

Bar Harbor Town Council

Vision

The Bar Harbor Town Council is resolute in its commitment to promoting a sustainable and resilient community. Efficient use of public funds, good governance in accordance with the Town Charter and citizen involvement will ensure ample access to goods, services, housing and education and afford our diverse residents and visitors an outstanding quality of life.

2014 Five Year Goals

~ FY14 through FY19 ~

A. Taxes and Other Revenues

1. **Work with the manager to draft a Municipal Budget that will keep property tax increases to a minimum.**
2. **Work to identify opportunities to match potential revenues to incurred expenses to minimize impact on property tax and rate payers.**
3. **Work with the Finance Director and Assessor to understand possible variances/inequities in commercial property assessment to determine the need for revaluation of all commercial properties.**

B. Environment

1. **Work with the Marine Resources Committee and others to ensure that the water quality of Frenchman Bay is preserved by working with local, state and federal agencies and committees.**
2. **Work with other towns in the region to study and recommend solutions to the long-term issue of solid waste management and disposal.**

C. Planning for Our Future

1. **Bring to Town Meeting a simplified, enforceable Land Use Ordinance.**
2. **Conduct no-cost evaluation of the Town's rooftops for the feasibility of installing photovoltaic panels to reduce the Town's energy costs; and encourage, where possible, "community solar" in which local residents and businesses cooperate to plan, invest in and benefit from solar technology responsibly sited on public or private facilities.**
3. **Develop and enact a Land Use Ordinance amendment to make existing shorefront cottage rentals conforming.**
4. **Review the town's process for siting and permitting public utilities and make recommendations for improvement.**

Council Goals

Results of Goal Setting Workshop October 28 2014

D. Services

- 1. Improve effectiveness and efficiency of public safety services, including continued exploration of collaboration with other towns**
- 2. Investigate and make recommendations regarding the need for enhanced human resources functions within town government, including possible collaboration with other towns.**

E Infrastructure

- 1. Support, monitor and actively engage MDOT and our State and Federal delegations to ensure Route 3 reconstruction is completed.**
- 2. Support, monitor, and actively engage Federal, State and Canadian officials, as well as other interested parties, to ensure that the ferry terminal remains a maritime facility for cruise ship berths and to ensure that any potential future ferry service has a publicly owned place to land in Bar Harbor.**
- 3. Encourage and assist the Maine Port Authority to acquire the ferry terminal.**
- 4. Sustain and grow cruise ship visitation within limits set by the Town Council on a yearly basis, to ensure that the income stream from cruise visitation continues to make Maine Port Authority acquisition of the ferry terminal viable.**
- 5. Investigate options for construction of a parking garage, including the use of a public/private partnership.**
- 6. Complete a master plan for the transfer station.**
- 7. Design, fund and rebuild Harborview Park and Grant Park.**
- 8. Continue to explore the feasibility of construction of a sidewalk from the Town Hill Playground to the Knox Road.**
- 9. Explore potential for and promote construction of additional bike lanes on Crooked Road and along other roadways/routes, including when roads are reconstructed, and when collaboration is possible with Acadia National Park.**
- 10. Determine cost of improving broadband service within downtown and providing it to areas of the town not currently served.**
- 11. Complete review and make recommendations regarding sewer system expansion in conjunction with MDOT reconstruction of Route 3.**
- 12. Study future space needs and options for public safety functions within Bar Harbor, as exploration of collaboration with other towns proceeds (see goal D-1)**

Council Goals

Results of Goal Setting Workshop October 28 2014

- 13. Develop plan for protecting the integrity of the Fire Station building “envelope” and include recommendations in capital improvement plan.**

E. Governance

- 1. Introduce appropriate electronic voting technology to improve efficiency and accuracy of tabulating votes at annual open Town Meeting.**