City of Augusta Annual Report, 2017

Augusta, (Me.).
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Cover Photo: The Augusta Capitol Building backdrop is now named the Howard Hill Historical Park, a 164 acre parcel of land gifted to the City of Augusta by the Kennebec Land Trust in 2017.
Dear Fellow Residents,

It is with pleasure that together we present to you this annual report for the City of Augusta for the calendar year 2017. Both of us take great pride in the all of the positive developments taking place on an ongoing basis in our City, in the great work routinely performed by our dedicated City workforce, in the exemplary collaborative policy accomplishments of the City Council, and in the enthusiastic and important contributions made by the many residents who volunteered their services throughout the course of the past year. We feel that at a time when there is so much negativity in evidence at the state and federal levels of government – and indeed in many other communities around us – Augusta city government is a shining example of how the ever-present challenges of local government can be met and successfully addressed in a civil and respectful fashion. We suggest that much was accomplished in 2017, as the material presented in this report demonstrates.

In the spring of 2017, your Mayor and Council worked hard to craft a municipal budget (including School department funding) that maintained the high standard of municipal services that you routinely let us know you expect and did so in a manner that kept property tax increases as low as possible. This was accomplished notwithstanding some tough Maine winter weather. We made some significant capital investments in our community infrastructure including about $2.6 million on street and sidewalk upgrades. We continued to strongly support the terrific on-going revitalization in our downtown (including a pledge of $300,000 to the effort to restore the historic Colonial Theater) and investment in the first-rate array of City parks and open spaces throughout our fifty-six square miles of land mass.

We invested in our human capital by supporting the dynamic efforts of our Age-Friendly committee, our numerous youth programs, and our growing immigrant community. We continued to partner with the business community on housing and commercial developments in the downtown and elsewhere.

We both appreciate what a privilege it is to be part of all of the good things going on in our City and we hope that you share this optimism and enthusiasm. Augusta has always been a place of opportunity, going back to our earliest settlers. Going forward, we are committed to maintaining and building upon that tradition.
The City Council is composed of eight members, one member from each of the four wards of the city and four at-large members. Councilors serve three-year terms and can only serve in that position for three consecutive terms. The City Council oversees all City government activities and establishes the legislative policies of the City, adopts and amends ordinances and local laws as necessary for proper management of the City government, provides for the exercise of all powers of local government vested in the City by Charter or State law, appropriates municipal resources and sets the tax rate for the provision of public services, and appoints qualified persons to vacancies on City Boards and Commissions. The Council deals with legislative matters as a body and its policy decisions are implemented through the City Manager’s Office.

The City Council is advised and the City is represented on legal matters by the law firm of Preti Flaherty in Augusta. Attorney Stephen Langsdorf is Corporation Counsel of record.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Name</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airport Advisory Committee</td>
<td>June Cumler, Paul McClay, Gary Peachey, William Perry, David Smith, Peter Thompson, Paul Wade, Cecil Munson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment Review Board</td>
<td>Scott Benson, Paul Castonguay, Scott Emery, Maurice Fortin, William Leet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Commission</td>
<td>Rachel Dyer, Roberta Record, Martha Muetzel, Rex Turner, Dr. Ansley Sawyer, Mikaela Ziobro, John Harvey Versteeg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog Park Advisory Committee</td>
<td>William Dunn, Karen Knox, Scott Lessard, Stephanie McMillan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Assistance Fair Hearing</td>
<td>John Finnegan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Augusta Utility District</td>
<td>David Bustin, Kenneth Knight, Chair, Kristen Hebert, Bradley Sawyer, David Smith, Charlotte Warren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Preservation Commission</td>
<td>Gerald Bumford, Linda Conti, Janet C. Doerr, Lorie Mastemaker, Susan Williams, Phyllis von Herrlich, Dan Stevens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic District Review Board</td>
<td>Daniel Stevens, Chair, Cheryl Clukey, Robert Corey, Michael Hall, Lorei Mastemaker, Jesse Patkus, Amanda Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Authority</td>
<td>Margaret Ayotte, Amanda Frost, Nate Cotnoir, Raegan LaRochelle, Nancy Fritz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Audit Committee</td>
<td>Michael McKenney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lithgow Library Trustees</td>
<td>Jennifer Bechard, Sara Bangs, Dennis Curtis, Diane Doyon, John Finnegan, Cecil Munson, Carol Saunders, Keith Varner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Fort Western Trustees</td>
<td>Jane Coryell, Leon Craney, Daniel Mitchell, Janet Doerr, Thomas Doore, Terrence McCabe, Dan Stevens, Phyllis von Herrlich, Parking District, Thomas Johnson, Tobias Parkhurst, Michael Hall, James Bass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Board</td>
<td>Tom Connors, Steve Dumont, Dorean Maine, William McKenna, Alison K.B. Nichols, A. Delaine Nye, Peter Pare, Justin Poirier, Corey Vose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Board of Appeals</td>
<td>Thomas Doore, Linda Hadley-Rood, Louise Lerley, Joan Theberge, Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoning Appeals Board</td>
<td>James Bass, Andrew Dunbar, Peter Fortunato, Chair, Roger Lessard, Sr., Patten Williams, Walter Zaccadelli</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Augusta State Airport is operated and maintained by the City of Augusta under terms of a Management and Operating agreement entered into by the City and the State. Under this Agreement, the State of Maine Department of Transportation retains ownership of the Airport and its facilities while the City assumes full managerial and operational control. The State provides a financial subsidy to cover the operating deficit incurred by the Airport with an assurance that the City of Augusta will incur no financial liability in the costs of its operation.

The airport also recognizes its role as a critical element in the physical infrastructure of the City of Augusta and its role as a tool for economic development. As such, the airport will encourage and promote usage of its facilities and of the services offered by its commercial tenants.

Cape Air, our commercial air service provider is contracted with the Maine Department of Transportation to provided scheduled air service through 2018. Cape Air continues to provide exceptional air service here in Augusta carrying as many as 10,000 passengers, round trip, between Augusta and Boston.

Recent improvements were made at the Airport terminal this past summer. Energy efficient windows were installed on the second floor along with a new rubber roof. Improvements to the heating system and exhaust systems were also completed in the restaurant.

The mission of the Augusta State Airport is to serve the aviation and air travel needs of the residents of the City of Augusta and surrounding communities, as well as those of aviators and air passengers traveling to Augusta. In meeting these needs, the Airport, its property and facilities are maintained in full compliance with applicable Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulations.
Commercial and residential construction projects remained about the same with respect to the volume of activity as it was last year. In addition to the typical inspections of new construction, the Bureau has been tasked with greater emphasis on property maintenance, life safety, and historic sensitivity. The Bureau of Code Enforcement saw $38,711,000 of development projects apply for permits in 2017 with most beginning construction in the same year. That’s essentially equivalent to last year’s value of new development in the city. The number of projects reviewed and inspected by the Bureau of Code Enforcement continues to be large and on a continued economic growth pace.

The Code Enforcement office continued to work on a few new, large, complex projects being constructed in the city including, the new National Guard headquarters on Civic Center Drive, the start of construction on a large office on Capitol Street, and significant commercial and residential redevelopment of Water Street buildings. Developers continue to show an interest in Augusta, and with the continually improving economy, city staff expects development and re-development proposals to continue to be significant.

The City continued to experience a healthy reinvestment from many businesses and residents, as much of the value of improvements made were additions and alterations to existing facilities and buildings. The number of new housing construction starts in 2017 is up again from the previous year, and the City did experience another solid year in the housing category with 22 new homes permitted. The City continued to see a recent trend of new construction in some of its newest housing subdivisions such as Fieldstone Place and Stone Ridge Drive. More individuals are looking to urban areas, making Augusta’s offerings a real attraction.

The Code Enforcement office continued its significant efforts to enforce the State and City adopted Life Safety codes to ensure safe living conditions in multi-family residences in Augusta. The Code Enforcement Officers works closely with the Augusta Fire Department, the Augusta General Assistance office, and the State Fire Marshal’s Office to identify serious deficiencies in the safety of a number of residential structures in the city. Deficiencies included lack of secondary means of escaping the building from upper floors, structurally unsound access decks, improperly sized egress windows, unsafe electrical and boiler equipment, among other violations. In most cases, property owners were given the opportunity to create a plan of action to correct the deficiencies. In a few cases, the buildings were determined to be unsafe to occupy during the violation correction period. In those cases the building was deemed unsafe for occupancy and the residents were moved to other living arrangements. This has been a trend that has become the norm in the last several years, and unfortunately it is not a situation that is expected to abate anytime soon. These are the remnants of the financial crisis of 2008 that resulted in a great deal of deferred maintenance and outright abandonment of some buildings.

In the coming year the Code Enforcement Bureau expects to continue to work with residents and businesses to help them achieve their goals efficiently, effectively, and safely. Additionally, the Bureau hopes that proposed changes to the Land Use Ordinance will enable business owners and residents to more easily understand the requirements for developing property to enhance long term safety, prosperity, and livability in our beautiful city. With the retirement of Gary Fuller in early 2018 after nearly thirty years of service and the City Council approval of a third full time Code Enforcement Officer after restructuring the Development Services Department, the Code Enforcement Bureau will be experiencing some changes. We will work to make those changes improve the quality of the city for residents and the customer service experience for everyone we come into contact with. Thank you for another great year of growth in Augusta!
The past year saw Augusta make important development strides across the city and continue to take advantage of the strong regional and national economy.

Investment and progress continues on Water Street, which has been a top priority for the city for many years. Eighteen market rate apartments were added to the rental market, bringing a new vitality to the street, especially in off-business hours. The city introduced the new Tipping Point Initiative, in cooperation with the Augusta Downtown Alliance. The program helped finance three new businesses – Circa 1885 wine bar, Otto’s by the River, Bella Amica Salon and supported the construction of a new deck at the Black and Tan.

In October Water Street saw the opening of the Cushnoc Brewing Company in the former Stacy’s space. The brewery has since served as the long-needed “anchor tenant” in the downtown, adding vibrancy to the business district especially during evenings and weekends.

In early December the State of Maine broke ground on what may be the largest commercial construction project in the state in 2018 – the new 104,000 square foot headquarters for the Department of Health and Human Services. The privately-owned building will soon be joined by an additional site-tenant, a 26,000-square-foot office building that will be leased to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

The city continues to make strides to support the development of both senior and affordable housing. In 2018 the City approved an affordable housing tax increment financing (TIF) plan that will support the renovation of the Inn at City Hall and Kennebec Plaza senior living facility – along with the creation of three new units of senior housing. The city also approved an affordable housing TIF and land-lease to the Augusta Housing Authority to support the creation of twenty-nine units housing on city-owned property at Maple Street.

The unemployment rate in Kennebec County likely set a new record low in 2017 – the seasonally adjusted figure for the month of December fell to 2.3%, down a full percentage point from the prior year’s low of 3.3%. The scarcity of labor combined with the limited availability of leasable commercial space, will be limiting factors as businesses in the city and across Central Maine attempt to capitalize on the booming economy.

A continuation of the strong economy will play a key role in pace of redevelopment in Augusta’s downtown business district – and on the reinvestment and revitalization of underperforming retail properties at Shaw’s Plaza and the Turnpike Plaza in 2018 and beyond.
The City Engineer provides engineering services for the benefit of the residents and business owners in the City of Augusta. He provides design and management services for a variety of City projects and plays a large role in the evaluation and approval of other private development projects which are being planned within the City.

Some of the City projects which were continued, competed or started this year were:

**Design and/or Construction Management Projects**
- Gannett, Greenlief, Morse complete streets rebuild
- KRRT trail connection / extension
- Waterfront Park entrance retaining wall rehab
- Northern Avenue rehab
- Townsend Road rehab

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 Planning Board projects
- Review of Commercial Site Plans
- Coordinate city interests in State road projects
- Coordination with Local Utilities for Projects
- Driveway Location and New Culvert Approvals
- Coordination with natural gas company(s)

**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
The Facilities Bureau has the responsibility to maintain the facilities at the highest level of maintenance possible. The Bureau continually evaluates the process by which vendors and contractors are hired to ensure that the best practices of maintenance of the all the facilities systems are being addressed. Safety of the general public, employees, and the vendors and contractors is top priority. Staff continues to ensure that all of the facilities are compliant with laws and rules, capture as much energy efficiency as possible, keep the existing building equipment maintained and operating properly, and keep the city's systems maintained and functional.

