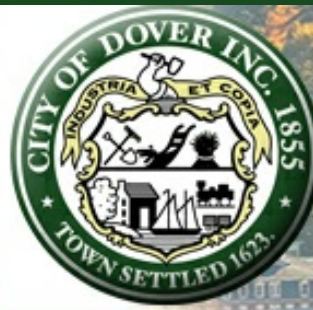


DOVER DOWNLOAD



News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire

December 12, 2025



CITY OF DOVER, NH

288 Central
Avenue
Dover, NH 03820
603-516-6000

City Hall hours:

Monday-
Thursday:
8:30 a.m. to
5:30 p.m.

Friday:
8:30 a.m. to 4
p.m.

Recycling Center hours:

Tuesday,
Thursday,
Saturday:
8:30 a.m. to
3:30 p.m.

Sunday (through
Dec. 7):

Tax bills to be mailed next week; first-half due Jan. 20

City of Dover property tax bills will be mailed to property owners starting next week. The first half of the tax bill will be due on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026; the second half will be due on Monday, June 1, 2026.

Tax bills can be paid by mail, online through the city's [Billing and Payment webpage](#), or in person at the City Clerk/Tax Collector's office, located in City Hall, 288 Central Ave., during regular hours. The online payment accepts electronic check payments (ACH), subject to a \$1 transaction fee. Visa and Mastercard are also accepted, subject to a transaction fee of 2.5% of the total payment. Discover and American Express credit cards are not accepted. The payment processor collects the transaction fees.

Dover's tax rate, set at \$19.68 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation by the New Hampshire Department of Revenue on Dec. 5, includes four sections: Municipal (\$6.91), County (\$1.83), Local Education (\$9.78), and State Education (\$1.16). The rate is determined by the total amount needed to be raised by taxes (\$127,421,722) divided by the municipality's total valuation (\$6,482,774,600). The amount to be raised by taxes is determined by the adopted budget for each section, with the city collecting the Strafford County portion (\$11,848,376) and the State Education portion (\$7,348,968) on the county and state's behalf. The amount needed to be raised by taxes for Municipal (\$44,830,128) and Local Education (\$63,394,250) portions is based on the City of Dover's adopted fiscal year 2026 budget for the General Fund. The Municipal section is for all non-school departments.

The tax rate set by the DRA represents a \$1.51 increase, or

8:30 a.m. to
12:30 p.m.

8.3%, over the prior year. In email to the City Council about the certified tax rate, City Manager J. Michael Joyal, Jr., wrote, "It should be noted that the overall tax rate would have been \$0.16 lower as a result of an increase in assessed value created by new construction; however, this reduction was offset by a \$0.09 increase attributable to the change in the County tax apportionment, and a \$0.07 increase required for the statewide education property tax (SWEPT) assessment.

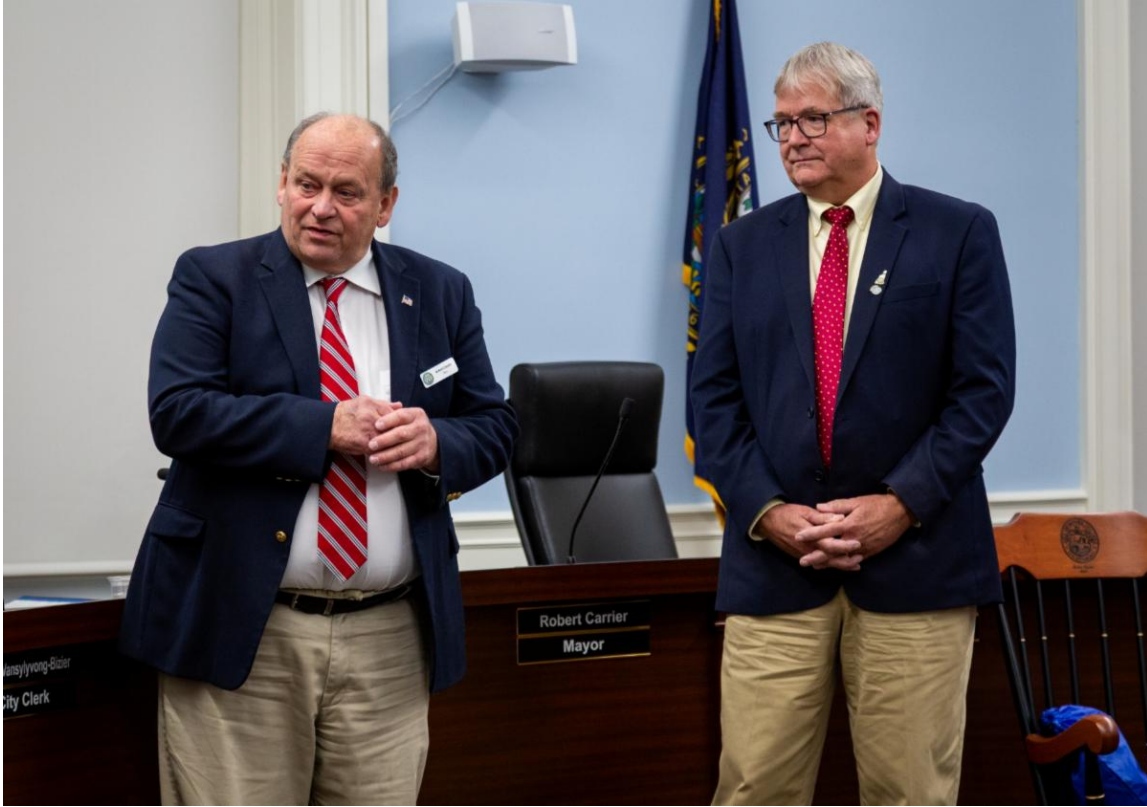
The average residential property is now assessed at \$527,204 (\$524,638 last year), which includes the combination of all single-family, multi-family units, condos and manufactured housing. The tax levy for the average residential property will increase \$843, or 8.8%, to \$10,375. For the average single-family home assessed at \$583,064 (\$580,809 last year), the tax bill will increase \$921, or 8.7%, to \$11,475.

