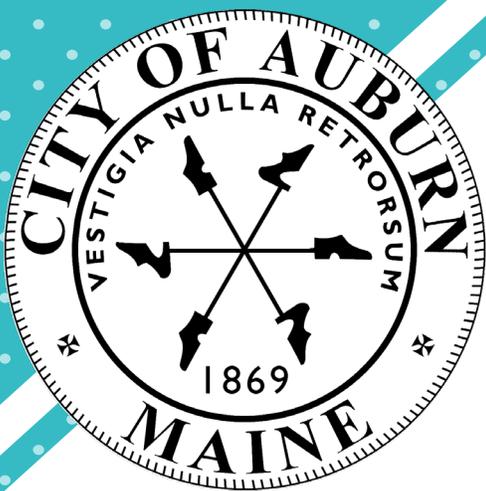


AUBURN 2025

ANNUAL
REPORT
TO THE
COMMUNITY



A message from the City Manager

2025 was a year that truly highlighted what makes Auburn such a special community. We continued to make real, measurable progress, opening the Auburn PAL Center, strengthening public safety, moving major capital projects forward, and engaging nearly 1,800 residents in shaping our next Comprehensive Plan. At the same time, our team delivered day to day services at a very high level, from national reaccreditation in Public Works to record activity in planning, permitting, and community programs. We launched a new city website designed to better serve residents, expanded youth and senior opportunities, and saw strong collaboration across departments, boards, and community partners. None of these accomplishments happen without the dedication of our staff, the leadership of our City Council, and the steady support we receive from the people of Auburn.

I continue to be proud of the core values displayed in each of our team members, they are **Service Focused** in all that they do, they **Value Integrity** and expect it from others, they are **Respectful** and deserving of respect, they have a **Positive Attitude** and inspire positivity, and lastly, they are **Reliable**. Their professionalism, compassion, and work ethic is shown throughout our organization, and I am grateful for the trust our community places in us every day. Together, we are building an Auburn which is **appealing, active, and affordable**, and I'm confident that the work we've done this year has laid a solid foundation for the future.

Phillip L. Crowell, Jr., City Manager



"Auburn - Aerial View" by Richard Plourde Photography

CITY LEADERSHIP

Mayor

Jeffrey D. Harmon
JHarmon@auburnmaine.gov

Ward 1 Councilor

Richard S. Whiting
RWhiting@auburnmaine.gov

Ward 2 Councilor

Timothy M. Cowan
TCowan@auburnmaine.gov

Ward 3 Councilor

Stephen G. Milks
SMilks@auburnmaine.gov

Ward 4 Councilor

Benjamin J. Weisner
BWeisner@auburnmaine.gov

Ward 5 Councilor

Leroy G. Walker, Jr.
LWalker@auburnmaine.gov

Councilor At-Large

Belinda A. Gerry
BGerry@auburnmaine.gov

Councilor At-Large

Adam R. Platz
APlatz@auburnmaine.gov

City Manager

Phillip L. Crowell, Jr.
PCrowell@auburnmaine.gov

Asst. City Manager

Denis D'Auteuil
D.Dauteuil@auburnmaine.gov

Elected in November 2025:

Ward 1 Councilor

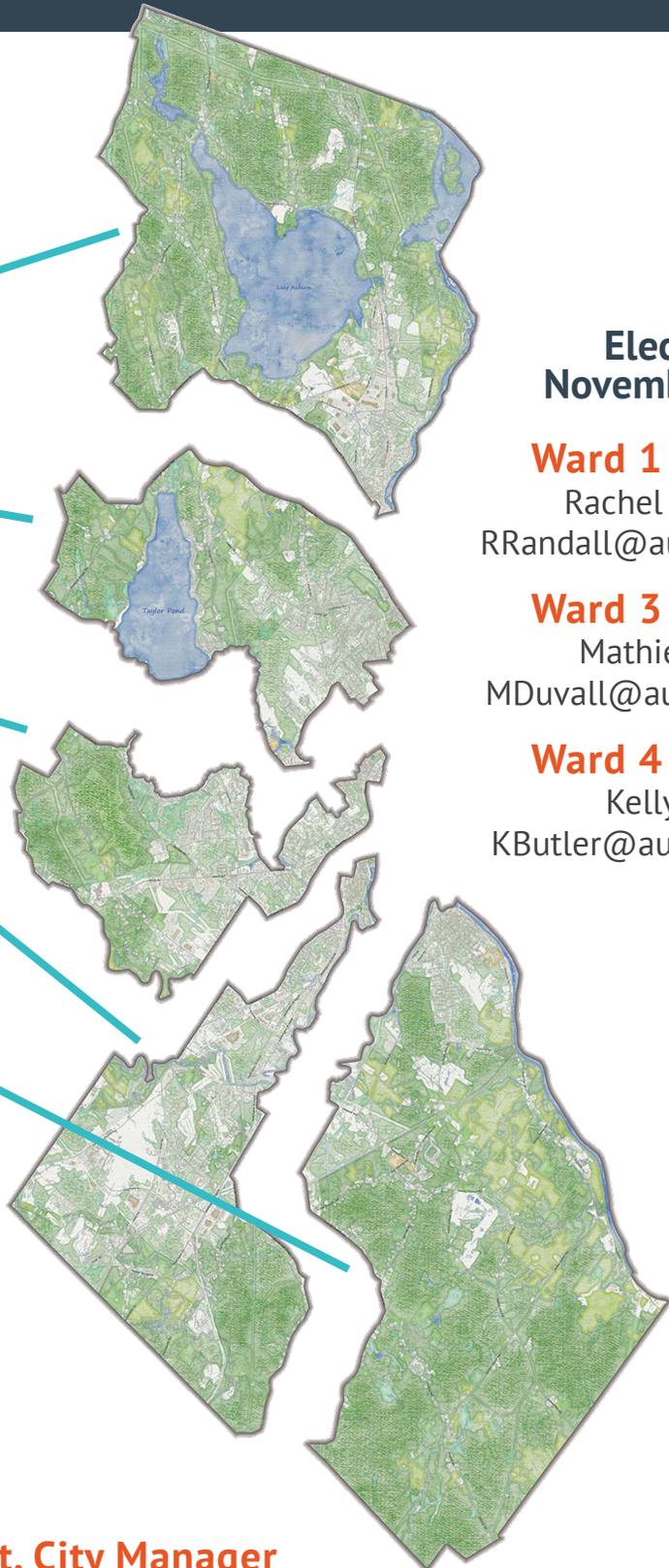
Rachel B. Randall
RRandall@auburnmaine.gov

Ward 3 Councilor

Mathieu Duvall
MDuvall@auburnmaine.gov

Ward 4 Councilor

Kelly Butler
KButler@auburnmaine.gov



Stream LIVE (and watch previously recorded) City Council meetings at youtube.com/c/CityofAuburnMaine.

