

Climate Adaptation

Outreach and Engagement

- 1 Encourage residents to implement water efficiency practices and conservation techniques by educating them on the usage statistics, potential water supply issues, and the benefits of participating in water audits
- 2 Encourage private well owners in vulnerable areas to test their water annually for salinity levels from saltwater intrusion
- 3 Support efforts to provide education on the health-related impacts associated with poor air quality to targeted populations
- 4 Develop an action plan to effectively communicate alerts and provide comprehensive measures that can be taken during emergency events aimed at vulnerable populations, as well as conduct outreach about local emergency preparedness
- 5 Provide information about vectors and vector-borne diseases to the public, offer tips on how residents can protect themselves
- 6 Partner with groups such as the NH Food Alliance and Seacoast Local to promote the distribution of fresh local food
- 7 Promote clean water activities to sustain and improve aquaculture opportunities such as shellfish and seaweed harvesting
- 8 Develop outreach materials that highlight the success and energy cost avoidance of the Johnson Control Inc. project
- 9 encourage the City to participate in similar projects in other publically owned buildings
- 10 Promote programs that provide opportunities for low-income and other vulnerable populations/groups to have access to affordable and renewable energy sources, as well as support the improvement of the City's alternative transportation
- 11 Provide education and outreach materials on flood management options to homeowners and private businesses throughout the City
- 12 Promote the yearly king tide photo event to raise awareness on rising sea levels in local vulnerable areas, and encourage residents to take photos

Studies and Initiatives

- 13 Research ongoing efforts and investments in water-saving technology, and promote the widespread use of rain gardens
- 14 Identify opportunities to increase groundwater recharge levels around existing aquifers and wellhead protection areas
- 15 Identify potential vulnerable areas to extend municipal water infrastructure
- 16 Explore feasibility and benefits of water efficiency rebate programs for residential and business customers
- 17 Support effective and cost efficient ways to manage vector populations with natural controls
- 18 Investigate the feasibility of implementing a food composting pilot program at Public Works to determine public interest in food waste composting and obtain insight into operational adjustments when collecting food waste, as well as partnerships with local businesses
- 19 Explore funding opportunities to run a groundwater flow model of groundwater rise, and develop a series of mitigation measures
- 20 Coordinate with utility companies to evaluate distributed energy sources and to conduct a vulnerability analysis on critical infrastructure
- 21 utilities that have been identified in the C-RiSe report to develop recommendations for potential upgrades
- 22 Conduct an annual risk assessment to monitor dry conditions and landscape changes to determine if the threat of saltwater intrusion has been raised, and if so – develop a wildland response plan accordingly
- 23 Consider the importance of natural systems when making decisions on infrastructure projects that propose a hardening of the shoreline and encourage options that protect existing salt marsh habitat and allow for future migration with potential sea level rise

Operations, Policies, and Procedures

- 24 Consider installing or upgrading renewable cooling resources and technologies when significant improvements are needed
- 25 Incorporate additional trees and native vegetation, while also preserving mature trees, into the downtown landscape and other City-owned properties in order to help lower surface and air temperatures by providing shade
- 26 As new industry guidance on vector borne diseases emerges from EMS and the CDC, ensure that emergency response teams update their training as part of the required two-year continuing education cycle
- 27 Evaluate existing regulations to identify any road blocks to local, small scale agriculture and fisheries distribution throughout the City
- 28 Provide financial information to the public on the importance of incorporating the total cost of ownership into municipal purchase agreements in regard to energy costs in order to determine the overall lifecycle cost of new energy production
- 29 Work with the Fire Department, NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and Eversource to gain a better understanding of how wildfires, hurricanes, flooding, and severe winter weather can damage transmission poles and lines
- 30 Control invasive (plant/insect) species by implementing management strategies

Regulatory

- 31 Revise land use regulations to incorporate climate change considerations for future development
- 32 Revisit and revise impervious surface thresholds and stormwater regulatory measures as necessary
- 33 Explore land use regulatory options that would encourage local food production ('agrihoods'), community gardens, and additional conservation land to be built within new residential subdivision housing developments in appropriate areas

Land Use

- 32 Build a sustainable community that allows for modest growth of residential, commercial and industrial development
- 33 Make Dover's downtown a vibrant and livable focal point for the city and region that is alive with a wide variety of dining, entertainment, cultural opportunities and a mix of housing choices.
- 34 Redevelop the city-owned Cochecho waterfront parcel through a public-private partnership with a mix of uses that consistent with the goals and elements of the 2005 Waterfront Charrette.
- 35 Enhance the quality of Dover's natural environment by ensuring long-term protection, conservation and resiliency of ecological and water resources, shorelines, open space, and wildlife.
- 36 Create a provision in the subdivision regulations that requires a minimum of a pedestrian connection between developments to improve transportation options and reduce vehicle trips.
- 37 Encourage multi-modal transportation options that are integrated with Dover's land use program and policies
- 38 Implement the recommendations from the Downtown Pedestrian and Vehicular Access and Streetscape Study for transportation infrastructure and streetscape improvements in the downtown

