

Laconia City Council Goals/Objectives – November 2011

The City Council held a series of workshops in late 2011 to discuss the priority Goals and Objectives they were looking to accomplish. Along with input and feedback from department heads, a lengthy outline of approaches and available resources was compiled. The entire document, including updates, is attached. This narrative is intended to assign ownership and time frames to the priority items.

Improve the City's Appearance:

- To include gateways, major intersections & heavily traveled/visited routes
- Focus on maintenance of City owned parcels and buildings, along with public areas, beaches and parks.
- Provide opportunities for engaging private property owners and Adopt-A-Spots
- Provide for active TIF participation

Primary departments involved are **Public Works** and **Parks & Recreation**. Focus to center around additional seasonal employees, adjusting schedules for peak periods (including weekends), utilizing additional labor opportunities in Workfare and County inmate programs and updating a maintenance schedule. Support from **Planning/Code** assisting with property maintenance enforcement on private parcels, encouraging additional volunteer opportunities for residents/businesses and through active implementation of TIF districts. **All Departments** have the ability to assist in this objective with their own facilities as well as through related work activities.

Maintenance schedule to be implemented by June 1, 2012. Other items to begin as soon as practical and ongoing.

Update: February 2012

- ✓ *DPW & Parks/Rec. have met to discuss and identify areas of jurisdiction for ongoing maintenance. A list of properties is being formed so that areas of responsibility are specified.*
- ✓ *Parks is investigating options for Facility Maintenance software which will provide a facilities inventory, allow for tracking of maintenance and identify future priorities/work orders. Existing playground apparatus has been inspected. Additional site reviews will occur this spring.*
- ✓ *We will be seeking quotes from a licensed weed control professional to focus on gateway areas and main corridors.*
- ✓ *DPW & P/R will be coordinating the hire of Seasonal Employees to focus on general maintenance activities in high priority locations (downtown, Lakeport, Weirs, main corridors). Scheduling to allow for coverage at high demand times, seven days a week, with focus on trash cleanup, weeding, raking, beach cleaning, the Boardwalk and sweeping. Funding will be requested in the Proposed Budget and will require City Council support.*
- ✓ *DPW will be looking to return to weekly street sweeping in the Weirs as opposed to the every other week schedule that was instituted due to budget reductions. Funding will be requested in the Proposed Budget and will require City Council support.*
- ✓ *The Elm St. Bridge railing will be scheduled for regular painting/maintenance on a three year cycle. Anticipated to be completed this year by May 25.*
- ✓ *Code/Zoning has begun a systematic, proactive approach to focus on property maintenance/enforcement issues (trash & junk in yards, unlicensed vehicles, unscreened storage including dumpsters & poorly maintained structure appearance (paint, sagging porch, etc.)). Planning/Code will be working with Laconia PD for a more efficient "citation" for repeat offenders as opposed to a lengthy legal process.*

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- ✓ *The State has been contacted and asked to review/update Adopt-A-Highway program in Laconia and to inform us of groups who are no longer participating. This will provide opportunities for outreach to new interested parties.*
- ✓ *Downtown TIF is holding an information/input session on March 7th to garner public input.*
- ✓ *Lakeport TIF held its kickoff meeting on February 10th and will focus on gateway improvements.*
- ✓ *Weirs TIF map is being developed with the assistance of the Weirs Action Committee. It is expected to move through the City Council approval process later in the spring.*
- ✓ *Coordination for ongoing maintenance at the Laconia Police Department (one of our newest buildings) occurs regularly between P&R/LPD. In-house talent is used to supplement existing budgets whenever possible.*
- ✓ *Former Police Station is currently being advertised “as available” and City is seeking proposals.*
- ✓ *The Planning Board has appointed an Architectural Review subcommittee to complete the Architectural & Streetscape Guidelines.*