2025 HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY

New Resident Guide launched
Textile recycling bins established

FEBRUARY

Auburn's 156th Birthday
Skate with a Cop
Lego version of Auburn Hall on display

MARCH

Chief Robert Chase named "Maine Fire Chief of the Year"
Mayor Harmon's Town Hall meeting on budget

APRIL

"Spirit of America" award presented to Silver Moore-Leamon
Lake Grove Park opened for the season

MAY

Earth Day Community Clean-up
"No Mow May"
Auburn Lobster Festival
Phil Crowell named ABA "Citizen of the Year"
Public Works Open House

JUNE

Community Concert Band kicks off season
"Kids Eat Free" summer meal program launched
School Budget Referendum

JULY

Pollinator Garden at Pettengill Park expanded
Comp Plan Open Houses
Business + Comm. Development Department moves to 121 Mill Street
Movies in the Park begin

AUGUST

National Night Out
Auburn Blues, Brews & Cruise event

SEPTEMBER

PAL Center grand opening
9-11 Memorial ceremony
Ward 2 Town Hall meeting

OCTOBER

Farm & Forest Tours
Manufacturing Month
Auburn Fire Department Open House
Drug Takeback event
Fright Festival

NOVEMBER

Hilton Holiday Hangout
Election

DECEMBER

New website launched
Sandbuckets for Seniors
Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting
Inauguration
New Year's Auburn



New Year's Auburn



Mayor, City Council & School Committee Inauguration

AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS

Our team at the City of Auburn prides itself on being data-driven. We measure, analyze, and watch as many numbers and statistics as we can. We believe that a data-driven municipality makes smarter decisions, delivers services more efficiently, and builds greater trust with the community. By grounding our work in accurate, accessible information, we can identify trends, anticipate needs, and invest resources where they will have the greatest impact. Data doesn't replace people – it empowers them to lead with clarity, accountability, and confidence.

> Auburn Police Department

During 2025, the Auburn Police Department responded to **29,433 calls for service**, averaging approximately **80 calls per day**, reflecting a consistently high operational tempo in service to the community. Officers conducted **5,563 traffic stops** aligned with the Department's **2025 Traffic Safety Plan**, focusing on high-crash locations, speed enforcement, distracted driving, and impaired driving prevention through targeted, data-driven details. The Department also issued **2,399 parking tickets**, supporting downtown accessibility, pedestrian safety, and overall quality-of-life initiatives that contribute to a safe and vibrant community.

Beyond enforcement, we remained committed to strong community partnerships and proactive engagement. Officers conducted **431 field interviews** as part of focused crime prevention efforts and made **705 physical arrests** and **711 criminal summonses**, reflecting thoughtful, appropriate use of enforcement authority. Throughout the year, officers participated in neighborhood meetings, school engagement initiatives, community events, and collaborative problem-solving efforts with residents and local businesses. These **ongoing community policing efforts strengthen trust, improve communication, and reinforce our commitment to being visible, accessible, and responsive.**

In 2025, our department achieved a **56.87% case clearance rate** — and that's not a vanity stat, that's real work getting done. Clearance rate isn't about paperwork; it's about victims getting answers, offenders being held accountable, and our officers and detectives grinding through interviews, evidence, digital forensics, and courtroom prep to close the loop. In a time when cases are more complex, evidence is more technical, and scrutiny is higher than ever, clearing nearly 57% of reported cases reflects disciplined investigations, strong supervision, and solid follow-through. It also tells the community something simple but important: when crime happens in Auburn, we don't shrug — we pursue it.

Collectively, this work reflects the professionalism of our department that balances enforcement, prevention, and partnership to enhance public safety and maintain community confidence reaffirming our motto of **"Expect Excellence."**



29,433 calls
for service

5,563
traffic stops

705 physical
arrests

2,399 parking
tickets

AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS

> Auburn Fire Department

In 2025 the department underwent evaluation by ISO (Insurance Services Office) to determine the Public Protection Classification. ISO's PPC program evaluates communities according to a uniform set of criteria, incorporating nationally recognized standards developed by the National Fire Protection Association and the American Water Works Association. This is an evaluation of Fire Department equipment, staffing training, geographic distribution of resources, operational considerations, and community risk reduction work. Water supply systems and 911 communications are also evaluated. Insurance companies use PPC information for marketing, underwriting, and to help establish fair premiums for homeowners and commercial fire insurance.

Auburn maintained its class 2 rating, which is a better rating than 95% of the departments in the nation. There is only 1 department in the state of Maine with a rating better than Class 2.



Calls for service: 6380
Fire (Not EMS): 1367
EMS/Rescue: 5013
Structure fires: 31
Other fires: 85
Civilian fire deaths: 0
Property loss: \$7.8M
Life safety & fire code inspections complete: 247

> Auburn Public Works

Auburn Public Works had a busy 2025! We are very proud of our talented and dedicated team. The data below reflects a small part of the good work APW does - day in and day out - to make our city better, stronger and safer. Of special note: our team worked hard to achieve **re-accreditation** (for the third time) by the American Public Works Association in September. We remain Maine's **first and only** nationally accredited public works organization.

2025 HIGHLIGHTS:

- 15 New trees planted
- 1,210 Catch basins cleaned
- 1,800 Flowers planted
- 1,293 Fleet work orders
- 5,650 All other work orders
- 27 Storm events
- Swept 600 lane miles of roadway
- Delivered 300 sand buckets to Auburn seniors



AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS

> Lewiston-Auburn 9-1-1

2025 was another busy year for the Lewiston/Auburn 9-1-1 Center. We continue to rank as the **third busiest center in the State of Maine** as measured by incoming 9-1-1 call volume. The dispatchers and supervisors that staff the center continue to dedicate themselves to providing the best possible service for the citizens of our communities despite ongoing staffing challenges. 9-1-1 centers tend to have high employee turnover due to the required shift work and unique stresses employees experience, and we are certainly no different, averaging 2 to 3 vacant positions throughout the year. Unfortunately, these vacancies require remaining staff to fill those hours via overtime which can be difficult to sustain for long periods of time.

In addition to our normal operations, throughout 2025 Administrative staff worked on two major projects which are scheduled for 2026. With funding provided by Androscoggin County, we are working to implement new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management software, which will serve every community within Androscoggin County, ensuring timely and efficient information sharing. Additionally, to make way for construction of Auburn's new Public Safety Facility, L-A 911 has been working on relocating to a space within Auburn Hall sometime in mid-2026. This will be a move that requires careful and strategic planning to ensure that operations continue uninterrupted during the relocation of staff and equipment.

Calls for Service: 106,499
9-1-1 Line Calls: 48,686
Non-Emergency Line Calls: 112,049
Calls processed through Emergency Fire Dispatch Protocols: 2,990
Calls processed through Emergency Medical Dispatch Protocols: 13,356

*Statistics represent total count of agencies the Center serves (Lewiston, Auburn, and Poland)

> Auburn Public Library

Highlights from the Auburn Public Library during 2025 included visits by children's authors Chris Van Dusen and Sophie Blackall; continued partnerships with organizations like the Auburn Senior Community Center, the Auburn PAL Center, Community Credit Union, and Lewiston-Auburn Senior College; the introduction of APL's Chess Club; and a new collaboration with the Yellow Tulip Project, a program for young adults with a core mission "to smash stigma associated with mental illness..." A common theme you will see throughout the library, whether through our book displays or our programs and events, is **the importance of community partnerships**. These relationships are mutually beneficial and help us fulfill our mission.

During 2025, we also began a months-long **strategic planning process**. In December, we completed the final draft. This plan will guide us for the next three years and has three primary goals: **To ensure capacity, cultivate collaboration, and grow community**. This plan will be available on our website very soon, and we look forward to working with you as we address the initiatives it identifies to provide vision and focus toward meeting the future needs of our patrons and this community.

7,854
Card holders

162,280
Items
checked
out

9,998
Audiobooks
borrowed

88,179
Visits to the
library

154,716
Website
visits

2025 PROGRAMS:
201 Adult programs
with **2,357** attendees
102 Teen programs
with **881** attendees
408 Children's programs
with **11,179** attendees

AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS

> Planning, Permitting + Code

Planning engaged with **1,838** residents and property owners in the development of the new **Comprehensive Plan** and is approximately halfway through the plan development. Staff and the Planning Board reviewed and approved over **200 units of housing** in 2025 that are under construction or will start soon.

