

2009

City of Augusta 2009 Annual Report

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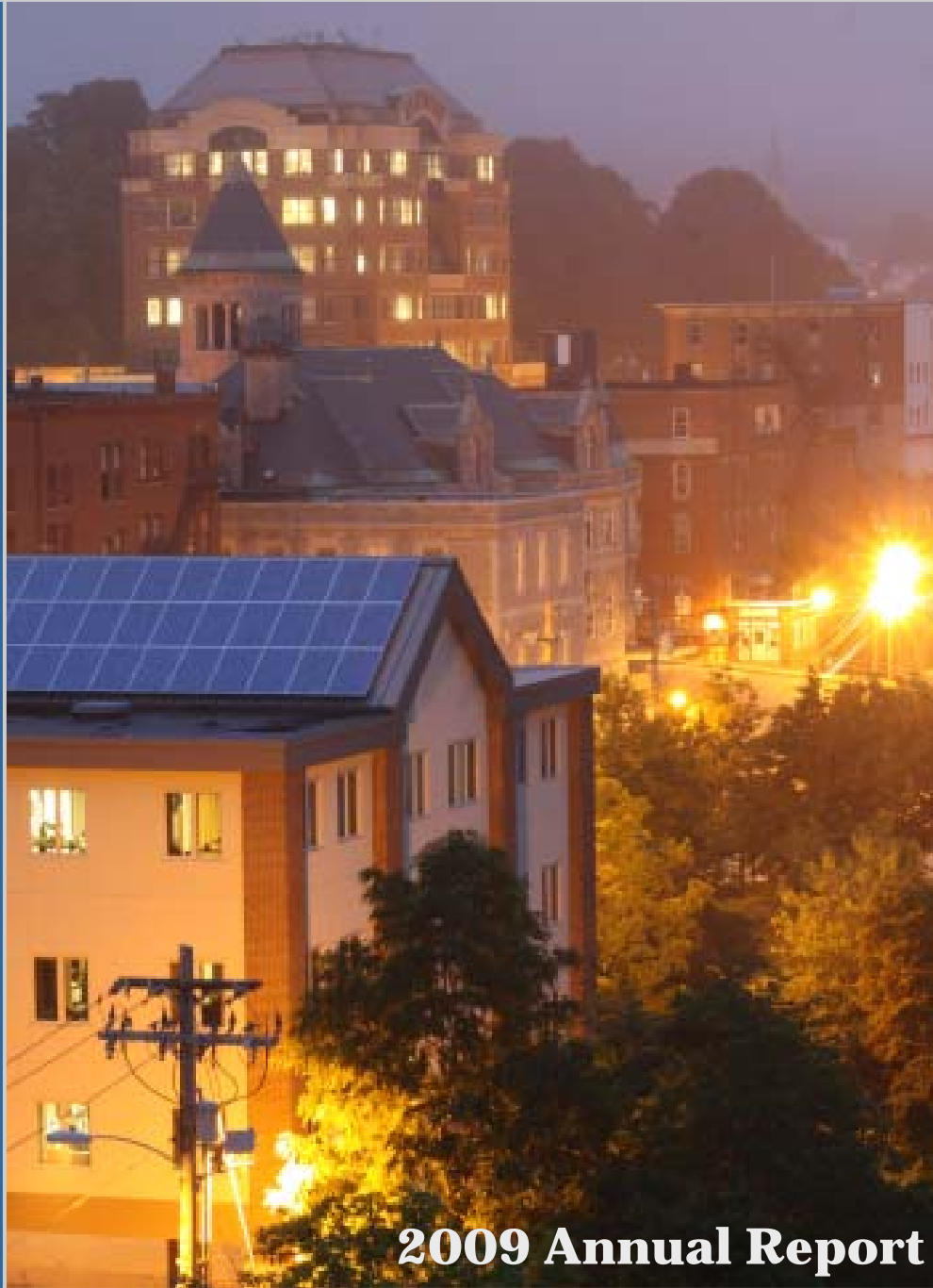
Augusta!

A Capital Opportunity

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2009 Annual Report



In 2009, the City recognized a need to revise its logo to better reflect the characteristics of today's Augusta community. An ad-hoc branding committee was formed and chaired by Councilor David Rollins. This committee reviewed many logo options brought forth by both committee and community members. A "ballot" with four of the top logo ideas was prepared and presented to the citizens of Augusta for a vote. The citizen's choice "Augusta, A Capital Opportunity" is proudly displayed throughout the 2009 Annual Report. It is one that depicts the City as exciting, visionary and vibrant. It is inviting explorers to the City and integrates the colors of our country, together with the three blue swooshes that represent the Kennebec River, which is such an important component of the City's heritage and culture.

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Mayor's Greeting

Roger Katz, Mayor



"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." As much of a cliché as that is, it is hard to come up with a better way to describe 2009. If there was one lesson for us to learn last year, it was the meaning of "humility." Troubles on Wall Street led to troubles on Water Street. Troubles in Legislative Chambers led to troubles in Council Chambers. We learned that if the national economy gets a sniffle, the state gets a cold and we get the flu. And yet, as we begin a new year, there is much room for optimism.

Yes, there were challenges. For local government, disappointing state sales and income tax receipts led directly to unprecedented cuts in general aid to education and revenue sharing. Although our property tax receipts remained stable, Augusta's excise tax collections were way down as people bought fewer new cars. For the City Council, it became a year of difficult choices that led to hard decisions: closing a school, teacher and city employee layoffs, and shut-down days. Our city employees and teachers were asked to do more with less and did so – with remarkable dedication to their jobs – knowing we are all in this together.

And yet, in the midst of it all, our community remains strong. For as much as we were buffeted by the storms of recession in 2009, it was also a year of remarkable achievement and milestones:

- Our community welcomed the first Platinum LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified supermarket in the world with the opening of the new Hannaford project.
- Our acquisition and then demolition of the old Statler Tissue Mill gives the City control over the destiny of 17 acres and almost 5,000 feet of prime shorefront property right here in Augusta, which opens up a world of potential.
- MaineGeneral Health has begun a process which will end with the construction of a new \$322 million medical center behind the Cancer Center - first class medical facilities for our area for generations to come.
- We acquired over 230 acres of unique recreational property in the Bond Brook area.
- We celebrated Augusta's first Olympian – Julia Clukey takes our best wishes and dreams to Vancouver for the luge competition.
- In conjunction with the Capital Riverfront Improvement District, we opened up the Pavilion at Mill Park that now houses a flourishing farmers' market and has become a gathering place for other community events.
- Knowing we must look for new and innovative ways to provide basic municipal services in the face of continuing budget challenges, we have reached out to our neighbors to begin a new conversation about regional cooperation. I am convinced that no one cares what color the truck is that picks up their garbage or what government seal is on the police car, as long as those jobs get done. We're working with Manchester and Sidney and Litchfield and Gardiner and others of our neighbors to see if there are more ways we might work together. I am excited about that potential.
- We symbolically put behind us a generation of pain and division by the renaming of our Water Street bridge (to Calumet Bridge at Old Fort Western) and in the process recognized the historical contributions of our Franco-American community and the importance of our Old Fort Western.



- We continue to forge a partnership with the University of Maine in Augusta.
- Here at the City Council, I am proud of other work we have done. We have continued our efforts to make this Chamber a welcoming place, a place where citizens feel at ease in making their voices heard. We take every opportunity we can to recognize local achievement and musical talent at our meetings, particularly for our students, and I think we have succeeded.

On the city level, we are blessed with excellent management – our senior staff, led by Bill Bridgeo, is, I am convinced, the best in the State of Maine.

And, we are blessed to have literally hundreds of city volunteers who man our Planning Board, Zoning Board, Conservation Commission, and all the other committees and boards which make Augusta a community—not just a place to live. Thanks to all of you.

As I close, I am reminded of how blessed we are. To live at this time in history. To live here in Maine. To live here in Augusta.

Yes, this is a great community in which to live, work, and raise kids. That is our blessing. But, to pass it along even better than we found it – that is our responsibility and that is our challenge. Please join me in meeting this challenge.

Augusta City Council



Michael Byron
Ward 1 Councilor



Donna Doore
Ward 2 Councilor



Patrick Paradis
Ward 3 Councilor



Mark O'Brien
Ward 4 Councilor



Edward Coffin
Councilor At-Large



Cecil Munson
Councilor At-Large



David Rollins
Councilor At-Large



William Stokes
Councilor At-Large



City Manager's Message

William Bridgeo, City Manager



For twelve years, I have enjoyed the opportunity to help lead this terrific city government. In that time, I have come to appreciate the strong tradition of civic involvement in Augusta. That includes dedicated and conscientious elected officials, a large number of committed volunteers serving on numerous boards, commissions and committees, and engaged citizens participating in civic dialogue – whether to better their neighborhood, preserve the City's historic fabric, promote development or help our kids learn and play. I've also come to believe that our municipal workforce is the best we could have.

As the Mayor so aptly puts it in his message, we faced many imposing challenges in 2009 (and continuing into 2010) and we met them with poise, compassion and creativity. In the face of difficult choices, the civic dialogue was respectful and inclusive. City employees accepted cutbacks in compensation and additional responsibilities to make things work – and notwithstanding the challenges, things did work.

I won't repeat the list of achievements Mayor Katz outlines. I will say that, as an organization, we have done much to ensure that as economic conditions gradually improve, your city will be positioned to take advantage of the opportunities that will arise.

I like to take the long view and from that perspective being fortunate enough to live in a place that enjoys the natural beauty and resources, the sound civic infrastructure, the great people and proud traditions that Augusta has means that our future is full of promise and we will capitalize on it.

I hope you enjoy reading the summary reports that each department and bureau director has prepared herein and that you feel free to contact any of them with questions or concerns or ideas for improvement of the services they provide to you.



Committee Thanks

(does not include city/school officials and staff)



Kudos go out to our committee members, whose contributions help make our hometown a better place to work, live and raise a family.

Airport Advisory Committee

June Cumler
Terry Pomerleau Gray
Gary Peachey
William Perry
David Smith
Peter Thompson
Paul Wade

Assessment Review Board

Paul Castonguay
John Clark, Sr.
Scott Emery
Maurice Fortin
William Leet

Cable TV & Telecommunications

David Cheever
Max Cohen
Scott Milewski
Laurence Ringrose

Conservation Commission

Donald Cameron
Mackenzie Keliher
Roberta Record
Debra Rollins
David Simard
Rex Turner
John Harvey Versteeg

General Assistance Fair Hearing Authority

John Finnegan

Greater Augusta Utility District

Richard Bachelder
Charlene Hamiwka
Kenneth Knight
Stephen Roberge
Donald Roberts
James Simpson
David Smith
Thomas Sotir

Historic Preservation Commission

Tim Bolton
Richard Bridges
Gerald Bumford
Richard Duncan
Sylvia Hudson
Richard Kelly, Jr.
Joseph Riddick
Phyllis vonHerrlich

Housing Authority

Margaret Ayotte
Donald Marchildon
Brian Marson, Jr.
Judy McGrail
Susanne Page
George Quirion

International Code Council

John Butts
Herbert Doten
Stephen Roberge
Jeff Shostak

Lithgow Library Trustees

Joan Callahan
Jeremy Cameron
Laurel Coleman
Thomas Desjardins
Janet Doerr
Deborah Fehy
Suzanne Finn
John Finnegan
Richard Freeman
Derek Gannett
Susan LaCasse
Scott Milewski
Kathleen Petersen
Andrew Silsby
David Cheever

Old Fort Western Trustees

David Crockett, Chair
Janet Doerr
Richard Freeman
Elizabeth (Wendy) Hazard
Linda Masciadri

Old Fort Western Trustees (cont.d.)