To calculate property tax for a specific parcel, multiply the tax rate (\$19.68) by the assessed value and divide by 1,000. Find the assessed values for all property parcels in Dover on the [Tax Assessment Office webpage](#).

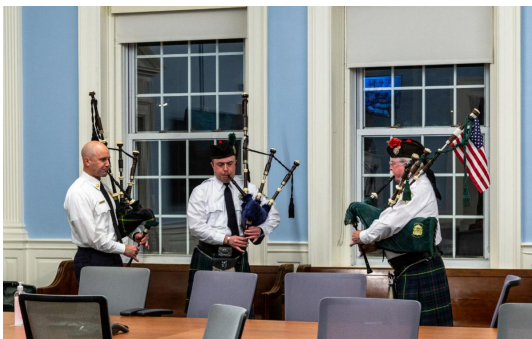
Property owners may appeal their property tax assessment for the 2025 tax year by filing an [abatement application](#) with the Tax Assessment Office by March 1, 2026. Please note: filing an abatement application does not stay the collection of taxes, and taxes should be paid as assessed. If an abatement is granted, the city will issue a refund with interest.

City Manager Joyal reminds the public that there are state and local programs available for those having difficulty paying their taxes, and to contact the Tax Assessment Office or visit www.dover.nh.gov/dovercares for more information.

For more information, contact the Finance Department at 603-516-6030



In the top photo, Mayor Robert Carrier, left, joined by Deputy Mayor Dennis Shanahan, addresses fellow councilors during the City Council's final meeting of the year. In the bottom left photo, bagpipers Brendan Driscoll, Owen Ricker, and David McLean enter Council Chambers to recognize Mayor Carrier. In the bottom right photo, Carrier, right, shares memories of his work with fellow councilors as, from left, Councilor Debra Hackett, Councilor Anthony Retrosi, Councilor Robbie Warach, City Clerk Jerrica Vansylyvong-Bizier, and City Manager J. Michael Joyal, Jr. look on.



Final City Council meeting of 2025 honors Mayor Carrier, outgoing councilors

Dover Mayor Robert Carrier presided over his final City Council meeting this week, closing a chapter on more than two decades of continuous public service.

The Dec. 10 meeting marked Carrier's last regular session as mayor, though he will officially remain in office until the newly elected City Council is sworn in on Monday, Jan. 5, 2026. Carrier has served 17 years on the City Council, including six years as mayor after first being elected to the city's top post in 2019.

Near the end of the meeting, and preceded by a tribute by bagpipers, Carrier was presented with a ceremonial chair in recognition of his service.

Carrier, a lifelong Dover resident, thanked the community and fellow councilors for their trust and service, noting the weight of local leadership. He acknowledged that council

decisions can often be difficult, while emphasizing the importance of civic engagement and volunteerism.

During the Public Forum portion of the meeting, Strafford County Commission Chair and former Dover mayor George Maglaras recognized Carrier's leadership, calling it "a privilege" to work with him on issues affecting both Dover and the region. Maglaras said Carrier demonstrated "a sincerity that goes above and beyond" and consistently showed care for people and the community.

Deputy Mayor and Mayor-Elect Dennis Shanahan said he has known Carrier for nearly 25 years through city work and youth baseball, and credited the outgoing mayor with preparing him for the role ahead.

"He twisted my arm to run for City Council, and here we are," Shanahan said. "I couldn't be more pleased with how well you've gotten me ready to do this, and I couldn't be more sad to see you go, although I know you're not really going anywhere."

Carrier's tenure has included a steady focus on infrastructure, community pride and recognition of volunteers, students and local organizations. In 2018, while serving as deputy mayor, he was named Dover Citizen of the Year by the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce for his extensive civic involvement.

The meeting also recognized other outgoing members of the City Council who are concluding their service at the end of the term: Ward 2 Councilor Robbie Warach, Ward 4 Councilor Debra Hackett, and At-large Councilor Linnea Nemeth.



Carolyn Mebert remarks on her decades on the Dover School Board during her last School Board meeting on Dec. 8, 2025.

School Board honors Carolyn Mebert for

20 years of 'dedicated service'

School Board Vice-Chair Carolyn Mebert attended her last meeting as a member on Dec. 8, capping 20 years of service to the School Board as a 10-term elected member.

The School Board honored their Ward 3 representative during the meeting, presenting Mebert with a Resolution of Appreciation and a departing gift.

"Her unselfish efforts and commitment to educational excellence have contributed to the enhancement of the Dover School District," School Board Chair Robin Trefethen read from a resolution. "On behalf of the people of Dover, the School Board hereby presents to Carolyn Mebert a small token of thanks and appreciation for her dedicated service to the city."

Mebert was first elected for the 2002-2003 term, and reelected four more terms through 2011. She was reelected for another five terms beginning in 2016. She served in many capacities through those years, including stints as School Board chair and serving on many district committees. Mebert has a PhD in psychology and was a psychology professor at the University of New Hampshire for decades. She has also served for many years on the board of the Dover Children's Home, the former Strafford Guidance Center, and was a founding member of the non-profit Seacoast Educational Endowment for Dover (SEED).

"It has been a privilege to be here and work with dedicated educators," Mebert said at the Dec. 8 meeting. "It's been a wonderful learning experience for me, and I appreciate all the support that has been given by the community and members of the staff to the board, and the board to the staff. It's a great community, and I love it."