Permitting had a record year for the **most permits issued in a single year** and is maintaining efficient review times that are shorter than most communities.

Code implemented the new **Vacant Buildings Ordinance**, identifying over **70 vacant buildings** and motivating owners to improve them, sell them and get them back into productive use to minimize impacts to neighborhoods. A long-standing **junkyard enforcement** case on Hackett Road is being cleaned up and key vacant buildings are being targeted for redevelopment.

- **FY25 Estimated cost of construction: \$64,754,876** (5.6% increase from FY24)

- **FY25 Permits issued: 1,297*** (4.4% increase from FY24)

- **FY25 Permitting fees collected: \$281,942** (25% increase from FY24)

*Building (commercial & residential), plumbing, electrical, swimming pool & sign permits

> Recreation & Sports Tourism

In 2025, Auburn Recreation delivered a full slate of programs that brought **residents of all ages** together. We served **819 youth sports participants** across 6 leagues, 9 clinics, and 2 Unified Sports offerings, and engaged **288 youth** in vacation camps and summer programs. Special events drew **966** participants, with favorites like the Spring Celebration, Fright Festival, Fishing Derby, and Pizza & PJs creating memorable, family-friendly experiences. **Our senior services continued to thrive, with 1,356 participants joining 113 senior trips, and 1,636 participants taking part in 148 in house senior programs.** Adult recreation remained strong as well, with **1,138** participants participating across 5 leagues.

We also maximized access to city facilities, supporting community gatherings and activities through **1,214 rentals** at the Auburn Senior Community Center (including full hall, meeting side, banquet side) and **461 rentals** at Hasty (gym, classroom, and rec room and birthday party combo bookings). Together, these offerings reflect our commitment to **inclusion, connection, and active living**—meeting residents where they are and making it easy to get involved.

RECREATION STATISTICS FOR 2025:

- Youth Sports Participants: 819
- Youth Programs/Camps: 288
- Special Events: 966
- Senior Trips: 1,356
- In-House Senior Programs: 1,636
- Adult Sports: 1,138
- ASCC Rentals: 1,214
- Hasty Rentals: 461

> Grants

Calendar Year 2025 Grants Snapshot:

- **36** active grants across all city departments (excluding Auburn School Department)
- Active grant awards totaled over **\$17.5 M**

AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS

> FINANCIAL SERVICES: City Clerk/Tax/Accounting

Election Overview

Registered Voters: **15,724**
Election Date: **November 4, 2025**
Voter Turnout: **6,705 voters** (43%)

Freedom of Access Act (FOAA) Requests

Total Requests (2025): **88 general FOAA requests** (excluding police-related requests). Staff Time: Over **200 hours** dedicated to fulfilling these requests.

Records Preservation

Using funds granted by the Council for Records Restoration, we successfully preserved **Birth Records from 1852 through 1928 and 1982 through 1986**. These were among our oldest original records, requiring permanent preservation. This effort covers nearly all unbound paper birth records. Our next focus will be preserving marriage and death records.

Licensing

Total Business Licenses Issued: **284**
Industries Licensed: Cannabis (marijuana) establishments, food establishments, lodging, tattoo artists, pawnshop/secondhand dealers
Animal Licensing - Dog Licenses Issued: **679**

Financial Operations

Account Payable: **19,894 invoices** processed
Accounts Receivable: **1,140 general billing invoices** produced (provided billing for Auburn-Lewiston Airport as well)
Tax Collection Rate: **98.9%**
Payment transactions: **55,504** [Approximately 35,000 were in-person transactions]
Payroll service: Managed payroll for an average of **310 employees** per week
Provided payroll processing for: Airport, 911 Dispatch Center, Library, CDBG/HUD Financial Management (spent an average of 20 hours per week dedicated to managing the financial side of this large grant).

In 2025, the Financial Services team went through a restructuring to better serve our community with a **focus on customer service**, streamlined operations and improved efficiency. **Front-office staff in Clerk and Tax divisions were merged and cross-trained** in support of this initiative. Back-office staff successfully completed over **100 hours of professional development**, ensuring alignment with the latest GASB updates and industry-specific accounting standards. The 2024 Annual Audit was successfully completed, leading to bond agencies maintaining our 'Aa3' and 'AA-' long-term ratings. The City Clerk was recertified as a Certified Clerk of Maine through MTCCA. The Finance Director was asked to speak at the National Government Finance Officers Association Conference in Washington D.C. for a session on Leadership and for a panel discussion on Small Government Debt Issuance. These achievements reflect the department's **commitment to fiscal responsibility, customer service, and operational excellence**.

AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS

> FINANCIAL SERVICES: Assessing

The **city-wide revaluation** continues to be a high priority for the Assessing division. The data collectors report to the assessor multiple times each week. Staff assist by making appointments and doing revaluation inspections. In-person meetings are held with the management staff of KRT Appraisal to get updates and ensure we are on track to complete the project on time. Continued public outreach including updates to the website and interactive map are made regularly to keep the public well informed with the revaluation process.

Members of the assessing staff completed a total of **288.5 hours of training** toward renewal and advancement of our Certified Maine Assessor certificates. Our newest staff member attained the CMA certification and became certified in Maine as a real estate appraiser. There are now 3 licensed Maine real estate appraisers on Auburn's Assessing team. A second staff member attained the CMA-2 advanced certification, bringing the number of staff with advanced certifications to three (2-CMA-4 and 1-CMA-2).

Exemption applications reviewed - **588**

Exemptions processed for 2025 - **478**

Veterans Exemptions audited for compliance - **439**

Deed transfers processed in Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) - **474**

Sales ratio study/sales analyzed - **474**

Parcel edits for Patriot CAMA and GIS map updates - **136**

Special Land Use applications- letters/updates/new applications processed - **12**

Building permits received for review - **1,176 permits**

Permits loaded in CAMA - **372**

Revaluation tracking and/or inspections by assessing staff - **128**

Name and address change requests from taxpayers processed - **258**

Personal Property business forms processed - **409**

Abatements - **23**

Supplemental tax assessments - **12**

> Auburn PAL Center

The Auburn PAL Center opened its doors to our youth on September 22, 2025. Since that time, there have been **2,611** visits from our members. This is an incredible start given the holidays, closures due to storm days, and frigid temperatures where parents did not want their children to be walking to the center. Our gym is the main attraction as well as the “snack- usually a hot meal” that is provided each day.

Activities provided to our members have included weekly “trauma informed” classes with ArtVan, Nature Club classes, Karate demonstration where interested members will start classes in February 2026, “Teen Chefs” and collaborative programs with the Auburn Public Library. Additional programs are being scheduled for 2026.



AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS

Auburn School Department

9 Schools | ~3,300 Students | ~550 Staff | **97.4% Graduation Rate** [Pre-K through Grade 12]

The Auburn School Department continues to serve as a cornerstone of our city, educating approximately **3,300 students across nine schools** — six elementary schools, Auburn Middle School, Edward Little High School, and the Franklin Alternative Program. With nearly **550 dedicated staff members**, our district serves students from Pre-K through Grade 12 with a focus on academic excellence, expanded opportunities, and support for student success.

Serving a Diverse Community

Our schools reflect the strength and diversity of Auburn:

60% Economically Disadvantaged

20% Students with Disabilities

12% Multilingual Learners

4% Students Experiencing Homelessness

Despite increasing student needs, Auburn continues to demonstrate strong academic growth, improved attendance, and meaningful learning opportunities for all students.