The Bureau continues to keep the facilities in a good state of repair, with a goal of maintaining a healthy clean environment in which to work and to establish quality maintenance programs and practices to accomplish these tasks. The Facilities Bureau is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the facilities’ Life Safety systems, mechanical systems, electrical systems and 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.

We will start the process to address the upgrade of city owned street lights to LED fixtures and lamps. The Bureau continues to work closely with the consultants for the Methane-to-Energy project at the Hatch Hill facility. The installation of the 3-phase power lines has started with the completion scheduled for summer 2018. The Bureau worked with the Parks Bureau on the River Walk at Mill Park project to get lighting installed on the entire length of the new walk.

The Bureau continues to work closely with the Library staff in learning all the of systems of the new facility. The installation of snow guards on the new building has assisted in slowing down the sliding of the snow. The snow guards hold the snow in place allowing the snow to melt slowly.

Continued and Upcoming Projects:

- The Bureau will be working closely with the contractor on construction of the Hartford addition and renovation.
- The Bureau will be working with other Bureaus in getting a much needed grounds and parking lot upgrade at City Center.
- The Bureau will be addressing some roof concerns at the Police Department with the installation on a new roof system.
The following report summarizes the project review activities of the Planning Board, Augusta Historic Preservation Commission, the Augusta Historic District Review Board, and highlights major undertakings of the Planning Bureau during 2017:

**Planning Board Membership, Staff, Projects**

The Planning Board consists of up to nine (9) members, all of whom are residents of the City appointed by the Mayor. During 2017, the Chair of the Board continued to be Justin Poirier. The Planning Bureau was staffed by Matt Nazar, the Director of Development Services, and a full-time Deputy Planner, Betsy Poulin. Betsy’s second year proved she is an invaluable addition to the Development Services team and she took on full responsibility for Planning Board her skills as both an individual that can take on a direct public role managing the Planning Board activities, Historic Preservation Commission activities, and the initial efforts of the Augusta Historic District Review Board while also providing valuable landscape architectural advice.

The staff worked to assist members of the public with projects being undertaken throughout the city, including a major expansion to the Hartford Fire Station and the construction of a large new office building on Capitol Street, which are expected to be fixtures in the city for many decades to come. As with past years we continued to see a number of proposed modifications to the Augusta Land Use Ordinance in response to changing state laws regarding marijuana and other adjustments to better serve the people of Augusta. The Planning Board reviewed recommendations for ordinance changes for the shoreland zoning district to continue to comply with state law and significant discussion about religious uses, group homes, and rooming houses. Staff members also provide advice to the Planning Board on numerous projects before them, on many additional modifications to the Land Use Ordinance.

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<th>Planning Board Applications</th>
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<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rezonings (zoning map changes)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Rezoning Petition/Waiver Requests</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Land Use Ordinance Text Amendments</td>
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<td>New Subdivisions (final)</td>
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<td>Subdivisions (amended)/Resubdivisions</td>
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<td>Major Developments (new/amended)</td>
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<td>Minor Developments (new/amended)</td>
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<td>Mineral Extraction (inc. Relicensing)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>1</td>
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</table>
The Augusta Historic Preservation Commission consists of seven members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council. The Commission meets monthly and the current chair is Lorie Mastemaker.

During 2017, the Commission:

1. continued administering the Demolition Delay ordinance and reviewed fourteen proposed demolitions of buildings more than 50 years old;
2. updated the Winthrop Street and Crosby Street National Register nominations for the local Historic District Review Board;
3. successfully got Water Street designated as a National Historic District on the National Register; reviewed and approved seven historic building plaque applications; and

The Commission continues to work to maintain an awareness of Augusta’s past as an effort to enrich its future.

Augusta Historic District Review Board

The Augusta Historic District Review Board consists of up to seven (7) members, all of whom are residents of the City appointed by the Mayor. During 2017, the Chair of the Board was Daniel Stevens. The Board was staffed by Deputy Planner, Betsy Poulin. The Board had a very busy first year of existence including working with the Historic Preservation Commission to send recommendations regarding local historic district boundaries to the City Council for Council adoption. They also adopted a Historic Preservation Design Guidelines document and their internal bylaws.

The Board functions in much the same way as the Planning Board, reviewing and approving projects within the local historic districts. During 2017 the Board reviewed on demolition application, five sign applications, one application related to window and door replacements, one fence application, and one exhaust fan application. The Board continues to work hard to help landowners get projects done on their properties while also respecting Augusta’s unique historic characteristics.
Built in 1973, the Augusta Civic Center is primarily a convention, exhibition and special high-impact facility owned and operated by the City of Augusta. The specific purpose is the promoting and facilitating of various events and group functions that will enhance area trade and commerce and help foster the image of the City as a high quality destination. Our goal is to provide quality service in a safe, clean environment to all patrons and tenants of the building while continuing to remain financially solvent.

The main auditorium was rented 181 days in 2017.

**Major events in the Main Auditorium in 2017 included:**
- Harlem Globetrotters, March 13, 2017
- Travis Tritt Concert, March 21, 2017
- WWE (with John Cena pictured right), August 12, 2017
- Marshall Tucker band Concert, September 23, 2017
- Newsboys Concert, November 9, 2017

**New Auditorium Events in 2017:**
- World Karate Championship, June 23 – 24, 2017
- Governor’s Conference on Tourism, March 15, 2017
- Maine Military Ball, March 18, 2017
- T-Mobile Awards Banquet, September 21, 2017
- Best Places to Work Awards Banquet, October 10, 2017

**REVENUES/EXPENSES:**
Revenues: $2,826,068.00 (Up $63,660.00 from FY 2016)
Expenses: $2,608,375.00 (Up $117,422.00 from FY 2016)
Difference: Plus $217,693.00

For the second consecutive year, the Augusta Civic Center has enjoyed financial success. Between conventions, conferences, trade shows, weddings, sporting events, concerts, banquets and meetings, approximately 309,400 people passed through the doors in 2017. Looking forward in 2018 revenues appears to remain strong and expenses are in line relative to the revenues.
What an exciting year 2017 has been. It has been my good fortune to work with an excellent team of talented employees. There is one foreman, one horticulturist, and four skilled laborers’ of which two are transferred to Public Works during the winter months and 17-21 seasonal employees are hired in the spring, summer and fall months.

Once again, I would first like to take the opportunity to recognize and thank Mr. Scott Longfellow for his generosity! All of the annuals for our City gardens were donated by Longfellow’s Greenhouses in Manchester. This generous gift of flowers contributes so much to the City’s landscape and enriches our lives.

Bicentennial Nature Park was opened and had a successful year. The Bureau would like to extend an immense thanks to all who volunteered their time at Bicentennial Park in 2017.

The Bureau is responsible for the management and maintenance of seventeen cemeteries, eighteen parks and playgrounds including three swimming pools, four softball fields, tennis courts, track, athletic fields, twenty-six flower gardens, a river front, community forest areas, city street trees, nature trails and Bicentennial Nature Park and a commitment to working with CARA and CASA organizations in helping maintain there fields. We’re also under contract with the School Department to maintain their grounds and athletic fields. Approximately 200+/- acres are mowed weekly.

Several Bureau Accomplishments for 2017

- Twenty-six flower gardens, located at high visible locations throughout the City were planted this year.
- Installation of a new Riverwalk at Mill Park was completed with the assistance of Public Works.
- An extensive maintenance program was conducted on the City’s athletic fields, i.e. aeration, application of amendments,, over-seeding, performance mowing and irrigation. The Cony Cross Country Trails and several athletic fields were reconditioned.
- Day of Caring events, Memorial Day preparations, KRRT ½ Marathon, Capital City Riverfront Fourth Celebration, Augusta Fest, Riverfront Holiday Tree Lighting and Fireworks are events hosted by the Bureau.
- Increase in Christmas lights in Downtown and on the newly constructed Riverwalk at Mill Park.
- Partnering with Maine General for there Walk of Hope, which took place at Mill Park.

What a pleasure it has been to have served the good citizens of Augusta. 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.
2017 was a great year for the Recreation Bureau. One of the best new programs we offered this past summer was a partnership with the Augusta police department to offer a week long Youth Police Academy. We had 14 kids participate in the program and it was a great success. We offered a number of activities for the residents of Augusta including spring and fall soccer programs with 225 kids playing. We offer a new girls and boys spring lacrosse program for 60 kids this past year. Over the summer we offered 20+ summer camps that included Robotics Camp, Science Camp, Art Camp, Mad Science Camp, Horseback Riding Camp, and P.E. Camp. Baseball Camp, Basketball Camp, Soccer Camp. In the fall we had over 125 kids playing in the Youth Football Program, and we received from the Rob Gronkowski Foundation new helmets, shoulder pads and other equipment for our football program $8,000.00 + value. We also had 30 girls playing youth field hockey. We had 42 teams in our co-ed and men’s softball leagues. This winter we had 175 kids playing in our recreation and travel basketball league. We also offered U10 indoor tennis programs for kids, we also built 3 indoor U10 tennis courts at the Buker Community Center Gym.

The Buker Community Center was full of activities daily and continues to provide a place for kids and families to go and participate in a number of exciting activities. Some of the offerings at the center are birthday parties for kids, meeting spaces for groups and our summer childcare program.
The Childcare Program offers vibrant and adult-supervised sets of activities, ranging from help with homework, social arts and crafts, outdoor play, gym activities, science activities, STEM activities and board games. Childcare Programs are offered in each of Augusta’s elementary schools - Gilbert, Lincoln, Farrington and Hussey.

Lincoln, Farrington and Hussey Childcare sites received COA-National Accreditation in the spring of 2017. Each site also achieved Level 4 on the State of Maine Quality Rating Scale, making each site a “Program of Quality” qualifying parents to receive a double tax credit for their childcare expenses.

The Childcare Bureau partnered with Snow Pond Community Music Program. Snow Pond staff came into the after-school programs as well as the summer program offering the children a variety of musical experiences.

With the childcare renovations complete in the South Wing of Buker Community Center, the childcare program officially moved into its new space. Childcare Licensing had to “re-license” the space and capacity was increased to 175 children.

Little girl in green shirt- Enjoying our Wednesday excursion at Darmiscotta State Park;
Group of children- Fun with Mr. Paul from Snow Pond School of Music
Ice Skater- Chilling at the Ice Vault
Board game- It’s great having a buddy to play a board game with!
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. Services are available on a walk-in and appointment basis. Below is the Augusta General Assistance Program Expenditures as Reported to State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services for Fiscal Year 2017.

Worthy to note is the terrific work of Sara Russell, Debra Lymneos and Bruce Boynton who have maintained the highest standards of work performance while assisting clients where need and eligibility were determined and disqualifying those who felt they had a need but in fact did not meet the assistance criteria established in State law. Mary Frances Bartlett continues to serve the Augusta community as Health Officer and works with numerous agencies and not-for-profit groups providing services and programs to meet the needs of those less fortunate.

The numbers tell it all with respect to the economy and the fact there are people in need of General Assistance. The financial assistance being provided to Augusta residents in need and eligible for assistance has grown a bit in FY 2017 as compared to FY 2016. The excellent work of the General Assistance staff ensures those eligible receive the needed benefits. The story of those in need goes far beyond the financial picture and the needs that go unmet. General assistance is a state mandated program wherein the City of Augusta is reimbursed for 70% by the State of Maine and the taxpayers of Augusta pay the other 30% through the property tax.