Energy

- 39 Build a sustainable community for current and future generations of Dover residents.
- 40 Consider providing incentives for developments that propose energy conservation measures.
- 41 Promote sustainable development through the city's use of recycled materials, Energy Star rated products, and sustainable practices.
- 42 Encourage the use of local suppliers to minimize fuel costs and pollution and promote local job creation.
- 43 Develop an alternative energy ordinance to encourage use of alternate sources of energy, such as solar power.

Stewardship

Outreach and Education

- 44 Develop an information sharing program focused on the importance of Dover's shared resources.
- 45 Create opportunities for identifying and voluntarily protecting viewsheds and scenic road segments.
- 46 Incentivize the conversion of impervious surfaces and implementation of low impact development stormwater management.
- 47 Develop metrics for healthy ecosystem services. Set specific quality goals for water, air, soil, carbon sequestration, and natural resources and support voluntary resident and business engagement.
- 48 Provide education opportunities and assistance for property owners interested in placing their properties on the National Register of Historic Places or who want to protect and enhance their historic properties.
- 49 Review opportunities for an outreach and education campaign to increase awareness of how to protect against loss.
- 50 Explore opportunities for citizen feedback for some public meetings, particularly ones that are televised, using an online platform.
- 51 Create a communication platform that identifies existing and new initiatives that build social capital.

Studies and Initiatives

- 52 Investigate Class B dams with NH Water Resources Board and produce an assessment and report identifying policy recommendations.
- 53 Create a Strategic Conservation Plan for Dover that uses multiple objectives such as natural resource protection, habitat mitigation, historic and cultural resources, social capital potential, sustainability and resilience.
- 54 Implement the use of tools that improve analysis and reporting of data gathered from energy audits and assessments.
- 55 Identify and adopt a carbon limit and specific reduction strategies for City buildings and vehicles. Encourage similar actions by other municipalities.
- 56 Support creation of a regional task force for exploring and making recommendations for harnessing tidal power for energy.
- 57 Create opportunities that promote best use of prime agricultural land.
- 58 Support programs such as Scenic Byways or American Heritage Rivers.
- 59 Strengthen regulations to protect wetlands in critical areas to buffer Dover from flooding, improve water quality, and enhance habitat.
- 60 Support activities that reduce inland flood risks and potential infrastructure damage across the City.
- 61 Support continued water quality monitoring for all fresh and saltwater bodies.
- 62 Support neighborhood improvement initiatives and incentives that promote social capital and community resilience.
- 63 Complete the Berry Brook Project and use as a model for similar projects throughout the City.
- 64 Support efforts to assess the health and well-being of the citizens of Dover to assure continued provision of appropriate services.
- 65 Encourage arts engagement and increased social capital through promotion of public art in both public and private spaces.
- 66 Support the development of a social capital working group that provides technical guidance to community based efforts.

Regulatory Changes

- 67 Enhance existing stormwater management requirements to also create habitat and potential food production, reduce heat island effect, improve air quality, meet recreational needs, supports opportunities for education, etc.
- 68 Develop regulations for an environmental and wildlife impact analysis for large development.
- 69 Create development guidelines for the gateways into the City to protect their historic character and ensure that new development meets the City's historic character.
- 70 Use nationally recognized codes and standards such as ICC and NFPA codes, explore the adoption of regulations and standards that achieve improved energy efficiency for buildings and developments.
- 71 Explore the creation of an ordinance to encourage use of renewable sources of energy.
- 72 Identify opportunities to reduce regulatory and financial barriers to the implementation of renewable and alternative energy sources.
- 73 Review and consider policies that promote the use of passive energy building practices and active solar orientation.
- 74 Explore regulations that establish special assessment districts that allow commercial building owners to finance capital improvements.
- 75 Explore the promotion of renewable energy system tax incentives.
- 76 Investigate the creation of a Stormwater Utility to fund the retrofitting of existing properties with low-impact development strategies that will address stormwater and flooding related issues.
- 77 Review existing regulatory requirements and practices to determine if required riparian buffers are providing adequate protection from runoff and are maintaining sufficient natural cover adjacent to surface waters and wetlands, floodplains.
- 78 Create development standards that require the inclusion of opportunities for social or civic engagement within new developments.
- 79 Create development review standards that address energy conservation.