Terrence McCabe, Sr.
Daniel Stevens
Daniel E. Wathen
Diana Winkley

Parking District

Stacy Cummings-Gervais
John Finnegan
Thomas Johnson
Walter McKee
Gary Peachey

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Cheryl Clukey
Tim Dennett
David Hopkins
George Murray
David Rand
Daniel A. Wathen
Walter Zaccadelli

Planning Board

Linda Conti
Steve Dumont
Paul Harris
William McKenna
Alison Nichols
Delaine Nye
Peter Pare
Matthew Pouliot
Corey Vose

Registration Appeals Board

Thomas Doore
Linda Hadley-Rood
Louise Lerley
Joan Theberge

Tree Board

Rene Albison
Thomas Doore
Charlene Hamiwka
Judith Kypragora
Brian Marson, III
Margaret O'Connor



Augusta State Airport

John Guimond, Airport Manager



On January 1, 2009, the airport completed its transition from a Class III to a Class I airport. Since then, we have seen a steady growth in passenger enplanements. Due to this growth, the airport completed two construction projects. The first project completed this fall was a new airport rescue and firefighting addition to the airport terminal. This new addition will house a new federally funded rescue vehicle scheduled to arrive in early 2010. We also received State funding to update and expand the terminal area. The passenger check in, TSA screening/sterile area, as well as the restaurant, all received a new look with this grant. Prior to this, the TSA screening and sterile area could process and handle up to 8 passengers at a time. We now are able to provide a comfortable and secure area for up to 20 passengers.

We continue to advertise and grow our passenger base providing non-stop round trip service to and from Augusta/Boston featuring cabin class service that includes on-board flight attendant and beverages to assist in traveler comfort during flight. As with previous years, we submitted a marketing grant to the USDOT for a Small Community Air Service Development grant to enable us to broaden our marketing reach. The Airport Board anticipates receiving continued financial support in the form of matching contributions for this marketing grant.

The Augusta State Airport is owned by the State of Maine through the Maine Department of Transportation. The airport is, however, maintained and managed by the City of Augusta under the terms of an Agreement of Lease and Option. As with previous agreements, it entrusts the operation of the airport to the city with a special provision that the city shall not be held liable for any financial deficit or obligations incurred by the airport.



Airport terminal with firefighting addition



Passenger check-in area



TSA screening/sterile area



Inside of new addition

Codes Bureau



Matt Nazar, Deputy City Services Director

Commercial construction projects slowed significantly in 2009, but residential construction projects continued on pace with previous years, and the volume of overall activity seen by the Codes Bureau was still significant and in line with past years. Codes saw \$14,703,350 of development projects come through the front door in 2009, which reflects the reduction in major commercial development projects that characterized prior years in places like The Marketplace at Augusta and Augusta Crossing. Despite this, smaller commercial projects continue to be built, such as Texas Roadhouse, Delta Ambulance, and others. Developers continue to show an interest in Augusta and as soon as the economy improves, city staff expects development and re-development proposals to increase.

The City also continued to experience a healthy reinvestment from many of its businesses and residents, as much of the value of improvements made were additions and alterations to existing facilities and buildings. People focused on improving existing properties, rather than developing new ones. Although the number of new housing construction in 2009 didn't set a record, the City did experience another solid year in the housing category. In fact, the City continued to see a recent past trend of new construction in some of its newest housing subdivisions such as in Cony Village and Stone Ridge Drive. With more individuals considering returning to service center communities, the expectation is that this positive trend will continue to gain momentum.

In the coming year, the Codes Bureau expects to review the 2009 International Building Code, potentially updating the city from its present 2006 version of the same code. Additionally, the bureau hopes that proposed changes to the Land Use Ordinance will enable residents to more easily understand the requirements for developing property to enhance long term safety, prosperity, and livability in our beautiful city.



Texas Roadhouse Restaurant



Development Services

Michael Duguay, Director



Although the signs of a weakening economy were certainly present, the Office of Economic and Community Development experienced a very busy year dealing with a myriad of economic development projects. Despite some industry sectors being hit disproportionately hard, the City experienced some positive growth in all industry sectors, with some more successful than others. For example, Texas Roadhouse constructed and opened up its new restaurant facility even though national retail figures predicted a retraction in restaurant activities. In addition, the “Gin Mill” was opened up in the downtown and received immediate fanfare.

The City also saw some growth in its manufacturing base with the Kenway Corporation almost doubling the size of its manufacturing facility to take advantage of the growth in the national power industry and personal watercraft market. The City welcomed a new manufacturer, Electronic Mobility Controls, who built a brand new building in one of the community’s business parks to manufacture a proprietary product that steers vehicles by using electronic controls. The introduction of this business was a big boost to the community, as it relocated from Louisiana to establish its operation here in Augusta.

The downtown initiatives announced by Mayor Katz in 2008 began to be deployed in 2009. The City, working with its provider “RedZone Wireless”, unveiled the highly anticipated downtown Wi-Fi internet. This network, which is being offered free to commercial businesses and visitors within the downtown, has become very popular and a key component in the City’s merchant attraction program. The City finalized the designs for downtown directional signage which will be prominently displayed throughout the community attracting visitors and consumers to the downtown and riverfront area. The signs will be installed in early 2010. In addition, the City started to work closely with potential developers looking at redeveloping existing buildings into market-rate housing. The office anticipates that the progress in the downtown that was started in 2009 will continue into the future.

The City saw a major transformation in 2009 on the east side of the Kennebec River at the site of the former American Tissue Mill. With a \$350,000 environmental assessment grant successfully secured from the EPA, the City acquired the mill through back taxes and had its demolition contractor remove the multiple building complex. The environmental grant allowed the City to hire an environmental engineering firm, Summit Engineering, to begin to perform the analysis of the property’s soil and groundwater. It is anticipated that the results from the environmental assessment will be completed in the spring of 2010. The City expects to embark on a major east-side Kennebec River planning study, encompassing the American Tissue site, that will direct the redevelopment plan for this property and the river corridor.

The office also worked closely with MaineGeneral Medical following their announcement to build a \$330 million in-patient hospital in north Augusta off the Old Belgrade Road. In order to make this project feasible, the City partnered with MaineGeneral Medical, the Augusta Board of Trade, the Chamber of Commerce and the MDOT to complete a study of creating a west-bound exit off of Interstate 95. This study received accolades for its creative collaboration model and received favorable initial responses from Maine’s congressional delegation and the Federal Highway Administration. The City is hopeful that this project will be identified as a candidate for funding in the next federal budget. In another partnership, the office also worked diligently with the Greater Augusta Utility District in applying on their behalf for a \$350,000 grant to replace a major sanitary sewer line along Mount Vernon Avenue. The City and the District will find out in early 2010 if its application will be funded.

Despite not overseeing major development projects this past year, the projects and activities that were worked on are expected to lay down the structural foundation for success once the economy rebounds. The office is excited about where the City is positioned development wise and sees another year of great opportunities ahead of it and the City of Augusta!

Engineering Bureau

Lionel Cayer, City Engineer
Jerry Dostie, Civil Engineering Technician



The Engineering Bureau provides professional/technical services to the City of Augusta related to infrastructure needs for the growth and development of the City, both residential and commercial. We provide design and management services for a variety of City projects. Engineering plays a large role in the evaluation and approval of other private developments which are being planned within the City. The Engineering Bureau staff includes the Engineer and an Engineering Technician.



Some of the major city projects which took place over the last year are:

Design and Construction Management Projects

- Winthrop Street reconstruction; Phase Two
- Safe Routes to School improvement project – 2nd grant
- Lampson Road culvert replacements
- Cony Road culvert replacements
- Glenridge Drive pedestrian route improvement project



Future Projects

- North and South Chestnut Street reconstruction – Phase One
- Blair Road bridge replacement and road approach work

Along with these projects throughout the city, the Engineering Bureau also provided technical assistance to other city bureaus and public support in the following areas:

Technical Assistance/Public Support

- Review of Subdivision Plans
- Review of Commercial Site Plans
- Coordination with Local Utilities for Projects
- Driveway Location and New Culvert Approvals

Records of City Public Buildings and Streets

- Topographic Information
- Right-of-Way Locations
- 1939 Survey Maps
- Street Descriptions
- Horizontal and Vertical Datum
- Computerized Aerial Mapping



Facilities and Systems Bureau

Robert LeBreck, Director



The purpose of the Facilities and Systems Bureau is to establish consistent, safe and quality maintenance practices to and for the facilities and infrastructure systems overseen through this bureau. The goal of this bureau is to keep the facilities and systems in a good state of repair, to maintain a healthy clean environment within the facilities in which to work, to maintain fully functional systems, and to establish quality maintenance programs and practices to accomplish these tasks. This bureau continues to review and upgrade existing contracts, establish new contracts for services, as well as contracts for supplies, and works closely with the School Department, Civic Center, City Bureaus and Departments, and the Utility District to

accomplish these goals.

The Facilities and Systems Bureau is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the facilities' Life Safety systems, heating/cooling mechanical systems, electrical equipment, plumbing systems, elevator equipment, roof and structure, and general building maintenance, as well as the street lighting, traffic signal systems, and the traffic signal communication infrastructure throughout the City.

During this past year, there were several projects that were undertaken and overseen by the bureau. At the Buker Community Center, there have been several classrooms that have had new flooring installed, all the halls got a fresh coat of paint, the main level restrooms had new windows installed, and a lower level rear entrance had a new ceiling and lights installed with an occupancy sensor for automatic activation of the lights. New light fixtures and electrical work was completed on the Mill Park pavilion and new poles and light fixtures were installed for the winter ice rinks. This bureau worked closely with the Augusta Police Department in a renovation project that was completed in the dispatch center over the summer.

The energy audit that was conducted and completed last year has started to be implemented in bits and pieces. There have been occupancy sensors and vacancy sensors installed at City Center, Public Works, and the Buker Community Center and are proving to be good energy savings devices. The City was awarded grant funds to install additional energy savings products and has begun that process in several buildings, which will lead to greater energy savings.

The staff looks forward to continuing its duties of performing the tasks necessary to keep the facilities and systems clean, safe, and operating as efficiently as possible.

Planning Bureau

Matt Nazar, Director



The following report summarizes the project review activities of the Planning Board, Augusta Historic Preservation Commission and highlights major undertakings of the Planning Bureau during 2009.



Planning Board Membership, Staff, Projects

The Planning Board consists of up to nine members, all of whom are residents of the City appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. During 2009, the Chair of the Board was Alison Nichols. The Planning Bureau continued to be staffed by Matt Nazar, the Deputy Director of Development Services, and a full-time Assistant Planner, Susan Redmond. The staff worked to assist members of the public with projects being undertaken throughout the city, and while fewer were taken to the Planning Board than in past years, interest from potential developers is continuing. Staff members also provide advice to the Planning Board on projects before them and on modifications to the Land Use Ordinance and assist the City Manager and City Council on land use related topics. The major issue in 2009 was continuing a full re-write of the city's Land Use Ordinances, which last had a thorough re-write in 1991.

Augusta Historic Preservation Commission

Planning Board Applications	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Conditional Use/Special Exceptions (new/expanded/amended)	25	21	16	20	17
Rezoning (zoning map changes)	1	8	4	1	1
Rezoning Petitions/Waiver Requests	1	0	5	2	1
Land Use Ordinance Text Amendments	5	16	5	4	1
New Subdivisions (final)	5	4	2	4	4
Subdivisions (amended/Resubdivisions)	5	22	3	1	0
Major Development (new/amended)	10	7	7	7	4
Design Review	1	0	0	0	0
Mineral Extraction (amendments)	0	0	19	2	0

The Augusta Historic Preservation Commission consists of seven members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council. The Commission meets monthly and the Chair during 2009 was Joseph Riddick.

