

Kittery's Public Facilities & Services

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WELL MAINTAINED FACILITIES

- The **Municipal Complex/Town Hall** building is in very good condition and has room for expansion if needed in the future.
- **Public meeting space** is available at the Town Hall, the schools, the Library, and Community Center and is adequate.
- Kittery has a variety of indoor and outdoor **recreational resources**
 - The **Kittery Community Center**, run by the Recreation Department provides a wide range of facilities and programs to Kittery residents of all ages (including a gymnasium, fitness room, theater, and classrooms).
 - The **Port Authority** manages 575 moorings (the majority of which are at Pepperrell Cove), four piers and additional moorings in various other locations along the Town's shoreline.
 - There are also a number of **parks, beaches and conservation lands** for Kittery residents to enjoy.
 - Additional **Athletic fields** are needed to meet the needs of the Town's youth.
- **Sustainability.** The Energy Efficiency Committee works with the Town Manager and Council to adopt energy programs, projects and policies to develop more sustainable energy practices.
- Kittery's three **public schools** are adequate in terms of size and condition to meet current needs as well as those in the foreseeable future. Approximately 90% of school-aged children in Kittery attend public schools. There are some fluctuations in enrollment due to military families with short-term assignments at the Shipyard. There is capacity at all three schools for a small increase in enrollment; no significant increase is expected.
- The **Library** is currently operating out of two facilities that do not meet overall space needs and having two buildings is inefficient and causes inconvenience to both patrons and staff.
- The **Police Department**, located next to Town Hall in the Municipal Complex, is more than adequate to meet current and future needs (the second floor shell space could be used for expansion if needed in the future).
- The **Fire Department** operates from two fire stations, both in good condition, with the exception of the fact that neither station has sleeping quarters. The Fire Department is having a harder time recruiting volunteers than in the past.
- **Emergency Medical Service** is provided by American Ambulance New England. They operate out of the former Walker Street Fire Station which is leased to AANE for free; in exchange they provide free Ambulance service to all Town employees. They also serve the Town of Eliot from this location.
- Kittery does not have a Council on Aging. The Community Center provides activities and York County Community Action Corporation partners with Southern Maine Agency on Aging to provide **services to Kittery's seniors**. Between 2000 and 2014, residents age 55 to 64 increased by 65 percent, and the number of elderly residents is expected to continue to increase.



The Municipal Complex houses the majority of the Town's administrative offices.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- The **Library** needs to decide whether to construct an addition to the existing Rice building or to create a new facility on the site of KCC.
- The **Kittery Community Center** may need to increasingly orient future programming to the growing senior population.
- More substantial measures need to be taken to **prepare for climate change** and related rise in sea level.
- Implementing the recommendations of the recently completed **Athletics Field Study** will address the needs for additional fields.
- New **school enrollment projections** are needed in order to monitor potential future changes in student enrollment.
- The **Port Authority** needs to develop a Strategic Plan to help explore ways to increase access and enjoyment of the water.

PROVISION OF QUALITY UTILITIES AND SERVICES

- **Department of Public Works** operates out of several facilities; the garage and administrative offices are in a facility located behind the Municipal Complex which is in good condition and adequately sized, with space for expansion if needed. DPW is responsible for maintenance of the Town's roads, stormwater infrastructure, parks, recreation fields, cemeteries and solid waste and recycling.
 - **Solid Waste and Recycling** is processed at the Town's Resource Recovery Facility which includes a transfer station for material solid wastes, a recycling center and a licensed demolition debris disposal site. Solid waste is transported from this site to EcoMaine in Portland, ME. South Berwick currently brings their paper for recycling to Kittery's Resource Recovery Facility, generating income for the Town. The facilities are adequate for current needs and there is room for future expansion.
 - **Stormwater Management.** DPW recently completed an inventory of the Town's Stormwater infrastructure and determined that it is generally in "very good" condition.
 - **Monitoring of contaminated areas.** Bacterial sources of pollution have been identified in Admiralty Village and other areas in the Spruce Creek Watershed. Clam flats have been close since 2005. Some parts of the Creek have seen improvement.
 - **Parks.** DPW maintains and staffs the Town-owned parks. Fort Foster, a 94-acre town-owned park commands much of the Department's attention, is highly used by both residents and visitors during the summer, and generates income for the Town.
- **Water.** Kittery's water is supplied by the Kittery Water District (KWD), a quasi-municipal corporation. The District also supplies water to parts of York and Eliot.
 - The largest water consumer in Kittery is the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.
 - KWD currently serves approximately 70% of the Town's residents and 95% of the businesses who pay user fees according to their actual usage.
 - The KWD relies on surface water sources that must be protected from contamination.
 - Of the approximately 96 miles of water mains, most are adequately sized.
 - The District is planning to construct a new Treatment Facility and to continue to upgrade pipes.
 - The District has adequate treatment and pumping capacity to meet additional demand, however there are no planned extensions to the system, in fact, KWD is not able to pay for expansion of mains.
 - Additional regional cooperation with surrounding towns may result in increased cost effectiveness.
- **Sewer.** Wastewater is treated at the Municipal Sewage Treatment Plant.
 - Sewage treatment is provided to 30% of Kittery residents and most of the Town's businesses.
 - The Plant and related infrastructure are all in good condition as they have been upgraded over the last few years.
 - The municipal system, which has additional capacity for expansion, is funded through an enterprise fund; user fees pay for the service.
 - The Town also has a "betterment fee" procedure to help charge property owners that benefit from a sewer extension.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- Regional joint dispatch for **Police** calls (pending grant) is expected to result in efficiencies.
- There may be a need to increase the number of sworn officers to **police** a reflect the actual daytime population taking into account tourists, shoppers and Shipyard employees.
- The **Fire Department** may need to transition to a full-time professional fire fighting staff in the near future.
- It may be more efficient to merge Kittery's **Resource Recovery Facility** with that of Eliot's.
- The Portsmouth Pierce Island Wastewater facility must be updated before the **clam flats** can be re-opened.
- DPW would like to explore becoming a "**Stormwater Utility**" in order to fund future improvements." The first step is to conduct a feasibility study.
- Both the **Kittery Water District** and the **Town sewer system** derive a significant portion of their usage and revenues from the Shipyard. Changes to the status of the Shipyard could affect costs to other users.
- Lack of funding for **expansion of water service** makes it difficult to guide growth through the provision of water.
- If the **Kittery Water District administrative offices** chooses to relocate in the future, the existing site will be available for reuse.
- The recent expansion of the **sewer system** to the Business Park is expected to result in encouraging economic development.
- New technologies will make it feasible to provide **alternative methods of sewage treatment** to Kittery Point and rural areas of Town in the future.