Academic Growth & Achievement

District-wide assessment data shows strong proficiency rates in literacy and mathematics, improved student achievement across subgroups, continued improvement in attendance and rising graduation rates. At Edward Little High School, the **four-year graduation rate has climbed to 97.4%**, reflecting a steady upward trend over the past several years and reinforcing the district's focus on student success through graduation.

Expanding Opportunities for Students

Auburn students continue to benefit from expanded access to Advanced Placement (AP), Honors, Dual Enrollment, Early College, and Aspirations coursework; Career & Technical Education (CTE) programming; Enrichment partnerships, including Ecology School experiences and collaborations with local colleges; Athletics, music, arts, leadership clubs, and co-curricular activities. Participation in advanced coursework and extracurricular programming continues to grow, helping students prepare for postsecondary success.

Systems That Support Student Learning

Auburn's schools maintain strong structures that reinforce academic success, including Districtwide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) systems, improving school climate and attendance; Home-school communication through the *Reach My Teach* platform; and food pantries, clothing closets, meal partnerships, and community-based family supports. These comprehensive supports ensure that all students have equitable access to learning opportunities.

A Community Anchor

The Auburn School Department continues to be a source of pride for the city. The Donald M. Gay Performing Arts Center has become a regional destination for performances and events, strengthening Auburn's cultural presence.

Strong collaboration with city leadership supports responsible fiscal stewardship, shared facilities planning, and long-term community investment.

Looking Ahead

As Auburn continues to grow, so does our commitment to excellence. Through strong instruction, expanded opportunities, meaningful partnerships, and the dedication of our staff, the Auburn School Department remains focused on preparing every student for success in college, career, and community.

AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS

> Human Resources

The City of Auburn's Human Resources Department strives to invest in people who share Auburn's core values, through fair compensation, professional development, and a supportive work environment to create a stronger, service-driven organization.

2025 HR STATISTICS:

Total applications received: **854**

Full time new hires: **33** (some with the same title - patrol officer, etc.)

Females in public safety positions **9**

Maine Workforce Development funding for staff to attend 10 different professional development classes: **\$5,401.10**

> Engineering

The Engineering Department is charged with city infrastructure asset management including capital improvement of roads, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, stormwater facilities and new building construction. Funding for these projects is provided by the City's Capital Improvement Plan and various State and Federal funding sources. The projects below represent approximately **\$68 million** worth of work. Highlights for the 2025 construction season include:

- The completion and opening of the new PAL facility on Chestnut St.
- Began construction of the new Engine 2 Fire Station
- Continued to progress the design of the new Public Safety Facility
- The reconstruction of Merrow Road began and was completed to 50%.
- The completion of the Streetscan project of both the roads and sidewalks for the entire City.
- The reconstruction of Hersey Hill Road, North Auburn Road, Blanchard Road, Perkins Ridge Road, Davis Ave., Granite St., and Hillsdale St.
- The resurfacing of Mt. Auburn Ave., Pownal Road, Sopers Mill Road, S. Witham and Trapp Road
- Replaced the box culvert on Stetson Road, repaired the culvert on Oak Hill Road
- Reconstructed the basketball court at Lake Grove Park

> Information Technology

In 2025, all staff members participated in comprehensive training sessions that addressed recent cybersecurity challenges, including those posed by advancements in artificial intelligence. The training focused on equipping employees with the knowledge and skills necessary to safeguard city assets against emerging security threats.

During the year, the city successfully launched a new website featuring heightened security measures. This upgrade was implemented to ensure that the city's digital infrastructure keeps pace with evolving security requirements, thereby protecting sensitive information and maintaining public trust.

Our help desk system provided essential support to all city departments, serving as an internal customer service resource. On average, the help desk managed approximately **40 support tickets each week**, addressing a wide range of technical and operational issues efficiently.

Users managed: 365

Software programs managed: 39

AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS

> Norway Savings Bank Arena

The NSBA, built in 2013, provides accessible and diverse recreational, educational, and athletic opportunities for all ages. Goals include fostering community partnerships, engagement, connection, supporting economic development through sports tourism, and ensuring safe, inclusive environments for both casual use and competitive events. In 2025/2026 the NSBA:

- **4,500** hours of ice time used
- Home to the **Maine Nordiques** out of the North American Hockey League (NAHL): Second highest level of junior hockey in the United States behind the United State Hockey League (USHL); Average 300 to 500 fans per game; Teams traveled from Maryland, New Jersey, and other regional states to play the Nordiques at NSBA.
- Home to **Central Maine Community College** (American Collegiate Hockey Association): Ranked 4th in the country; Boys and Girls program (Division 3); Visiting teams come from Maine, New England, and nationally.
- Home to **five high school programs**: Hosted 45 to 50 boy's and girl's high school games; Host of the 2026 Girl's High School State Championship Game
- **2025 Events included**:
 - Home Show (2,000 to 3,000 visitors)
 - Largest RV Show in Maine w/MECOA (Maine Campground Owners Assn.) (5,000 visitors)
 - Business to Business Trade Show

> Ingersoll Turf Facility

Built in 2014, the Ingersoll Turf Facility features approximately 20,000 sq ft. in-filled turf surface along with two baseball/softball batting cages. ITF offers space for indoor training/practice which was previously unavailable within Auburn and the surrounding areas. A blend of both athletic and recreational activity can be enjoyed in this facility, making it the desired choice for training/practice activities.

Ingersoll is home to Prospects Athletics, a youth baseball program. This group contains kids from as far as Wells in one direction and Waterville in the other. This program has kids ranging from age 8 to age 18. They average 459 hours per year on the turf.

ITF is also home to Andro United, a youth soccer organization. This group has been a staple of Ingersoll since the opening of our establishment, with boys and girls from 3rd/4th grade through high school. They average 102 hours per year on the turf - a grand total 1,020 hours over 10 years.

We are also home to Central Maine Carnage: a youth softball program with girls ranging from U8 to U18 with a multitude of teams at each division. They are with us 3 days a week.

Ingersoll is also home to adult softball and soccer groups, youth lacrosse groups and Bates College Football.

AUBURN BY THE NUMBERS

> Transportation

The Transportation Systems Department plans, manages, and advances the community's multimodal transportation assets to support economic growth and regional connectivity. This includes the **Auburn-Lewiston Municipal Airport**, a public-use general aviation airport included in the Federal Aviation Administration's National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) as a designated regional reliever, supporting business aviation, air charter, emergency response, and year-round access to Maine's Lakes and Mountains region. In addition, management of the City-owned **Freight Rail Intermodal Facility**, which connects local manufacturers and distributors to regional and national freight networks. Together with active freight rail infrastructure, the intermodal facility supports industrial retention and recruitment, lowers shipping costs for bulk commodities, and strengthens Auburn's position as a strategic logistics and economic development hub in Maine.

57.9%

The percentage increase in AvGas sales at the Auburn-Lewiston Municipal Airport from FY2024 to FY2025.

106

The total number of based aircraft at the end of 2025, making this facility the 2nd largest in Maine for based aircraft (after Sanford) and 12th in New England.

3,093

The number of railcar loads were delivered to customers via the Lewiston and Auburn Railroad corridor and city-owned intermodal facility.