City Operations, Policies and Procedures

- 80 Maintain an accurate inventory of City trees and develop an "urban tree plan" that provides tree planting and removal guidelines.
- 81 Create more extensions of the community trail into natural environments.
- 82 Update the vehicle replacement program to include strategies for a city vehicle fleet powered by alternative energy sources and considers public/private partnerships for development of fueling/support facilities.
- 83 Investigate the use of off-grid or hybrid renewable energy systems for safety service agencies and emergency shelters.
- 84 Review the City's culvert sizing and clearing policies to assure that they account for anticipated climate change related impacts.
- 85 Revisit Dover's non-metered water usage by residents/businesses and the possibility of creating a fee associated with water usage that could be placed in a capital reserve for addressing stormwater management concerns.
- 86 Investigate participation in the Community Rating System (CRS).

Transportation

Connectivity Goal

- 87 Dover provides an attractive, integrated transportation network that supports and promotes pedestrian, bicycle, and transit.
- 88 Build and maintain attractive infrastructure that accommodates pedestrians and connects neighborhoods.
- 89 Conduct a citywide existing conditions sidewalk inventory and establish a sidewalk asset management plan that will allow the City to set annual sidewalk budgets and set priorities for implementation into the CIP.
- 90 Use the sidewalk asset management plan to target the construction of sidewalk that connects people to land use (such as connecting the Dover Transportation Center to the downtown or connecting neighborhoods to the Community Trail).
- 91 Construct sidewalks to connect densely populated areas to the existing sidewalk network and public transit service.
- 92 Utilize existing easements (if allowed) and/or open space parcels to build new off-road pedestrian and bicycle paths.
- 93 Expand transit service and improve transportation facilities to attract more users.
- 94 Construct sidewalk (or alternative, such as a widened shoulder) on primary roadways within the 10-minute walk distance of bus service that currently have no pedestrian accommodations.
- 95 Consider supply strategies such as preferential parking for carpools. Measures such as these have no infrastructure associated yet can have a positive impact on the availability of parking through the more efficient use of existing supply.
- 96 Provide a bicycle network that is integrated into the City's transportation system.
- 97 Prepare a citywide bike plan that identifies existing gaps, determines recommended routes with specific treatments, amenities, and establishes an implementation strategy, including the location and supply of bike racks.
- 98 Seek opportunities to connect bicycle routes to the community trail.
- 99 Evaluate and implement bike routes via formal lanes or sharrows on the more heavily used City streets.
- 100 Evaluate and implement recreational bike loops via sharrows.

Traffic Calming

- 101 Dover's streets are well-directed and well-managed in an environment that supports and enhances the most desirable characteristics of the downtown and the City's residential neighborhoods.
- 102 Transform mobility through the City via Complete Streets and streetscape efforts to create an inviting and vibrant city.
- 103 Implement the Preferred Alternative of the 2015 Downtown Dover Pedestrian and Vehicular Access and Streetscape Plan.
- 104 Adopt regulations that create access management overlay districts for the four corridors identified.
- 105 Complete traffic calming studies and implement recommendations for the eight corridors identified.
- 106 Establish a wayfinding and signage program for the downtown that can be implemented in phases.
- 107 Design a new street network on the riverfront property that is in scale with the historical street design of the city, for livable streetscapes and constructed with a first class sidewalk system.
- 108 Provide full accommodation in the design for the planned Dover Downtown trolley system including pullouts and in-lane stops.
- 109 Implement improvements to Henry Law Avenue, including full sidewalks and reconstruction of the street to accommodate users in a speed-controlled setting using cost-effective, appropriate traffic calming techniques.
- 110 City should pursue an easement from Hannaford's to eliminate Merry Street.
- 111 City streets are posted with speed limits that are appropriate and consistent with the character of the existing environment.
- 112 Adopt a formal policy for posting speed limits on City streets by 2018.
- 113 The City capitalizes on opportunities to implement connectivity and traffic calming measures through on-going annual audits.
- 114 Implement a policy that evaluates the possibility of restriping City Streets during the routine paving/maintenance to incorporate bike lanes or sharrows before the work is performed.
- 115 Implement a policy that considers the application of widened shoulders in lieu of formal sidewalks where safe and appropriate.

Technology

- 116 Dover's transportation system utilizes advanced technology to promote safe and efficient multimodal mobility through the City and provides users with real-time travel and parking data to enhance convenience.
- 117 Dover is actively and continually building the components of a smart city.
- 118 Establish a Transportation Technology Committee to explore and evaluate technology components that will advance the city's transportation system, and develop a multimodal intelligent transportation infrastructure plan (MITIP).
- 119 Prioritize and implement action items that result from the MITIP.
- 120 Dover is ready and prepared to be responsive in the event of unanticipated major traffic incidents.
- 121 Develop incident management plans that are ready for immediate implementation as needed to address unanticipated incidents.
- 122 Establish an annual meeting where those responsible for the implementation and execution of plans (emergency response and other City officials) review its components and update it accordingly.