The Commission's major project during 2009 was to finalize and have the Museum in the Streets (MITS) program installed on Water Street, Front Street, and Cony Street in cooperation with Old Fort Western. The MITS consists of signs placed along a walking tour route that describe historical locations, events, and people. The first phase of the program was to install signs on Canal Street, adjacent to Mill Park.

The Commission also has representatives continuing work with the Council subcommittee on a Demolition Delay and Historic District ordinance. The work of that subcommittee, Chaired by Councilor Rollins, is anticipated to be completed during 2010.



Major Events



FY 2009 saw a good mixture of major events take place at the Augusta Civic Center. It was the first time Sesame Street Live appeared here in over 13 years. We hosted six major events, which is down from eight the previous year. When the economy turned in October of 2008, promoters stepped back and were concerned tickets would not sell, prompting them to take fewer risks on shows. Here are the major events at the ACC in FY 2009:

- Bryan Adams and Foreigner Concert
- Lord of the Dance
- University of Maine Women's Basketball vs. UMass
- Amy Grant/Vince Gill Christmas Concert
- Sesame Street Live
- Mercy Me Christian Rock Concert

Finances

Revenues: \$2,714,269 (down \$149,881 from FY 2008)
 Expenses: \$2,870,427 (down \$100,712 from FY 2008)
 Difference: (\$156,158)

Capital Improvements

Replaced 8 HVAC Roof Top Units (RTUs) for north wing	\$66,800
Purchased banquet chairs and parts for plastic chairs	11,657
Repaired retaining wall near north wing entrance	1,500
Purchased new lawn tractor	8,750
Total	\$88,707



Bicentennial Nature Park



James Goulet, Manager

Bicentennial Nature Park had very good attendance with over 5,200 visitors using the park in 2009. Our goal for park use is to stay within our mandate of resource protection while providing Augusta's families and residents a place to enjoy and make memories of outings at the lake.

Only minutes away from the hustle and bustle of city life, the park is a place where families and residents can have their traditional cookouts, swims, nature walks or spend time relaxing in the park's natural and tranquil surrounding. First time visitors to the park are often astounded by the park's natural beauty.

Hours of operation are seven days a week from 10:30 am to 7:00 pm; sometimes later on those long hot summer evenings. Reservations for groups from Augusta can be made by calling the Buker Community Center at 626-2350.

In the spring of the year, as a Day of Caring project, approximately 200 Cony High School freshmen students come to the park and help prepare the grounds for opening day. The bureau would like to extend an immense thanks to all who volunteered their time at Bicentennial Park in 2009.

In review, Bicentennial Park had a highly successful year. We would like to thank you for your continued support and patronage and look forward to seeing the familiar faces, along with many new ones next year!





Childcare Bureau

Karen Hatch, Director



This is the 17th year anniversary of the City of Augusta providing School Age Childcare for Augusta residents. The program began with one site at Lincoln School, with 25 children and 3 staff members. We presently have 3 sites at Lincoln, Gilbert and Farrington Schools with 185 children and 18 staff members.

Childcare positions are all part time. The before school program is from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and the after school program is from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Some staff members work both programs. Due to these hours, there can be high staff turnover. This year, some staff are approaching their five-year and ten-year anniversaries of working for the bureau.

On June 22, 2009, the Childcare Bureau received notice that the Department of Health and Human Services would not be renewing the funding agreement for Childcare Slots that the department had with the city. These monies were being transferred into CCDF Childcare Voucher Slots. The explanation is the shift for smaller contracted slot agencies such as the cities was based on a first step in the State's move to centralize childcare subsidy in support of parent choice and the need to achieve system efficiencies.

Recognizing the importance of supporting families in need of subsidized childcare, DHHS offered continual support to all eligible families that currently were in contracted slots with the city, as they transitioned into CCDF Childcare Voucher Slots.

Due to work being done at Gilbert School, the Summer Childcare Program was located at Hussey Elementary School. Principal Michelle Michaud was most welcoming and accommodating and has even invited Childcare back for summer 2010.

The summer was a bit of a challenge due to all the RAIN, however, under the direction of Camp Director Bethany Sproul and the many excellent summer staff, the children had a great summer.

During the summer, Childcare was able to offer the children an opportunity to participate in a Summer Reading Clinic organized by Susan Derector, a literacy coach at Farrington School. Children received free tutoring in reading by experienced area teachers whom were enrolled at the University of Maine and were completing their Master's Degree in Literacy Education. The children benefited tremendously.

Beginning in September, the Childcare Bureau was able to partner with Barbara Nichols, the Augusta School Department's Nutrition Director, and take part in the Department of Education's After School Snack Program.



Community Services Administration



Leif Dahlin, Director

The City facilitated the establishment of the “Farmers’ Market at Mill Park” in 2007 and erected a new pavilion at the site this spring. This facility has proved to be a great asset and a great venue for the Farmers’ Market. The market was once again a great success and we look forward to another market season in 2010.



The William Payson Viles White Pine Grove Park, the area located at the north end of Mill Park, took shape and will mature into a beautiful park area in coming years. The Lund and Viles families were instrumental in making this beautiful area become a reality to be enjoyed by all of Augusta and our visitors.

The Bond Brook Recreation area is beginning to take shape. The City has begun implementing the Bond Brook Recreation Area Plan approved by the City Council in October of 2008. Augusta Trails, a new organization, is leading the charge to help carry out numerous components of the plan that will include Nordic skiing and other trail development. The CeMeNEMBA (Central Maine New England Mountain Bike Association) was established to assist with the development and management of mountain bike trails on the Bond Brook property. The organization did a great job of getting single track mountain bike trails established in 2009.

The combined efforts of staff and leadership from the Recreation Bureau; Old Fort Western; Parks, Cemeteries and Trees Bureau; and private individuals and businesses in our community made the 2009 4th of July festivities the very best in recent memory.

In 2009, Buker Community Center became fully occupied and all space is rented and committed and has become a great resource to Augusta.

This was a challenging year with respect to budget and finances with the Community Services Department losing five highly-valued employees. Other reductions were also experienced that resulted in an overall budget reduction of over \$280,000. After a lengthy public process, the City Council approved the “short-term” plan for the recently-acquired Bond Brook property.

The Community Services Department staff work with a number of boards and committees made up mostly of Augusta residents. I want to thank these individuals and groups, because without them, it would be far more difficult to provide the services that we do.

Additionally, the department also works with numerous ad-hoc committees and external organizations such as the Augusta Tree Board, the Cable TV Committee, CARA (Capital Area Recreation Association), Conservation Commission, Lithgow Library Board of Trustees, Old Fort Western Board of Trustees, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.



Public Works pavilion work



William Payson Viles White Pine Grove Park



Pavilion at Mill Park



Health and Welfare Bureau

Leif Dahlin, Director

The General Assistance Program is available at Augusta City Center Monday through Friday to assist eligible people who are in need of basic necessities such as rent, fuel, electricity, food and medication. Our phone number is 626-2325. Services are available on a walk-in basis from 7:45 am to 4:30 p.m. (closed for lunch from 12:00–1:00).

Augusta General Assistance Program Expenditures

Reported to State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services

	Fy 2008		FY 2009	
EXPENDITURES FOR CLIENT SERVICES				
Housing, Energy, Fuel	\$52,110	81.6%	\$63,082	80.8%
Food, Clothing, Etc.	4,460	7.0%	2,481	3.2%
Medical, RX, Burials	<u>7,275</u>	<u>11.4%</u>	<u>12,519</u>	<u>16.0%</u>
Total	\$63,845	100.0%	\$78,082	100.0%
FUNDING SOURCES FOR ABOVE				
State of Maine, DHS (Reimbursement)	\$31,923	50.0%	\$39,041	50.0%
SSI Interim Assistance (Client Reimbursement)	15,819	24.8%	10,945	14.0%
Other Client Reimbursement	829	1.2%	2,181	2.8%
Net Cost to Augusta	<u>15,274</u>	<u>24.0%</u>	<u>25,915</u>	<u>33.2%</u>
Total	\$63,845	100.0%	\$78,082	100.0%

Lithgow Public Library

Betsy Pohl, Director



"I think the health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries." ~ Carl Sagan



In its 114th year of service to the citizens of Augusta, Lithgow Public Library

- Attracted 140,086 visitors, for a monthly average of 11,674 people
- Circulated 178,581 books, periodicals and audiovisual items
- Recorded 400 checkouts from the Maine InfoNet Download Library (electronic audio books)
- Provided 11,084 hours of usage on 8 public computers, not including walk-in wireless access
- Created and produced programs for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, children and teens, including story times, craft programs, film and book discussions, and the annual summer reading program, attracting 5,106 children and caregivers
- Sponsored musical and educational programs for adults, hosted two monthly book discussion groups, and provided free computer training to the public, with 1,688 attendees
- Presented monthly outreach programs to residents of 6 eldercare facilities
- Participated in on-line requesting of materials through Minerva and Maine InfoNet, resulting in 32,418 inter-library loan transactions
- Celebrated A Capital Read 2009 with Julia Spencer-Fleming's novel Out of the Deep I Cry
- Endured a major flood in the lower level of the 1979 addition, forcing the relocation of operations in two rooms and repairs totaling just under \$20,000
- Shortened hours on Saturdays, and had five shutdown days, due to city budget reductions



"Cold Case Panel" during A Capital Read 2009



Flowing bubbles after Family Story Time



June flood



Old Fort Western

Jay Adams, Director and Curator



As is always the case, 2009 was a year of both preservation and innovation at Old Fort Western.

In terms of preservation, the Fort's blockhouses and watchboxes were re-roofed using high-quality, fire-retardant cedar shingles applied according to the Secretary of the Interior's standards for National Landmark structures. Similarly, the picket fences that surround the Fort were repaired in such a way that only the structural members were replaced, leaving the majority of the existing pickets in place, thereby saving the City thousands of dollars compared to what would have been the cost of replacing the entire picket system. New, more energy efficient security lamps were also installed.



In terms of innovation, an authentic 18th century-style blacksmith's forge and associated chimney were constructed in the North Watchbox. This project, funded entirely by private donations to the Old Fort Western Fund, re-creates the forge that was almost certainly located in the south end of the main house in 1754 and makes possible the continued inclusion of a blacksmith's "station" among the activities offered to children and adults as part of the Fort's "Learning to Work" hands-on history program.



Staying with the innovation theme, City Council approved a Fort request to construct, again using only private funds, a replica of the Pilgrim fur trading post building that stood from 1628 to perhaps 1670 on what is land now owned by our neighbor, the Christian Science Church on Williams Street. The replica will be built at City Center on the grounds between the Fort and the church property. The structure's archaeological record in association with the details of similar buildings at Plimoth Plantation in Plymouth, Massachusetts, will guide the construction. The trading post should be open for business by the fall of 2010. It will allow the seldom-told story of Pilgrim economics, including the vital role Kennebec-area Indians played as full and equal trading partners.



Rendition of the Pilgrim Trading Post by artist and Pilgrim descendant, Ruth Major

Augusta trustees, Janet Doerr, Richard Freeman, and Jeremy Cameron completed terms of service during 2009. The number of trustees was reduced by ordinance change at the trustee's request from fifteen to nine. The Fort thanks them along with all other currently-serving trustees, the Mayor, the City Council, and the residents of Augusta for their continuing support.

Parks, Cemeteries and Trees

James Goulet, Director



What an exciting year 2009 has been. It has been my good fortune to work with an excellent team of talented employees. There is one foreman, one assistant foreman, and four skilled laborers of which two are transferred to Public Works during the winter months and approximately 17-21 seasonal employees hired to help during spring, summer and fall schedules.



