



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Public Information Meeting on the Common & Waterfront Set for April 16th

Gardiner, ME, April 10, 2008 —Interested in what Gardiner's Common and Waterfront parks will look like in the future? **On April 16th, at 6:30 PM, at City Hall, the City will present the final draft site plans for the Common and Waterfront parks to the public.** Kent Associates, with Wright Pierce Engineering, will be on hand to present information on the proposed site plans, including sketches for both areas. Other information, such as funding sources, and project phasing will be discussed. As in previous meetings, the City wants to hear your feedback!

There has been significant progress in the development of both Common and waterfront site plans, since the City began the planning process in January. The final draft plans will reflect comments that have been made through a very interactive public process. The presentation on the Common will include information regarding the playground, which has been the focus of much public interest. Gardiner's Public Works Department recently removed all of the playground equipment, except for the swing sets, as the playground had reached the end of its useful life. Those that are interested in learning more about a future playground, and many more aspects of the Common, are encouraged to attend the meeting on the 16th.

After the Common site plan is discussed, the City will present information on the Waterfront project. Although a similar process has been followed for the waterfront site plan, the Waterfront Task Force has been involved for some additional planning review and feedback. The site plan being presented on the 16th will reflect previous workshop (waterfront) feedback, as well as additional input from the Waterfront Task Force. The Waterfront Task Force remains very active and interested in seeing the improvements made on the waterfront and has been instrumental in helping the City develop the waterfront as a destination park.

Since January, the City has been working on several exciting planning and design projects (as a part of the Bundled Projects process) and is making invaluable connections in the planning process. One example is, incorporating signage needs identified in the draft Libby Hill Business Park Marketing Plan, and the waterfront park site plan, into a citywide signage plan. Another example is developing the concept of connecting the waterfront park to the Common via a pedestrian trail, while the City drafts a site plan for both park areas, as well as a citywide Sidewalk improvement plan. By making these connections, the City avoids duplication of planning efforts and creates a very effective planning process.

Both the Common and Waterfront parks are “in the home stretch” in terms of the public planning process. The meeting on the 16th is a good opportunity to share your feedback, before plans go to the next step in the process. So, please feel free to attend if you are interested in either of these projects!

To view the agenda for the meeting, please click [here](#). If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact Jason Simcock, Planning & Development Director, at 582-6888, or by emailing econdev@gardinermaine.com.