to Contoocook River w/New Hampshire Department of Transportation
    - Sunflower Field Section
  - Beaver Meadow Golf Course Club House Options
  - Garrison Park Pool
  - Terrill Park
  - Kiwanis Park Design
  - Identify Additional East Side Greenspace