



City Council Goals

2024-2025

AS ADOPTED February 14, 2024

Goals and Objectives

At a January 2024, Goal Setting session, the City Council developed short and long-term goals to move the City's Vision forward.

These mission focused goals provide a framework for the Council and Management staff to develop action plans.

The Council goals support:

- Attainable Housing
- Civic Engagement
- Resiliency
- Safety
- Inclusivity
- Sustainable Finances
- Accessible Opportunities

Goal #1: Our City Has Diverse Housing

The following objectives support a Dover that has housing that is attainable and available.

- Continue actions which promote and incentivize diverse and resilient housing options in Dover.
- Educate the public on growth rates and how the City is working to accommodate those rates, rather than discourage them.
- Review land use regulations to promote density in appropriate locations and context, and ensure fees do not hinder growth.
- Utilize Public Private Partnerships to enhance the City's ability to meet these goals and participate in developments.
- Understand housing needs and impediments to affordable housing by analyzing data and trends as well as anecdotes.
- Integrate options for income indexed, market rate and other diverse housing formats into the community as a whole.

Goal #2: Our City is Civically Engaged

The following objectives ensure that the public is part of the community's governance and has multiple channels to provide feedback.

- Communicate in a manner which will meet people where they are, in content, communication style and format.
- Reboot the City of Dover website to be more collaborative, accessible and informative.
- Increase public engagement through innovative and diverse citizen feedback options.
- Create topic based symposiums for the public on topic areas affecting the community.
- View all customer interactions as an opportunity to communicate with the public.

Goal #3: Our City is Resilient

The following objectives ensure the City's social, built and natural infrastructure is designed to evolve and support community needs.

- Implement Citywide resilience plan into City and School programs and policies.
- Develop infrastructure improvements which adapt to climate change needs.
- Develop waterfront in an environmentally friendly manner.
- Implement options for reducing food waste.
- Develop community incentive program to address stormwater/flooding resilience.
- Implement updates to procurement policies so the City is a leader in a circular economy.

Goal #4: Our City is Safe and Inviting

The following objectives ensure that the City's infrastructure and environment is welcoming.

- Continue to review and improve roadway safety concerns, based upon analytical data not anecdotal data and communicate the resulting decisions.
- Embrace opportunities to bring advocates for accessibility to the table to discuss infrastructure improvements.
- Systematically collect and analyze data to better understand accident trends and proactively make improvements.

Goal #5: Our City is Inclusive and Welcoming

The following objectives support a Dover that is welcoming to all no matter socio economic background.

- Continually recruit volunteers from all areas of the community to ensure the volunteer boards represent the full community.
- Review the mission and purpose for each Board, Committee and Commission for relevancy.
- Update Board, Committee and Commission expectations, for volunteers to understand their role and the need to be inclusive.
- Integrate inclusivity into all aspects of strategic planning and report on progress.
- Develop/curate materials related to promoting inclusivity.
- Continue having the City Council model healthy civic debate in the community.

Goal #6: Our City Has Sustainable Financial Policies

The following objectives ensure the City's financial health is sustainable and open for all to view and understand.

- Practice transparency in finances and decision making at all levels of governance.
- Enhance the budget process by encouraging school department participation in developing Capital Improvement Programming.
- Enhance adherence to financial discipline to maintain financial stability and affordability for tax payers.

Goal #7: Our City's Opportunities are Accessible For All

The following objectives support a Dover that has inviting public spaces for all people living in, working in or visiting the City.

- Universal design is incorporated into all infrastructure improvements.
- Development of the waterfront includes amenities and opportunities for all to enjoy.
- Enhance access for all to Dover's rivers and trail networks, through additional recreation outlets.
- Educate the public on the causes of housing insecurity with the goal of destigmatizing homelessness while developing pragmatic solutions to manage the issue.
- Educate the public and volunteer boards on the effects of mental health and opioid issues in the community.