I would first like to take this opportunity to thank and recognize Mr. Scott Longfellow for his generosity. All the annuals for our city gardens were once again donated by Longfellow's Greenhouses in Manchester. This generous gift of flowers contributes so much to the city's landscape and enriches our lives. I also wish to thank Spurwink School and Manpower for the summer youth interns who assisted our park's crews this summer.

The bureau is responsible for the management and maintenance of seventeen cemeteries, eighteen parks and playgrounds including three swimming pools, basketball and tennis courts, track, athletic fields, twenty-six flower gardens, a riverfront, community forest areas, city street trees, nature trails and Bicentennial Nature Park. We are also under contract with the School Department to maintain their grounds and athletic fields. Approximately 200+/- acres are mowed weekly.

Bureau Accomplishments for 2009

Tree planting projects were completed at Eastside Roundabout, McCall's Playground, Mill Park Pavilion, Viles Memorial Forest, Mt. Hope, Mt. Pleasant, Forest Grove Cemetery and Memorial Park. A total of 69 trees were planted.

Twenty-six flower gardens, located at high visible locations throughout the City, were planted this year.

Once again, 1,200 Dutch bulbs were planted this fall. Look for them this spring at City Center, Old Fort Western, Library, Memorial Park, Youth Memorial and Water Street Fountain. In the last three years, over 4,000 spring bulbs have been planted.

Extensive repairs were made to McCall's Playground pool and new fencing was installed in this park.

The comprehensive City Street Tree Inventory that was completed in 2007 was updated in 2009. This report outlines the city's urban forest infrastructure from which all maintenance and management strategies will proceed. Thirty-two city trees that were deemed as hazardous were removed and a total of 69 trees were planted.

A new resilient surface was applied at the Alumni Field running track.

An extensive maintenance program was conducted on the city's athletic fields; i.e., aeration, application of amendments, over seeding, performance mowing and irrigation.

Construction of the Farmers' Market pavilion and the installation of outdoor lighting and an ice skating rink at Mill Park.

The Cony Cross Country Trails and three softball fields were re-conditioned.

Day of Caring events, Memorial Day preparations, Spring Running, Capital City Riverfront Fourth Celebration, Riverfront Holiday Tree Lighting and Fireworks were events hosted by the bureau.

There were 43 burials in city-owned cemeteries in 2009.

All of us who work for the bureau have a deep appreciation of the beauty that is so unique to the City of Augusta. What a wonderful place to work and live!



Recreation Bureau

Bruce Chase, Director



The City of Augusta Recreation Bureau had another great year in 2009. Our programs continue to grow and improve each season.

- We had 255 kids that participated in our Youth Soccer Program
- We had 210 kids that played in the fall football league
- A total of 45 teams (over 700 players) participated in our summer adult softball leagues
- A total of 300 kids participated in our winter basketball program
- A new program offered this year, the Augusta Boxing Club, had 20 members participating
- The Senior Clubhouse offered weekly cribbage with about 40 seniors participating



Other programs that we offer are baton lessons, youth cheerleading, karate, judo, girls and boys lacrosse, field hockey, adult flag football, Pee Wee Sports (for children ages 3 – 5), yoga, and the annual father/daughter dance in February.

Buker Community Center was full of daily activities and continues to provide a place for kids and families to go and participate in a number of exciting activities.

Kids Clubhouse, our summer recreation program, changed a little this past year. We partnered with the 21st Century Learning Program to offer a different variety of activities and learning experiences. It was a huge success with about 70 kids attending daily.

Again this year, we had a collaborative effort with the Kennebec Valley YMCA to operate our three city pools.



Auditing Bureau

Diane White, City Auditor



The Audit Bureau oversees and administers the city's financial and accounting system for the General Fund, Special Revenues, Grants, Capital Projects, Enterprise Funds, Interservice Fund and the Greater Augusta Utilities District.

Bureau staff includes the City Auditor and the Deputy Auditor. In the past year, we have upgraded to version 7.2 on MUNIS, for both the City and the Greater Augusta Utility District, and we continue to provide users with training on the MUNIS system.

Our primary goal is to continue to receive clean audits and to keep accounting controls in place as required by city charter, federal and state law.

Assessing Bureau

Donald Cadwell, Assessor

During the 2009 calendar year, this office processed 543 deeds. The majority of the sales were single-family homes with an average sale price of \$123,500. There were 108 residential sales and 14 commercial sales during 2009. Based on the current ratio study for residential property, the average assessment ratio is 95% of market value.



This was the twelfth year for the Maine Resident Homestead Property Tax Exemption. The total number of exemptions for this program was 4,210. The total valuation of all tax exemptions including veterans, blind people, parsonages and homesteads was \$59,572,100.

This office oversees 9,024 taxable real estate accounts with a total taxable value of \$1,469,535,400 (after exemptions) and 989 taxable personal property accounts with a total taxable value of \$100,358,600. In addition, \$15,332,600 in personal property now qualifies under the Maine Business Equipment Tax Exemption Program. We also have 454 real estate accounts, which are totally exempt with an assessed value of \$412,809,000.

**CITY OF AUGUSTA, MAINE
BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2009**

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash	16,997,414	78,622	17,076,036
Investments	10,551,507	703,411	11,254,918
Receivables:			
Taxes	1,059,518	-	1,059,518
Tax liens	601,871	-	601,871
Due from other governments	8,430	294,568	302,998
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for uncollectibles	350,713	5,882	356,595
Notes receivable	-	155,403	155,403
Interfund loans receivable	-	6,583,639	6,583,639
Inventory	7,515	36,518	44,033
Prepaid items	149,908	3,587	153,495
Total assets	29,726,876	7,861,630	37,588,506
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable and other accrued liabilities	1,271,524	107,765	1,379,289
Accrued payroll and benefits	2,606,909	350,917	2,957,826
Escrow payable	23,674	-	23,674
Deferred revenue	1,414,176	-	1,414,176
Taxes received in advance	97,178	-	-
Interfund loans payable	13,079,102	13	97,178
Total liabilities	18,492,563	458,695	13,079,115
Fund balances:			
Reserved for:			
Encumbrances	983,205	362,412	1,345,617
Noncurrent receivables	-	155,403	155,403
Inventory	7,515	36,518	44,033
Nonexpendable trust principal	-	607,643	607,643
Unreserved, reported in:			
General fund:			
City designated	2,157,739	-	2,157,739
School designated	200,989	-	200,989
City undesignated	5,231,983	-	5,231,983
School undesignated	2,652,882	-	2,652,882
Special revenue funds	-	3,595,551	3,595,551
Capital projects funds	-	2,137,375	2,137,375
Permanent funds	-	508,033	508,033
Total fund balances	11,234,313	7,402,935	18,637,248
Total liabilities and fund balances	29,726,876	7,861,630	
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:			
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.			57,552,886
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds.			1,414,176
Internal service funds are used by management to charge the costs of fleet management to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the internal service funds are included in governmental activities in the statement of net assets.			2,054,488
Long-term liabilities that are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds:			
Accrued compensated absences			(3,300,022)
Accrued interest			(263,002)
Other post employment benefits			(2,097,610)
Capital leases			(73,115)
Bonds payable			(41,848,000)
Net assets of governmental activities			32,077,049

City of Augusta, Maine
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual
General Fund
For the year ended June 30, 2009

	<u>Budgeted amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance with Final budget positive (negative)</u>
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
Revenues:				
Taxes	27,245,939	27,245,939	27,124,031	(121,908)
Licenses and permits	121,820	155,525	158,400	2,875
Intergovernmental	18,420,618	18,400,618	18,345,040	(55,578)
Tuition and other charges—education	1,984,500	2,004,500	1,981,091	(23,409)
Charges for services	258,697	1,674,249	1,665,669	(8,580)
Fees and fines	50,800	50,800	54,086	3,286
Unclassified	503,841	503,841	569,613	65,772
Investment earnings	681,680	681,680	897,139	215,459
Total revenues	49,267,895	50,717,152	50,795,069	77,917
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Legislative and executive	639,651	642,216	697,527	(55,311)
Finance and administration	1,569,715	1,661,459	1,571,797	89,662
City services	1,758,732	1,783,677	1,640,397	143,280
Community services	2,264,048	2,271,240	2,063,501	207,739
Public safety	6,147,230	7,577,736	7,478,538	99,198
Public works	3,455,613	3,684,779	3,623,683	61,096
Education	28,433,153	28,562,887	27,332,285	1,230,602
Retirement and insurance	2,113,110	2,161,739	2,109,741	51,998
Utilities	2,125,432	2,125,432	2,058,362	67,070
Unclassified	1,433,735	1,433,735	1,518,638	(84,903)
Debt service (excluding education)	1,186,885	1,186,885	1,023,587	163,298
Total expenditures	51,127,304	53,091,785	51,118,056	1,973,729
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,859,409)	(2,374,633)	(322,987)	2,051,646
Other financing sources (uses):				
Budgeted utilization of surplus—City	921,414	1,191,794	-	(1,191,794)
Budgeted utilization of surplus—School	924,363	924,363	-	(924,363)
Use of carryforwards—City	-	385,490	-	(385,490)
Use of carryforwards—School	-	129,734	-	(129,734)
Transfers to other funds—City	(672,500)	(942,880)	(1,143,833)	(200,953)
Transfers from other funds	686,132	686,132	646,316	(39,816)
Total other financing sources (uses)	1,859,409	2,374,633	(497,517)	(2,872,150)
Net change in fund balance—budgetary basis	-	-	(820,504)	(820,504)
Reconciliation to GAAP basis:				
Add back: encumbrances expended in budgetary—City			743,342	
Add back: encumbrances expended in budgetary—School			239,863	
Transfers from reserves to undesignated fund balance			260,266	
Transfer of ambulance fund to General Fund			(380,656)	
Change in reserves			(134,555)	
Net change in fund balance—GAAP basis			(92,244)	
Fund balance, beginning of year			11,326,557	
Fund balance, end of year			11,234,313	

THE ENTIRE FINANCIAL REPORT IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW IN THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE.