### EXPENDITURES OF CLIENT SERVICES

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<thead>
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<th>Line Item</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$114,477.49</td>
<td>$146,344.16</td>
<td>$31,866.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rooms</td>
<td>$29,933.63</td>
<td>$36,330.11</td>
<td>$6,396.48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Shelters</td>
<td>$159.97</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$(159.97)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special &amp; Misc.</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burials</td>
<td>$11,065.00</td>
<td>$10,325.00</td>
<td>$(740.00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel Oil</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$1,559.49</td>
<td>$1,559.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottle Gas</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food/groceries</td>
<td>$8,291.37</td>
<td>$14,393.45</td>
<td>$6,102.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wearing Apparel</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$(200)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RX</td>
<td>$5,483.61</td>
<td>$7,599.83</td>
<td>$2,116.22</td>
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<td>Household items</td>
<td>$5,187.00</td>
<td>$5,909.20</td>
<td>$722.20</td>
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<td>Diapers</td>
<td>$1,125.45</td>
<td>$876.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>OTC Meds.</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$183,203.64</td>
<td>$229,397.68</td>
<td>$46,194.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fort Western has had a busy and exciting year! With the completion of the palisade, construction began on the subterranean powder magazine with derrick (18th century hoist for moving barrels). Built in its original location found during the archaeological excavations of 1983, Fort Western staff under the direction of 18th Century Blacksmith, Jeffrey Miller, rebuilt this magazine using 18th century techniques as part of a demonstration for the 2017 Visitation Season.

Admissions. The 2017 Visitation Season (Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day) brought in 3,638 guests from around the country and the world. The major points of origin of these visitors are Maine and New England followed by the southeastern and mid-Atlantic United States. In fact, Fort Western had visitors from every State in the Union except Wyoming and Hawaii. Foreign visitors numbered 239 and came from twenty-two countries in Asia, Europe, the Caribbean, South America and Oceania.

Special Events. These are events put on by the Fort to promote community and goodwill. Among the special events held at the Fort this year, were the traditional Memorial Day Opening Weekend, the Declaration of Independence July 4th Celebration, the Arnold Encampment Weekend, and the Augusta Holiday Tree-Lighting. Off-site special events included Old Hallowell Day, and Fort Halifax Heritage Day.

Summer Apprentice/Junior Interpreter. During the summer of 2017, twenty-seven individuals participated in the Junior Interpreter and Apprentice Programs. These programs help prepare future generations for stewardship of the fort. In the Apprentice Program, children 8 to 12 years of age came to Fort Western for an entire week during the morning hours to learn about the different aspects of 18th century life. The Junior Interpreter Program geared to older children 13 and above, continues where the Apprentice Program ends. This is also a week long program where the Junior Interpreter assists the Historic Interpreter in the morning during the Apprentice Program and then works one-on-one with a Historic Interpreter in the afternoon to learn what is good interpretation and the how to interpret Fort Western - “the living history museum”. Once Junior Interpreters turn 16 there are job opportunities for summer employment. Fort Western employed two such individuals during the summer of 2017.

Pre-Scheduled Programs. During 2017, 5,291 Maine school students and summer campers visited the fort and participated in one or more of our hands-on, interactive programs. Daily Life in the 18th Century, A Day in the Life of a Fort Western Soldier, Going Shopping in the 18th Century, and Fort Western, a Timeline Spanning three Centuries, are our most popular programs. These programs engage all the senses and showcase the importance of Fort Western in Maine and New England History.

Fort Western’s greatest strength is its staff and volunteers. These individuals tirelessly promote the Fort and teach the public its importance in Maine and New England History. To all the Historic Interpretive Staff, Huzzah and Thank You! During special events the Fort comes “alive” through the efforts of dedicated volunteers who donate their time as the James Howard Company reenacting the French & Indian War or the Daniel Savage Company reenacting the Revolutionary era. Members of these two companies: Scott Boyington, Cathy Chapman, Roger Collins, Gregory Edwards, Jackie Fournier, Zachariah Hoyle, Hannes Moll, Christopher Lawrence, Lorie Mastemaker, Peter Morrissey, Stan Novak, Benjamin Pierce, Richard Pierce, Susan Reidy, Mark Rohman and Melissa Tobin, donated more than 1500 hours to the fort during these special events. To the reenactment companies, Huzzah and Thank You! To all the Trustees, the Mayor and City Council, Friends of the Fort, and all the residents of the City of Augusta who faithfully support Old Fort Western, Huzzah and Thank You!
In its 122\textsuperscript{nd} year of service to the community of Augusta, Lithgow Public library

- Attracted 110,855 visitors, for an average of 370 people per day, an increase of 8%
- Circulated 167,532 books, periodicals and audiovisual items, an increase of 9%
- Recorded 5,172 checkouts of digital audio books, eBooks and streaming video
- Participated in online requesting of materials through Minerva and MaineCat, resulting in 33,912 interlibrary loan transactions
- Provided 17,045 sessions on the library’s public computers
- Recorded 5,006 unique clients using the library’s wifi, for an average of 44 unique clients per day
- Created and produced 410 programs for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and older children including story times, author events, craft programs, Lego events, concerts, and intergenerational book discussions, attracting 7,535 children, parents and caregivers
- Signed up over 400 participants (mainly children) for the Summer Reading Program
- Hosted 401 young adults at 89 programs in the library’s new Teen room
- Sponsored 89 programs for adults, including music, lectures, craft and educational programs; hosted book discussions and author events, and provided one-on-one technical help, with 1,253 participants
- Presented monthly outreach programs at six elder care facilities, two daycare centers and the Augusta Farmer’s Market
- Produced A Capital Read 2017, featuring \textit{The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks}, by Rebecca Skloot, culminating with a visit from two members of the Lacks family
- Provided viewing glasses and supplies to make pinhole cameras while over 200 people gathered on the library lawn for the partial solar eclipse in August
- The Friends of Lithgow Library led an annual appeal for the purpose of restoring the Reading Room to its original glory, including ornamental plaster repair, paint details and gold leaf

Teen Librarian Julie Olson and the teens who spearheaded a donation drive to aid homeless youth.

District Attorney Maeghan Maloney leads discusses the North Pond Hermit case and the book, \textit{The Stranger in the Woods}, by Michael Finkel.
The Audit Bureau oversees and administers the City’s financial and accounting systems. This bureau is staffed by the Deputy Finance Director, Deputy Auditor and Clerk II. The Clerk position is budgeted under the Finance & Administration Department and works in both the Audit and City Clerk’s office.

The bureau is responsible for reconciling bank statements, procurement cards, accounts receivable, accounts payable, capital assets, and other balance sheet accounts; as well as, monthly closing, training on the financial accounting system (Munis), and preparation for the audit.

During 2017 the bureau processed 3,865 accounts payable checks (3,722 processed in 2016, 3,903 in 2015, 5,203 in 2014 and 7,137 in 2013), 479 EFT’s, 228 wire transfers and 169 1099’s. City – wide purchasing card transaction were 7,520 during 2017, 7,601 in 2016, 5,969 in 2015 and 4,499 transactions on the purchasing cards during March –December 2014. The total transactions have gone down 81 transactions from 2016 to 2017 due to companies charging all invoices under one transaction.

The bureau began work with the Information Systems Bureau on preparing to accept debit and credit cards in the Clerk and Tax Collector’s Bureau in 2015. The Clerk’s Office began taking credit cards on December 8, 2015. From December 8th through the 31st there were 71 transactions. During 2016 there were 1,865 transactions with the average transaction of $222.86. During 2017 there were 3,014 transactions with the average transaction of $224.90.

Our goals are to continue to assist bureaus with the tracking of their financial information, to continue to receive a clean audit and to keep accounting controls in place as required by the city charter and federal and state laws. We always strive to ensure that accurate records are maintained for all city transactions.

In December of 2017, after 31 years with the City of Augusta, Deputy Auditor Claire Webb retired. She worked in the Audit Department her entire career and has been a trusted, reliable and conscientious employee throughout her service to the City of Augusta. We wish her the best in her retirement—which she is sure to truly enjoy to the fullest! Thank you Claire for your many years of exemplary service to the City’s Finance Department.
During the 2017 calendar year, this office processed 685 deeds. The majority of the sales were single-family homes with an average sale price of $129,750. There were 146 residential sales and 14 commercial sales during 2017. Based on the current ratio study for residential property, the average assessment ratio is 97% of market value.

This was the nineteenth year for the Maine Resident Homestead Property Tax Exemption. The amount of the exemption increased from $15,000 to $20,000. The total number of exemptions for this program was 4,008. The total valuation of all tax exemptions including veterans, blinds, parsonages and homesteads was $83,012,400.

This office oversees 8,453 taxable real estate accounts with a total taxable value of $1,589,040,000 (after exemptions) and 977 taxable personal property accounts with a total value of $145,985,000. In addition, $28,702,800 in personal property qualifies under the Maine Business Equipment Tax Exemption Program. We also have 473 real estate accounts, which are totally exempt with an assessed value of $581,473,700.
Treasury Office consists of a combined staff performing customer service activities for the City Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer.

The office of the City Clerk is the official keeper of city records. The clerk’s position is required by state statutes and by the city Charter and Code of Ordinances. The office of the Tax Collector/Treasurer receives all payments for taxes and other various revenues for the city. The City Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurers offices were merged years ago, providing streamlined customer service and cost savings to the citizens of Augusta.

This Bureau collects revenues and provides services for vehicle registrations, excise, real estate and personal property taxes, land fill permits as well as other general billing fees. We also issue business permits/licenses for such activities as food services, liquor licenses, entertainment, taxi drivers and taxi companies, pawn shops, and sole proprietors. We are agents for various state agencies such as Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (hunting, fishing, snow sled, ATV and boat licenses); Animal Welfare (dog licenses); Vital Statistics (birth, death, marriage certificates, issuing marriage licenses and burial permits); Bureau of Motor Vehicle (vehicle registrations); Secretary of State, Corporation and Elections (state and federal elections and voter registration). These services are provided as to the citizens of Augusta following strict rules and regulations of each agency.

The Bureau is staffed by the Treasurer and City Clerk, as well as six full-time and one part time clerks all dedicated to provide excellent customer services. In 2017 we introduced two new online services dog licenses and vital records. Dog licenses are available online from October 15th to January 31st each year. Vital Records are available year round. Both services are provided in partnership with InforMe.gov. In 2018 we will continue to look at opportunities to provide more online services to the citizens of Augusta business licenses and tax payments.

### Clerk’s 2017 Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Issued</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Births Certificates Issued</td>
<td>822</td>
<td>$9,463.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths Certificates Issued</td>
<td>987</td>
<td>$6,911.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage Certificates Issued</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>$3,123.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burial Permits Filed</td>
<td>711</td>
<td>$9,966.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage Licenses Issued</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>$5,292.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business License</td>
<td>274</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and Beverage Licenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>$19,305.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxi Licenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,550.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amusement Licenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>$895.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional/Occupational</td>
<td></td>
<td>$990.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dogs Registered</td>
<td>1703</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog Kennel Licenses</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late Fees</td>
<td>182</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Online dog licenses began November 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registered Voters 2017</th>
<th>13818</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>4704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Independent</td>
<td>583</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Libertarian 53  
Republican 3,677  
Unenrolled (register but not in party) 4,801  

**Treasurer’s /Tax Collector’s 2017 Statistics**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inland Fisheries and Wildlife</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boat Excise Tax</td>
<td>$12,789.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat Registration &amp; Milfoil Fees</td>
<td>$21,307.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATV Registration Fees</td>
<td>$7,427.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowmobile Registration Fees</td>
<td>$5,854.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fish &amp; Game Licenses</td>
<td>$14,468.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agent Fees Inland Fisheries and Wildlife</td>
<td>$2,176.50</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bureau of Motor Vehicles</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Transactions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auto Excise Tax</td>
<td>$3,255,214.74</td>
<td>14296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fees (BMV)</td>
<td>$594,066.29</td>
<td>16431</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sales Tax</td>
<td>$242,536.50</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title Fees</td>
<td>$47,256.00</td>
<td>1405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid Renewal Program (online excise)</td>
<td>$422,401.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Agent Fees (BMV)</td>
<td>$50,738.50</td>
<td>15292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft Excise Tax</td>
<td>$21,816.74</td>
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</table>

**Property Taxes Assessed April 1, 2017**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate 8926</td>
<td>$32,384,635.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Property 977</td>
<td>$2,390,211.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9,903</strong></td>
<td><strong>$34,774,846.44</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017 Tax Clubs 463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 Tax Clubs 397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Tax Liens 417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Taxes Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Tax Liens Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Personal Property Taxes Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Taxes Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Tax Liens Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Personal Property Taxes Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Taxes Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Tax Liens Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 Personal Property Taxes Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 Taxes Collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 Personal Property Taxes Collected</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This spring (2018) will mark my second anniversary with the City of Augusta as the Human Resource Director. Where did that time go? It has been an enjoyable year of constant learning and growth as I continue to familiarize myself with the responsibilities, roles and needs of our municipality and staff.

