A Message from the Chair

Dear Friends of the Waterfront,

Now that spring is around the corner, we can begin to better envision the redevelopment of the waterfront. Over the winter CWDAC and the city have been working diligently to come up a mitigation plan for final clean up the waterfront property and preliminary site concepts for redevelopment. Much of the design effort has been focused on the waterfront park and the connections of the main parcel to the surrounding neighborhood, including the bluff.

After Union Studio presented several preliminary concept approaches at our January 14th meeting, the Waterfront Advisory Committee addressed several issues to help better guide the final concept plans at its February 16th meeting. For example, the Committee recommended that the dock location and design accommodate multiple users and "fit" into the over waterfront park design. See the article below for a more thorough discussion of these recommendations. The recommendations will now be reflected in the next iteration of the consultant's site concept plans, which will be presented to the Committee at its next meeting on March 15th.

Other good news includes the publishing of two news items about the waterfront in Foster's Daily Democrat. On February...
29th there was an editorial -- Dover riverfront plans getting new life -- and on March 3rd there was a feature article -- Dover riverfront gets new attention from development committee (link not available).

Thank you for your continuing support of our efforts to develop our historic waterfront. If you would like to contact me or any member of the committee, please get in touch via the e-mail addresses provided in the newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on March 15th when Union Studio will present updated conceptual plans for the waterfront.

Your Chairman,

Jack Mettee

Committee finds consensus on design of shoreline, public boat dock

At our last meeting in February, the Waterfront Advisory Committee discussed, and reached agreement on, several issues critical to the design and development of the waterfront.

First, the shoreline should incorporate several themes as proposed by Union Studio -- natural, transition and urban. Below are images depicting what each might look like.
Committee and development of the City's waterfront property, or to contact the committee, visit the City of Dover’s [waterfront development page here](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1124054970412&format=html&print=true)

CWDAC Mission Statement

"... [T]o provide a vibrant waterfront with public gathering places and access to the water, a place for people to live, meet, relax, encounter nature, conduct business and learn of Dover's past."

Second, the location and design of the public boat dock should accommodate multiple users and be an integral part of the overall waterfront park design.

Third, the final location of River Street should ensure a more usable linear area between the Cochecho River and the street to allow a proper transition between Henry Law Park and the new waterfront park.

The Committee also supported the proposal by Union Studio to regrade the site to raise the overall elevation to mitigate future flooding and sea level. Furthermore, the committee agreed that the privately-owned parcel should not be included in the current waterfront planning.

Finally, the committee supported the inclusion of the following elements in the waterfront park: public bathrooms, visitor’s center, landing area for tour boats/gundalow, public transient dock, canoe/kayak ramp, and public plaza.

Union Studio will take these recommendations from the Committee and incorporate them into the site concept plans to be presented at the next Waterfront Advisory Committee meeting on March 15, 2016.
Missed the meeting? Catch it here

The Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee last met on Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2016.

To view the meeting online, click here.

The meeting agenda and minutes can be viewed here.

March 16, 1871 - Captain Dunn brought his packet, the Eagle, from Portsmouth on Saturday last, and expects to commence his regular trips on Monday next, which is some two weeks earlier than navigation commenced last year, and earlier than for the past 15 years. Bu his close attention to business and his promptness in his engagements, Captain D. is receiving a liberal share of the business done between this city and Portsmouth.

From the Dover Enquirer, March 16, 1871, and reprinted in "Port of Dover: Two Centuries of Shipping on the Cochecho" by Robert A. Whitehouse and Cathleen C. Beaudoin