Update: August 2012

- ✓ *A list of areas of jurisdiction between the DPW and Parks and Recreation has been formulated. This will serve as a guide for the future so that areas receive the necessary attention.*
- ✓ *A seasonal position funded through the DPW has been created to address certain areas of concern identified by the City Council. Some of the tasks that this position will cover are traditional Parks and Recreation areas including the Weirs Boardwalk, and certain areas of Downtown and Lakeport.*
- ✓ *A punch list of items needing attention at Parks and Recreation facilities is being formulated, and is approximately 75% complete. Once complete, this list will be prioritized, and items will be addressed as staffing levels permit.*
- ✓ *Parks and Recreation facility information has been provided to a facility maintenance software company. Parks and Recreation is awaiting cost estimates for the software.*
- ✓ *The Laconia Downtown TIF Advisory Board held a public information/input session on March 7th. Various projects were identified as being favorable by the community. The City Council was updated with the results of this meeting, and the Council provided feedback to the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board has held meetings to identify a list of projects to add to the TIF Development Plan, including Phase II of the WOW Trail, a pocket park at the junction of Water Street and Pleasant Street, public restrooms in Downtown, and the continuation of Riverwalk segments. As a requirement of the TIF Plan, projects must be submitted to the City Council for approval, along with cost estimates for construction and maintenance. A consultant needs to be brought on board through the RFQ process so that a design and cost estimates can be formulated for approval. The Advisory Board is currently formulating an RFQ for design services.*
- ✓ *A volunteer group has started a beautification effort of the old police station front lawn. This property was identified as an area needing attention.*
- ✓ *Public Works advertised in late April 2012 for Seasonal Employee to do Sidewalk and Streetscape Maintenance in the Focal Point Areas (Downtown, Lakeport Square, Elm St. Bridge Area and Lakeside Ave. (Weirs)). Candidates interviewed (pool of 44 applicants) by DPW and P&R and employee selected; employment started Wednesday, May 30th. Employee was given tour and duties outlined in accordance with the goals and objectives identified. Both DPW and P&R will be overseeing portions of this employee’s work progress between June 1st and September 14th of this year with a goal toward meeting outlined objectives. Seasonal Maintenance Employee’s schedule has been set at 40 hours per week, 8 hours per day, Tuesday thru Saturday. Each day, all of the Focal Point Areas will be inspected and maintained as needed.*

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- ✓ *Elm St. Bridge: After significant challenges securing proper paint specifications to match original railing paint (with assistance of State DOT), DPW intends to pursue painting of the railing. It was discovered, however, that the condition of the paint on the railing at the present time is not as deteriorated as originally thought. Additional discussion with the City Manager will take place before entering into the painting project this season.*
- ✓ *Adjust Maintenance - Weirs: In addition to work to be accomplished by Seasonal Employee in this area, DPW has increased the hours and frequency of our contracted power sweeper services at the Weirs for the upcoming summer season. Every Friday and Sunday morning (4 a.m. to 8 a.m.) Lakeside Ave. and other portions of the Weirs will be swept.*
- ✓ *Laconia PD employees and members of DPW continue to maintain the outside and inside of the Police Department.*
- ✓ *Department members monitor the condition of the Skateboard Park and encourage self policing. There has been a marked improvement in the amount of trash left behind after closing the park several times because of unacceptable conditions and behavior.*
- ✓ *Code has 19 properties it is actively working on property maintenance issues with. There are an additional two properties that Code actively monitors as there is a constant change in status between compliance and non-compliance.*