> Economic Development

The primary focus areas for the Economic Development Department continue to be:

- ✓ Industrial area(s)/park solutions
- ✓ Defining & promoting clusters & business parks
- ✓ Taking advantage of energy initiatives
- ✓ Mapping industry types
- ✓ Vertical integration and supply chain partners
- ✓ Developing linkages and connectivity
- ✓ Utilizing transit
- ✓ Advertising & creating industry tours
- ✓ Defining the look, feel, function of corridors & gateways
- ✓ Making Auburn a valuable statewide economic development partner

Our team created monthly manufacturers meetings to carry out recommendations to help become Maine's manufacturing, warehousing, and distribution hub. We were also the only municipality to receive the Maine Federal Tech Hub Designation, developing Auburn's Tech Hub to align with federal and state initiatives. We are proud to have partnered with Western Maine Transportation Services on "WorxLink," a public subscription bus service in Lewiston-Auburn that provides reservation-based, curb-to-curb workforce transportation.

In October, the Economic Development team partnered with local schools, MAME, Maine MEP, and the City of Lewiston on specialized tours for industry professionals. And following our 2024 creation of Auburn Manufacturing Month (October), we launched Maine's statewide Manufacturing Month in 2025.

2026 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



AUBURN

2026 Comprehensive Plan

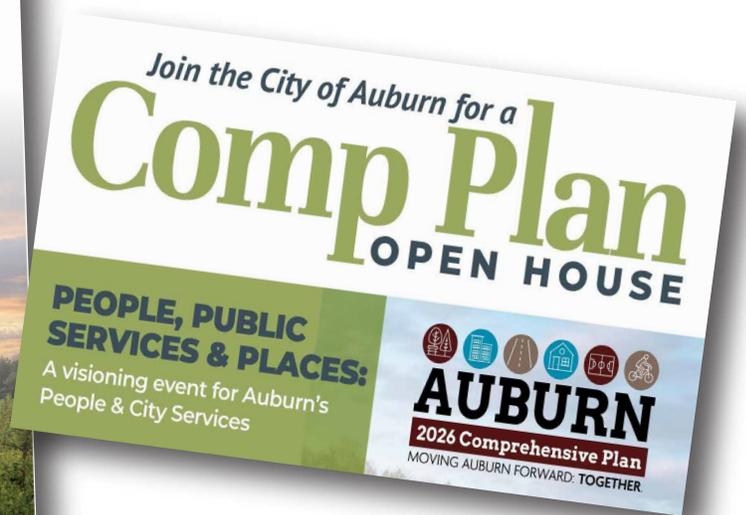
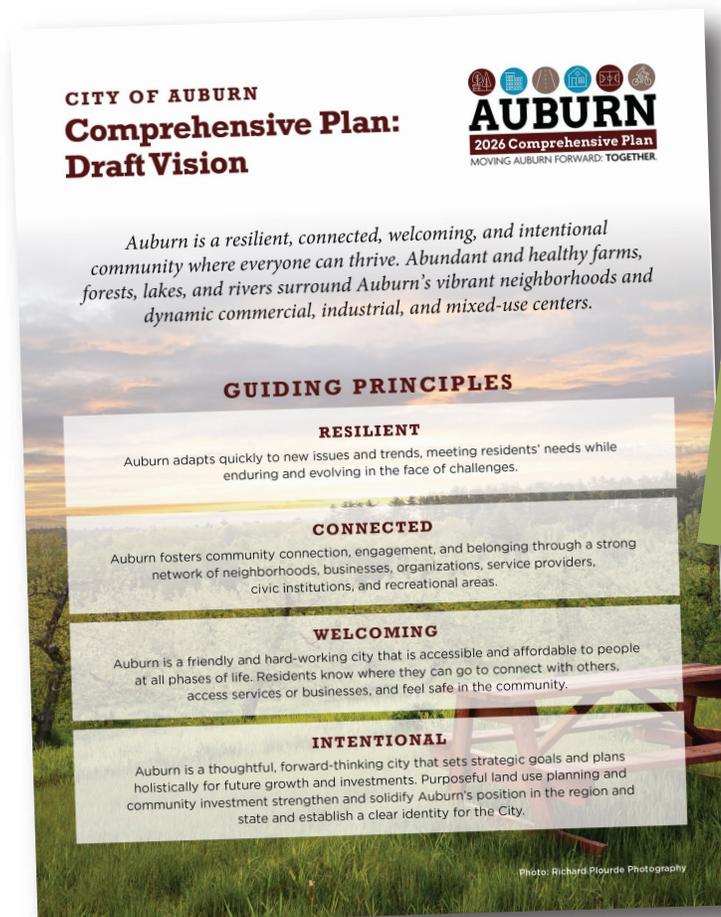
MOVING AUBURN FORWARD: TOGETHER.

The City began the 2026 Comprehensive Plan process in early 2025. Throughout the year, a committee of 19 people, representing various areas of Auburn, engaged community members with open houses, focus group meetings, and at City-wide events, created a vision statement with guiding principles and eight goals (which now serves as the structure for the plan), drafted a Future Land Use map that designates

future growth areas for the City, and formed policies and actions that reflected public sentiment and City initiatives.

Approximately **1,800 people** interacted with the Comprehensive Plan in 2025, and a total of **15,000 invites and mailings** were sent to community members. The Comprehensive Plan Committee consistently met monthly as an entire committee and had over **10 subcommittee meetings** to ensure the plan is robust and timely. The Comprehensive Plan completion is anticipated for fall 2026!

Explore the Comp Plan website and share your vision for Auburn:
www.auburnmaine.gov/complan26

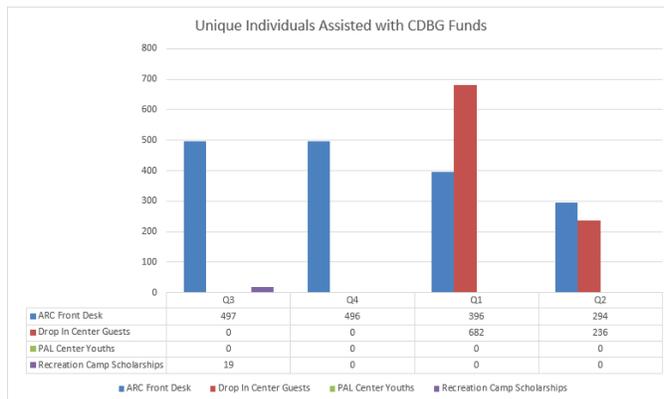
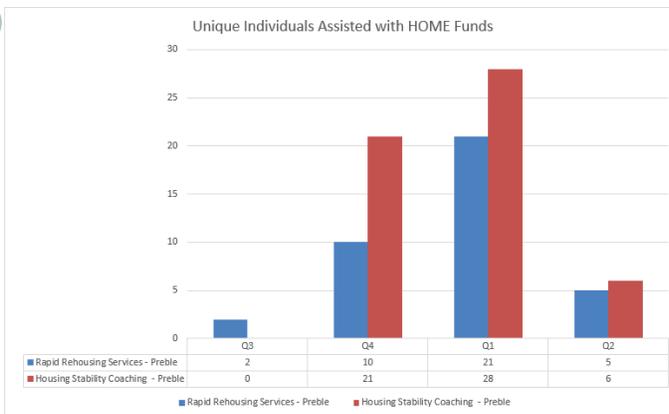
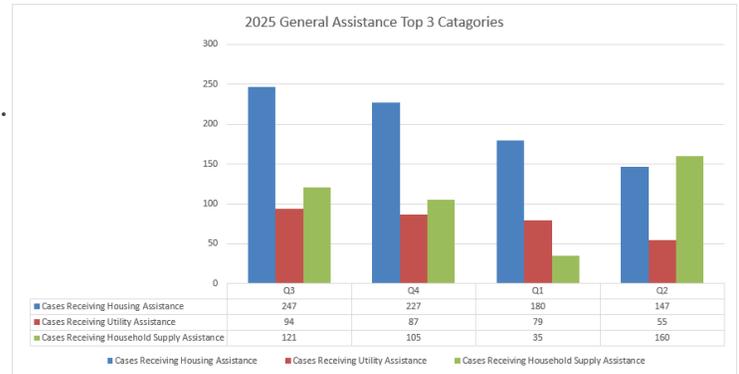
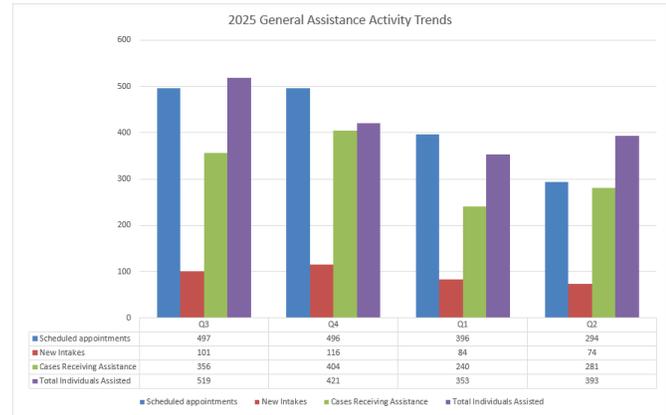