School Board Secretary Michelle Clancy thanked Mebert for mentorship over the years, including when Clancy was considering running for an elected seat. Superintendent Christine Boston thanked Mebert for her "calm, steady presence" through the many challenges over the years.

The 2026-2027 School Board will be sworn in on Monday, Jan. 5, where Seana Hallberg will become the new Ward 3 School Board representative.

City Council adopts FY2027-32 Capital Improvements Program

The City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2027–2032 Capital Improvements Program at its Wednesday, [Dec. 10 meeting](#).

The six-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) serves as a long-range planning document for major infrastructure, facility and equipment investments. While the council adopts the full plan, it authorizes funding only for the first year.

As part of several amendments, the council moved the Horne Street project earlier in the plan. Improvements to Horne Street, including utility and roadway and sidewalk work, are now scheduled for fiscal year 2028, the second year of the program.

Councilors also voted to add the Dover Point Road and Pointe Place roundabout project back into the CIP after it had previously been removed. The roundabout project is now included in the sixth year of the plan.

The council's action on the CIP consisted of three separate votes. The first vote adopted the six-year CIP as a planning document, and does not authorize or appropriate funding. The second vote authorized and appropriated \$4.6 million for non-debt-financed capital projects in fiscal year 2027. A third vote authorized bonding for debt-financed projects totaling \$15 million.

The CIP is updated annually and is intended to guide planning and coordination rather than authorize construction. Individual projects move forward only after the council approves funding in a given fiscal year.

More information about the FY2027–2032 Capital Improvements Program, including the full project schedule and supporting documents, is available on the city's website at <https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/planning/special-projects/cip/>



Cliff Blake, left, holds a proclamation presented by Dover Mayor Robert Carrier at Blake's home on Dec. 4, honoring Blake's decades of civic involvement and contributions to Dover's cultural and community life.

Mayor, City Council honor Cliff Blake with proclamation for years of service

Dover Mayor Robert Carrier recently presented a city proclamation honoring longtime community volunteer and arts advocate Cliff Blake for his decades of civic engagement and service to the city.

Carrier first presented the proclamation to Blake at his home on Dec. 4. The proclamation was read again during the City Council meeting on Dec. 10, where members of Blake's family were in attendance to accept a framed copy on his behalf.

The proclamation recognizes Blake's extensive career in broadcasting, including more than 30 years as an on-air voice for New Hampshire PBS, as well as his many contributions to Dover through service on boards, commissions and committees, including the Dover Arts Commission, Library Board of Trustees, Cochecho Waterfront Development Advisory Committee and the city's 9/11 Memorial Committee, among others.

Blake has also been involved with the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce, particularly through the Cochecho Arts Festival and City Lights committees, and was named the Chamber's 2024 Community Arts Champion.

After thanking Carrier, Blake expressed appreciation for the recognition and the community he has long supported.

"I've always believed that Dover is a place where people really show up for one another," Blake said. "It's been an honor to be part of a community that values creativity, service and connection as much as this one does."

Video of the proclamation being presented and read at the City Council meeting is available at <https://dovernh.viebit.com/watch?hash=uTwRnUhadRpn8gK9>

City Council recognizes local sports teams



Dover Mayor Robert Carrier reads three proclamations during the City Council meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 10, recognizing championship seasons and outstanding achievements by local youth and high school athletic teams. Pictured at top, the 2025 St. Thomas Aquinas High School Field Hockey Team is honored for capturing the NHIAA Division III state championship, the program's second title and first since 2003, following an 11-3 regular season and a 4-0 victory over Mascenic in the championship game. Below, at left, the 2025 St. Thomas Aquinas Boys Soccer Team is recognized for winning the NHIAA Division III state championship after a dominant postseason run and a 3-0 victory over Kearsarge, securing the school's second boys soccer title since 1994. At right, members of the Dover 5th and 6th Grade Junior Division Football program are honored for remarkable varsity and junior varsity seasons, including an undefeated 11-0 championship run by the varsity team and strong development and postseason success by the JV squad. The full text of the proclamations can be [found here](#).



Locust Street to open to traffic this afternoon; Hale Street remains closed

Alternating traffic may be in effect next week

Locust Street at the Hale Street intersection is expected to open this afternoon, Friday, Dec. 12. It has been closed day and night since Dec. 8.

The Hale Street closure at Locust Street will continue 24 hours a day through next week. Access to Hale Street is from Central Avenue.

Motorists should anticipate delays on Locust Street next week, when alternating traffic may be necessary through the Hale Street intersection.

The closures are for the excavation of the intersection to install drainage infrastructure as part of a drainage improvement project. Once the contractor clears the intersection, work will continue on private property toward the intersection of Kirkland and Academy streets.

Upcoming Meetings:

Dover Utilities Commission, Dec. 15, 6 p.m.

The Dover Utilities Commission will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Dec. 15, 2025, beginning at 6 p.m., at 271 Mast Road, Dover.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

Municipal Records Committee, Dec. 16, 12 p.m.

The Municipal Records Committee will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2025, beginning at 12 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

Energy Commission, Dec. 17, 5:30 p.m.

The Energy Commission will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

City Council, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.

The City Council will hold an organizational meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers at City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

Bellamy Academy to host fundraiser for DHS Food Pantry

Bellamy Academy at Dover High School, in partnership with Dover Moose Lodge 443, will host a community fundraiser on Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2025, to benefit the Dover High School Food Pantry.

The event will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Dover Moose Lodge, 45 Chestnut St. Breakfast will be served at no cost and will include eggs or pancakes with a choice of sausage or bacon, home fries, toast, coffee and juice.