The Human Resources Bureau is responsible for supporting a number of key areas including employee recruitment, compensation and benefits, employee development, employee relations, labor relations, records management, payroll, supervisory counseling, and health & safety. These functions are performed for approximately 272 regular full and part-time employees and 300+ seasonal and intermittent part-time employees.

The HR Bureau also provides contracted payroll, benefits and general HR services to the Greater Augusta Utility District and the Augusta Housing Authority.

Significant priorities and projects of Human Resources in 2017 included:

**Labor relations.** Our priority is to address any issues between management and labor as quickly and positively as possible, and this resulted in only a handful of formal grievances being filed again this year. All of our labor union contracts expired on June 30, 2017 which led to a series of meetings to engage in a new negotiation process for new or updated agreements. We had interesting developments this year in the realm of labor management. Our Teamster’s Union which represented our police department and its command unit was decertified through a union process and then elected to be represented by the National Fraternal Order of Police. Internally, new officers were chosen with the police department and a new labor team was created. We are glad to report that team relations between the City and “F.O.P.” were positive and productive! To date, five out of eight of our collective bargaining agreements have been signed or entered into the tentative agreement stage. We anticipate finalizing two contracts with the fire department and one with Teamster’s representing operations employees at the Civic Center in the near future. All contracts have a two year coverage period that will expire on June 30, 2019.

**Benefits Administration.** City employees had another plan offered during labor negotiations this winter. The PPO 2500 Plan through MMEHT was provided to groups that wished to save money on the cost of their health insurance premiums and then be rewarded with plan incentives. The PPO 2500 Plan is more affordable for the municipality resulting in cost savings for both employer and employee. Affordable Care Act had changes in reporting this year and human resources attended training to facilitate that process properly.

**Focus on safety.** The City saw a reduction in the number of OSHA recordable injuries or illnesses this past year and also a decrease in our experience modifier. We still anticipate a slight increase in the cost of our worker’s compensation premiums due to an unusually low claims experience that ‘drops off’ the plan cycle.

**Recruiting and hiring.** Human Resources faced a hiring and recruiting challenge throughout the year and so the trend continues. However, need gave way to creativity when it came to recruiting. Human Resources partnered with Maine Department of Labor and with Lesley Jones, Director of Public Works to create a commercial driver’s training program. The result was quite rewarding as two employees who had been hard working and motivated, advanced from their labor positions, obtained commercial licensure and were promoted to truck driver positions. This filled a gap in our ability to recruit CDL drivers and gave us the opportunity to promote from within. The drivers did well and continue to plow and haul snow throughout this winter. This program will be offered again in the spring and will continue to be funded through grants obtained by the City. Challenges in the next several months come from anticipated retirees vacating positions that will be difficult to fill. Human resources revised the City Website to be more user friendly in searching for City career opportunity and links directly with [www.jobsinme.com](http://www.jobsinme.com) to apply. We
will conduct wage and compensation surveys of other towns and businesses to be competitive with attracting and retaining quality employees for the City. This may require off cycle wage adjustments.

**Development of staff and supervisors.** This year Human Resources rolled out training offerings through Maine Municipal Associations new Online Learning University. We have had several on site computer lab trainings to introduce this University to our managers, directors and bureau heads so that all training, whether safety related, policy related or equipment related may be provided to all staff as needed. We hope to especially use this online learning studio for seasonal hires that tend to miss our more formal on-site new hire or annual training orientations. This will meet government safety compliance but will also demonstrate the emphasis we place on removing hazards in the work place, protecting the worker, or providing protection to do a job more safely. Our HR staff has benefited from getting to know other human resource professionals in our various towns as we have attended local training through the Maine Human Resource Local Government Association and the Kennebec Valley HR Association.

*The mission of the Human Resources Bureau is to provide effective, positive support to our employees in a friendly manner. We continue work to strengthen the relationships that will allow us to assist management and employees with the valuable work they do for the City of Augusta every day. Our employees are our greatest asset, they are our ‘customers’ and we view the roles in human resources as their ‘customer service management team’.*

Pictured below: Officers from the Augusta Police Department help us distribute gifts donated by city staff for a displaced family with the Family Violence Project.
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.

We are pleased to summarize the activities of the Fire Department for the year 2016. The past year was busy with the grand opening of the North Augusta Fire Station as well as the beginning of the Hartford Station expansion project. Emergency responses remained the same in 2017 with EMS at 5025 patients and fire calls at 1409.

Department Training

- Completed fire scene management programs for large scale incidents & downtown fires.
- Two firefighters completed a Fire Officer I/II Program
- Completed two regional Haz Mat Team V training exercises.
- Completed Advanced Cardiac Life Support training
- AFD members completed Training in Fire and EMS totaling a cumulative 5000 hours

Employees

- Firefighter/Paramedics Jeffrey Dunn, Jeremy Buzzell and Mic Poirier 10-years of service
- Firefighter/Paramedics Kevin Curry & Bill Lord 15-years of service
- Firefighter/Paramedic Lt. Jason Mills 20-years of service
- Hired Firefighter/Paramedic Greg Griffin

Other events

- Public Education/Prevention with over 2900 people contacted
- Pre-planning and updated contact information at 400 local businesses
- Participated in mass casualty and disaster drills with state and federal agencies
- Continued to work with the code enforcement office for safe and code compliant housing.
- 22 -CPR programs provided within the community and school system
- Crews Attended over a dozen community events with over 1000 people contacted

Response Statistics

- Fire 2017 = 1409
- EMS 2017 = 5025

Department Projects

- Hartford Fire Station expansion & renovation
- The design & construction of a new fire-rescue pumper
- The design & construction of a new ambulance
- Evaluate emergency response operations with the addition of the North Augusta fire station
- Promote senior fire safety education with partnerships with Age Friendly organizations

Our Department wishes to thank the Citizens of Augusta for all the support. We ask if there is anything we can do for you to make our community to be a safer place please contact us by phone or email, we are here for you.
Message from the Chief: Heroin/opiate use and abuse continues to be at the forefront of criminal activity in the State of Maine for 2017. Drug use and abuse continues to be a major causation of the current crime trends of burglaries and thefts. Drug Overdoses are still increasing while our search warrant executions and reported drug activity has slightly decreased. Reasons for this trend include increased enforcement against static dealers in the community displacing them to other communities along more discrete tactics being taken by dealers. Domestic Violence and Abuse is still an ongoing issue in our community. The good news is it appears our reported crimes and our overall calls for service in 2017 have decreased when compared to the past few years. I believe the City Council’s investment in our police department by increasing staff has enabled our department to be more proactive than reactive which has contributed to this positive trend. We as a police department are active in our intervention and enforcement of domestic violence crimes and quality of life issues. The police department continues to increase our activity involved in our community as we work together to solve the issues facing our community. I am proud of the quality of personnel we have and the work product that the police department staff produces.

Mission Statement

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.

Purpose

The purpose of the Augusta Police Department is to provide, without prejudice, the highest degree of service and commitment to the citizens and visitors of Augusta. Foremost in this mission, is the protection of life and property. Specifically officers are responsible for the maintenance of peace; enforcement of laws and ordinances; the detection, identification and apprehension of criminals; the prevention and investigation of crimes; regulations of traffic and the performance of any service that will improve the quality of life by providing for the security and safety of Augusta citizens.
**Crime Statistics**

The crime statistic below are not all inclusive of crimes handled by the Augusta Police Department, but crimes that are required to be reported to the FBI. * Not required to be reported to FBI. These numbers are drawn from the APD record management system and may not reflect the final totals reported by the State of Maine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>394</td>
<td>382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>792</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Arson</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Domestic Violence</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Drug Offenses</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Vehicle Stops</td>
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<td>6100</td>
<td>6268</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investigative</td>
<td>4984</td>
<td>4501</td>
<td>4269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrest</td>
<td>1827</td>
<td>1691</td>
<td>1538</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crash</td>
<td>1190</td>
<td>1184</td>
<td>1254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Summons</td>
<td>2199</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1765</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Communications Center:** The Augusta Police Department communication center services Augusta Police and Fire/EMS as well as Hallowell Police and Fire. “Calls for service” only reflect the calls where a call entry is made and do not reflect the total calls coming into the communications center that do not generate a call entry.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 Calls</th>
<th>2016 Calls</th>
<th>2017 Calls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calls for service:</td>
<td>49,000+</td>
<td>50,400+</td>
<td>48,200+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta Police:</td>
<td>33,000+</td>
<td>33,200+</td>
<td>32,400+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta Fire/EMS:</td>
<td>6,000+</td>
<td>6,600+</td>
<td>6,300+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Augusta Police Calls for service does not reflect all the work of the Augusta Police Department.
Awards and Commendations

Officer Paul Doody-Commendatory Letter
Officer Brad Chase-Commendatory Letter
Sergeant Eric Lloyd-Administrative Award of Merit
Officer Laura Drouin-Administrative Award of Merit
Sergeant Vicente Morris-Life Saving Award
Officer Benjamin Murtiff-Life Saving Award
Sergeant Christian Behr-Commendatory Letter
Officer Zachary Tobias-Life Saving Award
Officer Donald Whitten-Commendatory Letter

Officer Derek Daley-Commendatory Letter
Sergeant Vicente Morris-Commendatory Letter
Dispatcher Aaron Farrell-Life Saving Award
Officer Greg McCarthy-Life Saving Award
Sergeant Vicente Morris-Life Saving Award
Sergeant Christopher Shaw-Commendatory Letter
Detective Sergeant Jason Cote-Commendatory Letter
Dispatcher Dillon Pesce-Life Saving Award

Clockwise from top:
Honor Guard at Memorial Day observances, thank-you note and gifts from a local family, officers volunteer to shovel driveways for elderly residents with the Augusta Age Friendly Advisory Committee, Police Chief Gregoire and a new friend.
### Community Events and Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location/Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operation Pumpkin and Trick or Treat with a cop</td>
<td>National Coffee with a Cop, AARP meeting at Cony Flatiron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Career Day at Cony,</td>
<td>Therapy Services Luncheon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mane Honor Flight, Gallant</td>
<td>Walk for Hope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Drug Takeback Day</td>
<td>National Safety Weekend at Kmart ESM golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roadside sobriety check vehicle partnership tournament</td>
<td>NAMI Golf tournament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAD classes</td>
<td>Child safety event at Old Navy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hire a Veteran Program at the Armory</td>
<td>Fueling Dreams for Special Olympics Swim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet and the Torch Run</td>
<td>Camp Sunshine motorcycle run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta Civic Center Job Fair</td>
<td>Wanderers Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety talk at Connected Credit Union</td>
<td>Salvation Army Food drive Pick Up Dallas Fall-First Periscope Broadcast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>en Officer Vigil</td>
<td>Safety Day at Sam’s Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day Camp at Camp Acadia on Melville Street</td>
<td>Kids Day at Capitol Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tread Fest</td>
<td>National Texting and Driving Campaign Rabies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officers at Law Enforcement Explorers Academy Clinics</td>
<td>Color Dash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cony HS safe teen driving presentation</td>
<td>YMCA triathlon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Nose Day</td>
<td>Click it or Ticket campaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cystic Fibrosis event in Capitol Park</td>
<td>DARE charity softball tournament Wreath Lay-Mutt Strut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ing at Mount Hope Cemetery</td>
<td>Dog Park Spring Clean Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 in 5 5k</td>
<td>ACO awareness at the Woodlands Opiates Ad-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Center visit</td>
<td>Cony Middle School tour of APD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diction Forums Eagle</td>
<td>Kennebec Church Easter Egg Hunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read a Thon at Hussey</td>
<td>Kidabaloo at Civic Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta Boys and Girls Club pool table move</td>
<td>Salvation Army Kettle Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Bikers of Maine - Motorcycle Toy Run</td>
<td>Holiday Tree Lighting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth of July Parade and Fireworks</td>
<td>Tip-a-Cop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennebec River Rail Trail Half Marathon and 5K</td>
<td>Howls and Hounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army Christmas Adopt-a-Family</td>
<td>Law v. Saints basketball game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taco Challenge</td>
<td>Hot Spots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kennebec Leadership Institute</td>
<td>Social media safety for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug prevention/identification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Honor Guard**
Fourth of July Parade   Law Enforcement Memorial wreath lighting
State basketball tournament   Funerals for retired/former officers