CARING FOR COMMUNITY

General Assistance

In 2025, Auburn’s General Assistance program continued to provide critical support to residents facing hardship. Over the four quarters, staff scheduled **1,683 appointments** and processed **375 new intakes**, reflecting steady demand for services. A total of **1,281 cases received assistance**, helping **1,686 individuals** with essential needs such as housing, food, and utilities. The trend shows a gradual decline in scheduled appointments and new intakes, indicating improved stability and resource connection for residents provided by service providers within the Auburn Resource Center.

Housing support remained the most requested service in 2025, with **801 approved cases**, underscoring its critical role in stabilizing families. **Household supply assistance** ranked second at **421 cases**, reflecting ongoing needs for basic living essentials. **Utility assistance** followed with **315 cases**, helping residents maintain access to heat, electricity, and water during challenging periods. These trends demonstrate Auburn’s commitment to addressing core necessities, with housing consistently at the forefront of community assistance efforts.



Community Development

In 2025, HUD funding - through CDBG and HOME - strengthened Auburn’s community support network. And the community impact was even more meaningful thanks to the opening of the Auburn Resource Center at **121 Mill Street**.

CDBG funds enabled assistance for **2,620 unique individuals**, including 1,683 served at the ARC Front Desk to facilitate General Assistance and other community resource referrals, **918 guests at the Drop-In Center** since reporting began in July, and by providing **19 recreation camp scholarships** to low-income youth.

HOME funded activities are carried out Preble Street and focus on housing stability, supporting **93 individuals** through rapid rehousing and coaching services to prevent homelessness. These investments reflect Auburn’s commitment to fostering safe housing and accessible resources for residents in need.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Auburn’s communications + community engagement team is dedicated to community and media relations. Through the city’s website, social media presence, paid and earned media, email & text alerts, publications, signage, and Auburn’s official podcast, “Absolutely Auburn,” our team works to promote civic engagement and municipal transparency through accurate, consistent and timely information.

In 2025, we were pleased and proud to launch a beautiful **new city website** (auburnmaine.gov), with enhanced accessibility, translation tools, and a fresh, new look.

The communications team is honored to present three annual **signature events** - as well as a few smaller community events - throughout the year, including New Year’s Auburn, the Auburn Lobster Festival each spring, and the Auburn Blues & Brews Festival each fall. Other community events include National Night Out in partnership with the Auburn Police Department, Fright Festival in partnership with the Auburn Recreation Department, the Hilton Holiday Hangout, and the city’s annual Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting.

Statistics + Measurables

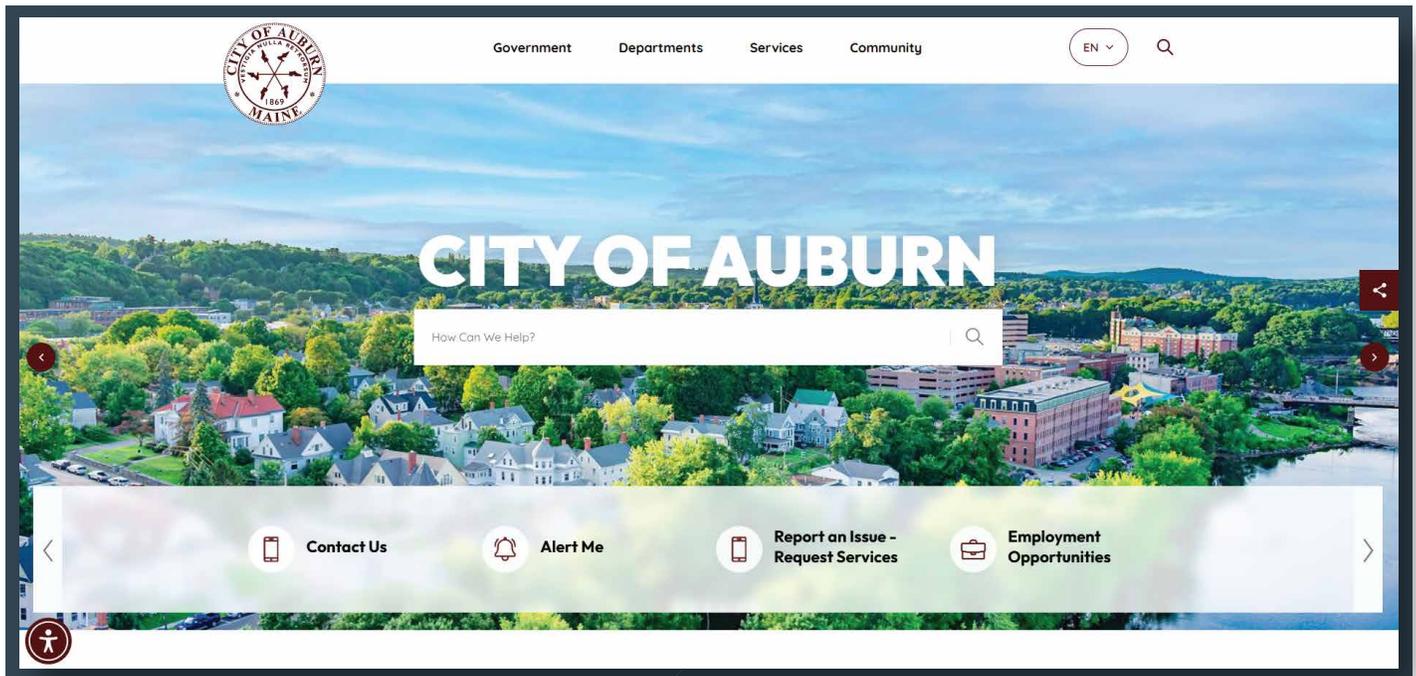
Social media followers: **81,032** (across 15 accounts)

Signature event attendance: **8,000-10,000** annually

“AlertMe” subscribers: **2,742** (6,502 total subscriptions across categories)

Podcast downloads: **2,738** (34 episodes as of 11/2025)