Update: February 2013

- ✓ *Members of the Police Department continue to maintain the outside and inside of the department addressing issues as they arise. Employees have weeded the parking lot and surrounding green space, and trimmed bushes.*
- ✓ *The Skateboard Park continues to be used on a daily basis during the warmer months. There was an increase in the level of trash left behind which led to the park closing down in the fall. Officers spoke to several of the skateboarders and once again encouraged self policing.*
- ✓ *One of our dispatchers painted the Roll Call Room with the assistance of prison help.*
- ✓ *The Dispatch Center will be renovated in January. The existing consoles were constructed utilizing various pieces of office furniture not intended for this specific purpose, exposing computers to potential damage. The flooring will also be replaced during this time. Grant funds will pay for a majority of this project.*
- ✓ *In the winter months, office's shovel and snow blow the walkways around the building.*
- ✓ *A seasonal position funded through the DPW was created to address certain areas of concern including the Downtown, Lakeport and Weirs Beach areas. The work accomplished by this seasonal worker proved effective as regular attention was given to litter cleanup, weeding along curbs, sweeping and general cleaning.*
- ✓ *The Parks and Recreation Department formulated a punch list of items needing attention at the various parks. The punch list items are being addressed and completed. When spring arrives, additional items will be identified and added to this ongoing punch list.*
- ✓ *The Parks and Recreation Department has researched several facility maintenance software products and estimated costs were provided. It has been determined that existing software (Excel and Access) can be used to track work tasks. Additionally, a free facility maintenance software to handle work orders has been investigated and can accomplish the current needs. The setup of the software is ongoing and is expected to be fully implemented by April. The implementation of this software will help evaluate and identify problem areas, will track resources and will make the Department more efficient.*

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- ✓ *The Laconia Downtown TIF Advisory Board is prepared to contract with a selected consultant to perform conceptual and engineering design work for identified projects. The projects identified and presented to the City Council relative to the City's appearance include streetscape/landscape improvements to the plaza area of the Main Street bridge and the concept of a pocket park at the junction of Pleasant St. and Main St.*
- ✓ *The volunteer group named Rivercrew Art adopted the old police station as an Adopt-A-Spot this past season. The group significantly improved the look of the old police station by planting flowers and maintaining the beds. Also, the group volunteered to paint over graffiti on the back of the building.*
- ✓ *Had good success last season (2012 - many compliments from merchants, citizens and Councilors).*
- ✓ *DPW will inspect the condition of the Elm Street Bridge railing in April 2013 and determine if there is need to paint the railing in 2013.*
- ✓ *DPW would like, once again, to hire a Seasonal Employee to accomplish duties at focal points as outlined above. This employee would work 40 hours per week - (8 hours per day between Tuesday and Saturday) – June 1st through September 13th, under the same work program as executed in 2012.*
- ✓ *In addition to work to be accomplished by Seasonal Employee in this area, DPW will once again this year (2013) accomplish sweeping of Lakeside Ave. and other portions of the Weirs every Friday and Sunday morning (4 a.m. to 8 a.m.).*
- ✓ *DPW will decide whether this sweeping will be accomplished by Contracted Services or with DPW personnel operating department owned sweeper.*
- ✓ *Code and Zoning have made a concerted effort to target gateway areas including South Main Street, Endicott Street, Gilford Ave. and Court Street.*
- ✓ *The Planning Board has received a grant to finish the Architectural and Streetscape guidelines. Expected completion is January of 2014.*
- ✓ *Planning has begun discussions with DPW and the Laconia School Department about proposed sidewalk and streetscape upgrades to the southwest end of Union Ave and the potential of Safe Routes to Schools grants to help fund the effort.*

Outreach program to residential property owners to promote improved maintenance and safety:

- Target absentee landlords of rundown properties
- Encourage aesthetics, plantings and routine maintenance
- Review public safety threats
- Enforce existing property related ordinances
- Build a data-base of landlords and property managers
- Promote recycling in multi-unit buildings
- Work to educate and reduce the number of repeat public safety calls

Primary departments involved are **Police, Fire & Planning/Code**. Focus to center around poor maintenance and life-safety issues in residential properties. Police & Fire departments are to continue outreach toward absentee landlords to educate through inspections and by identifying and documenting on-going problems. Continue working to develop a complete database of property owner/management company contacts for various multi-family properties. **City Clerk's** office will assist in this component as well. **Planning/Code** to assist with enforcement issues. **Public Works** to assist with recycling education and promotion.

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To begin immediately and on an ongoing basis.