CITY OF AUGUSTA, MAINE
Statement of Net Assets
Proprietary Funds
June 30, 2009

	<u>Business-type Activities — Enterprise Funds</u>					Governmental Activities - Internal Service
	Augusta Civic Center	Hatch Hill Landfill	Airport	Ambulance	Totals	
ASSETS						
Current assets:						
Cash	10,512	-	-	-	10,512	-
Accounts receivable, net	75,752	93,745	252,032	-	421,529	196
Interfund loans receivable	198,341	6,216,809	-	-	6,415,150	298,645
Prepaid expenses	8,735	37,380	2,204	-	48,319	4,972
Inventory	24,530	-	-	-	24,530	123,465
Total current assets	317,870	6,347,934	254,236	-	6,920,040	427,278
Noncurrent assets:						
Property, plant, and equipment:						
Land	390,000	38,950	-	-	428,950	-
Buildings and improvements	8,648,053	23,372	-	-	8,671,425	55,078
Equipment and vehicles	424,057	900,907	-	-	1,324,964	4,533,585
Hatch Hill landfill system	-	14,685,286	-	-	14,685,286	-
Less accumulated depreciation	(4,591,563)	(10,033,721)	-	-	(14,625,284)	(2,917,755)
Total noncurrent assets	4,870,547	5,614,794	-	-	10,485,341	7,506,418
Total assets	5,188,417	11,962,728	254,236	-	17,405,381	7,933,696
LIABILITIES						
Current liabilities:						
Accounts payable	20,931	2,370	4,421	-	27,722	2,986
Accrued wages and benefits payable	21,759	8,746	6,899	-	37,404	7,487
Accrued compensated absences	101,351	61,570	24,597	-	187,518	33,225
Refundable deposits	35,516	-	-	-	35,516	-
Current portion of bonds payable	226,315	485,000	-	-	711,315	-
Interfund loans payable	-	-	218,319	-	218,319	-
Total current liabilities	405,872	557,686	254,236	-	1,217,794	43,698
Noncurrent liabilities:						
Bonds payable	2,489,480	4,850,000	-	-	7,339,480	-
Accrued landfill closure and postclosure costs	-	5,545,857	-	-	5,545,857	-
Total noncurrent liabilities	2,489,480	10,395,857	-	-	12,885,337	-
Total liabilities	2,895,352	10,953,543	254,236	-	14,103,131	43,698
NET ASSETS						
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	2,154,752	279,794	-	-	2,434,546	1,670,908
Unrestricted	138,313	729,391	-	-	867,704	383,580
Total net assets	2,293,065	1,009,185	-	-	3,302,250	2,054,488

CITY OF AUGUSTA, MAINE
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets
Proprietary Funds
For the year ended June 30, 2009

<u>Business-type Activities — Enterprise Funds</u>						
	Augusta Civic Center	Hatch Hill Landfill	Airport	Ambulance	Total	Governmental Activities - Internal Service
Operating revenues:						
Rental income	1,223,756	-	50,303	-	1,274,059	-
Fees	-	2,398,360	135,870	-	2,534,230	1,952,962
Food and beverage sales	1,453,404	-	-	-	1,453,404	-
State of Maine	-	-	440,435	-	440,435	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	17
Total operating revenues	2,677,160	2,398,360	626,608	-	5,702,128	1,952,979
Other expenses:						
Personnel services	1,375,717	474,876	309,009	-	2,159,602	385,981
Contractual services	338,177	448,368	160,406	-	946,951	65,724
Supplies and materials	559,548	216,058	88,958	-	864,564	938,955
Fixed charges	16,520	314,287	7,415	-	338,222	405
Capital outlay	5,130	1,830	-	-	6,960	1,937
Depreciation	301,066	746,884	-	-	1,047,950	313,297
Total operating expenses	2,596,158	2,202,303	565,788	-	5,364,259	1,706,299
Operating income (loss)	81,002	196,057	60,820	-	337,879	246,680
Nonoperating revenue (expense):						
Interest income	37,109	(6,514)	-	-	30,595	-
Interest expense	(184,477)	(335,066)	(7,240)	-	(526,783)	(13,274)
Gain (loss) on disposal of equipment	(16,508)	98,000	-	-	81,492	-
Total nonoperating revenue (expense)	(163,876)	(243,580)	(7,240)	-	(414,696)	(13,274)
Net income (loss) before transfers	(82,874)	(47,523)	53,580	-	(76,817)	233,406
Transfers:						
Transfer from (to) other funds	(65,961)	(125,021)	-	48,513	(142,469)	49,727
Total transfers	(65,961)	(125,021)	-	48,513	(142,469)	49,727
Change in net assets	(148,835)	(172,544)	53,580	48,513	(219,286)	283,133
Total net assets (deficits), beginning of year	2,441,900	1,181,729	(53,580)	(48,513)	3,521,536	1,771,355
Total net assets, end of year	2,293,065	1,009,185	-	-	3,302,250	2,054,488



City Clerk/Treasurer's Office

Barbara Wardwell, City Clerk and Treasurer



City Clerk's 2009 Statistics

Births Recorded	532	(Augusta births - 242)
Deaths Recorded	582	(Augusta deaths - 258)
Burial Permits	613	
Marriage Intentions Filed	157	
Business Licenses	317	

Treasurer/Tax Collection 2009 Statistics

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Amount	Transactions
Boat Excise Tax	\$12,981.70	804
Boat Registration Fees	\$13,511.00	796
Water Protection Fees	\$7657.00	763
ATV Registration Fees	\$4653.00	141
Snowmobile Registration Fees	\$7,252.00	197
Fish and Game Licenses	\$30,187.50	1,186
Agent Fees	\$21,974.00	1,145

Bureau of Motor Vehicles	Amount	Transactions
Auto Excise Tax	\$2,544,956.30	15,924
Registration Fees (BMV)	\$629,808.57	*15,605
Agent Fees	\$49,962.00	15,605
Sales Tax	\$130,117.63	1,507
Title Fees	\$37,498.00	1,362
Rapid Renewal Program (RRP)	\$304,853.64	2,184

*New Registrations – 3,733; Renewals – 11,532; Duplicates – 340

Property Taxes Assessed April 1, 2009	Amount	Number
Real Estate	\$24,541,241.18	9,024
Personal Property	<u>1,675,988.62</u>	<u>989</u>
Total	\$26,217,229.80	10,013
Tax Clubs	\$852,288.50	500
Tax Liens	\$721,801.32	409

Human Resources Bureau



Ellen Blair, Director



The bureau, a shared resource between the City and the Greater Augusta Utility District (district) is responsible for supporting city and district departments in a number of key areas including employee recruitment, compensation and benefits, employee development, employee relations, labor relations, records management, payroll, supervisory counseling, and health and safety. These functions are performed for an employee population of 287 regular full- and part-time employees and 150± seasonal/temporary employees. Accomplishments in 2009 included:

Building and managing effective employee relations. With three unions, employee and labor relations is always a priority. Collective bargaining efforts in 2009 resulted in agreements with the Augusta Uniformed Firefighters Association to extend its two contracts to bring them in line with other units. Bargaining with district employees continue.

Celebrating employees. June 18 marked the date of this year's employee appreciation day. Although our venue and format changed as municipal budgets tightened, we were still able to hold a day to recognize our employees and the service they provide to the city.

Recruiting and hiring. Filling vacancies throughout the city starts with posting the job openings and ends in the orienting of the new hires. HR received 520 applications in 2009 for 14 full-time vacancies and 88 additional positions classified as other than full-time status.

Encouraging health and wellness. We received over \$4,773 in grant funding to support numerous programs focused on improving the health and wellness of our employees. In April, in a combined effort with the National League of Cities, the Mayor, the City Manager and other key city officials, HR helped facilitate a free prescription discount card program available to all Augusta residents.

Employee support continues through the entire period of active employment and often extends beyond in the form of benefits to retired members and continuation of benefits for employees leaving for other reasons. Numerous benefit programs are monitored and notices are sent to supervisors and/or employees as appropriate. Certain programs require consistent involvement or intervention by staff including health, dental, vision, life, deferred compensation, pension, FMLA, etc.

Supporting employee development. In addition to departmental training, Human Resources continues to provide and coordinate training in certain key areas of mandatory compliance, including supervisory orientation and sexual harassment. Overall, the number of participants receiving training this year was in excess of 500.

Collaborating. This was the first year that staff was responsible for the district's payroll. In addition to weekly payroll processing for another 50 employees, staff submits monthly MPERS reporting, reconciles benefit payments, completes federal and state quarterly tax filing, and prepares year end W-2's.

Capitalizing on safety. Efforts by employees and supervisors to work safely continue to be a high priority. Work-related injuries, including those with lost time cases, continue to decline over prior years.

I want to thank my incredible staff, June and Theresa! It is a privilege to work with individuals who are talented, who come through over and over again, who care about our employees and do it all with a great sense of humor.



Information Technology Bureau

Fred Kahl, Network Administrator



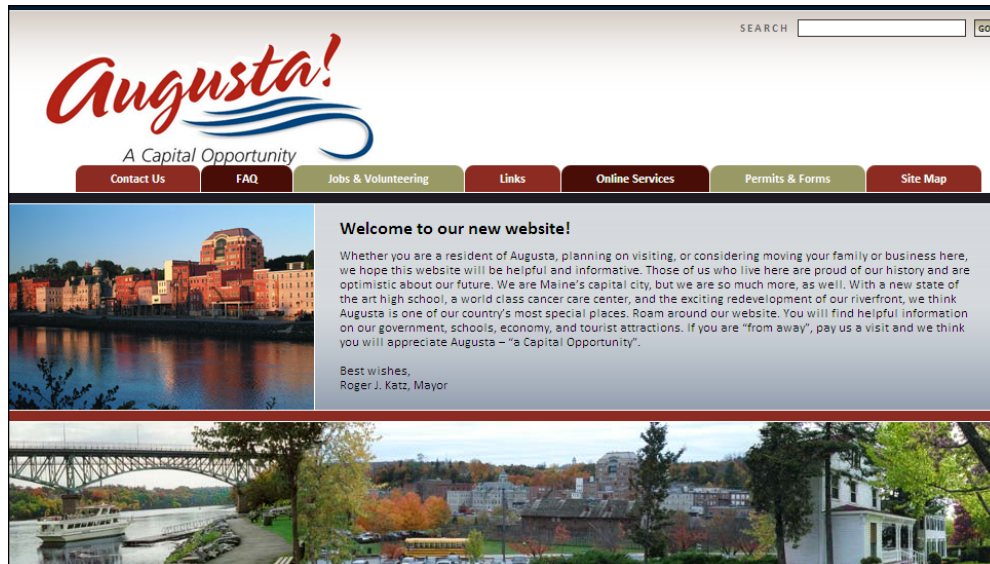
The Information Technology Bureau has spent the year working hard to support city services as well as the School Department. There have been many substantial changes and additions to our responsibilities in the past year.

These changes include:

- The addition of 1,000+ computers with the introduction of netbooks at Cony High School, bringing the total number of devices supported to well over 3000
- Migration of the City’s Web Pages to Host Web Solution
- Expansion of our fiber network to include Hatch Hill, the Augusta State Airport, Public Works, Greater Augusta Utility District as well as most traffic control switches
- Introduction of a digital public safety communication system
- Updating the police/fire dispatch center
- Moving the School Department to virtualized server farm
- Continued consolidation of the computer networks shared by the City and School Department
- Red Zone - Riverfront public wireless

All of these tasks have been accomplished while maintaining current staffing levels and without reduction of service to client. We look forward to another year of innovation, change and challenge. The entire IT staff is always looking for ways to do more with less while improving service. Fortunately, the Information Technology field creates an environment that promotes this ability. We are anxious to see what next year has in store.

Check out our new website: www.augustamaine.gov



Fire Department

Roger Audette, Fire Chief



Mission Statement: We, the members of the Augusta Fire Department, are dedicated professionals committed to safely serving our community by protecting life, property and the environment through prevention, education and emergency services.



Introduction

I am pleased to present this summary of Fire Department activities for the fiscal year 2009. The year was the busiest ever for the Fire Department with respect to training requirements and emergency response. The department responded to 5,639 calls for service. There were 4,531 calls for EMS representing 80.35% of our responses. Of these EMS calls, 4,301 patients were transported by the Fire Department. With approximately 58% of those patients going to MaineGeneral Medical Center, 18% going to local facilities and the remainder going to hospitals greater than 20 miles away.

Department Training

In 2009, the Fire Department worked toward achieving goals in the areas of officer training, basic firefighter training, driver/operator, roadway safety, ice water rescue, vehicle extrication, Critical Care, Hazardous Materials, Life Safety Education, and Health and Fitness.

- Battalion Chief Ed Charles completed the Kennebec Leadership Institute Program
- Captain Scott Dunbar completed the Safety Officer certification program
- Most employees completed a Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support Program
- Most employees completed an Advanced Cardiac Life Support Program
- Three members completed advanced aircraft firefighting tactics
- Three members attended the National Fire Academy Maine Weekend
- Battalion Chief Groder completed a Public Safety Management Program
- Two Firefighters attended Hazardous Materials Programs in Alabama

In total, the members of the Augusta Fire Department attended 180 classes totaling 4,200 hours of training. Training hours are expected to be much higher next year as we look to train nine new firefighters hired over the course of the last year.