YouTube views: **12,430** in 2025 (133,000 lifetime views) 1,057 subscribers



Auburn’s new website: auburnmaine.gov



FY26 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

FY2026 Expenditures | Comparison of FY24, FY25 & FY26

	COUNCIL ADOPTED BUDGET FY 23-24	COUNCIL ADOPTED BUDGET FY 24-25	MANAGER PROPOSED BUDGET FY 25-26	COUNCIL PROPOSED BUDGET FY 25-26	\$ Change	% Change
Municipal Expenses						
Operating Expenses	37,570,039	41,434,118	43,081,253	42,591,211	1,157,093	2.79%
Intergovernmental	2,172,480	2,328,502	2,568,975	2,477,975	149,473	6.42%
County Tax	2,972,037	3,117,240	3,385,568	3,385,568	268,328	8.61%
Total Municipal Expenses	42,714,556	46,879,860	49,035,796	48,454,754	1,574,894	3.36%
TIF Expenses	3,049,803	3,049,803	3,272,673	3,272,673	222,870	7.31%
School Expenses						
Operating Expenses	48,801,317	50,697,851	53,679,558	53,454,558	2,756,707	5.44%
Total School Expenses	48,801,317	50,697,851	53,679,558	53,454,558	2,756,707	5.44%
Debt Service						
Municipal	8,334,544	9,772,812	11,959,434	11,799,434	2,026,622	20.74%
School	9,604,152	10,379,025	10,016,027	10,016,027	(362,998)	-3.50%
Municipal Public Referendum	0	0	460,543	460,543	460,543	100.00%
School Public Referendum	665,820	1,046,596	1,023,308	1,023,308	(23,288)	-2.23%
Total Debt Expenses	18,604,516	21,198,433	23,459,312	23,299,312	2,100,879	9.91%
Total Expenses	113,170,192	121,825,947	129,447,339	128,481,297	6,655,350	5.46%
Less: Non-Tax Revenues						
Municipal	23,121,704	26,142,646	26,822,975	27,172,975	1,030,329	3.94%
School	39,274,140	41,368,735	43,230,641	43,505,641	2,136,906	5.17%
Total Non-Tax Revenues	62,395,844	67,511,381	70,053,616	70,678,616	3,167,235	4.69%
Tax Levy						
Municipal Operating	17,498,138	18,341,275	19,530,951	18,690,909	349,634	1.91%
School Operating	19,319,133	18,418,890	19,282,179	18,782,179	363,289	1.97%
Intergovernmental	5,144,517	5,445,742	5,954,543	5,863,543	417,801	7.67%
Debt Municipal	8,334,544	9,772,812	11,959,434	11,799,434	2,026,622	20.74%
Debt School	632,284	1,289,250	1,182,765	1,182,765	(106,485)	-8.26%
Debt Municipal Public Referendu	0	0	460,543	460,543	460,543	100.00%
Debt School Public Referendum	665,820	1,046,596	1,023,308	1,023,308	(23,288)	-2.23%
Overlay	485,296	454,657	0	0	(454,657)	-100.00%
Total Tax Levy	52,079,732	54,769,223	59,393,723	57,802,681	3,033,459	5.54%
Total Assessed Value	2,253,171,176	2,460,446,182	2,485,446,182	2,485,446,182		
Tax Rate			*	*		
Municipal	11.68	11.61	12.86	12.45	0.84	7.25%
School	9.15	8.44	8.65	8.44	0.01	0.11%
Intergovernmental	2.28	2.21	2.40	2.36	0.15	6.59%
Total	23.11	22.25	23.90	23.26	1.01	4.52%

* Estimated Valuation



Scan to explore Auburn's interactive online **budget portal**

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Grow with your neighbors! Auburn's community gardens produce fresh fruits and vegetables for residents. With three locations throughout the city, the work put into these gardens is helping to grow a healthier and more sustainable Auburn.

Sign ups begin in spring and the garden season runs from May to mid-October. Community Gardeners are provided with space to grow food (most plots are 4'x10'), seeds & seedlings to plant, access to water and tools, regular support during weekly garden times, and opportunities to deepen learning and build relationships through relevant workshops and community events.

For information on how to participate, visit gathertogrowmaine.org, email info@gathertogrowmaine.org, or call (207) 513.3848.

GARDEN LOCATIONS:

115 Whitney Street
24 raised beds approximately
4X10 feet each.

61 Webster Street
24 plots consisting of 4x10 foot
raised beds.

88 Newbury Street
40 raised beds approximately
4X10 feet each.



DEPARTMENTS + DIVISIONS

To reach all city departments, call **207.333.6601** [unless otherwise noted below]

Business & Community Development

Business Services

Community Development

General Assistance

Public Health

City Manager

Communications & Community Engagement

Economic Development

Financial Services

Accounting

Assessing

City Clerk & Tax

Fire: **333-6633**

Human Resources

Information Technology [IT]

Police: **333-6650**

Public Services

Engineering

Planning, Permitting & Code

Transportation

Public Works: **333-6670**

Recreation

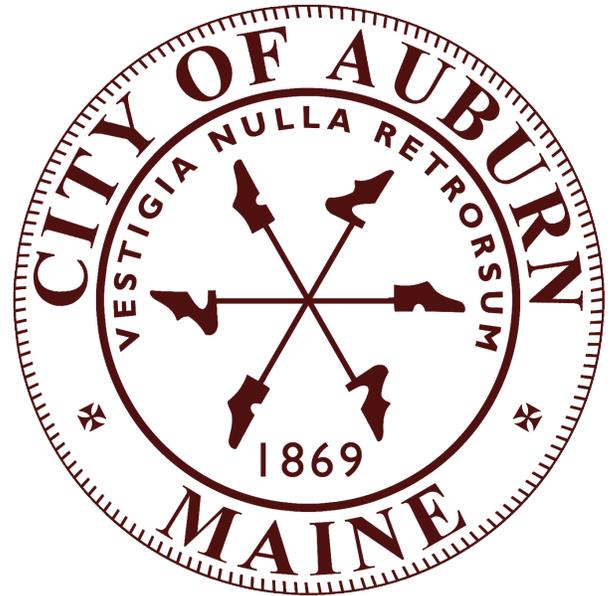
School Department: **784-6431**

Sports Facilities

Ingersoll Turf Facility

Norway Savings Bank Arena: 333-6688

9-1-1 Communications: **786-5380**



BOARDS + COMMITTEES

City Committees

Age-Friendly Community Committee
Audit Committee
Board of Assessment Review
City Council
Complete Streets Committee
Ethics Panel
Homelessness Committee
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
Planning Board
School Committee
Sustainability & Natural Resource Management Board
Conservation Working Group
Community Forest Working Group
Natural Products & Agriculture Working Group
Sustainability Working Group
Voter Registration Appeals Board
Zoning Board of Appeals

Regional Committees

9-1-1 Committee
Androscoggin County Budget Committee
Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG)
Auburn Housing Authority
Auburn & Lewiston Municipal Airport Board
Auburn Sewer District Board of Trustees
Auburn Water District Board of Trustees
L-A Clean Water Authority
Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission
Lewiston Auburn Railroad Company
Maine Waste-to-Energy
Auburn Public Library Board

Ad Hoc + Short Term Committees & Working Groups

Appointment Committee
Comprehensive Plan Committee
Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Working Group
Mayor's Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness
Mayor's Ad Hoc Committee on Housing
Mayor's Ad Hoc City Fee Review Committee
Mayor's Ad Hoc Public Safety Building Committee
Mayor's Ad Hoc Bona Fide Agricultural, Recreational & Natural Resources Land Use Committee