Update: February 2012

- ✓ *Laconia FD has initiated a media campaign via radio, newsletter and Facebook to educate residents/tenants about unhealthy living conditions, safety concerns & bedbugs. Outreach on how to deal with these issues is the focus. A parallel strategy is being followed with property owners to encourage compliance.*
- ✓ *Laconia PD initiated Problem Oriented Policing (POP) project several years ago, targeting absentee landlords and some of the issues associated with this. A better working relationship with some property owners has developed. Updated landlord information gathered through this initiative has been shared with other departments to assist with other issues.*
- ✓ *Local ordinances from other communities relating to the health, safety and welfare of residents are being reviewed for their applicability in Laconia. The focus is on harboring occupants who continually disturb the peace and cause other nuisance issues in their neighborhood.*
- ✓ *Multiple efforts have been undertaken to encourage/promote recycling. The most recent was a mailing to 270 multi-family property owners, encouraging them to provide recycling opportunities for their tenants.*
- ✓ *Sub-lawn issues and their relation to enforcement and aesthetics remain a challenge for staff. A legal review will be undertaken and continued discussion at the City Council level with an opportunity for public input will need to occur in order to provide staff with the appropriate direction and level of priority.*

Update: August 2012

- ✓ *The Police Department continues to work closely with landlords addressing quality of life violations. It has become the norm for officers to reach out to landlords and involve them in the problem solving process, before an issue gets out of hand.*
- ✓ *There has been discussion on how the Police Department can assist Code Enforcement with serving violation notices and documenting current conditions.*
- ✓ *Eight Police Department employees are assigned to the Homeless POP Project. The goal of this group is multi-pronged, to address their safety and wellbeing, especially during the winter months, secondly to address the quality of life issues often associated with the homeless. Many of the complaints we receive concern trespassing, loitering, drinking in public, urinating in public, and disorderly conduct. While being sensitive to this population, the Laconia Police Department understands that this is not the image wanted for the Downtown. The team will be working with various stakeholders within the community, including landlords.*
- ✓ *Targeted enforcement of parking on sublawns: One of the Community Resource Officers started working in May and is targeting parking violations in the three districts, resulting in an increase of parking tickets. In June, two more CRO's started, allowing for greater coverage.*
- ✓ *Police officers are reminded on a regular basis to be aware of obvious parking violations and to take action if possible.*

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- ✓ *Police Officers continue to problem solve and collaborate with landlords to address problems before they get out of hand.*

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- ✓ *Prosecutor Sawyer has agreed to prosecute potential code violations. An open line of communication exists with Code Enforcement and we are willing to assist when needed. Officers monitor and report properties that have blatant code violations.*
- ✓ *The Homeless POP Project concluded at the end of 2012. Team members have been attending monthly Homeless Coalition meetings and working with Dick and Elaine, coordinators of the River Crew Art. Although this project has ended, officers will continue collaborating with stakeholders and community partners with the common goal of decreasing homelessness. Several of the “hardcore homeless” individuals have stopped drinking and have found housing. We hope that this trend continues in 2013.*
- ✓ *The return of the seasonal CRO position resulted in a noticeable increase in the number of parking tickets issued in 2012 (1,618), compared to 2011 (908). Officers and supervisors are continuously reminded to take action when they witness a parking violation. In the month of December, 130 parking tickets were issued by officers, an increase of 126 from the previous year.*
- ✓ *LFD is hiring a part-time inspector to start after January 1. The person will have a dual role – fire inspections and health inspections. The primary focus will be for multiple family dwellings.*
- ✓ *There will be need for input from City Manager, Planning, Zoning, Code Enforcement, Public Works and the Police Department to effectively make some inroads with correcting the “sub-lawn parking” issue.*
- ✓ *DPW will await further direction on this issue.*
- ✓ *Code has found this is a very difficult goal to enforce. Typically zoning violations involve something newly constructed or the placement of cars/trailers/boats. And property maintenance that involves trash and debris removal is easy for property owners. However, we have found property maintenance that involved items such as painting, fixing dilapidated porches, windows and shutters is something that property owners don’t often have the funding to support.*
- ✓ *Planning Department and Fire Department have started discussions about a joint effort to address hoarders.*

Create Economic Development opportunities and a user-friendly permitting process guide:

- Identify and review various programs and incentives that are available
- Create and promote a permitting guide for doing business in Laconia
- Promote Laconia as a great place to do business
- Review and streamline various forms and applications
- Coordinate efforts and utilize resources of BCEDC and the Chamber
- Communicate and share ideas with LHS/HUOT as well as with the LRCC

Primary departments involved are **Planning/Code & Fire** in regards to creating a guide to doing business in Laconia. **All Departments** will coordinate a review and update (if needed) of applications and various user forms to focus on being user-friendly, consistency in content and form and web-site access.