Fire Prevention and Education Programs

Annually, members provide many valuable programs in the community. Traditional programs related to fire safety are provided to elderly complexes and schools during fire prevention week. Fire extinguisher training is ongoing throughout the year. Members of our department have worked with the local schools to purchase Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs). Certified CPR and First Aid programs were offered in local businesses, schools and the Capitol Complex. Over 300 people were certified in CPR and AEDs last year. A Knoxbox ordinance was established to provide fire department access to buildings that have fire alarm systems.



Fire Department (cont'd.)

Personnel

- Battalion Chief William Cusick retired after 25 years of service
- Battalion Chief Charlie Squires retired after 30 years of service
- Battalion Chief Alfred Nelson retired after 26 years of service
- Captain Robert MacMaster resigned after 16 years of service
- Firefighter Robert Moody retired after 25 years of service
- Firefighter Blake Davis accepted a position with the South Portland Fire Department
- Firefighter Eric Beaulieu accepted a position with the Biddeford Fire Department
- Firefighter Dan Pajek accepted a position in Washington State
- Firefighter Ken Stackpole retired after 11 years of service
- Twelve new Firefighter/Paramedics were hired last year
 - * Jason Decker from the Farmington Fire Department
 - * Adelbert Hume from the Gardiner Fire Department
 - * Lars Shultz-Nielsen from Gardiner Fire Department
 - * John Bennett returned to work for the Fire Department from the private sector
 - * Dustin Freeman from the Pittston Volunteer Fire Department
 - * Kyle Baker from the Farmington Fire Department
 - * Shane Sagars from Wisconsin
 - * Sean Estabrook from Farmington Fire Department
 - * Michael Buck from Gardiner Fire Department
 - * Robert Richards from Gardiner Fire Department
 - * Richard Beaudoin from Bath Fire Department

Response Statistics

The estimated dollar loss in 2008 was \$670,373. Major incidents included fires on Porter Street (one civilian fatality), Winthrop Court (one civilian fatality), Chapel Street (one civilian injured), and American Tissue.



Response Statistics

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Fire Responses	1,034	982	804	1,108
EMS Responses	5,189	5,263	4,901	4,531
Totals	6,223	6,245	5,705	5,639

Other Highlights

- Lieutenants Dan Guimond, Ed Charles and Captain Steve Leach were promoted to Battalion Chief
- Firefighters Paul Zibura and Tom Freeman were promoted to Lieutenant
- Received grants from the Homeland Security Program and the Maine Municipal Association
- Continued to foster relationships with mutual aid departments for training and purchasing

I have been firefighting since 1987. Over the course of the last year, I have seen more civilian deaths and injuries from fire than at any other time in my career. There were two significant fires in large occupied apartment buildings in the wee hours of the night. Augusta Firefighters performed valiantly saving lives at both fires by rescuing sleeping occupants. Unfortunately, one civilian died in the Winthrop Court fire. In closing, I want to thank all of the members of the Augusta Fire Department who work hard day in and day out to provide the most valuable service in the city. Their pride and professionalism is demonstrated on every call they respond to. I am proud to represent such a fine group.



Fire Prevention at Lincoln School



Car fire on Interstate 95



Emergency trauma call with Lifeflight



Police Department

Wayne McCamish, Police Chief



Message from the Chief: As the only city department accessible to the public twenty-four hours a day, three hundred sixty-five days a year, the Police Department is committed to providing the best possible assistance to our citizens and the public at large. We are committed to respect human dignity and to a strong ethical code of conduct as guardians of law and order. All members of the department are directed to exercise the highest degree of public service in their daily contacts with our citizens and to enforce the law with compassion, resolve and strength of character. I am proud to serve the community of our State Capital with the men and women of the Augusta Police Department as your Police Chief.

Throughout the year 2009, the Police Department experienced a change in personnel and assignments within the department. New employees were:



- Police Officers Miles Noonan and Jessie Brann
- Records Clerk Rebecca Loveland
- Custodian Roland Arbour
- Detective Richard Dubois was promoted to Sergeant
- Patrol Officer Christopher Blodgett was promoted to Detective
- Patrol Officers Allen Proctor, Miles Noonan and Jeremy Day left the department to pursue other employment opportunities

The Police Department, in cooperation with the Maine Emergency Management Agency, has partnered with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to train officers of the department at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. The following personnel have been trained at this facility during 2009 as follows:

Managing Civil Actions in Threat Incidents, Command - Sgt. Mark Desjardin and Det. Sgt. Matthew Clark

Managing Civil Actions in Threat Incidents, Protestor Devices - Major Robert Gregoire, Lt. J. Chris Read, Sgt. Matthew Clark, Sgt. Christopher Massey, Sgt. Christopher Shaw, Det. Jason Cote, Ptlm. Scott Hayden, Ptlm. John Lacoste, and Ptlm. Donald Whitten

Managing Civil Actions in Threat Incidents, Basic - Det. Jason Cote, Ptlm. Christian Behr, Ptlm. Lindell Cox, Ptlm. Paul Frye, Ptlm. Scott Harris, Ptlm. Scott Hayden, Ptlm. John Lacoste, Ptlm. Scott Theriault, and Ptlm. Donald Whitten

Crime Scene Management for Emergency Responders and HAZMAT Evidence Collection - Sgt. Richard Dubois, and Det. Vincente Morris

Training of all department personnel continues to be a priority within the Police Department. In our efforts to train members of the Special Response Team, Major Robert Gregoire, Lieutenants Kevin Lully and Jared Mills,



Sergeants Richard Dubois (left) and Chris Massey

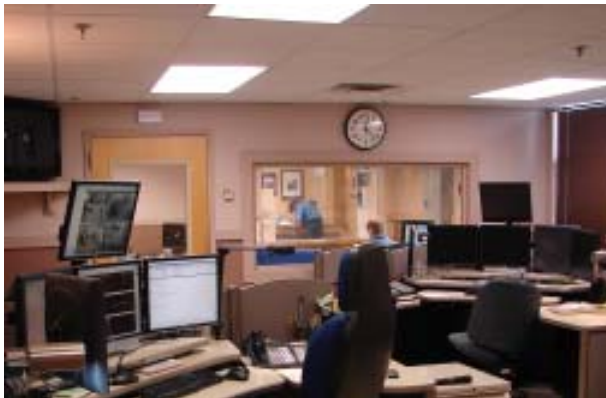


along with Officer Donald Whitten, received one week of Tactical Team Supervisors training through the International Association of Chief's of Police. Two other Response Team members, Detective Vincente Morris and

Officer Nikolas Hample completed Impact Munitions, Distraction Devices and Chemical Munitions Instructors Training through Defense Technology. Patrol Officers Brian Wastella and Scott Theriault received one week of Basic Hostage Negotiation Training by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. All sworn officers receive a minimum of three days of training each year.

The Police Department received two Federal Grants from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Program's, Bureau of Justice Assistance, totaling \$196,171. Of these grants, \$157,965 was for the Recovery Act Grant and \$38,206 was for the Justice Assistance Grant. The State Bureau of Highway Safety awarded the Augusta Police Department grants totaling \$18,520. Of these grants, \$5,000 was for the apprehension of impaired drivers, \$5,000 for Speed Enforcement, \$2,400 for Seatbelt, Safety Seat Enforcement and \$6,120 for Holiday Safety Enforcement.

The Augusta Police Department Mission Statement is "To establish and maintain a partnership with governmental agencies, businesses, and citizens of the community to provide a safe environment in which the quality of life may be improved through the delivery of competent, fair and impartial services." In these difficult, challenging economic times, the department struggles to stay true to our mission statement in exercising the highest degree of public service with our citizens.



Dispatch Center



Day in the Park — Officer Joseph Burke (right)



Torch Run for Maine Special Olympics— (from left) Officer Christian Behr, Major Robert Gregoire and Officer Donald Whitten



Central Garage

Scott Kenoyer, Fleet Service Manager



Central Garage operation is an Intraservice Fund. The majority of revenues come from rental/maintenance of vehicles to various city departments and sale of fuel. The revenues are used for the maintenance, repair, and replacement of vehicles. Central Garage operates with a fleet service manager, a working foreman, four technicians, a parts person and dispatcher/clerk who is shared with Public Works and Hatch Hill.

We maintain and repair approximately 120 pieces of equipment belonging to Central Garage, plus the equipment owned by Hatch Hill and the Parks, Cemeteries, and Trees Bureau. Central Garage utilizes the MUNIS maintenance and inventory program, which is part of the city-wide financial program. The MUNIS program is utilized to track and control costs associated with equipment maintenance and parts inventory. It is also utilized in preparing short- and long-range plans for future equipment replacement.

Central Garage purchases approximately \$300,000 worth of vehicles/equipment yearly, which is based on a five-year equipment replacement schedule. Equipment rental revenues of \$240,500 were used to make equipment purchases for FY 2009. New equipment purchases were as follows:

- 1 ton 4x4 w/plow
- Class 8 plow truck
- Rack body dump truck
- ¾ ton 2-wheel drive pick up
- Sidewalk snow blower attachment



Public Works



John Charest, Director

The Public Works budget for fiscal year 2009 totals \$3,387,496. Major services provided include: rubbish/recycling curbside collection, winter maintenance of streets and sidewalks, maintenance of all city streets and roads, sweeping, patching, street and regulatory signs, street and crosswalk striping as well as the annual paving program.



Street and Sidewalk Sweeping

This spring program involves the cleanup of winter sand that has accumulated on the 300+ lane miles of streets from the winter operations. This year it began on April 13th. The main arterials are the first priority and then two sweepers work on the remaining five-week schedule. In addition to the roadways, the sidewalks on the main arterial are also swept.

Spring Repairs

Crews worked into late May repairing lawns, guardrails, fences and any other damages that resulted from the snow plowing/removal operations.

Street and Crosswalk Painting

Once the weather warmed up and the streets had been swept, a street-striping firm was hired to repaint center-lines, edge lines and white skips on the city streets and roads. This started late (due to the wet weather) on June 4th and finished on June 17th. By late summer, the contractor and Public Works crews also painted all crosswalks, arrows and parking stalls.

Construction and Paving Season

This year's construction and paving season started in early May and ended in late November. Some of the projects included:

Winthrop Street, Phase 1—State Street to Water Street – Completed loaming, seeding and surface pavement

Winthrop Street, Phase 2—State Street to Sewall Street – Started reconstruction of this phase after the Utility District installed new water, sewer and storm drains

Cony Street Culvert – Replacement of triple 36" culverts that had failed

Stevens Road – Reconstructed 400' of roadway that had failed due to water problems

Glenridge Drive and Duncan Road – Improvements to the dead-end sections to eliminate nuisance traffic and beautification of this area

Hatch Hill Area I Remediation – Completed this remediation project

New Sidewalks and Curb – Installed on State Street (by the State Fire and Police Memorials), Cony Street (Viles Street to South Belfast Avenue intersection)



Public Works (cont'd.)

Safeway to Schools Sidewalks – Constructed sidewalks on Northern Avenue and Cony Road

Projects by Others – MDOT completed Cony Roundabout, GAUD completed the Togos Forcemain Project with a new sidewalk on the south side of Eastern Avenue (Hospital Street to Lambard Road) and total reconstruction of lower Eastern Avenue (Hospital Street to Arsenal Street).

