

# Community Development Department February 2024 Report

## General Updates/Community Highlights

Two important events this month for our office: We were invited to record an episode of GPCOG's podcast "Let's Connect" and Harrison Ridge had their grand opening!

Learn more about the [Let's Connect podcast here!](#)



*Love always,*  
**BRIDGTON  
MAINE**



[Harrison Ridge](#) is our new affordable 55+ community in our downtown. We are so happy to welcome this development to Bridgton, and we thank [Developers Collaborative](#) for making it happen!



## Comprehensive Plan / Vision Bridgton (VB)

[Check out our project website](#) 😊

Please leave comments on the [discussion board!](#) This is a great way to start conversations with your neighbors or share your opinions. **It's completely anonymous.** The three discussion points are: Challenges, What I love about Bridgton, and Ideas and Suggestions.

New Month, New Question – Share our [Question of the Month](#) activity to help engage more folks in the comprehensive planning process.

**The Comprehensive Plan Survey is Live!** You can take it on our [website](#) or look for a postcard in your mailbox at home, for other ways to participate.

## Ordinances

The CDD is responsible for Town ordinances, and this year several revisions have been requested. With input from nearly every department, our office has been revising the following:

- Outdoor Festival Ordinance (to be repealed)
- Mass Gathering Ordinance (to replace the Outdoor Festival Ordinance)
- Victualers Licensing Ordinance (edits to match new Mass Gathering Ordinance)
- Mooring Ordinance (new)
- Floodplain Management Ordinance (state requirement)
- Land Use Code Revisions (to comply with State housing law)

## Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The Bridgton Community Development Advisory Committee scored applications this month and makes a recommendation for funding to the Select Board in early March. The Select Board makes a final recommendation to Cumberland County, and from there we await approval and release award letters in the late spring.

This year's two public service applicants are the Bridgton Community Center Navigator Program and the Bridgton Food Pantry. The only infrastructure applicant was the Town of Bridgton Church Street Sidewalk (continued from previous year).

Bridgton's 2023-2024 CDBG-funded infrastructure project:  
Church Street Sidewalk (Dates TBD)

Bridgton's 2023-2024 CDBG-funded service-provider projects:  
Bridgton Community Center Navigator Program  
Bridgton Food Pantry

## Grants & Other Funding Streams through the Community Development Office ([Closed](#) / [Open](#))

### Secured:

- CDBG – annual allocation +/- \$200,000
- \$50,000 – Governor's Office of Policy, Innovation, and the Future (GOPIF) – allocated to our open space plan
- \$10,000 – Community Heart and Soul Seed Grant – allocated to community engagement process (Bridgton Public Library acts as the fiscal sponsor for this)
- \$8,000 from GPCOG to assist with the transportation chapter of Bridgton's comp plan
- ARPA – \$450k for Bridgton Sewer Main Extensions Project
- 1.4 million – EPA Earmark for Bridgton Sewer Main Extensions Project – extending sewer lines down Smith Avenue, Maple Street, Efficiency Way, and part of South High Street – Application submitted by W&C in 2021 – qualifying paperwork submitted by Finance and CDD in 2023.
- \$50,000 – Governor's Office of Policy, Innovation, and the Future (GOPIF) – Mountain Road Stormwater Evaluation

### In Progress:

The CDD is partnering with the Rec Department to explore the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This would potentially be used to implement pieces of the Ham Complex Master Plan.

Committee Updates – CDD staff serve as staff liaisons to the following committees:

**Community Development Advisory Committee:** The CDAC is scoring CDBG applications.

**Ordinance Review Committee:** ORC is putting the finishing touches on the Traffic Ordinance.

**Planning Board (workshops):** The Board held a workshop on the 20<sup>th</sup> and discussed consequential Land Use Code revisions due to the proposed Mass Gathering Ordinance.

**Bridgton Memorial School Ad Hoc Committee:** This committee no longer meets as they fulfilled their mission and charge.

**Comprehensive Plan Task Force:** The CPTF was given a presentation by BerryDunn on our Inventory and Analysis (Phase I of the Comp Plan) and is working to promote survey participation.

**Open Space Committee:** The OSC is prioritizing projects and is looking forward to carrying out the goals and priorities of the 2023 Open Space Plan.

Thank you for reading,



Tori Hill  
Community Development Director