Attendees are encouraged to donate food, nonfood or monetary items for the DHS Food Pantry. Suggested donations include pasta, soups, cereal, peanut butter, canned vegetables, granola bars, microwave meals, rice dishes, bread, toiletries, laundry detergent and local grocery or gas gift cards.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Bellamy Academy at 603-516-6790 or Dover Moose Lodge 443 at 603-742-9792.

Current bid opportunities with the City of Dover

The City of Dover is currently accepting bids for the following projects:

- [Dispatch Alarm Modernization](#)
- [Central Avenue Urban Core Water Improvements Phase I](#)

Current bid documents can be accessed on the Finance Department's [bid page](#). Vendors can also join the City's bid list by visiting the site.

Planning Board, Planning Technical Review Committee, Dec. 18, 10:30 a.m.

The Planning Board's Planning Technical Review Committee will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, Dec. 18, 2025, beginning at 10:30 a.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

Zoning Board, Dec. 18, 7 p.m.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, Dec. 18, 2025, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

For a complete list of upcoming meetings, visit <https://www.dover.nh.gov/governments/open-government/public-meetings/>.

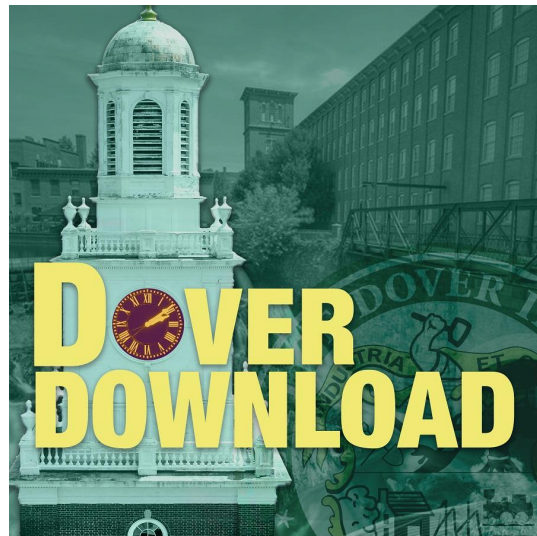
Volunteer boards help keep Dover vibrant

The City of Dover is a vibrant community due in large part to the significant energy and talent of citizen participation on the city's many boards, committees, and commissions. Input from these boards, committees, and commissions helps guide Dover's policy decisions.

Want to get involved? There are currently committees seeking members to fill regular and alternate member vacancies, including:

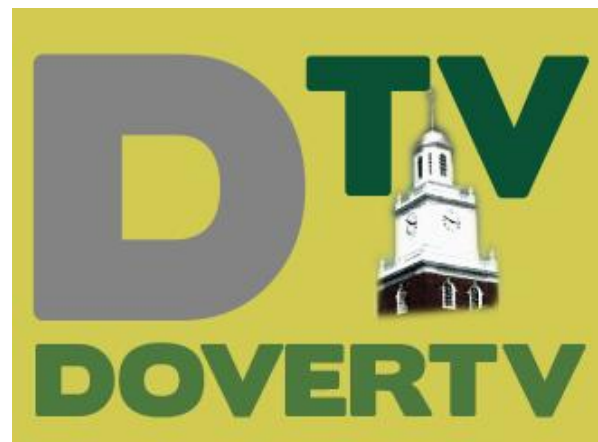
- Conservation Commission
- Downtown Dover TIF
- Open Lands Committee
- Racial Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Recreation Advisory Board
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- Waterfront TIF
- Zoning Board of Adjustment

For more information, contact the Finance and Purchasing Office at 603-516-6030.



Major Projects Updates: Henry Law Avenue, and Court and Union Streets

In the latest episode of the Dover Download podcast, Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker chats with project managers Jamie Stevens and Matt Gibbons about two major infrastructure projects. Listen wherever you get your podcasts or at <https://bit.ly/48KvL8F>



Missed the meeting? Catch it again online

Don't forget: If you missed the live City Council, School Board, Planning Board or Waterfront Committee meetings on DTV, you can catch them again, online and on demand.

Simply visit dovernh.viebit.com to begin watching meetings on demand. Online meetings are organized by agenda item for convenience.

The complete list of boards and committees can be found at www.dover.nh.gov/government/boards-and-commissions/

To apply, complete an application, [available here](#) and at the City Clerk's Office, and either drop it off at the Clerk's Office or email it to City Clerk Jerrica Vansylvong-Bizier at j.bizier@dover.nh.gov. Applicants are welcome to apply to any board or commission. Applications are kept on file for one year.

The City Council appoints citizens to boards and commissions from recommendations of its Appointments Committee, which meets regularly to review applications.

State motor vehicle fees increase on Jan. 1

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2026, numerous state motor vehicle registration fees will increase as part of the state's biennial budget that was adopted earlier this year. Local municipal fees will not be increasing, so only the state portion of registration costs will be affected.

The new fee schedule is [available online](#).

Some of the fee schedule changes include:

- A \$10 increase for new titles, title transfers, and duplicate titles.
- A \$10 increase for 20-day temporary registrations.
- Vehicle registration fees increase \$4.80 to \$10.80, depending on the weight of vehicles 8,000 pounds and under. Above 8,000 pounds, the rate will increase 10 cents per 100 pounds.
- Fees for trailers under 8,000 pounds will increase 30 cents to \$3.60, depending on the weight. Above 8,000 pounds, fees will increase 6 cents per 100 pounds.
- Motorcycle registration fees will increase \$15.
- Moped registration fees will increase \$11.
- Vanity plate fees will increase \$20.

The Dover City Clerk's [webpage has information](#) on how the Clerk's Office can assist Dover residents in processing motor vehicle registrations. For more information, contact the City Clerk at 603-516-6018.

