

*Please note that several Brewer City Councilors are planning to attend this workshop

[Bangor] City Council Workshop

Meeting with State Legislators

January 22, 2024 @ 5:30 PM

(rescheduled from December 19, 2023)

NEW LOCATION

**Council Chambers in Penquis Bldg
(entrance in the back)**

**262 Harlow St.
Bangor, Maine**

1. Review of City Council Priorities

- Housing
- Emergency Shelters
- General Assistance
- Disproportionate impact on service center communities
- Statewide homelessness plan – near term vs long term
- Reuse of Dorothea Dix facility

2. Listing of Legislative Items of Potential Municipal Interest

At a workshop last week, the City Council reviewed a summary of legislative documents and requests that City staff would be tracking (a summary of which is included with this document). While do track Committee schedules, we'd ask that you share news of any changes related to the timing of hearings, etc for items of municipal interest. We also offer access to our staff resources should you need additional background information on any items of municipal interest.

3. Legislator's Committee Updates

4. Other Items, if Any

Listing of Legislative Items of Potential Municipal Interest

(* - denotes LDs the City provided testimony on)

Infrastructure

LD 212 – Bond for Municipal Culverts at Steam Crossings

LD 860 – Identify Railroad Lines from Portland to Bangor as a Major Corridor*

LD 1967 – Support Municipal Franchise Agreements

Code Enforcement/Zoning

LR 2857 – Exempt Buildings Used to Cultivate Crops from Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC)

LD 1257 – Increase Housing Capacity and Protect the Municipal Tax Base and Working Lands

LD 1673 – Encourage Affordable Housing and Mixed-used Development by Establishing a Thriving Corridors Program

LD 1134 – Improve Housing Affordability by Amending Definition of “Subdivision”

LD 1672 – Establish Affordable Housing Permitting Process

Public Safety

LD 913 – Support First Responders (Concept Draft no language)

LD 1515 – Fund Delivery of Emergency Medical Services

LD 1832 – Reimbursement of Fees for Treatment Rendered by Ambulance Services

LD 1751 – Maximize Federal Funding in Support of Emergency Medical Services

LD 1857 – Establish Public Safety Health and Wellness Grant Pilot Program

Human Resources

LR 2906 – Improve Recruitment, Retention and Wellness of Law Enforcement Professionals

LR 2869 – Strengthen Firefighters’ Collective Bargaining Rights

LD 1409 – Require Reimbursement When Municipality Hires First Responders When Training Costs Were Incurred by Another Municipality

LD 827 – Employees to Request Flexible Work Schedules

LD 1376 – Increase the State Minimum Wage to \$15 per Hour

Municipal Solid Waste/Recycling

LD 1660- Advanced Recycling Subject to Solid Waste Regulation Does Not Constitute Recycling

LD 1009 – Reduction and Recycling of Food Waste

LR 2798 – Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Services

PFAS

LD 1537 – Prevention of Perfluoralkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Pollution and Funding

LD 277 - Perfluoralkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

Climate Action

LD 412 – Engage Efficiency Maine Trust in Mitigating Climate Change – Electrification Programs

LD 1606 – Finance Clean Energy and Infrastructure in Maine

LR 2855 – Expand Availability of Heat Pump Rebates in Certain Areas of the State

Public Health

LD 1952 – On-site Cannabis Consumption

LD 1215 – End the Sale of Tobacco Products

LD 445 – Department of Health and Human Services to Apply for a Waiver from the Federal Government for the Medicaid Limitation on Payment to a Facility with More than 16 Inpatient Beds for Psychiatric Treatment*

LD 1714 – Create a Sustainable Funding Source for Recovery Community Centers Using a Percentage of the Adult Use Cannabis Tax Revenue*

General Assistance

LD 1675 – Amend Laws Regarding Eligibility, Housing Assistance and Reimbursement

LD 1732 – Expand the General Assistance Program*

LD 1426 – Amend General Assistance Laws*

LD 1710 - Establish Rental Assistance/Guarantee Program and Amend Laws Regarding Tenants and General Assistance

Emergency Shelters

LR 2714 – Support Shelters for the Unhoused

LR 2767 – Improve Funding for Homeless Shelters

LR 2932 – Prohibit Municipalities from Enforcing Moratoria on Emergency Shelters

Housing

LD 1074 – Bond for New Affordable Housing for Low-Income Housing

LD 1673 – Promote Affordable Housing by Providing Tax Exemption for Housing Choice Vouchers

LD 1721 – Creation of Transitional Housing Communities for Homeless Population

LR 2752 – Create Workforce Housing to Promote Economic Development

LR 2938 – Improve the Housing Voucher System

LR 2772 – Accelerate Production of Housing and Strengthen Maine Historic Property Rehabilitation Tax Credit

LD 226 – Address Maine’s Affordable Housing Crisis

LD 1493 – Increase Affordable Housing by Expanding Tax Increment Financing

LD 1540 – Establish an Eviction Prevention Pilot Program

Taxation

LD 1298 – Allow Local Options Sales Tax on Short-term Lodging to Fund Affordable Housing

LD 1345 – Permit Municipalities to Establish by Ordinance a Program for Partial Deferral of Property Taxes for Seniors

LD 1335 – Amend Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens Law

LD 1027 – Prohibit Local Sales Taxes

LD 996 – Allow Municipality to Establish Local Option Sales Tax

LR 2694 – Poverty Abatement Timeline

LR 2718 – Property Value Reassessment Process

LR 2842 – Provide Property Tax Relief

LR 2929 – Repeal Law Limiting the Municipal Property Tax Levy

Other

LD 1412 – Amend Constitution Establishing That All Maine Residents Have Equal Rights Under the Law*

LD 871 – Support Maine Discovery Museum’s Informal Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education Programs Throughout the State*