Winter of 2008-2009

- This winter season was a little above average for snowfall with 86 ½” (77” being the average)
- We had 12 full plowing operations
- There were 38 nights of snow haul
- We continued to use “salt priority” (75/25 salt/sand) to treat our roads with excellent results.

Rubbish/Recycling and other special curbside collections

Collection services are offered by providing recycling one week of the month with rubbish collection on all other weeks. These services, along with a four-week Fall Leaf Collection, were offered again to residents free of charge. The Spring Clean Up of bulky items and Spring Leaf Collection were offered as a “fee-for-service”. Residents continue to be dedicated recyclers, with 10% of the city’s residential waste being recycled or composted.

Household Hazardous Waste Day

On Saturday, May 16th, the Household Hazardous Waste (HHHW) Collection Day was held at Public Works, in conjunction with KVCOG and nine other communities. A total of 354 units (up 48 units from 2008) were collected, as well as unwanted medications, which were part of the program again this year with the addition of Universal Waste (TV/PC’s) drop-off.

Request for Services

We had 784 telephone calls requesting services logged in between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. The requests vary depending on the time of the year from plowing/sanding to floods.



Winthrop Street—Phase 1



Winthrop Street—Phase II



Cony Street culverts replaced



Stevens Road—400’ Reconstructed

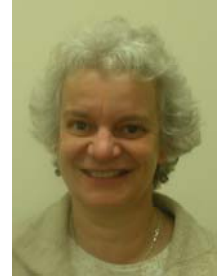
Solid Waste

Lesley Jones, Director



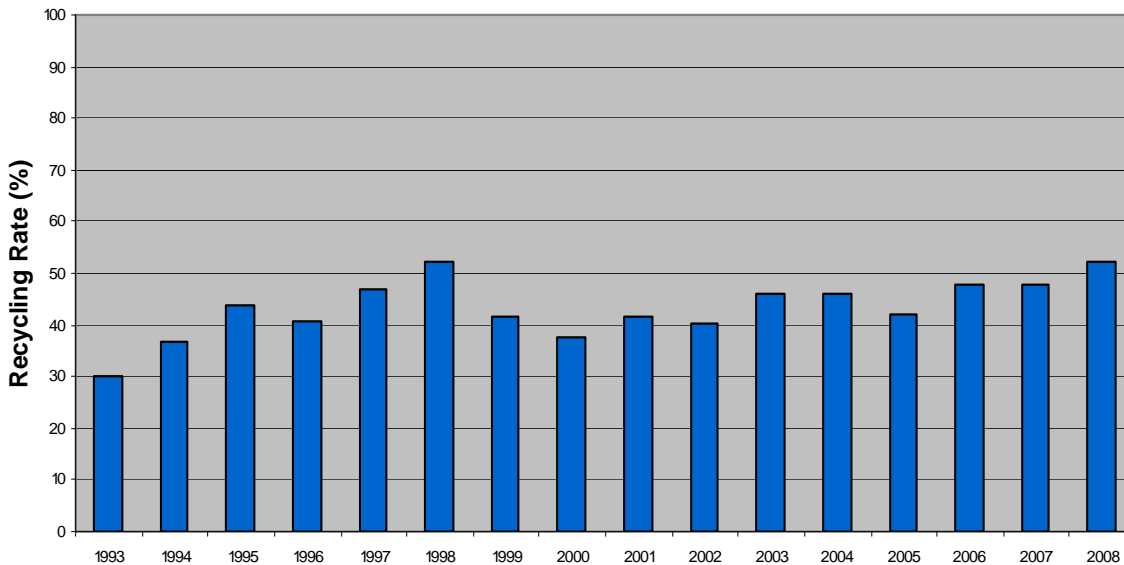
Recycling

- In 2009, the Hatch Hill region recycled over 52% of the waste generated by Augusta and the contracting communities. Over 15,000 tons of material were diverted from the landfill and reprocessed into useable materials. Of this, 4,130 tons of materials were recycled or composted at Hatch Hill; this includes 267 tons of brush, 392 tons of bulky metal, 1,422 tons of shingles, 1,114 tons of wood waste, 332 tons of compost and 245 tons of household recyclables (news/magazine mix, old corrugated cardboard, tin cans, clear glass and natural #2 plastic). The remaining 10,000+ tons of materials were recycled by local businesses contracting directly with recycling firms to get their materials recycled—primarily old corrugated cardboard (OCC), office paper, plastics, scrap metal and food waste.
- In addition, 62 tons of Universal Waste (TV's, computer monitors, fluorescent bulbs and other mercury items) were recycled along with over 500 pounds of household batteries.



The graph below shows a history of our recycling rates since the early 1990's. The State Planning Office determines our recycling rate from the reports we submit to them annually.

Hatch Hill Region Recycling Rate



Landfill Operations

- A total of 25,002 tons of waste were landfilled in Expansion III in 2009
- Since 2001 when we first began using Expansion III, over 189,342 tons or 33% of the capacity of this landfill has been used. The total capacity is 586,000 tons and approximately 396,658 tons or 67% of capacity remain. If we continue landfilling about 25,000 tons of waste a year, the landfill will last another 12 to 14 more years.



Solid Waste (cont'd.)

- Approximately 10,000 yards of soil were used as daily cover.
- Landfill leachate - Leachate is a special term used in the landfill business that means any liquid that comes in contact with garbage. Waste is placed in landfills underlain with a plastic and soil liner. Leachate collects on the liner and travels through a system of pipes and is stored in the Leachate Pond. It then gets pumped to the Greater Augusta Utility District Treatment Plant where it is treated and discharged into the Kennebec River. Over 19 million gallons of leachate was pumped to the treatment plant this year. Leachate generation is dependent on the amount of precipitation we get and the amount of open landfill space.

Operations Budget and Closure Fund

Total Hatch Hill Budget is \$2,494,047. Major cost centers include:

- \$427,486 for personnel services (wages, health insurance, fringe benefits and workers compensation insurance)
- \$15,000 Utilities (electricity and communications)
- \$182,000 for equipment rental and fuel purchase from Central Garage
- \$167,047 contracted special services such as water quality testing and landfill consultants
- \$210,916 for cost to transport and process recyclables
- \$82,500 Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) licensing fees, pollution insurance and other insurance
- \$306,000 for landfill closure liability. Of the \$72.00 per ton tipping fee for every ton of waste that is landfilled in Expansion III, \$13.82 is set aside to provide for closure of the landfill once it reaches capacity
- \$999,000 equipment depreciation and interest payment of the landfill construction bond

Corrective Action

In 2002, the City and MDEP began working together on a Corrective Action Plan at Hatch Hill to address the groundwater quality at the site. This corrective action plan identified three areas of waste believed to be the primary sources of groundwater degradation. This waste was “dumped” at Hatch Hill back in the 1950’s and 1960’s and was outside the limits of the closed “Old Landfill.” In a nutshell, what this means is that, when the “Old Landfill” was closed with a clay cap in the 1980’s, some areas of waste were not covered with the water-shedding cap. These areas of uncapped waste have leached water into the groundwater.

In 2004, we completed corrective action of “Area 3” (by the old tire pile) using Public Works crews. In 2005, we completed remediation of “Area 2” using an outside contractor and Public Works. This past year, we completed most of the remediation for “Area 1” which is northeast of the “Old Landfill”. This work consisted of removing old waste that was pushed into the boggy area and not adequately covered. Public Works performed this remediation work which involved removing about 5,518 yards of old waste and soil and stockpiling it on top of Expansion II. The area was regraded using 3,552 yards of soil excavated from the Winthrop Street Reconstruction project. To date, construction costs for this area total \$40,000.



A small area remains to be excavated in the spring and this will complete our remedial responsibilities at this time. We will continue to monitor the water quality at the entire site to see how effective the remediation projects have been. Further work may be necessary at a future date.

Potential Use of Landfill Gas as Renewable Energy

For the past few years, we have been exploring the potential of capturing the methane gas being generated from the landfills and either destroying it using a flare system or using it as a renewable energy resource. Last year, the US Environmental Protection Agency Landfill Methane Outreach Program did a detailed analysis of several scenarios, including converting the landfill gas into electricity, using it as an alternate fuel (possibly at the Cony High School complex) and/or flaring it. A landfill flare would require a capital expenditure of about \$700,000. Any of the other projects that would convert the landfill gas into renewable energy would require an additional capital investment of about \$1.5 million. We are currently reviewing these scenarios to see if any of them are economically viable. Although we are not mandated to destroy the methane that is generated at the landfill at this time, we anticipate that sometime in the near future this will be required. Finding the most workable solution is challenging due to all the factors that need to be considered along with how to finance the project.

Conclusion

In closing, we continue to look for ways to improve our operations and are proud to serve our customers in a friendly, efficient and environmentally compliant manner.



Area 1 remediation removing waste that is outside the closed cap of the landfill



Area 1 remediation removing rubbish from around a water quality monitoring well



Augusta School Department

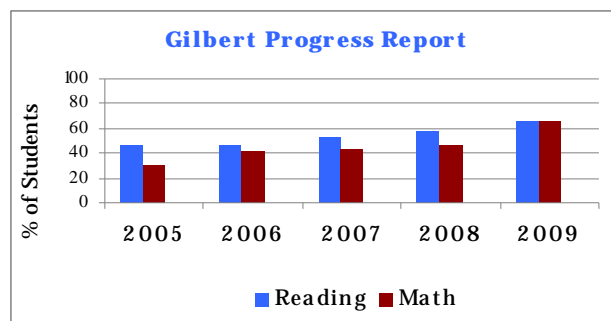
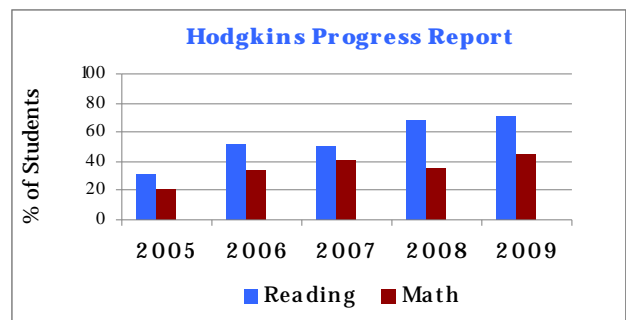
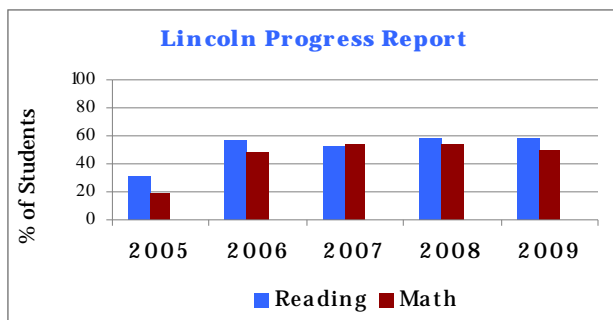
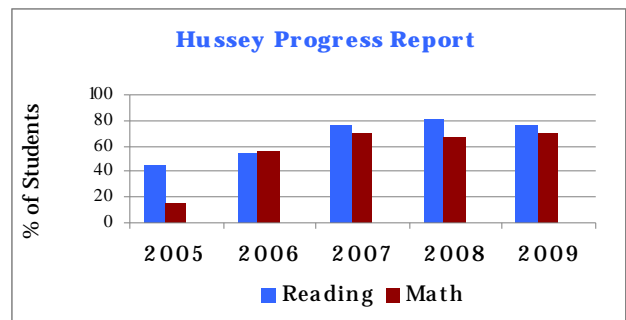
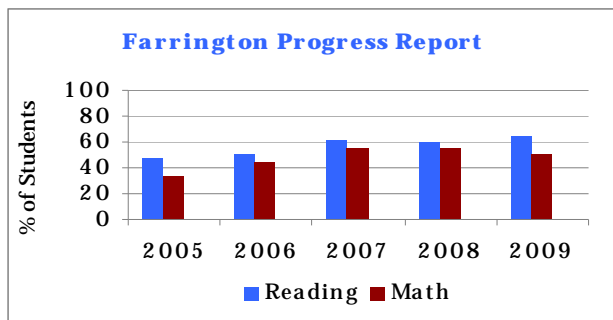
Dr. Cornelia Brown, Superintendent of Schools

The Augusta School Department provides educational services to nearly 2,400 day students and an additional 1,500 night students. Students are provided with a comprehensive program that includes Pre-School for all students and extends to adult learners who participate in High School Diploma programs and adult enrichment activities. Cony High School offers a full complement of academic programming for students, as well as offers an array of clubs and athletic opportunities for students who wish to participate. Specialized programs are offered to students requiring unique services. All educational programs are delivered by highly-trained and caring professionals whose first priority is to ensure student needs are met.