Dover Download 'Question of the Week'

We want to hear from you. In each edition of Dover Download, we're looking for your response to our question of the week. A new poll will appear each week in Dover Download, along with the results for the previous week. Participating is easy. Click on the link below to cast your vote.

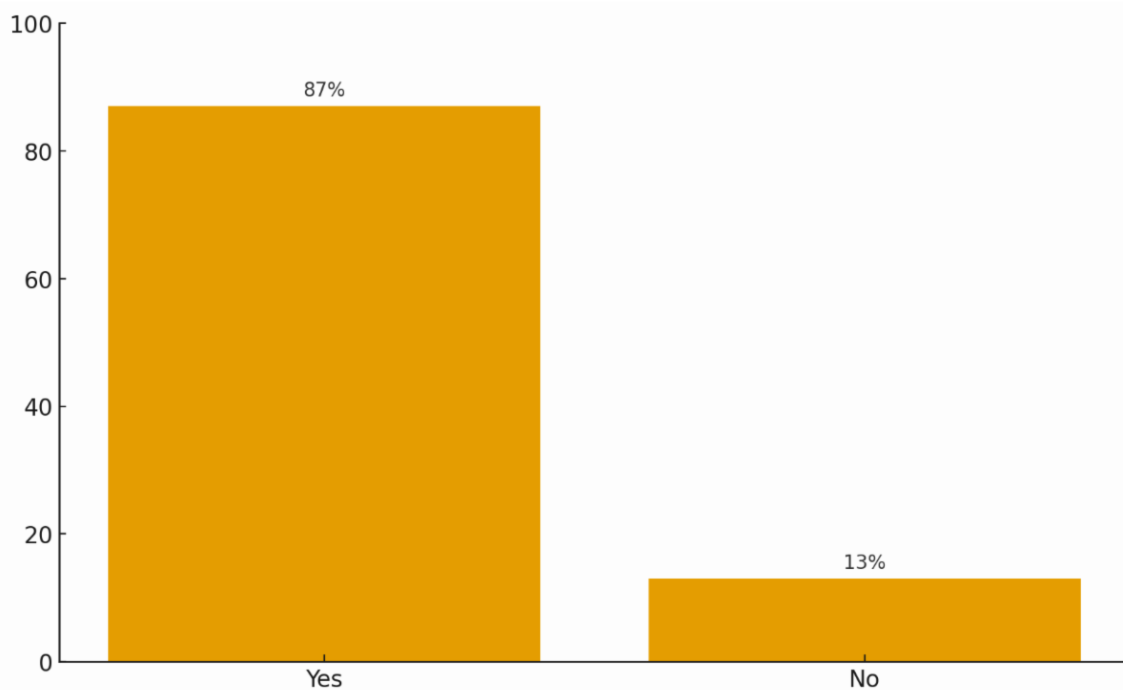
This week's question:

"Have you contacted a City department in the last year?"

Let us know here: <https://polco.us/md5xs5>

Please note that if you don't already have an account with Polco, the city's polling system, you will be asked to create one. Responses are anonymous.

Here are the results from last week's poll, which asked, **"Have you visited the City's website for information in the past 30 days?"**



The following events are from various historical records, sources, and texts about the history of Dover.

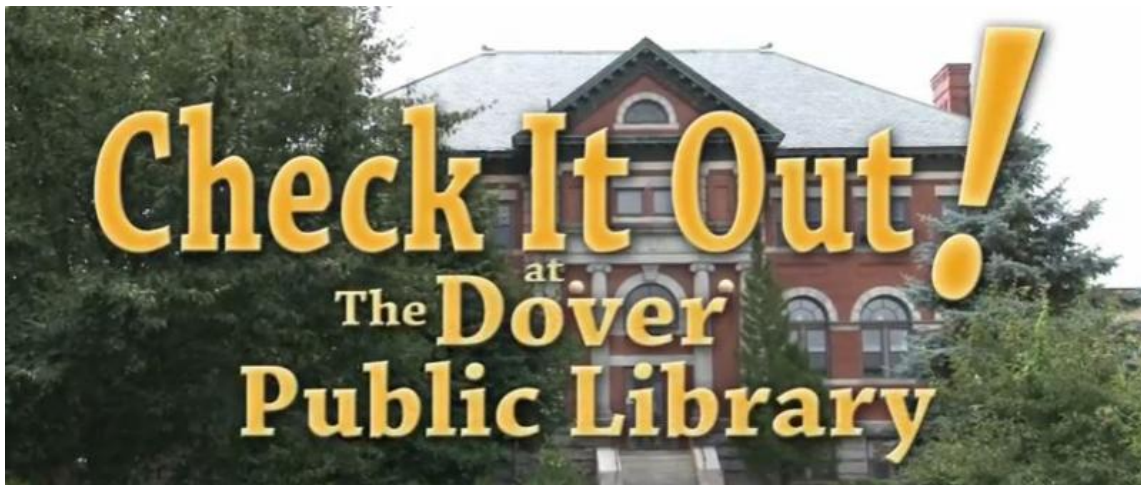
For more on the history of Dover, visit the Dover Public Library, Locust Street, and the Woodman Museum on Central Avenue. The Public Library also maintains an online collection of historical information [located here](#).

Dec. 17, 1803 — A public notice announced the formation of Strafford Bank, the first bank established in Dover. The bank's president, William King Atkinson, informed stockholders that a payment of \$100 per share would be due on the fourth Tuesday of January. Atkinson also specified that at least one-quarter of the payment, and more if possible, must be made in gold or silver, with the remaining balance payable in banknotes issued by banks in Massachusetts. Requiring part of the stock payments in gold and silver, known as "specie", was standard practice in the early 19th century. Hard currency helped ensure stability in a banking system still developing its credibility. The acceptance of Massachusetts banknotes for the remaining portion reflected the influence and reliability of Massachusetts banks, which were more established at the time.