**Grants awarded to the police department**
- Bulletproof Vest Partnership $4,000.00
- 2017 Justice Assistant Grant $21,812.53
- 2017 IF&W Spring Round of ATV Enforcement $1,000.00
- 2017 IF&W Fall Round of ATV Enforcement $1,000.00
- 2017 Bureau of Highway Safety-Impaired Driving $9,841.44
- 2017 Bureau of Highway Safety-Seatbelt $10,211.88
- 2017 Bureau of Highway Safety-Speed-Spring $10,157.19
- 2017 Southern Kennebec Underage Drinking (Multi-Agency) $14,640.00
- 2017 Distracted Driving $34,347.48
- 2017 Community Block Grant $49,000.00
- 2017 Walmart Grant $2,500.00
- 2016 COPS Hiring Grant (over 3 years) $125,000.00

**Accomplishments 2017**
- Maintain our Intensive Case Manager Ride-along program.
- Continue with Hot Spot Details.
- Seek law enforcement training opportunities for Crisis Intervention to better serve our mental health community.
- D.A.R.E program in schools.
- Continue to deploy safety tips/advice on scams through our social media sites to keep the public as informed as possible. This would include utilizing the Community Resource Officer to visit our elderly housing centers and provide the information orally as most seniors do not utilize Facebook.
- Permanent part-time dispatch position.
- Junior Police Academy.
- Addition of a License Plate Reader

**Goals for 2018**
- Continue combat the opioid epidemic through enforcement, treatment and education.
- Continue to improve motor vehicle/pedestrian/bicycle safety through enforcement and education.
- Narcotics K-9
- Develop a comprehensive approach reduce our intoxicated transient complaints.
- Provide more training in the area of interviewing and leadership.
- Enhance unity among the department with more morale building events.
- Citizens Police Academy
- Work with dispatch to create a better work structure.
- Improve our education to the community on what our day to day operations entail.

**Building Improvements**
The winter of 2016/2017 was a challenging one for Public Works. Mother Nature dealt us a long hard winter and we had some staffing issues. Due to these factors, our level of service was not up to our usual standard. To remedy this, we aimed to provide better service to the neighborhoods this snow season by getting the plows out earlier in the storm and to treat them with salt/sand more often to keep these streets safer for traffic and pedestrians. Feedback so far has been positive!

In addition to the hard winter, we also struggled to hire employees with Commercial Drivers Licenses. To help overcome this obstacle we raised the wages of our entry level truck drivers and also developed a pilot program working with Lawrence Adult Education in Fairfield and a State of Maine training program to send two of our existing laborers to school to become CDL drivers. This program was very successful and both employees are now thrilled to have their CDL license, to be driving for the City and to be on a higher pay scale!

Clearing sidewalks in the winter is part of winter operations and also part of overall pedestrian safety. When the sidewalks are not cleared people tend to walk in the streets and are at greater risk for a pedestrian-vehicle accident. We now have three sidewalk machines that can go out when it stops snowing to clear the sidewalks and we also adjust our nighttime snow removal routes to help clear sidewalks on the main arterials and other critical areas more quickly.

So far our efforts have provided positive results with the down side being the added cost to the budget to provide better service.
The Central Garage operation is an Internal Service Fund. The majority of revenues come from rental of fleet owned vehicles to various city departments, vehicle maintenance to those non-central garage owned equipment, as well as the sale of fuel. These revenues are used to pay for the costs of running Central Garage and vehicle maintenance & repairs. Monthly depreciation, which is factored into the rental rates, pays for vehicle replacements when they reach the end of their useful life.

The Fleet Service Manager is responsible for all aspects of the Central Garage which includes the fleet, the buildings and grounds at the Public Works Facility. Other Central Garage personnel include a working Chief Mechanic, four (4) technicians, a parts person and an Administrative Assistant who is also shared equally within the Streets and Solid Waste Bureaus.

In January 2017 we said farewell to our Chief Mechanic Shawn Harrington who retired after 33 years, we lost a great technician who thought outside the box and helped get us through a lot of situations, but he was also responsible for helping to train his replacement who also is a great asset to our Garage team.

Central Garage is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of approximately 120 pieces of their own equipment, plus equipment owned by Solid Waste and Parks & Cemetery Bureaus. Decisions on what vehicles will be purchased are based on an equipment replacement schedule which is used as a guide. This schedule evaluates which vehicles are due for replacement based on the actual condition of the vehicle and the needs of the various departments which can change depending on the services being provided to our citizens.

Central Garage purchased the following replacement vehicles and equipment this year, totaling $410,859:

- 1 ton four wheel drive dump truck with plow
- Two five yard dump trucks with plow & wing
- A skid steer loader with a planer attachment
The budget for fiscal year 2017 totals $3.82 million. Major services provided include: Rubbish curbside collection, single sort recycling drop-offs at 3 locations, year round maintenance of all city streets and sidewalks – plowing and sanding, 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. The main arterials are the first streets swept and then the remaining streets are swept on an alternating schedule based on their location in relation to the east and west side of the Kennebec River. In addition to the roadways, the sidewalks on the main arterial roadways are also swept. This work typically runs from mid-April into early June and it began on April 18 this year. Due to the significant amount of material applied throughout the above normal winter, the cleanup period required the entire amount of time allocated for this work and it was completed June 2nd.

Spring Repairs
The pothole season in 2017 was a normal one. Paving by the City and the Maine Department of Transportation on some of the more problematic roads including Mount Vernon Avenue, Bond Brook, Cross Hill, and Leighton Roads in 2016 also significantly reduced the amount of potholes and patching. Crews also worked into early June repairing lawns, guardrails, fences and any other damages that resulted from snow plowing/removal operations over the winter.

Street and Crosswalk Painting
Once the weather warmed up and the streets had been swept, a street-striping firm was hired to repaint centerlines, edge lines and white skips on the city streets and roads. This started in mid-May. The contractor and Public Works crews also painted all crosswalks, arrows and parking stalls, this was completed by mid-summer. Edge lines were added on several roads to define travel lanes and bike lanes as well as keep vehicles on the pavement and reduce gravel shoulder maintenance costs. These roads included Bond Brook Road and Cony Street.

Street signage
Upgrades to street signage continued with replacing old signs to meet current federal standards which includes larger street name signs with bigger letters and increased reflectivity.

Construction and Paving Season
The construction and paving season started in early May and ended in late-October. There were several streets reconstructed, roads paved, and sidewalks rebuilt. Funding for this work is generated from several different sources including the General Fund, TIFF’s (Tax Increment Financing Funds), and CIPs.
Street Paving – the following streets were paved with hot mix asphalt: Arsenal Street, Barnard Drive, Campbell Street, Federal Street, Gedney Street, Howard Street, Indian Ridge, Industrial Drive, Lajoie Street, Lipman Road, Melville Street, Middle Street, Noyes Place, Page Street, Spruce Street, Stevens Road, Sturgis Lane, Thompson Street, Tracy Street, Viles Street, Ward Street, and Woodlawn Street. Streets paved by the Maine Department of Transportation included Armory Street, Capitol Street, Civic Center Drive, and Sewall Street.

Sidewalk Improvements – Replacement or repairs in compliance with the ADA were done on Amherst Street, Gannett Street (Cony St to Greenleif St), Gedney Street, Greenleif Street, Lafayette Street (portion), Morse Street, Northern Avenue (portion), Powhatten (at State Street), Sewall Street (Western Ave to South Street), State Street (Bridge St to Crosby Ln), and State Street (at Oak Street).

Other Road Improvements
Blair Road – A section of this road received some significant ditching and culvert replacements to help with drainage issues and extend the life of the road. The Greenleif, Morse, and Gannett (Greenleif to Cony St) project was a joint effort with the Greater Augusta Utility District. The work included the installation of new utilities followed by the full reconstruction of the roads and sidewalks. On Cross Hill Road work that was begun in 2016 continued on this road. This work included ditching and slope that is ongoing. Leavitt Road cross culverts were replaced and ditches were re-established. Once this was completed, the entire length of the road was overlaid with cold mix asphalt and shoulders were installed. The Lynn road was overlaid with cold mix. Ditching and culvert work on the Mount Vernon Road continued on the gravel portion of this road to improve the overall condition and drainage to minimize the amount of mud during the spring thaw and to also prepare this portion for paving in the near future. The existing Weeks Mills Road was approximately 20 feet wide which in today’s standards is considered to be very narrow for a higher speed and volume road. Due to this narrowness, vehicles would have tendency to wander off onto the gravel shoulders. This would lead to displacing gravel and the need for city crews to repair the shoulders on a regular basis. In 2017, the pavement on this road was widened by 2 feet on each side to meet current design width standards and the entire road was overlaid. Centerline and edge lines were added to define the travel lanes. This will provide a safer road for motorists and reduce shoulder maintenance costs to the City. Culverts were replaced or new installations on Church Hill Road, Cony Road, Riverside Drive, Spring Road, and Summerhaven Roads. Significant pavement patching was performed on Bennett Street, Kennebec Street, Old Winthrop Road, Purinton Avenue, and Wabon Street. Crack Sealing was performed on several streets including Newland Avenue, Hicks Road, and the lower portion of Green Street. This work is intended to extend the life of the pavement. We intend to perform more of this work in the future as studies have shown a significant life extension to pavement for the relatively low cost associated with this work.

Roadside Vegetation Control improves the safety of the roadways by increasing sight lines and allows more sun to reach the pavement in the winter time which helps with the melting of snow and ice. This is also done to protect the pavement from the damage that is caused by weeds growing in pavement cracks. A contractor
was hired to provide herbicide control for city streets and sidewalks. The city also mowed the side of the roads with a flail mower and also rented a unit that provided further reach to prevent encroachment into the right of ways by trees and brush. City crews also performed significant brush and tree clearing on the Bolton Hill, Cross Hill, and Ward Roads.

Work for other City Departments - Public Works assisted the City’s Recreation Bureau by constructing a new walkway and overlaying the parking lots at the Boker Community Center, constructing the Mill Park Riverwalk for the Parks Department, repairing a walk at the Lithgow Library, installing the final layer of pavement at the North Augusta Fire Station, reconstructing the Elks Parking Lot for the Parking District, and providing assistance to the School Department for projects at Cony, Farrington, and Lincoln Schools. Assistance was also provided to the Greater Augusta Utility District for the water main break that occurred in the Cony Roundabout.

Wind Storm – On October 30th, a significant wind and rain storm affected the area. Numerous trees toppled wires and blocked roadways requiring the Public Works Department to block off roads and clean up the damage. This event caused more homes throughout the state to lose power than the Ice Storm of 98. It would be several days before all power would be restored in this area.

Winter of 2016-2017 - This winter was described as a “Roller Coaster Winter” with significant temperature swings. There were 35 events ranging from several freezing rain events to numerous snow events including 2 large blizzards. The timeframe between February 7th to the 16th was a particular difficult stretch of weather. During this period, there were 5 snow events with a combined total of 45 inches of snow. Due to cold temperatures that prevented this snow from melting in between storms, there were numerous narrow streets in which contractors were hired to remove snow from these streets for public safety reasons. The largest snowfall event was 24” with a total snowfall of 99.5” for the entire season. The last winter event occurred on April 5 and there were 13 full plowing operations and 30 nights of snow haul.