2026: MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

*Holidays +
community events.*

*CITY HALL CLOSED *CITY EVENT

MAR

Daylight Savings begins 3/8
St. Patrick's Day 3/17

AUG

National Night Out 8/4*

Auburn Community Band Concerts
8/5, 8/12 & 8/19

APR

Rec Spring Celebration 4/4*
Patriot's Day 4/20*
Earth Day 4/22

SEP

Labor Day 9/7*

September 11th Remembrance 9/11
Auburn Blues & Brews Fest. 9/12*

MAY

Mother's Day 5/10
Armed Forces Day 5/16
Auburn Lobster Festival 5/16*
Memorial Day 5/25*

OCT

Indigenous Peoples' Day 10/12*

Fright Fest TBD*
Halloween 10/31

JUN

Flag Day 6/14
Father's Day 6/21
Juneteenth 6/19*
Auburn Community Band
Concerts 6/17 & 6/24

NOV

Daylight Savings Ends 11/1

Veterans' Day 11/11*
Thanksgiving 11/26*
(no curbside trash/recycling)
Thanksgiving Friday 11/24*

JUL

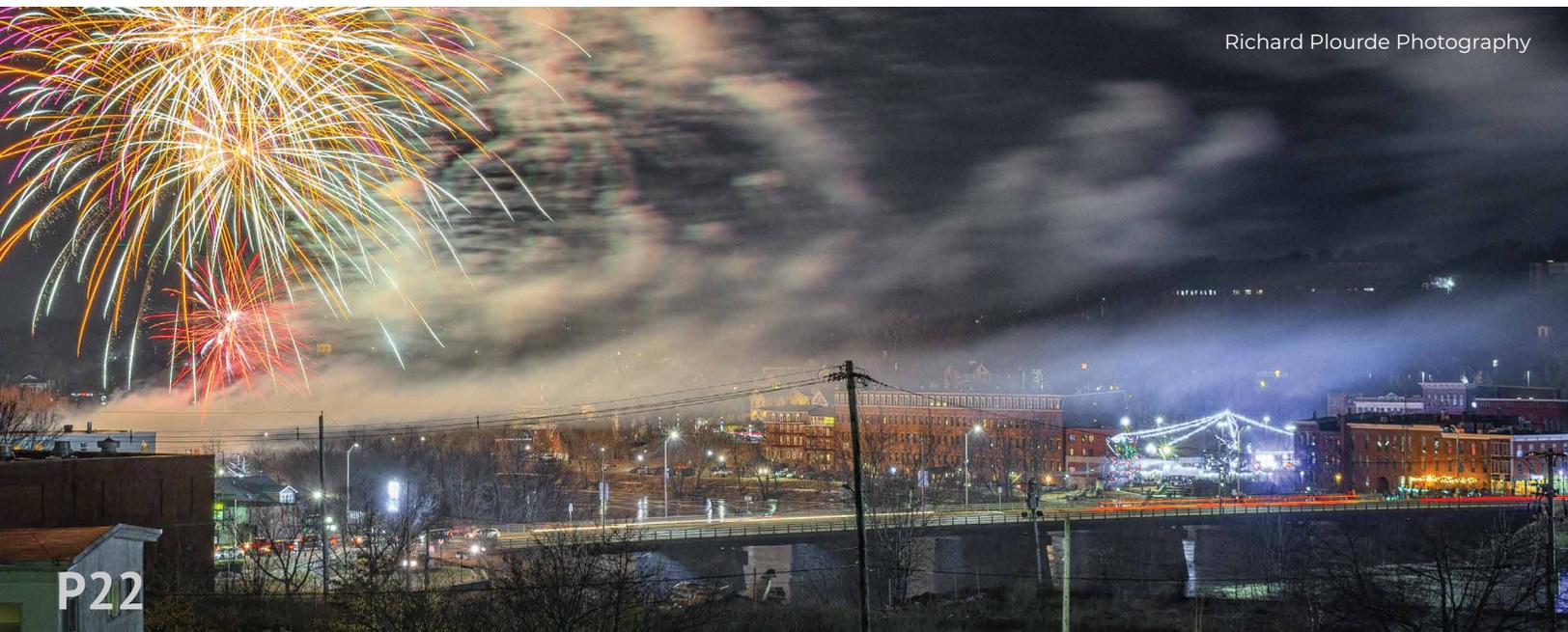
Independence Day 7/4*
Liberty Festival 7/4
Auburn Community Band
Concerts 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22 & 7/29

DEC

Christmas Tree Lighting TBD*

Christmas Day 12/25*
(no curbside trash/recycling)
New Year's Auburn 12/31*

Visit auburnmaine.gov to view our calendar of government meetings.



Richard Plourde Photography

CONNECT WITH US

There are many ways to connect with the City of Auburn. Visit us in person at 60 Court Street, visit us online at auburnmaine.gov, or get “social” with us:



FACEBOOK:
“City of Auburn Maine”



X:
“AuburnMaineGov”



INSTAGRAM:
“auburnmaine”



LINKEDIN:
“City of Auburn
Maine Official”



BLUESKY:
“Auburn Maine”



GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Stream LIVE (and watch previously recorded) City Council, Planning Board & School Committee meetings on YouTube [[“City of Auburn, Maine”](#)].



WEBSITE

Find EVERYTHING Auburn on our website: AUBURNMAINE.GOV. Find department info, meeting calendar, tax info, and much more.



MAP AUBURN

Explore maps & parcel viewers, dashboards, initiatives & open data. <https://accessauburn-auburnme.hub.arcgis.com/>



ALERT ME

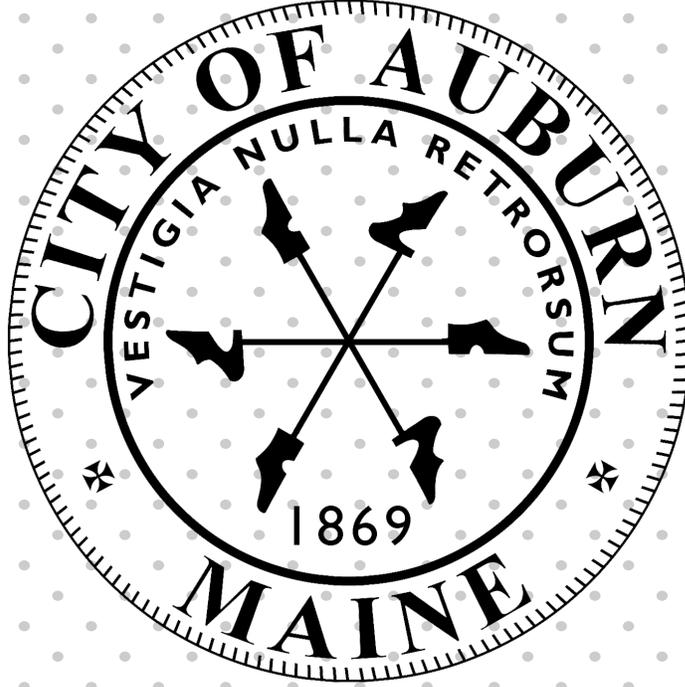
Subscribe to our “AlertMe” system to receive text/email alerts from the city. Visit www.auburnmaine.gov/enotify/index.php to sign up.



Auburn has a podcast! Launched in July 2023, “Absolutely Auburn” features conversations with city leaders and various departments.

Scan the code or find the podcast at absolutelyauburn.buzzsprout.com, on YouTube, or wherever you like to get your podcasts (Apple Podcasts, Spotify, iHeart Radio & more!)





City of Auburn

60 Court Street
Auburn, ME 04210

P : 207-333-6601

E : comments@auburnmaine.gov

w : www.auburnmaine.gov