Finance/MIS to provide technical support, as needed, to all departments. Coordinating the outreach to promote and educate property/business owners and the general public on various incentive programs will occur through the **City Manager’s** office, in conjunction with various partners.

To begin immediately and on an ongoing basis, with the user guide and an update to applications/forms to be completed by January 31, 2012.

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Update: February 2012

- ✓ Under the lead of Deputy Chief Roffo, an updated Builders Resource Guide is in the final editing stage. It is a comprehensive document encompassing Planning, Conservation, Fire, Water, Public Works, Zoning, Assessing, Licensing & more. The electronic version (to be posted on the City web-site) will have numerous links to forms, documents and additional information.
- ✓ P & R has begun to review and revise their Facility Use Request form and will present it to the Parks Commission for approval upon completion.
- ✓ We are in the midst of setting up several forums with the Chamber & BCEDC on topics including “How to do Business with the City” (procurement) & “What is an Economic Revitalization Zone” (for realtors and property owners).
- ✓ Staff is reviewing programs such as “Laconia Home Pride Awards” or “Front Porch Initiative” for encouraging private sector investment in property improvements.
- ✓ Chapter 79-E Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive was reviewed by staff. Information regarding implementation and how it works alongside a TIF district will be brought to the City Council in March.

Update: August 2012

- ✓ Under the lead of Deputy Chief Roffo, an updated Builders Resource Guide has been finalized and posted to the City’s website in several locations. The document includes numerous links to forms, documents and additional information.
- ✓ A third Laconia Economic Revitalization Zone (ERZ) was approved by NH Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED). This zone is in the downtown and mirrors the existing Downtown TIF District.
- ✓ The City has scheduled an educational forum on the workings of Economic Revitalization Zones for September 13. Invitations to property owners, businesses, commercial realtors and the public will be made.

Update: February 2013

- ✓ The Planning Department continues to work on the Weirs TIF. It is expected to come before the Council in February 2013.
- ✓ The City held an ERZ Forum in September in partnership with the Laconia Main Street Initiative. Representatives of the Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED), including Commissioner George Bald, presented information. Local property owners, commercial realtors and City officials were in attendance.
- ✓ The City Council adopted Chapter 79-E Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive as an additional redevelopment tool for property improvements in the Downtown, Lakeport and Weirs. The boundaries for these three districts mirror the TIF boundaries, with the Weirs TIF coming to the City Council in early 2013.
- ✓ The City Council requested that a Parking Committee be formed to look at ongoing areas of concern. A few recommendations were brought forward and approved on a temporary basis by the City Council. The Committee will remain active and continue to discuss other improvements to parking, including the parking garage.
- ✓ Several outreach meetings were held with downtown stakeholders in advance of the Main Street Bridge reconstruction project. Promoting and marketing that the downtown is “open”

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and easy to access throughout the construction project is extremely important to local merchants and property owners. All City departments will be responsive to the needs of the downtown during construction.

Address Socio-Economic Challenges

- Continue to develop a community substance abuse program
- Establish a series of outreach forums on local and State services/ programs available to assist businesses
- Promote Laconia as an ideal spot to relocate for both residents and businesses with a focus on first time home buyers and young families

Primary department involved in the substance abuse program is **Police**, in conjunction with existing organizations already established within the community. Educational forums and relocation promotion to be coordinated with **All Departments** and various stakeholders through **City Manager's** office.

To begin/continue immediately, and ongoing. Many of these items partner with Economic Development initiatives above.

