

2019-2020 Select Board Goals

Process

The Concord Select Board annually affirms its values and guiding principles to align its goals and objectives for improving government as it interacts with the Town Manager, committees, task forces, citizens and other units of government. In so doing, the Board aims to lead and establish strategic priorities, to provide support and guidance and encouragement where appropriate and to be collaborative, open and inclusive at all times.

Values and Guiding Principles

Governance: Effective, Responsive and Transparent Governance

Financial Stability: Fiscal Responsibility and Financial Stability/Sustainability

Infrastructure: Sufficient, Well-maintained and Reliable Infrastructure

Natural Resources: Protection and Enhancement of Natural Resources

Sustainability and Resilience: Sustainable Management of Energy and Resources and taking actions to regenerate our natural environment

Quality of Life: Maintaining a high level of Town services to Concord citizens

Historic and Cultural Heritage: Preservation and Promotion of Historic and Cultural Heritage

Diversity: Economic and Social Diversity

Balance and Equity: Balance and Equity among divergent individual, Neighborhood and Town-wide interests

Regional and State Interests: Advancement of Concord's Interest in the Region and the Commonwealth

Goals and Objectives

Specifically, the Board supports short and long-term goals and objectives in the following categories:

Effective Governance, Board Organization, and Communication

1. Encourage and support the new Town Manager and establish a positive working relationship between the new Town Manager and the Select Board.
2. Continue to support the Town Manager, town departments and town committees to begin to incorporate goals and implementation action steps from the 2030 *Envision Concord* Comprehensive Long-Range Plan in their current year goals. Similarly, oversee the implementation of goals identified by the Select Board.
3. Seat the Middle School Building Committee and Nuclear Metals/Starmet Property Re-use Planning Committee.
4. Provide guidance and resources for all Town volunteers serving on boards and committees to improve consistency and efficiency of public meetings and hearings. Continue training for residents serving on boards and committees.
5. Promote open and transparent government through enhanced use of technology and increased public access television, and the work of the PEG Access Committee among other means; and work to continuously improve citizen communications.
6. Streamline the Green Card process to encourage new citizen volunteers. And, ensure that all volunteers are acknowledged for their willingness to serve.
7. Complete an updated review of the Town/Library Agreement.

Financial Stability

1. Instill integrated fiscal policies among the Select Board, the Finance Committee, and the School Committee to manage Concord citizen's tax burden.
2. Support management of Town services and budgets to maintain Concord's Aaa bond rating and to avoid Proposition 2-1/2 Overrides.
3. Develop a more effective longer-run method for understanding the Capital and Facilities needs of the Town and the Schools, to include timetables, cost estimates, and environmental impacts.

Balance, Equity and Diversity

1. Work to implement the affordable housing initiatives passed at Town Meeting including work with our legislative representative to enact articles 25 and 26 and to establish the Town Committee and supporting documents contained in article 24.
2. Prepare a warrant article for town meeting based on recommendations from the Affordable Housing Funding Committee final report to the Select Board.
3. Continue to work with business sector to establish retail diversity support systems including intra and inter-town transportation.
4. Work with Police Department and other enforcement departments to demonstrate Concord's commitment to its Welcoming Community status.
5. Support proactive planning for wastewater infrastructure, water, telecommunications, energy, parking, traffic, and outdoor lighting.
6. Continue to apply Concord's Sustainability Principles in town decision-making, where appropriate, and seek economic, social and environmental resiliency in both public and private sector development.

Maintaining Concord's Unique Character, Historic and Cultural Heritage, Agriculture and Natural Resources

1. Encourage collaboration among town departments on planning priorities, conservation and acquisition of land to preserve Concord's rural and agricultural culture.
2. Enhance accessibility to recreation and conservation resources in Concord for all citizens.
3. Review and implement recommendations for the recreational use and long-term protection of White Pond and the Gerow land and their ecosystems.
4. Work with the Natural Resources Committee on balancing dog friendly access and ecosystem protection on conservation lands.
5. Continue to monitor progress on Nagog Pond litigation.
6. Work with Harvard University to implement our agreement and Continue to seek resolution to access and use of the Estabrook Woods.

Regional and State Interests

1. Meet regularly with state legislators.
2. Participate in regional organization of which Concord is a member such as HATS, HFAC, MPO, MAPC, BRBSB, MAGIC, and Cross-Town Connect.
3. Maintain active relationship with Hanscom AFB.
4. Actively participate in MMA Fiscal Policy Committee.
5. Continue representation on the Minuteman High School Building project and ongoing involvement with the Minuteman High School.
6. Identify opportunities for Concord's two cultural districts and coordinate efforts across sectors and locations.