Rubbish/Recycling and other special curbside collections – Household rubbish collection services continued on a weekly basis (since the discontinuance of curbside recycling collection in 2016). In addition to the rubbish collection, a four (4) week Fall Leaf Collection and single sort drop-off program continued to be offered. Roll-off containers for single stream recycling are located at Augusta City Center, Boker Community Center, Public Works, and Hatch Hill. This program continues to be very successful with recycling rates continuing to increase well over rates of the former curbside program.

Household Hazardous Waste Day – On Saturday, May 20th, the Household Hazardous Waste (HHHW) Collection Day was held at Public Works, in conjunction with KVCOG and nine other communities. 189 units of HHHW were collected as well as unwanted medications and Universal Waste (TV and computer monitors). Paper shredding was also provided during this event.

Request for Services – 1208 telephone calls requesting services were logged 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 to questions related to...
Hatch Hill is the city owned solid waste disposal and recycling facility that operates as an enterprise fund. The facility relies on revenues from waste brought to the facility to pay for day-to-day operations, bond payments and provide reserve accounts for vehicle replacement and post closure monitoring and maintenance of the landfills once waste is no longer accepted. Hatch Hill is a regional facility that provides waste disposal and recycling services to Augusta and eight surrounding communities as well as the State and Federal agencies that operate in the region.

**Tonnages and Revenues**

The graph below shows that tonnages have increased over the past few years but are still within the annual tonnage amounts that were projected when the landfill was originally built in 2001 with an anticipated life of 20 years. The life expectancy of the landfill has been increased due to years when tonnage landfilled was lower than expected, waste settlement and good compaction as the rubbish is placed in the landfill, along with recycling and composting. At this time, it is projected that Hatch Hill has approximately 12 years of life remaining. The increase in tonnage along with the use of auto shredder residue as “alternate daily cover” (the City receives a revenue for this material), has again resulted in a positive cash balance at the end of the last fiscal year - June 30, 2017. Revenues in excess of expenses are accounted for in the fund balance to be used for future unanticipated expenses as well as providing the “savings account” for post closure monitoring and maintenance that will be done for at least 30 years after the facility stops accepting waste for landfilling.
tion to the landfill, Hatch Hill also operates a recycling program. The table below summarizes the materials brought into Hatch Hill for disposal in the landfill or for recycling.

**Update on Methane to Electricity Generation Project**

The City continues to work on our methane gas to electricity generation project and in 2017 we made a lot of progress. This included securing funding and signing a contract with CMP to extend 3 phase power out to Hatch Hill along South Belfast Avenue, installing new gas extraction wells in the Expansion III landfill (where our solid waste is landfilled) to insure there is sufficient gas to run the electrical generation equipment and finally submitting permit amendment applications to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection for both our Solid Waste and Air Emissions Licenses to allow the gas generation equipment to be installed and operated. In 2018, we will be securing bids for the generation equipment, providing a presentation to the Augusta Planning Board for project approval, presenting to the Augusta City Council on the final design for the project and obtaining their final approval for funding so we can proceed with constructing the project. The goal is to have the project up and running in the fall of 2018!

As I mentioned last year, this is an exciting project as Hatch Hill is a relatively small landfill in the solid waste world and coming up with a viable project for methane reuse is a great opportunity for the City. The “net metering” of the electricity generated by this project to the nine City-owned buildings that have biggest electrical demand will stabilize electrical costs to those nine building for the next 15 years at rates slightly lower than are currently! Additionally, this “green” energy (along with the other energy projects the City has undertaken in past years) can be used as a marketing tool by the City to entities that are interested in living or doing business in a City that is environmentally responsible.

People line up for a Household Hazardous Waste Day event at Public Works, one of several events organized throughout the year designed to help area residents to safely dispose of unwanted items.
The Augusta School Department continues to be a vibrant organization that employs over 600 full and part time individuals and provides educational opportunities to approximately 2250 students in four Elementary Schools and one 7-12 Secondary Campus. In addition, approximately four hundred students attend the Capital Area Technical Center and many adult learners attend the Adult and Community Education Center. The students on the six campuses represent the entire socio economic spectrum, speak 22 different languages, and represent pre-K to adult. The opportunities and challenges presented by such a diverse population are welcomed by the extremely professional employees that are found at all levels of the School Department. Teaching and learning is the focus as the school department addresses the needs of students and adults that attend programs from Pre-K through adulthood. The citizens of Augusta should be proud of the educational opportunities that exist for all learners in the Augusta School Department, Capital Area Technical Center, and Adult and Community Education.

Middle School and High School in One School: 2017 was a RAMTASTIC year at Cony Middle and High School! We are thrilled to share some of the highlights of our year with the citizens of Augusta. We love having both our middle school and high school at Cony. Our grade 7 and grade 8 students are divided among 8 teams of teachers and our high school students select their classes based on the Cony graduation requirements and their specific interests. Although we have two distinct grade spans, we work collaboratively on curriculum, staff development, etc. This is invaluable to our work.

Knowledgeable, Dedicated Staff: We truly believe that the Augusta School Department has the most dedicated and compassionate educators in our state. Our staff members work diligently to provide a rigorous curriculum and caring community to all of our students.

Community Support: We appreciate our parents, community members, and partners (in both profit and nonprofit organizations). So many people volunteer their time to help make Cony a vibrant community. Our school spirit can be witnessed at Pep Rally, special events, in the classroom, or on the fields. We thank our families, community members, and partners for all of their contributions to Cony.

Proficiency Based Learning/Education: Our staff continues to work on creating a Proficiency Based Diploma as passed into law. We have identified standards that students must meet in each class to show proficiency in the course. Our standards are based on Maine’s Learning Results in Wellness, World Language, Music, Art, and Social Studies. The English Language Arts and Math classes are based on the Common Core and Science is based on the Next Generation Science standards. Students receive a grade for the standards and a separate grade for their Habits of Work. Habits of Work are defined as “Prepared for Class, Engaged in Class, and Demonstrate Perseverance and Effort.” These two grades are placed together for the course value of the class. The first group of students to graduate with these standards in English, math, science and social studies will be the Class of 2021.

English Language Learners: As mentioned in 2016, we have a significant increase in the number of English Language Learners at Cony and throughout our district. New citizens from various parts of our world have joined the student population at Cony and we appreciate the increased diversity in our school. Our staff and student body has worked hard to incorporate these students into our student body.

Assessments: Our students participate in our statewide assessments with the MEA and the SAT. Students in grades 3-8 will take the MEA and students in grade 11 will take the SAT in the spring. All students need to take these assessments to demonstrate their proficiency on state standards.
As always, we are looking forward to the 127th Chizzle Wizzle *Just Add Water* on March 13-16. Please know that we have a number of venues to provide information to our families, community members and students about Cony. We have our school’s website at augustaschools.org and we have a “Cony MS and HS” page on Facebook. Other ways to get information about the school is through the announcements under the student tab on Cony’s webpage, the kiosk at the South Belfast entrance to Cony, or letters home from our school.

We are honored to work with our teenagers because they inspire us about the future. It is a privilege to help to shape the leaders of tomorrow. As we look back on 2017, we are proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff! Happy 2018!

**Cony Athletic Awards Fall/Winter 2016 and Spring 2017**

**BOYS ICE HOCKEY**
- MVP: Cameron Wilson
- TEAM MATE OF THE YEAR: Nathan Foye
- COACHES AWARD: Dalton Bowie
- FIRST TEAM ALL STATE: Cameron Wilson
- SECOND TEAM ALL STATE: Nathan Foye
- HONORABLE MENTION: Avery Pomerleau
- KVAC ALL ACADEMIC: Cameron Wilson, Nathan Foye
- COACH OF THE YEAR: Chad Foye

**WINTER**

**CHEERING**
- VARSITY TEAMMATE AWARD: Julia Woods
- VARSITY COACHES AWARD: Sydney Lorgeree
- JV COACHES AWARD: Mallory Turgeon
- VARSITY TEAMMATE AWARD: Daniel White
- VARSITY COACHES AWARD: Faith Rouillard

**WRESTLING**
- STATE CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING: Nicholas Mills

**SWIMMING – GIRLS & BOYS**
- KVAC ALL ACADEMIC: Noah Aube, Andrew Levesque, Abby Silsby, Lindsay Watts, Annie Brannigan
- ALL STATE ACADEMIC TEAM: Noah Aube, Annie Brannigan
- GIRLS COACH OF THE YEAR: Jon Millett
- NISCA SWIM AWARDS: Noah Aube, Nathan Berry, Logan Testerman, Dylan Tudeen, Molly Silsby, Anne Guadalupi, Annie Brannigan, Gabby Low, Talia Jorgensen, Abreal Whitman, Tara Jorgensen, Haley Gagne

**BOYS BASKETBALL**
- 1ST TEAM ALL-KVAC “A”, HONORABLE MENTION ALL-STATE (PORTLAND PRESS HERALD): Jordan Roddy
- ALL-ROOKIE 1ST TEAM KVAC “A”: Simon McCormick

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**
- MVP: Emma Whitney, COACHES AWARD: Olivia Varney, JV COACHES AWARD: Hannah Harris
SPRING

BOYS LACROSSE
MVP - Nathan Foye
COACHES AWARD - Chad Bickford
JV COACHES AWARD - Gabe Lewis
ALL KVAC FIRST TEAM - Nathan Foye, Cameron Gallant
ALL KVAC SECOND TEAM - Chad Bickford, Logan Leadbetter
KVAC ALL ACADEMIC - Jason Barnes
SENIOR ALL STAR GAME - Nathan Foye

GIRLS LACROSSE
KVAC ALL ACADEMIC - Molly Silsby, Julia Nicol, Julia Sternad, Lexi Roy
KVAC FIRST TEAM - Molly Silsby
KVAC SECOND TEAM - Kami Lambert, Lauren Coniff
KVAC HONORABLE MENTION - Faith Leathers-Pouliot, Sarah Caron
U.S. LACROSSE ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICANS - Molly Silsby

GIRLS TENNIS
PLAYER OF THE YEAR - Hannah Kibbin
COACHES AWARD - Sydney Hall

BOYS TENNIS
PLAYER OF THE YEAR - Jake Whitley
COACHES AWARD - Sean Tenney
ALL ACADEMIC - Bryant York

GIRLS SOFTBALL
JV Coaches Award - Katie Meehan
V MVP - Jillian Coull
V COACHES AWARD - Delaney Keithley

FALL

FOOTBALL
KVAC ALL ACADEMIC - Jordan Roddy, Logan Leadbetter, Brandon Gosselin
ALL PINE TREE CONFERENCE FIRST TEAM - Jordan Roddy, Mitchell MacFarland, Anthony Sousa, Logan Leadbetter, Matthew Wozniak, Nic Mills
ALL PINE TREE CONFERENCE SECOND TEAM - Elijah Dutil, Devon Thomas, Caleb MacFarland

GOLF
MVP - Jake Whitley
COACHES AWARD - Ryan Wheelock
KVAC ALL ACADEMIC - Ryan Wheelock
Capital Area Technical Center (CATC)
The Capital Area Technical Center (CATC) is a regional career and technical education school that has an enrollment of approximately 400 students from 8 area high schools. The eight high schools include Cony, Gardiner, Hall-Dale, Maranacook, Monmouth, Richmond, Winthrop, and Erskine Academy. Programs taught at CATC include architectural drafting, auto technology, auto collision, business, building construction, certified nursing assistant (CNA), computer technology, culinary arts, early childhood education, electrical technology, graphic design, law enforcement, machine tool, and plumbing and heating. CATC is currently developing a Fire Fighting course that will be offered in the future. All of the instructors at CATC are state certified and have professional experience working in the field that they teach.