Dec. 15, 1987 — The City's Capital Improvement Program detailed how the Dover Public Library had become severely overcrowded, with children's books stored on the floor and patrons struggling to find space to sit. As the City Council considered a proposed \$768,000 addition in the 1988 CIP, library use had surged 42 percent over the previous decade. The Library, a historic Andrew Carnegie-funded "Carnegie Library," originally built in 1905, underwent its first major expansion soon after, a new 5,600-square-foot addition that began in 1988. The total cost of that project was about \$1.2 million. Improvements completed by 1990 included an elevator, upgraded heating and lighting, sprinklers, structural work, new restrooms, a renovated children's room, new carpeting and paint, and a mezzanine with capacity for 9,000 additional volumes. Earlier this year, work began on a comprehensive renovation and expansion of the Library, a \$7.1 million undertaking that will add a new side-entrance addition (with stairwell and elevator), accessible bathrooms on every floor, expanded meeting and programming space, refinished shelving, new carpeting and furnishings, and more.

Dec. 18, 1996 — The City of Dover prepared to move the fourth of eight homes on Sixth Street to Wilbrod Avenue, part of a plan to provide low- to moderate-income housing for first-time home buyers. The homes were part of the city-owned Alder Meadows subdivision. The houses were given to the city by Liberty Mutual, which was then developing the land where the homes stood. At the time, first-time Dover home-buyers were able to buy a home in the subdivision for \$45,000 to \$55,000. Funding for the project was made available through the city's Community Development Block Grant program, with additional funding from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority.

Dec. 18, 1997 — After years of planning, Dover took a major step toward building a new middle school. The City Council on this day narrowly voted 5-4 to purchase a 20-acre parcel next to Dover High School for \$320,000. The decision followed a week-long delay that prompted the sellers to raise the price by \$20,000, frustrating several councilors who questioned the cost and land restrictions. The approval allowed the School Department to move ahead with forming a Joint Building Committee and planning the new school, viewed as an ideal location for shared facilities and future expansion.



This Week at the Library

Monday, Dec. 15, 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Monday Afternoon Book Group
McConnell Center, Room 306

Join the Monday Evening Book Group to discuss *Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. Copies of the books will be available at the adult circulation desk in the McConnell Center.

Monday, Dec. 15, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Monday Evening Book Group
McConnell Center, Room 306

Join the Monday Evening Book Group to discuss *Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. Copies of the books will be available at the adult circulation desk in the McConnell Center.

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Adult Knitting Group
McConnell Center Cafeteria

Knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us with their projects for an in-person crafting circle. All levels welcome.

Thursday, Dec. 18, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Cochecho River Writers
McConnell Center, Room 306

Join a community of local writers on the fourth Thursday of every month. Discuss ideas, get tips, and share your work with others in a low-key, inviting atmosphere. Whether you want to write creatively for fun or for publication, this group is a great way to hone your craft!

Friday, December 19, 3 to 5 p.m.
Holiday Luminary Class
McConnell Center, Room 306

Join us for a class where we'll make holiday luminary jars. All the supplies will be provided along with some festive music and good cheer. A luminary is a jar with a candle inside, it's a great addition to any holiday decorating or seasonable tablescape. No experience is needed and this class is perfect for a beginner. The class is open to teens and adults.

Registration required.

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 3:45 to 4:30 p.m.
Don't Let the Book Club Drive the Bus!
Book Group - Holiday Edition
McConnell Center, Room 306

Join us for a special holiday edition of our group for picture book lovers! In December, we'll be reading some of our favorite holiday themed books. We'll also enjoy some sweet treats, festive tunes, and do a little holiday crafting. .

Tuesday, Dec. 16, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Friends of the Dover Public Library
McConnell Center, Room 306

As a member of this group, as an active participant, or as a leader you can support this group which supports our library. Become a member of the Friends for as little as \$20 per year. This organization funds all the museum passes the library offers, a large portion of our summer reading activities, as well as cultural events for the community.

Weds., Dec. 17, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Caregiver Cafe
Dover Chamber of Commerce

Join Cornerstone VNA for a morning of support, education, and conversation. Loved ones are welcome.

Wednesday, Dec. 17, 3:30 to 4:30 pm
Drop-In Open Art Lab for Kids
McConnell Center, Room 306

Kids of all ages are invited to bring their imagination and creativity to the Drop-In Open Art Lab. We will have a variety of supplies available for you to use to create artwork of your own design.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Art Forgery

McConnell Center, Room 306

Do you dream of being an art forger? Give it a try! Each month we will take on replicating a famous work of art. Come every time, or just come for the pieces that interest you. We'll start off with a brief history on the piece, as well as an overview of the techniques and the medium. We will have pastels, watercolors, colored pencils, markers, and more at your disposal to render your imitation. Feel free to bring your own art supplies as well. This is not a class. We will have a reference photo on the overhead projector. Just come paint, draw, relax, and socialize. This program is intended for teens and adults. This month's painting is The Hunters in the Snow by Pieter Bruegel the Elder.

Registration required.

Saturday, December 20, 2 to 3 p.m.
Festive Nature Decoration Craft
McConnell Center, Room 306

Kids in grades 3 to 6 are invited to make festive decorations using pinecones, brush, dried oranges, cranberries, and other natural materials.

Registration required.



The Art Center presents Holiday Open Studios, featuring more than 50 artists

The Art Center, located at 1 Washington St., will hold a Holiday Open Studios on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 13 and 14, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This two-day event will showcase the work of more than 50 artists, offering visitors a unique opportunity to explore open studios, meet artists, and shop for one-of-a-kind holiday gifts.