Update: February 2012

- ✓ *The Laconia Police Department has made substance abuse a top priority by looking to combine enforcement efforts with education and awareness initiatives. Working in conjunction with "Partners in Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse" and "Stand Up for a Drug Free Laconia", the department has taken an active role including serving on regional leadership advisory boards. Funding for a "Drug Free Community" grant (Franklin receives one) did not materialize due to limited funding and strong application competition.*
- ✓ *Numerous outreach opportunities to students and parents continue through Laconia's D.A.R.E. program and the officers involved with the program.*
- ✓ *The City is supporting a HEAL (Healthy Eating & Active Living) grant application of the Laconia School District through P&R and Conservation Commission.*

Update: August 2012

- ✓ *The Laconia Police Department Drug Unit continues to be very active. Since its implementation in 2011, there has been a steady increase in cases, arrests, and drug seizures. Through May of 2012, Detectives have arrested 22 individuals and seized more pills than all of last year. Last month, a major dealer was arrested, and charged with Possession with Intent to Distribute. This individual was transporting 500 pills a week from Lawrence, Massachusetts and distributing them in the Laconia area. The Laconia Police Department and community is sending the message that drug use and abuse will not be tolerated in our community.*
- ✓ *Nine employees have been assigned to the "Reduction of Drug Overdoses/Drug Activity POP Project". One of the focuses is to eliminate drug overdose deaths in 2012, through education and awareness, coupled with enforcement and prosecution of those who provide drugs resulting in death. We have successfully prosecuted several overdose cases that occurred last year, sending a clear message that this activity will not be tolerated. Members of the team will be working with various stakeholders within the community to ensure a multi-pronged approach is taken.*

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- ✓ *Ten employees are assigned to the “Wyatt Park POP Project”. One of the concerns raised was drug activity in and around the park. Members of both teams will be collaborating with each other and formulating a plan of attack.*
- ✓ *The Police Department participated in the DEA Drug Take Back Day on April 28th, resulting in the collection of 38 pounds of prescription drugs.*
- ✓ *Lieutenant Lessard and Chief Adams attended the Prescription Drug Summit in Concord on June 22nd. This is a follow up meeting addressing statewide concerns among various stakeholders.*
- ✓ *Members of the Police Department continue to attend coalition meetings and participate in the application of the HEAL Grant.*

Update February 2013:

- ✓ *Detective Noyes remained very active in 2012 investigating drug sales and related crime. There was an increase in prescription drug, Methamphetamine and Heroin cases in 2012, a disturbing and dangerous trend. The Council graciously funded a full-time position which will allow for a second Detective to be assigned to the Drug Unit in 2013. This process has already started, and I am hopeful that this will increase our ability to investigate a greater number of cases.*
- ✓ *The Substance Abuse POP Project will continue into 2013, with an emphasis on enforcement, education, awareness, and prevention. Members of the team have been active on all fronts. Since the last update, officers have participated in radio and television programs, as well as engaging the print media in an awareness and education campaign. Lieutenant Lessard and Chief Adams attend monthly “Stand Up For a Drug Free Laconia” meetings and work closely with Partners in Prevention of Alcohol and Drugs. After experiencing 7 drug related overdose deaths in 2011, one of the goals was to lower that number significantly in 2012. Chief Adams is happy to report that there were zero deaths in 2012, and is hopeful that this positive trend will continue in 2013. The Laconia Police Department and the greater community will continue to send the message that drug use and abuse will not be tolerated in our community.*
- ✓ *The Laconia Police Department once again participated in the DEA Drug Take Back Day, on September 9, 2012. A large amount of prescription drugs were dropped off and disposed of, ensuring that they are never used unlawfully. In the same vein, Lakes Region General Hospital graciously donated funds to purchase a Drug Drop off Box, which will be permanently located in the Police Department’s lobby. Citizens will be able to drop off unwanted drugs 24 hours a day.*
- ✓ *Fifth grade students from all of the elementary schools graduated from the DARE Program in December. Officer Cardinal will be starting the middle school DARE Program in the spring, aimed at educating older students.*
- ✓ *The Wyatt Park POP Project ended in December. The general consensus among team members and neighbors was the overall environment in the park changed for the good. There have been fewer drug related and disturbance calls as a result. Although the project has concluded, officers will continue to patrol and monitor the park on a regular basis.*
- ✓ *The City continues to support the HEAL (Healthy Eating Active Living) initiative. The HEAL Wyatt Park – South End Revitalization Project will have their Asset Mapping Meeting on January 15th at Woodland Heights Elementary School. Invitations have been sent out to area residents and businesses.*