Many of the programs at CATC have articulation agreements or dual enrollment agreements with colleges in Maine. These agreements enable students to earn college credits for the course work that they do at CATC. Last school year, 770 college courses or national certifications were successfully completed by CATC students. The college class credits and certifications earned are at no cost to students. These opportunities give students a head start when they enroll in college, after graduating from their high schools. Examples of certifications/credentials earned by students include OSHA 10 Safety, CPR, Certified Nursing Assistant license, ASE Brakes certification, and Serve Safe Sanitation. In order to earn these certifications, students must pass assessments that are required for working in the field that they are studying.

Learning at CATC is supported with classroom instruction, assigned projects and live work. A strong component of instruction is hands on learning activities that would be done by professionals working in the profession. Real world projects that are done by professionals in the field are referred to as “Live work.” Examples of live work include CNA students working with patients in medical facilities, repairing automobiles, repairing and building computers, building construction projects, graphic design projects, building design and catering. Most programs have a textbook that is used as a reference by students. All programs follow professional standards that are nationally recognized.

On January 18th the Capital Area Technical Center held a SKILLS competition in the evening. Students compete by performing tasks that they are learning in their CATC programs and will find in the workforce. Competitions include job interview, plumbing a bathroom, residential wiring, auto repair, pin design, welding and machine tool, computer repair, drafting, and catering. First and second place winners go on to the state competition which is held in Bangor and can compete at the national level.

Educational opportunities provided at the Capital Area Technical Center engaging and “real world” experiences. Our students are highly motivated and take pride in their learning.

Adult Education
The Augusta Adult and Community Education staff is pleased to be able to assist citizens of the Greater Capital area achieve goals that lead to high school completion, post-secondary opportunities, career pathways, and an enhanced life. The following pictures are of participants in some of the various programs that we offer.
Augusta Adult and Community Education would like to sincerely thank the citizens of Augusta for supporting their local adult education program and allowing us to supply them with lifelong learning opportunities.

If you are interested in finding out more about our programs and what we offer, go to our website, our Facebook page, or come in and visit. www.augusta.maineadulted.org  www.facebook.com/augustaadulted

Farrington Elementary School

The Farrington Elementary staff, students and parents take great pride in their learning community and work tirelessly to make it the best it can be for all. Located on the east side of Augusta, Farrington offers a variety of programming and educational opportunities for our diverse student population.

The English Language Learner program has grown over the past few years to include 68 students and three teachers and three Educational Technicians. The increased staffing has allowed us to restructure our programming leading to exciting gains in English proficiency and academic growth. The majority of our ELL students are from an Arabic speaking country, though we also have students who speak Dhari, Spanish, or Indonesian. Our school community readily embraces each new student and their culture.

We are reviving our Wildcat Garden through the combined efforts of our Functional Skills and Student Support programs. The Special Education teachers in these programs coordinate the planting, watering, weeding, and harvesting of the gardens. Vegetables from the garden have been served in our cafeteria as well as donated to the soup kitchen. The teachers incorporate the gardens into their science lessons.

This has been a year of transition for Farrington Elementary school. Enrollments have been balanced between the four Augusta elementary schools with all of the schools now having two of each grade level classroom. Enrollment at Farrington has previously been as high as 375 students, but we are now at 304 as a result of redistricting.

Throughout the year, we continue to reach out in as many ways as we can to keep parents an informed partner in the children’s education and to make them feel welcomed in building. Our PTC sponsors evening family events. Farrington staff created a Communication Committee which meets monthly to research and brainstorm ways to reach out to our families. One resulting effort was our first “Traveling Pop-Up Pizza Book Party” at the Glenridge Playground. This was opportunity for parents and students to meet and speak with staff informally in their neighborhood. Another Pop-Up is planned for the spring.

Community collaborations are numerous including our United Way Day of Caring, the cPort Credit Union Aspiration workshops and scholarship essay contest, Maine General’s Smiley Program, LC Bates Museum visits, as well as field trips. The Good Shepherd Food-Bank Back Pack Program donates weekly donations of back packs filled with food for students in need to take home.

Farrington School continues to celebrate all the great things that students are doing. Our monthly Respect assemblies recognize the Students of the Month from each classroom, Golden Awards for Unified Arts, Perfect Attendance for the month,
and the “Prize Patrol” awards for classrooms who have exceeded our monthly data goals in positive behaviors. New this year is the Golden Lunch Award for the grade which earns the most points during their lunch. Random acts of kindness have been a focus as we strive to foster a caring community. We applaud our Farrington students who consistently follow the rules and continue to make our school an amazing and safe place to learn!

**Gilbert Elementary School**

Gilbert School continues to be a great learning environment for all students. The staff at Gilbert have goals around increasing student achievement in the areas of reading, writing, and math. If you visit our classrooms you will see objectives posted, teachers using every minute of available time for instruction, and actively engaged students.

As part of a continuing effort to improve our school community, we continue to focus on school wide behaviors. Gilbert School has been working on implementing a School Wide Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports model (PBIS). This means that we have been focusing on our school rules (Be Safe, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible) and developing consistent school wide language and expectations for areas not only in their individual classrooms, but throughout the school in common areas such as hallways, cafeteria, and playground. Part of this process includes the students earning Falcon Slips from staff members throughout the school. When students are displaying behaviors that are Being Safe, Being Respectful, and Being Responsible they earn a Falcon Slip. During the Student of the Month assembly each class reports out their total of slips so that they can be added to the school wide total. The total of Falcon Slips for the month is then posted in the main lobby for all to see how the PBIS system is making a positive difference at Gilbert School.

At Gilbert School we not only care about each other, we care about our community. We have many outreach initiatives in place. Some of these programs enable our students to give back to the Augusta community. Others help Gilbert School children receive the assistance they need. We have a connection with Chateau Cushnoc, the housing complex next door where many elderly people reside. Classes visit several times during the year to provide entertainment for the elderly. We also support the Penquis Foster Grandparent Program. From this organization we have two Grammies that volunteer daily in our preschool, kindergarten and first grade classrooms. Gilbert School participates and hosts the Big Brother/Big Sister Program with Cony students coming to Gilbert every Tuesday afterschool. Other groups that continue to be a great help to our school include the C-Port Credit Union (career aspirations program), Elks Club (volunteer in-service time and food for families in need), and the Hope Baptist Church and the Good Shepard Food Bank back pack programs (weekly donations of back packs filled with food for students in need to take home for the weekend). This is our third year to offer The Girls on the Run an afterschool program which inspires girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident. Staff, parents, and community members volunteer their time in order to make this program possible. Gilbert School’s Student Council has worked hard to give back to the community by organizing food drives in order to make up food baskets to send home to families in need during the holidays. Over the holiday season; ten business or organization sponsors, and over fifty staff, friends and family members donated gifts and food to our Holiday Help Programs. Gilbert School Holiday Help broken down by the numbers: Fifty-six children received gifts, volunteers stuffed 40 vacation food bags, 75 pairs of mittens were donoted, and thirty-nine food baskets were distributed. All of these programs introduce our students to the important concept of caring about others. We are always looking for opportunities to expand our community outreach initiatives and consider them a vital part of educating our students.

**Hussey Elementary School**

Hussey Elementary School continues to evolve in order to meet the needs of an ever-changing student population. This year the school went through further renovation. Led lights were upgraded throughout the school. The kitchen received several new appliances. The school office was renovated for confidentiality and safety precautions. Lastly, a climbing wall was installed in the gym. Mr. Stonier and his staff along with several contractors have made the many changes possible at our school – Thank you.

Speaking of changes, seven new staff members joined us at Hussey this year. Replacing staff members is always challenging, but as usual our senior staff has gone out of their way to welcome our newest members. The arrival of new staff and new students is part of an ever changing school community.

As in the past, we continue to develop PBIS and focusing on our Hussey Code: Be Safe, Be respectful and Be Responsible. Using the Hussey Code we have established a common behavior curriculum that supports consistent school-wide expectations in
classrooms and all common areas i.e., hallways, cafeteria, buses and playground. To implement PBIS, students and teachers have been involved in classroom lessons, school-wide assemblies, posters, and student videos. As a reward for positive behaviors, PAWS-itive slips are given out to students by faculty in classrooms and all common areas. Each month these slips are counted up and recorded at our PAWS-itive assembly.

Besides our behavior curriculum, our staff is very busy supporting student achievement in reading, writing and math. Teachers in grades K-5 are currently focused on implementing a district-wide math program titled, My Math and Number Corners. After school hours, our staff has been busy studying, Number Talks. Lessons from this text are taught daily throughout our school. Teachers are also busy readying students for the spring state assessment – MEAs. This year students will be taking the MEAs on computers for several weeks.

In support of academic and social growth, students at Hussey are involved in a number of programs that provide student assistance. One of our programs is Kennebec Behavioral Health (KBH). This program has strengthened the social and emotional safety net that supports Hussey students. Also, back this year is the Good Shepard Food-bank program and C-Port Credit Union (aspirations). The gracious support provide by these outside organizations enables Hussey students to achieve their goals and gain first-hand experience in understanding how volunteerism is an essential component to any school community.

Lincoln Elementary School

Our goal at Lincoln School is to establish a positive and safe learning environment for students and staff. In school year 16/17, staff learned about the components of PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports). PBIS is an instructional practice that involves teaching students expected behaviors in the same manner as our core academics, with modeling, guided practice and independent practice. This year, we are piloting new core values: Kind, Responsible, and Ready. We are also piloting a new Behavior Matrix which lists expectations for all areas of the building (i.e. hallways, bathrooms, playground, and cafeteria). Students are working towards earning Eagle Tickets, when caught demonstrating one of our core values. At the end of the year, staff will evaluate the effectiveness of our new values and make any necessary changes for improvement for the fall of 2018.

This year, we have two after school clubs for students to participate in, Sprout Scouts and Student Council. Our Sprout Scouts focuses on growing and maintain our school garden throughout all seasons. Students get their hands dirty as they learn about growing a garden and healthy eating. In addition, local guest speakers are brought in to also teach students about gardening. Our Student Council is for students in grades 4-6. Each classroom elects two representatives to be a part of the Council. Students meet after school once a month to brainstorm ideas to improve our school culture. Their current project is Pennies for Patience, which involves a penny war to donate to a non-profit organization.

One of our future goals involves changing the front of Lincoln School. Currently, we are working on an Outside Classroom project. The purpose behind the project is to provide an outdoor environment for students to engage in hands on activities in science, language arts, or math. This is spearheaded by teacher leaders who have done the leg work to get the conversation started as well as looking for donors and grants to get the project funded. We have coordinated with CATC to help build the project in the spring of 2019. We also hope to involve other community members as well.

Title I Program

The Title 1 program wrote its annual federal grant so the Augusta School Department could receive funding to support supplemental literacy and math programming in our 4 elementary schools, and literacy support for St. Michael’s School. In addition, the grant provides assistance to students across the school department who are identified homeless. The grant funds 4 literacy specialists, 1 literacy interventionist, 10 educational technicians, a McKinney-Vento homeless liaison, and Director of Title 1. It also provides outreach to support family involvement in our schools, and summer programming in hopes of alleviating the “summer slide.”

Title 1 supports literacy and math growth with children in kindergarten to grade 6. Staff is trained to provide intense
small group, or in some cases 1-1, instruction with targeted children so they can more readily meet grade level standards. Students are frequently progress monitored so staff can more readily move them along the continuum of learning. Title 1 coordinates instruction with classroom teachers and other specialists to best maximize student learning time. Coordinating reading materials for home is also a big part of our K-3 program.

With that said, family involvement is a big part of our Title 1 program! We provide ongoing communication and a variety of events across the ASD to better partner with parents/guardians. Our communication includes a website under instructional programs on the ASD website, a Facebook page, monthly newsletters, progress reports 3x/year, and home-school reading bags with flyers and announcements regularly going home. In addition, quarterly we have parent advisory meetings where we receive feedback about our programming and suggestions for improvements. Each vacation we offer a reading challenge for all of our students! We are very fortunate to have a collaboration with the Augusta Literacy For ME team who supports 7 Little Libraries around Augusta and helps promote literacy birth through adulthood in the Greater Augusta area. The team held an annual preschool family fun night at Lithgow Library which was well attended. It also supplies books to children who are recipients of our weekend food program. We are very fortunate to have these collaborations to support our students!