Guests will enjoy a range of creative talent, including painting, printmaking, sculpture, jewelry, pottery, fiber arts, photography, fine art prints, books, and more. The event will also feature live music, artist demos, custom framing, and a warm, welcoming atmosphere perfect for holiday shopping and community celebration.

This free, family-friendly event invites the public to discover local artistry, support regional makers, and experience the vibrant creative community thriving inside The Art Center.

For more information, visit www.theartcenterdover.com.

• DOZENS OF ARTISTS • LIVE MUSIC • DEMONSTRATIONS •

the Art Center

Holiday Open Studios

PAINTING • POTTERY • FIBER • SCULPTURE • PHOTOGRAPHY • AUTHORS • KINETIC ART • JEWELRY • FINE ART PRINTS • CUSTOM FRAMING

Sat.-Sun.,
Dec. 13-14
10am - 5pm

1 Washington Street,
Dover, NH



Critical need for blood donors

Every day, thousands of patients rely on lifesaving blood donations. The need for blood is constant.

More donors, especially those with type O blood, are needed to ensure that patients have lifesaving blood products available for emergencies and regular medical treatments, including for accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer.



**American
Red Cross**

Schedule a blood donation appointment through the [Red Cross Blood Donor App](#), visiting RedCrossBlood.org, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Many people [are reluctant](#) to make their first blood donation, but once they do, they find the donation process to be easy and gratifying. [Learn more about](#) the donation process.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Dover

- Tuesday, Dec. 16, 12 to 5 p.m., [Dover Moose Hall](#), 45 Chestnut St.
- Thursday, Dec. 18, 12:30 to 5 p.m., [Dover Baptist Church](#), 151 Washington St.
- Monday, Dec. 22, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., [Bill Dube Ford/Toyota](#), 40 Point Road
- Tuesday, Dec. 30, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., [Wentworth-Douglass Hospital](#), 789 Central Ave.
- Tuesday, Dec. 30, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., [Dover Moose Hall](#), 45 Chestnut St.

Dover Main Street Holiday Food Drive underway

Dover Main Street's annual Holiday Food Drive continues, encouraging residents to help ensure a festive season for neighbors in need.

The drive runs from through Dec. 19, with all donations delivered to the Dover Food Pantry. Nonperishable food items can be dropped off at more than two dozen participating downtown businesses.

This year's collection sites include:

Aplomb Art Café; Birch Theory; Christopher's Third St. Grille; Cinco's Cantina – Dover; Dover Pottery; East Cozy Trading; Garrison City Beerworks; Hello Again; Hong Asian Noodle Bar; Janetos; Jewelry Creations; Kendall Pond Pizzeria; Market Square Jewelers; My Country Store; Ohana Kitchen; OTTO Pizza; Pin Up Hair Salon; Potter's Green & Gift; Positive Directions; Replenish Refinery; Riverbend Pizza; Ross Furniture; Pete's Bargain Basement; Suite Studio; The Art Center; The Brunch Club; The June Cork Pub; The Shop by Wheat; Thirsty Moose; Two Bees Café; Upright Acupuncture; and Wing-Itz.

A continually updated list of participating merchants is available at dovermainstreet.org.

Dover Main Street organizes the annual drive to support the Dover Food Pantry during the busy holiday season.



*Santa Claus is
Coming to Town*

Sunday, December 14, 2025
12pm - 3pm

Be on the lookout for Santa and his elves driving through your Dover neighborhood!

DOVER MAIN STREET

The poster features a festive blue background with white snowflakes. On the left, Santa Claus is depicted in a red suit, driving a red car decorated with a green and white striped scarf. A small elf is visible in the back seat. To the right, a map of Dover, Delaware, is shown with a blue outline of the city streets. The map is labeled with several street names: Agache Street, Cottonwood Drive, Horne Street, Columbus Ave, Downtown, Hubbard Road, Bellamy Road, and Garrison Road. The text 'Santa Claus is Coming to Town' is written in a large, elegant script font at the top. Below it, the date and time of the event are listed. At the bottom right, there is a small logo for 'DOVER MAIN STREET'.



Dover Fire Toy Bank accepting applications, seeking donations

The Dover Public Welfare Office is now accepting applications for Dover Fire and Rescue Toy Bank through Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025. The annual Toy Bank provides gifts for children in need each holiday season.

To be eligible, children must be 12 years old or younger and residents of Dover. Proof of residency is required by presenting a current utility bill and photo identification. Applicants should provide the child's name and date of birth only. Specific gift requests will not be taken.

Applications can be submitted at the Dover Welfare Office, located at the McConnell Center, 61 Locust St., Suite 334. Gift pickup will be Sunday, Dec. 21, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the main entrance of 121 Broadway. For more information, contact the Dover Welfare Department at 603-516-6500.

How to help:

Collect new toys within your organization for age groups from newborn to 12 years old. If looking for a specific need to fill, the infant and 9-12 age groups are always in need for both boys and girls. If you need a collection box, please call 603-516-TOYS, leave a message, and we will get you one for your business. Collection boxes will be distributed this month.

Purchase gift cards to area businesses, mall stores, and grocery stores are always appreciated.

Shop for hats and mittens, gloves and scarves that are needed for the cold winter. These gifts help ensure each child receives these essentials.

Collecting monetary donations within an organization and shopping for gifts helps greatly. If you don't have time to shop for these items, the Toy Bank will do it for you.

Monetary contributions can be picked up on location or mailed to Dover Fire Toy Bank, P.O. Box 1712, Dover, NH 03821-1712. Please make checks payable to The Dover Fire Toy Bank.

Dover Police accepting names for annual Christmas Basket Program through today

The Dover Police Department is accepting names, addresses, and phone numbers of needy families residing in Dover for the annual Christmas Basket Program through the end of the day today, Friday, Dec. 12. The Dover Police Department conducts this program each December to provide a Christmas dinner to families in Dover.

