



WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT

Update

January 11, 2024

Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee

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Welcome back to the Waterfront newsletter. We had a bit of a break, but now that there is visible activity at the site, I wanted to update you on what's going on with the waterfront redevelopment.

Following the groundbreaking ceremony in June, public improvements site contractor Northeast Earth Mechanics, LLC has been transforming the site. As you've undoubtedly seen, the first order of business was to clear the site and begin the installation of subgrade utilities, such as water and sewer. This along with understanding the existing conditions has been the real focus of the work to date.

During November, Northeast Earth Mechanics continued to mobilize additional equipment and bring construction component materials in support of the project. While most of the work has been below grade, in November overhead utilities were removed along with the associated poles along the waterfront in preparation for tree removal. This and land clearing continued as all vegetation was removed from the river edge in preparation for shoreline stabilization work to proceed from the Makem bridge toward the existing bulkhead area, near the area of the paddlesports dock. Additionally, significant efforts in installing infrastructure/utilities have progressed.

The CWDAC's Park Subcommittee has been working with CJ Architects to develop a design for the park pavilion which will be a centerpiece of the new Cochecho River Park. This structure will be designed to provide a gathering place and focal point for visitors to the park. The pavilion is designed to be at grade along the main roadway and will have lower-level



accessibility from the riverside for storage and vendor space. CWDAC anticipates a water-based business vendor to lease the space and provide a unique service for park visitors. The design of the pavilion was released at CWDAC's [Sept. 26 meeting](#) and is now almost complete.

CWDAC met quarterly in 2023 and has designated a few members to work closely with city staff in overseeing the construction of public improvements undertaken by Northeast Earth Mechanics. This group meets with the city staff and the contractor regularly. As 2024 gets underway, CWDAC plans to meet monthly as needed, and we'll continue to post upcoming meetings (usually the third Tuesday of each month) along with meeting agendas and encourage the public to attend or watch them on Channel 22 or online.

Please continue to provide feedback or questions to CWDAC through [emails to me](#) or through [city staff](#) and watch for monthly e-newsletters like this as waterfront development continues.

Norm Fracassa, Chair

Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee

Progression of waterfront development

May 2022



October 2023



January 2024



CWDAC meets next on Jan. 16

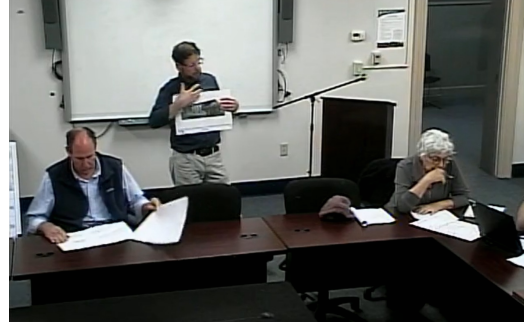
The Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee will meet next on **Tuesday, Jan. 16, at 5:30 p.m.** in Room 305 at the McConnell Center. The meeting will air on Channel 22 and online at <https://dovernh.viebit.com>, where it will also be available for on-demand viewing.

[Click here](#) for the complete agenda.

Missed the last meeting? Watch it online now

The Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee last met on Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023.

To view the meeting, visit <https://dovernh.viebit.com/player.php?hash=WVD9AIVtu8riHEIk>.



Former skatepark on River Street closed, to be demolished soon

The former skatepark on River Street is closed to public use and will be demolished in the coming weeks to prepare the area for the ongoing waterfront construction. The new Dover Skatepark opened in the fall of 2023 and is located at Guppy Park on Portland Avenue.

Soon, city contractor Northeast Earth Mechanics, LLC., will erect fencing around the former skatepark before the demolition occurs. The waterfront construction site and adjacent dredge cell parcel are also closed to the general public for the duration of the construction project. The city and the contractor ask the public to adhere to all posted signs at the site.

For more information, contact Community Services at 603-516-6450



Paddlesports dock removed for shoreline stabilization

The paddlesports dock was removed in September and is not likely to be reinstated until the summer of 2025 to allow crews to complete stabilization work along the river's edge and other work to make the site safe for public access. The city is working to find a temporary seasonal site for kayaks and canoes to enter the Cochecho River until the dock

is reinstalled. One public option is to launch from the state-owned Hilton Park off Hilton Drive in Dover Point.



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