Progress Reports

Improving student achievement and ensuring that more students meet rigorous academic standards is an important goal for the Augusta School Department. During the last five years, students have made impressive gains as shown in the following charts:





Cony High School

One hundred seventy-nine students marched across the stage at the Augusta Civic Center in June of 2009 and received their diplomas. Nearly eighty percent of the students who graduated will go on to college. Students from the class of '09 continue a longstanding tradition of attending prestigious colleges and universities, including the University of Maine, Colby, Trinity, Brigham Young and Providence College. Other students from the class of '09 will proudly serve their country as part of the military.

In addition to the one hundred seventy-nine students who graduated from Cony High School, thirty-seven students graduated from Adult Education.

Closure of Hodgkin's Middle School and 7th and 8th Grade Transition to Cony High School

In conjunction with the Augusta City Council, the Augusta Board of Education held several public meetings, including two forums, to discuss options for closing a substantial gap between revenues and expenditures for the 2009-2010 school year. Among the choices considered was the closure of Hodgkin's Middle School.

After considerable public input and debate, in March of 2009, the Augusta Board of Education voted unanimously to close Hodgkin's Middle School at the end of the 2008-2009 school year. The decision to close the building was made given the deteriorating condition of the facility and the considerable shortfall in General Purpose Aid to Education, also known as state subsidy. The decision was not made lightly and weighed against other options such as the elimination of programs at all levels.

The School Department estimated that closing the building would save approximately \$800,000. Planning for the closure of Hodgkin's Middle School started in the early part of 2009. That foundational work to determine if moving Hodgkin's students and staff to Cony was feasible contributed to the report "21st Century Opportunities: 7th and 8th Grade Students" that was presented to the School Board on February 11, 2009. Following the approval by the School Board during the spring of 2009, refining and finalizing the proposed plan progressed rapidly.

Room assignments for the 2009/2010 school year were made at Cony for all teachers in grades 7-12 and a finalized daily schedule were established that minimized the interaction between high school and middle school students. Students in high school and middle school would arrive, eat lunch, and leave school at different times. Middle school classrooms would be clustered on the second floor and off limits to high school students. The schedule also facilitates middle school instruction in music, art, foreign languages, family and consumer science, physical education, health, industrial technology, library science, and career planning.

The Augusta Board of Education established a Transition Committee made up of staff, students, board members and administration to work out the details for the transition of 7th and 8th grade students and staff. The Transition Committee addressed the disposition of memorabilia from Hodgkin's, determined school colors and mascots, and developed a visitation schedule for students, staff and parents prior to school opening. Apprehension regarding the change seemed to dissipate as more information was made available to everyone.



School Department (cont'd.)

Cony opened for the 2009/2010 school year much smoother than anticipated. The concerns regarding middle and high school students sharing a school quickly evaporated. Students and teachers were understanding and flexible during the first few weeks as they adjusted to their new surroundings. The two schools quickly and seamlessly assimilated into one. The many projected benefits of 7th and 8th grade moving to Cony are being realized and many more opportunities for both middle and high school are being discovered.

The transition has been extremely successful.

Curriculum Highlights

On September 1, 2009, all Augusta School teachers were trained in curriculum mapping. Curriculum mapping is a web-based system that allows us to document our curriculum, align to state and national standards, and review expectations for redundancies and gaps in every subject area. Our goal is to complete a full review (K-12) of science and/or social studies this year with the intent of completing all subject reviews in the next three years. We will be using these maps, along with our local and state assessments, to improve student learning and the effectiveness of our teaching.

Staff Achievements



Shawn Totman — Named the Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference (KVAC) Wrestling Coach of the Year. The Cony High School Wrestling Team won the Eastern Maine Championship.



Tim Bonsant, Boys' Varsity Basketball Coach — Named by the Kennebec Journal as the Boys' Varsity Basketball Coach of the Year.



Gretchen Livingston — Rotary Teacher of the Year

Student Achievements

Garrett Raymond (first photo) — Maine Youth leadership Seminar Delegate

Eryka Burns (2nd)— Hugh O'Brien Leadership Seminar Delegate

Mary Lampson (3rd) participated in the "Semester at Sea" program for the spring semester. She will be part of a crew sailing a three-masted schooner throughout the Caribbean.

Jacob Forbes (4th) successfully auditioned for four music festivals this year. They are: the Maine Music Educators District 3 Honors Band, the Maine All State Jazz Festival, the Plymouth State University Honors Band, and the Maine All State Honors Band.

Gideon Forbes (5th) and Blake Peachey (6th) have successfully auditioned for five music festivals this year. They are: the Maine Music Educators District 3 Honors Band, the Maine All State Jazz Festival, the Plymouth State University Honors Band, the New England Music Festival Honors Band, and the Maine All State Honors Band.

Patty Levesque (7th) successfully auditioned for two vocal festival honors, the Maine Music Educators District 3 Honors Treble Chorus and Maine All-State Chorus.

Le Club Calumet - 2009 Outstanding Citizen of the Year

Mr. William Burney, the Chairman of the Augusta School Board, was selected as the Le Club Calumet 2009 Outstanding Citizen of the Year. He was honored at a ceremony on May 23rd at Le Club Calumet.

Mr. Burney has been the Chairman of the Augusta Board of Education for nine years. Prior to serving the City in this role, Mr. Burney spent a number of years on the City Council and then was elected to three terms as Mayor of the City of Augusta.

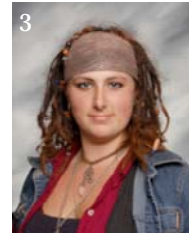
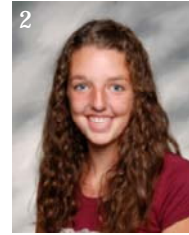
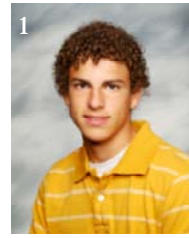
Mr. Burney is a 1969 graduate of Cony High School and went on to graduate from Boston University and the University of Maine School of Law.

During his tenure as the Chairman of the Augusta School Board, Mr. Burney helped to facilitate the application process for a new Cony High School and, after the project was successfully funded, was an active participant in discussions affecting the construction of Cony.

He has served on all three of the School Board Sub-Committees – Finance, Personnel, and Education – and, during the consolidation talks, led the School Board's Team in conversations with surrounding communities.

Mr. Burney is a passionate advocate for high standards for all students and for raising academic and behavioral expectations for children enrolled in the Augusta School Department.

In an interview with the *Kennebec Journal* concerning the award, Mr. Burney said, "I am in very lofty company, all the people who've done things for the community and not for themselves. The Calumet Club is one of the cornerstone organizations in Augusta, and being recognized by them is significant for all the things they've done for the community: scholarships, the (Bastille Day) festival and contributions to the community for all those years."





School Department (cont'd.)

Augusta Board of Education

The Augusta Board of Education works hard on behalf of students. Each member contributes long hours to Board Committees, such as the Personnel, Finance, and Education Sub-Committees, the Capital Area Advisory Committee, the Strategic Facilities Committee, and as a liaison to the Maine School Board's Association. Board members visit the schools, volunteer in classrooms, donate their time to Parent-Teacher organization, and belong to community service organizations such as Kiwanis.



William Burney
Chair



Willie Emerson
Ward 1 Member



Susan Campbell
Ward 2 Member



Jane Dennison
Ward 3 Member



Susanne Allarie-Dowling
Ward 4 Member



Richard Barnes
Member At-Large



Darek Grant
Member At-Large



Nathanael Rende
Member At-Large



Deborah Towle
Member At-Large



Cassandra McKenna
Student Representative

Legislative Members (124th)

(terms expire December 2010)



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E-Mail address: RepBill.Browne@legislature.maine.gov

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RepPatsy.Crockett@legislature.maine.gov

DISTRICT 56

Hon. Anna A. Blodgett
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Year-Round Toll Free House of Representatives Message Center: 1-800-423-2900
Maine Legislative Internet Web Site : <http://www.maine.gov/legis/house>

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Telephone: 207-622-2629
E-Mail address: SenLibby.Mitchell@legislature.maine.gov

Capitol Address: Senate Office, 3 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0003
Capitol Telephone: 207-287-1515 (Voice) - 207-287-1583 (TTY)
Year-Round Toll Free Senate Message Center: 1-800-423-6900

MAINE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION (111th)

Senator Olympia J. Snowe (R)
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1903
Tel: 202-224-5344

Term Expires: January, 2013
District Office: 3 Canal Plaza, Suite 601
Portland, ME 04101
Tel: 207-874-0883

Senator Susan M. Collins (R)
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1904
Tel: 202-224-2523

Term Expires: January, 2014
District Office: 202 Harlow Street, Suite 204
Bangor, ME 04402
Tel: 207-945-0417

Representative Chellie Pingree (D-1st District)
1037 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-1901
Tel: 202-225-6116

Term Expires: January, 2013
District Office: 57 Exchange Street, Suite 302
Portland, ME 04101
Tel: 207-774-5019


Representative Michael H. Michaud (D-2nd District)
1724 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-1902
Tel: 202-225-6306

Term Expires: January, 2013
District Office: 6 State Street, Suite 101
Bangor, ME 04401
Tel: 207-942-6935

Museum in the Streets Signs

The Augusta Historic Preservation Commission undertook The Museum in the Streets® project for downtown Augusta shortly after learning of the first Maine projects in Thomaston and Waterville. An early phase of promoting the concept to the community and raising funds led to the successful completion and installation of the project in late summer 2009. A series of 29 interpretive signs highlight various historical events and buildings in the downtown area, and two large map boards show the path of the tour and provide a snapshot of the city's history. Designed as a self-guided walking tour, the downtown Augusta Museum in the Streets® introduces Augusta residents and visitors to the rich cultural history of our city through stories and images. The downtown signs are available to enjoy from early April to mid-November, and spend the winter months in safe storage. A brochure of the project is available at City Hall and in local businesses. The downtown route is the second such historic walking tour for Augusta; the first is on Canal Street and depicts the history of textile manufacturing along the Kennebec. A Civil War tour is under construction. A little history, a little exercise – what could be better!


AUGUSTA, MAINE
THE MUSEUM IN THE STREETS™



**2 GUNSHOTS REVERBERATE ON THE KENNEBEK
 DES COUPS DE FUSIL RÉSONNENT SUR
 LE FLEUVE KENNEBEC**

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 August 18, 1862


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**16 STEAMBOAT LANDING
 L'EMBARQUEMENT DES BATEAUX À VAPEUR**

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**19 RAILROAD STATION
 LA GARE FERROVIAIRE**

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**15 MARKET SQUARE
 LA PLACE DU MARCHÉ**

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