Last year, 150 baskets of food were distributed to families throughout the community. In addition, a large quantity of food was provided to the Dover Children's Home and My Friend's Place.

Those wishing to donate to this program may bring non-perishable food items, canned goods, or monetary donations to the Dover Police Department at 46 Chestnut St. (checks should be made payable to Dover Police Charities). If you cannot deliver your food donations to the police station, call 603-742-4646 and pick up will be arranged.

Employees of the Dover Police Department, and their families, will prepare and deliver the baskets on Dec. 20, 2025.

For more information, contact the Dover Police Department at 603-742-4646 or a.mitrushi@dover.nh.gov.

THE GREATER DOVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WELCOMES:



The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce held ribbon-cutting ceremonies recently to recognize new Chamber members.

*Welcome to our new members that
joined the Greater Dover Chamber of
Commerce in October and November*

- **Inner Truth Massage**
- **New York Life Insurance Company**
- **Seacoast Law, PLLC**
- **Whispering Branches**

*Interested in membership?
Visit dovernh.org/join or call 603-742-2218*



Inner Truth Massage

Inner Truth Massage is a healing oasis in Dover that offers therapeutic massage to compliment a wellness centered lifestyle. They offer a variety of massage therapy services including Swedish, deep tissue, prenatal massage, sports massage, hot stone massage, cupping, and aromatherapy, and some members of the team may be able to incorporate lymphatic massage, Graston Technique therapy, Reiki energy balancing or Polarity therapy by request.

Inner Truth Massage is located at 652 Central Avenue, Unit H in Dover. To learn more about Inner Truth Massage, visit www.innertruthmassage.com or call 603-777-0261.

New York Life Insurance Company

Lawrence "Larry" Laryea is an agent and registered representative with New York Life Insurance Company. Laryea specializes in protection, accumulation, and preservation.

Larry Lareya's office is located at 43 Northfield Drive in Dover. To learn more about New York Life Insurance Company, visit www.newyorklife.com/agent/laryea or call 607-240-7753.

Seacoast Law, PLLC

Seacoast Law provides comprehensive estate planning and legal services to New

Hampshire, Maine, and Massachusetts residents. Seacoast Law aims to provide the high-level services you need, and the personalized, one-on-one attention you deserve.

Seacoast Law is located at 6 Old Rochester Road, Suite 101 in Dover. To learn more about Seacoast Law, visit www.seacoastlaw.com or call 603-427-8295.

Whispering Branches

Whispering Branches is a nonprofit organization dedicated to "Turning Compassion into Action, one Branch at a time." The organization's purpose is to help those who are facing serious illness, adversity or financial hardship.

Whispering Branches is located at 385 Sixth St. in Dover. To learn more about Whispering Branches, visit www.whisperingbranches.org or call 603-750-7502.

The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit association of businesses, professionals, individuals, and organizations working together to advance the economic well-being of its members and the community. For details on Dover Chamber membership and other programs, or for a schedule of activities, call (603) 742-2218 or visit www.dovernh.org.

Report crimes anonymously to Dover CrimeLine

Dover CrimeLine is a community partnership between residents and the Dover Police Department that allows people to anonymously share information about criminal activity.

Anyone with information about a crime can call Dover CrimeLine at 603-749-6000 or submit an E-Tip through www.dovernhcrimeline.org. Tipsters remain anonymous and may be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000 if their information leads to an arrest or indictment.

Dover CrimeLine was established in 1991 to enhance public safety and reduce crime in the city. Since then, thousands of tips have contributed to arrests and investigations, with more than \$34,000 in rewards authorized.

Tipsters are reminded that Dover CrimeLine is not an emergency service. If a crime is in progress or has just occurred, call 911 or the Dover Police Department's nonemergency line at 603-742-4646.

For more information or to learn how to volunteer with the CrimeLine board, visit www.dovernhcrimeline.org.



**REPORT A CRIME
ANONYMOUSLY.**



CALL 603-749-6000



**SUBMIT AN E-TIP AT
DOVERCRIMELINE.ORG**

City of Dover employment opportunities

Want to work for the City of Dover? The City's website offers an updated list of open positions, including job descriptions and a downloadable application for employment. The City of Dover is now seeking applications for the following positions:

- **Police Officer**
- **Swim Instructor, Part-Time**

- Lifeguard I, Part-Time
- Fire Fighter/AEMT
- Diesel Mechanic
- Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- Utilities Laborer
- Truck Driver - Utilities
- Heavy Equipment Operator I-Utilities
- Seasonal Snow Plow Driver, Part-Time
- General Legal Counsel
- Lab Technician - Water Resources
- Utilities Supervisor
- Engineering Secretary
- Health/Fire Life Safety Officer
- Truck Driver - Streets
- Laborer - Public Works Streets & Stormwater
- Maintenance Specialist - Streets

For more information about these positions or employment opportunities with the City of Dover, [click here](#).

Dover School District employment opportunities

Want to work for the Dover School District? The District's website offers an updated list of open positions, including job descriptions and online applications. The District is now seeking applications for the following positions:

- Childcare Coordinator-Dover Adult Learning Center (DALC)
- ESOL - Newcomer Interventionist (One Year Only)
- Long Term Substitute - Anticipated Speech Language Assistant
- Long Term Substitute - Speech Language Pathologist
- Long Term Substitute Grade 7 Special Education
- Long Term Substitute Social Studies DHS
- Noon Aide
- Paraprofessionals- Special Education
- Special Education Teacher/Case Manager
- Substitute Nurses
- Substitute Teachers
- Summer School Proctor

For more information about these positions, [click here](#).

CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE | www.dover.nh.gov



City of Dover | 288 Central Avenue | Dover, NH 03820 US

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