Protect and Promote the Lakes:

- Coordinate with State and regional agencies on exotic weed eradication
- Develop a pro-active plan to minimize/eliminate beach closures

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- Work cooperatively with State/regional entities to promote efficient maintenance and improvements to the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program
- Develop a drinking water protection plan
- Partner with LRPC & BCEDC on various economic strategies for WRBP

Primary departments involved are **Water, Parks & Recreation, Public Works, & Planning (Conservation Commission)**. It has been agreed that many, if not all, of these initiatives involve State and regional entities for the good of the entire Lakes Region. Coordinated efforts and applications for various funding sources will be the key to success.

Continue the work of various existing partnerships. Provide quarterly status updates. Outreach to other stakeholders to inform them of the importance of these issues to Laconia and to encourage additional dialog/approaches within the region/State.

Update: February 2012

- ✓ *NHDES is scheduled to perform an exotic species/milfoil assessment of Paugus Bay this summer. Time restraints pushed back the original fall of 2011 plan.*
- ✓ *The Conservation Commission has recommended that any applicant to the Planning Board and DES submit a “milfoil survey” to the City of their waterfront to help the City map where milfoil is present.*
- ✓ *The City will be submitting a pre-proposal for a NHDES Watershed Restoration Grant in order to establish a proposal, budget and project plan to address the bacteria problem in the Weirs area, with technical assistance from NHDES. If successful with the application, details will be brought forward to the City Council to discuss scope of work, potential results and required commitment of matching funds/in-kind contribution.*
- ✓ *Staff will be addressing the problems of dogs on/near the beach this spring with additional signage and enhanced enforcement of the dog policy.*
- ✓ *As applications for redevelopment of existing waterfront properties come forward, staff is focusing on additional exotic weed eradication and drinking water protection requirements.*
- ✓ *The Water Department just completed its Best Management Practice Inspection Questionnaire for large Community Water Systems. This includes inspecting specific commercial sites that are determined critical because of their proximity to the water intake and reviewing items from floor drains to oil/fuel storage in a comprehensive thirteen page report.*
- ✓ *The existing Winnepesaukee River Basin Program Advisory Board (made up of representatives from each of the 10 Basin communities) along with the City Managers and Town Administrators of these communities have made significant strides in establishing a pro-active relationship with WRBP staff in the past 15 months. The MOU has gone through additional revisions in recent months and the Commissioner of DES is expected to sign the document to confirm State approval before March 1, 2012. This document provides governance mechanisms that previously did not exist in the organization. It also provides for review of cost allocations to assure that each community is properly assessed for its fair portion of the WRBP collection system and treatment plant Operating, Administration and Capital Improvement costs. The final draft of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the WRBP is expected to receive final approval of the full Advisory Board and to be distributed to the 10 Basin communities by early March 2012. This plan will help to assure WRBP project planning, design, budgeting and implementation on a ten (10) year schedule that will provide ample response time for communities to consider sewer rate adjustments and municipal budgeting requirements.*