We are now in our 5th year collaborating with the Augusta Food Bank to supply weekend food to our students. We have 112 weekly bags supplied by the Augusta Food Bank. However, Good Shepherd and Hope Baptist Church provide another 35 bags for students. This support is monumental in helping alleviate food insecurity for our students so they can concentrate on their studies. We also have a Community Cupboard that supplies basic items for any student in need; clothing, sneakers, coats, hats, mittens, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, etc.

In the 2016-17 school year the McKinney-Vento Liaison helped support 85 students, PK-12. These are children who do not have a fixed, adequate, and/or regular night time residence. Fortunately this year, with the acceptance of a McKinney-Vento sub grant through the Maine Department of Education, we are able to hire a social worker who is working after school with our grade 7-12 students to help them find school success, and provide them with rides home. There are 60 students currently identified McKinney-Vento eligible in the 2017-18 school year.

This past summer we restructured how we promote literacy and math learning. At the end of the school year we had children sign up (139 did so) choose 5 books they are interested in reading over the summer. One book went home with them, and the rest were mailed home throughout the summer with a letter from their teachers encouraging them to read. Also enclosed with the books were events around the city they were invited to participate in. Our hope is always to encourage a love of reading, whether books are read to or by children. We want children to have exposure to a variety of books and experiences so they can continue to grow as learners and citizens. Thank you for our continued support!
2017 Augusta Board of Education members: pictured at top - Chair; Kimberly Martin, Board Members Row 2; Ward 1-Staci Fortunato, Ward 2. Deborah Towle, Ward-3 April Cusick, Ward 4, Kati McCormick and At-Large Board Members (row 3): Jen Neumeyer, Tom Connors, Ed Hastings and Pia Holmes
Dear Friends and Neighbors,

In some ways, I was proud of our accomplishments in the legislature this past year. However, too often we mirrored the partisan dysfunction we have seen in Washington.

On the plus side, we took a big step dealing with the referendum process by removing the surtax imposed on Maine’s small businesses and professionals. I believe that, had it been left in place, this tax would have presented serious problems for Maine’s economy. At the same time, voters made it clear that they wanted more state revenue directed toward K-12 education. To that end, we passed one of the largest increases in education spending in state history. Significantly, we also put in place measures to ensure more resources go directly into the classroom.

The Legislature also passed a measure to make Maine compliant with the REAL ID Act. Had lawmakers failed to take action, Maine citizens would have been unable to use their driver’s licenses to board commercial airplanes and access certain federal buildings, beginning in 2018.

On the negative side, I am afraid we did not do our job dealing with both the biennial budget and the legalization of marijuana. Although we eventually passed a budget on the 4th of July, it did not come until after a government shutdown. It was not our finest hour. Partisan gamesmanship was the order of the day rather than collaboration and compromise. I am so proud of the Senate – both parties – for everything we did to avoid the impasse.

The other big disappointment for me was how we dealt with the subject of marijuana. I chaired the committee to write the law implementing this citizen’s referendum. Despite many months of bipartisan work and the fact that our proposal passed both bodies of the legislature, the governor vetoed the bill. We will give this issue another shot this year during the upcoming session. Whether one likes it or not, it is now legal to possess and grow small amounts of marijuana. It is our responsibility to put in place the framework to ensure it is done safely so that our communities will be protected.

Mostly, I would like to thank you again for the great honor of representing you in the State Senate. I get goosebumps every day that I walk into the State House, knowing I will have a chance to have an impact on the direction of our wonderful state. I do a better job when I hear from you, so please, keep the calls and emails coming! Feel free to contact me at (207) 485-2394 or roger.katz@legislature.maine.gov if you have comments, questions or if you would like assistance in navigating our state’s bureaucracy.

Sincerely,

Roger Katz
Dear Friends of Augusta:

Since being sworn into the Senate in 2013, I have made it my mission to address at the federal level the most important issues facing our great state. Working closely with my colleagues in the Maine Congressional Delegation, we’ve been able to successfully secure a number of legislative victories that support our state’s economy, our rich traditions, and the hardworking people I am proud to represent. In an increasingly polarized Congress, my goal as an Independent is to put partisanship aside, build consensus and further common-sense solutions to address the needs of the American people. To this end, I have co-founded the Former Governors Caucus, a group of former state executives who are frustrated with legislative gridlock and eager to find bipartisan solutions. And as always, I aim to bridge the partisan divide by hosting barbeque dinners in Washington with colleagues ranging from Ted Cruz to Elizabeth Warren. If you know a person’s children, then you see them as a mother or father and not a rival vote, and working to further personal dialogue and build relationships can lay the foundation for successful legislation.

One of the accomplishments of which I am most proud is the legislative victory that protects our college students and their families from an expensive hike in student loan interest rates. In 2013, as students faced a significant spike in interest rates that would have taken thousands of dollars out of their pockets, I brought together colleagues from across the political spectrum to broker compromise legislation called the Bipartisan Student Loan Certainty Act. Thanks to this bill, students will save $50 billion over the next 10 years by lowering their interest rates, which means that a student in Maine will now save between $3,000 and $6,000 over the life of their loan.

Being an Independent in the Senate has allowed me to make calls and vote on policies that are best for Maine, but it has also made it possible to play key roles in finding simple solutions and legislative fixes that make good commonsense to both parties. Of course, much of what we do in the Senate doesn’t happen on the Senate floor, or even in committee. Instead, it involves working across all levels of government to ensure the State of Maine receives attention and support from the federal government. Take, for example, the opioid and heroin epidemic devastating communities across our state. While Congress has passed legislative solutions aimed at expanding access to medical treatment, I’ve also pressed for other changes that can be accomplished more quickly and make a more immediate difference in Maine. For example, I successfully urged the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to increase the number of patients to whom a doctor can provide medication-assisted treatment, and in 2015 brought the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy to Brewer to meet directly with Mainers and hear their stories. I’ve also engaged law enforcement – including the Drug Enforcement Agency – to crack down on the production of opioids and work to limit their diversion. Together, Senator Collins and I helped pass the Northern Border Security Review Act to combat drug and human trafficking along our border with Canada. While the opioid epidemic is certainly our biggest public health crisis, job loss in Maine is still our number one economic problem and that’s why we need to focus on bringing good paying jobs back to Maine and protecting the ones we still have. As a member of the Armed Services Committee, I teamed up with Senator Collins and Representative Poliquin to successfully secure a provision in the defense bill that can help domestic shoe manufacturers like New Balance. The three of us also worked together with the Department of Commerce to establish an Economic Development Assessment Team, known as an EDAT, to assist Maine’s forest industry in the wake of several mill closures. We have an incredible spirit of innovation and ingenuity in Maine and I believe finding ways to invest in that spirit will reignite Maine’s forest products sector and our economy. Part of our economic path forward must also include expanding access to high-speed broadband, which can help connect our businesses and communities to information and economic opportunities.
As a member of the Senate Armed Services and Intelligence Committees, I work to keep Maine and our nation safe. Part of that important work means continuing to work for funding for the construction of Navy ships that will be used to protect American interests across the globe. We all know that “Bath Built is Best Built,” which is why I’ve fought to authorize funding for Navy ships built at BIW. The best way to preserve peace is by deterring war through unassailable strength, and to do that we must support our shipbuilders and our brave service members and invest in our military. I strive to meet this solemn responsibly every day as a member of these committees, which is why I hardly ever miss a hearing and take great care in overseeing the agencies sworn to keep us safe. Armed Services Chairman John McCain called me “one of the most serious and hard-working members” of the Committee, and that’s a humbling compliment from a true American hero.

As always, please call or write me with thoughts or concerns with matters currently before Congress, or if you need assistance navigating a federal agency. Please call my toll-free line at 1-800-432-1599 or local office: (207) 622-8292, or write me on our website at www.king.senate.gov/contact. It is an honor and a privilege serving the people of Maine in the Senate, and I look forward to working with you in our search for a more perfect Union.

Sincerely,

Angus S. King, Jr., United States Senator
February 2018

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature convened on January 3rd, and we will be working on nearly 500 bills before statutory adjournment on April 18th. The Second Session deals with bills given an “emergency” designation, and bills which have been “carried over” from the previous session. During this time I will continue my work on the Joint Standing Committee On Judiciary. This committee’s broad and essential jurisdiction includes: Judicial system organization and budget; criminal and civil procedure, child protection and family law, as well as civil, medical, and human rights.

By now you will have received my Legislative Update and survey in the mail. If you have not already done so, I ask that you please take a few minutes to answer the questions and provide any feedback you have. I encourage you to call me anytime at 287-1440 or email me at Dick.Bradstreet@legislature.maine.gov to keep me updated on any concerns you might have. If you would like to be added to my email update list, you can do so by emailing me directly with your request. Another way to stay up to date on state news, and follow pieces of legislation through the process, is to visit the Legislature’s website, www.legislature.maine.gov.

I thank you for the confidence you have placed in me to be your State Representative in District 80. I look forward to hearing from you!

Best regards,

Dick Bradstreet
State Representative

District 80 Augusta (part), Somerville, Vassalboro and Windsor, plus the unorganized territory of Hibberts Gore
February 2018

Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for granting me the honor of continuing to serve House District 86. This session marks my sixth year in the Legislature and the experience I have gained during this time has been invaluable.

As a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, providing Mainers with a fair and equitable tax system has been among my highest priorities. We must lessen the strain of taxation on citizens, develop a business environment that encourages investment in our community, and promote the creation of good paying jobs for the people of Augusta.

I will continue my efforts with The Maine Legislative Children’s Caucus – a bipartisan, issues-based caucus created to improve the effectiveness and reach of policy designed to positively impact children from birth to age eight, their families, and the communities in which they live. As co-chair, I’ve had the opportunity to bring speakers and advocates from around the country to the State House to share innovative ideas for public investment in our youth.

If you would like to receive my e-newsletter updates, please send me your e-mail address. For me to do my job effectively, it is vital I hear from you and encourage you to contact me by phone (287-1440) or email (Matt.Pouliot@legislature.maine.gov) with any concerns or questions you have. I also sent out a legislative update and survey; if you did not receive one please let me know. It has been a privilege to serve our city in the House of Representatives, and I look forward to continuing to work on your behalf.

Sincerely,

Matthew G. Pouliot
State Representative

District 86     Augusta (part)
### LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

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<tr>
<th>DISTRICT 80</th>
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<tr>
<td>Home Address:</td>
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<td>99 Winthrop Street</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vassalboro, ME 04989</td>
<td>Augusta, ME 04330</td>
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<td>207-441-9418</td>
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Capitol Address: House of Representatives, 2 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0002  
Capitol Telephone: 207-287-1440 (Voice) - 207-287-4469 (TTY)  
Year-Round Toll Free House of Representatives Message Center: 1-800-423-2900  
Maine Legislative Internet Web Site: http://www.mainegov/legis/house

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<tr>
<td>Senator:</td>
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| Home Address: | 3 Westview Street  
Augusta, ME 04330 |
| Telephone: | 207-287-1505 |
| E-Mail address: | roger.katz@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

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<tr>
<th>Angus S. King, Jr. (I)</th>
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<tr>
<td>133 Hart Senate Office Building</td>
<td>Augusta Office: 4 Gabriel Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington, DC 20510</td>
<td>Augusta, ME 04101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tel: 202-224-5344</td>
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<tr>
<td>413 Dirksen Senate Office Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington, DC 20510-1904</td>
<td>Augusta, ME 04330</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tel: 202-224-2523</td>
<td>Tel: 207-622-8414 Fax: 207-622-5884</td>
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<tr>
<td>2162 Rayburn House Office Building</td>
<td>Waterville Office: 1 Silver Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington, DC 20515</td>
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<tr>
<td>1208 Longworth House Office Building</td>
<td>Lewiston Office: 179 Lisbon Street</td>
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<tr>
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