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Update: August 2012

- ✓ *NHDES is scheduled to perform an exotic/milfoil assessment of Paugus Bay during the summer of 2012. The Water Department, in conjunction with the Planning Department, Conservation Commission and the Lake Winnepesaukee Water Shed Association, has started its seasonal sampling of Paugus Bay. This data has been collected for years to gather information on water quality history in the Bay, and the City has recently partnered with the above entities and is conducting additional tests including, but not limited to, total coliform, non-coliform, turbidity, PH, dissolved oxygen, conductivity and total phosphorus.*
- ✓ *NHDES Watershed Assistance/Restoration related grants are not available at this time. City staff will investigate any grant opportunities relating to bacteria problems as they become available.*
- ✓ *The first edition of the WRBP Capital Improvements Program (CIP) – 10 year Plan was distributed in early May 2012 to all Basin member communities.*
- ✓ *The CIP Committee continues to meet regularly (usually once/month) to continue to work through implementation of proposed projects. Currently the Treatment Plant is undergoing a Ultra-Violet Disinfection System Upgrade with completion planned for early 2013. The next major CIP project planned (currently in design) is a Flow Metering Installation and Rate Study Program. Ultimately, the data collected from the newly installed equipment will assist in updating the community cost contribution requirements based on current flow, pumping and other system impacting factors.*
- ✓ *Laconia Conservation Commission volunteers have been performing water quality monitoring since June and will continue into September*
- ✓ *The Planning Department is issuing an RFP for a consultant to help draft a stormwater ordinance to help regulate off-site stormwater flows. Planning expects to have public hearings for this new ordinance this winter.*

Update: February 2013

- ✓ *During late summer, the NHDES Beach Program and the EPA performed additional water testing at Weirs Beach area to potentially identify sources of bacteria. The results of the tests are pending.*
- ✓ *Additional pet waste bag dispensers were installed this fall in the areas near Weirs Beach to promote proper disposal of pet waste. Additionally, signs were installed this summer emphasizing that dogs are prohibited from the beach area of Weirs Beach.*
- ✓ *The City is investigating the use of specialized scent dogs to assist in locating potential sources of illicit sewer discharges in the Weirs Beach area and other potential areas. This cost effective method has proven effective in other similar situations.*
- ✓ *The WRBP Advisory Board and the WRBP CIP Committee has continued to meet regularly over the past 6 months implementing the governance, capital improvement planning and cost allocation review initiatives outlined in the MOU (approved March 2012) between State DES and member communities.*
- ✓ *UV Disinfection System Upgrade at the Franklin Wastewater Treatment Plant will be completed by mid 2013.*
- ✓ *Flow Metering Program continues to be vetted by member communities. Flow Meter installation program will be re-bid in 2013 (unsatisfactory bids received in late 2012). The ultimate goal of this program is to secure accurate flow data at key locations within the sewer collection system to assure equitable billing to member communities for their discharge into the regional sewer*

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system. A significant period (1 to 2 years) of data collection will be required before communities reach agreement on change of billing percentages.

- ✓ The Conservation Commission has changed the local Shoreland Protection Ordinance to require attention to milfoil in all work within the SPOD.*
- ✓ The Conservation Commission has completed a second year of water quality monitoring. A report should be available from DES shortly.*
- ✓ The Conservation Commission is soliciting private property owners to help match-fund a watershed study of Black Brook. Walmart has contributed \$10,000 as part of its redevelopment. The Landmark Inn and several residential property owners have also contributed.*
- ✓ The Planning Department continues work on the new Stormwater Ordinance. Recent work includes a collaboration with LRPC and the towns of Meredith and Gilford to try and draft an Ordinance that can cover the entire Paugus Bay Watershed area.*
- ✓ This summer Amy Smagula from NH DES did a survey of Paugus Bay for milfoil and completed a “quick” map of growth (see attached). She is currently processing the data and should have all the information including an updated map shortly. From this information DES is going to plan certain activities to help eradicate certain sections of milfoil during the summer of 2013.*
- ✓ At the September 13, 2012 meeting of the NH Council on Resources and Development the committee voted to classify the Lakeshore Branch Railroad Corridor as surplus state property. Currently the NH DOT is having the property assessed in anticipation of selling the property and the Water Department is actively pursuing purchasing and/or restricting development along the portion of the corridor that abuts our restricted area on Paugus Bay.*
- ✓ The Water Department has recently received from NH DES “No Trespassing Public Water Supply” warning signs that will be installed around the restricted area on Paugus Bay early this spring.*

It is expected that quarterly updates will be provided to the City Council by the City Manager, with direct input from All Departments. This will allow the Council to stay current and informed as to progress being made, and challenges that may present themselves. By revisiting these Goals/Objectives on a regular basis, it will also allow the City Council the opportunity to amend this document, if necessary.