

MARK DION (MAYOR)
PIOUS ALI (A/L)
APRIL FOURNIER (A/L)
BENJAMIN GRANT (A/L)



SARAH MICHNIEWICZ (1)
WESLEY PELLETIER (2)
REGINA L. PHILLIPS (3)
ANNA BULLETT (4)
KATE SYKES (5)

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

The Portland City Council will hold a City Council Meeting in Council Chambers. The Honorable Mark Dion, Mayor, will preside.

To submit written public comment on an agenda item, email publiccomment@portlandmaine.gov. Submissions must be received by 12:00 pm the day before the Council meeting to guarantee their inclusion in the agenda packet. All submissions must include the commenter's name and legal address. To help ensure your comment is submitted for the correct item, please include the order number (see below).

The City Council will conduct this meeting from Council Chambers, located on the second floor of City Hall.

<https://portlandme.portal.civicclerk.com/event/9574/media>

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

5:00 P.M. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Finance Committee Update - Mark Dion, Mayor

RECOGNITIONS:

PRESENTATIONS:

ANNUAL MEETING:

SPECIAL MEETING:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Special City Council Meeting Minutes 08.24.2026 4PM

Special City Council Meeting Minutes 08.24.2026 5:30PM

PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation 2-26/27 Recognizing Michael F. Brennan for his Extraordinary Public Service and Civic Leadership - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 3-26/27 Recognizing September 2026 as African Heritage Month - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 4-26/27 Recognizing September 2026 as National Service Dog Month - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 5-26/27 Recognizing September 10 to 19, 2026 as Welcoming Week - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 6-26/27 Recognizing September 14 to 20, 2026 as National Rehabilitation Awareness Week - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 7-26/27 Recognizing September 14 to 20, 2026 as Diaper Need Awareness Week - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 8-26/27 Recognizing September 15 to October 15, 2026 as Hispanic Heritage Month - Sponsored by Mark Dion, Mayor

Proclamation 9-26/27 Recognizing Timothy P. Wilson for a Lifetime of Service, Youth Leadership, Coaching, and Building Understanding Across Communities - Sponsored by Pious Ali, City Councilor

APPOINTMENTS:

Order 34-26/27 Appointing Members to the Casco Bay Trail Board of Supervisors for 2026 - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Approval of this item appoints Kevin Kraft, Planning and Urban Development Director, to the Casco Bay Trail Board of Supervisors as the primary voting supervisor, and Mike Murray, Public Works Director as the alternate supervisor.

On June 15, 2026, the City Council approved Resolve 10-25/26 Expressing Support for the Casco Bay Trail Project and approved an Interlocal Agreement that formed the Casco Bay Trail Board of Supervisors in connection with partner municipalities. The board serves as a multi-jurisdictional entity designed to coordinate the planning, construction, and (possibly) management of a 24.8-mile interim bicycle and pedestrian trail along the state-owned Berlin Subdivision rail corridor between Portland and Auburn.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage after public comment.

CONSENT ITEMS:

Order 35-26/27 Granting Municipal Officers' Approval of Terlingua LLC, dba The Terlingua Outpost. Application for Outdoor Dining on Public Property at 34 Washington Avenue - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Application was filed on 8/17/26. This is an existing establishment adding Outdoor Dining on Public Property. They currently hold a Class I FSE.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage of items on the consent calendar after public comment.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolve 1-26/27 Adopting Emergency Medical Services Transport Plan - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Pursuant to 30-A M.R.S. § 3172, the proposed resolution establishes the Portland Fire Department as the primary provider for emergency medical transport for the City of Portland. Approval of this item adopts the official Emergency Medical Services

Transport Plan for the City of Portland and mandates that any future amendments adopted by the City Council be submitted to Maine EMS within thirty days.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage after public comment.

Resolve 2-26/27 To Fully Enforce Rent Control, Strengthen Tenant Protections, and Guarantee Safe and Stable Housing for Renters - Sponsored by Councilor Regina Phillips and Councilor Wesley Pelletier

This resolution, prepared and presented by the Portland Tenant's Union directs the City Manager to undertake specified rent control enforcement and verification measures, including reviewing base rents, voluntary turnovers, owner-occupancy exemptions, rental registration information, and habitability complaints, and to implement these measures by July 1, 2027.

In addition, it requests that the Housing and Economic Development Committee report out ordinance language within six months addressing fees for no-cause evictions, escalating consequences for rent control violations, mandatory Rent Board fines, and a tenant right of first refusal to purchase a rental property when it is offered for sale.

Mayor Dion will move to refer this item to the Housing and Economic Development Committee for consideration at its October 20, 2026 meeting, which is scheduled to include consideration of amendments to the Rent Control Ordinance.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage. Public comment will be limited to the referral action only.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Order 27-26/27 Appropriating \$386,037 from the Jill C. Duson Housing Trust Fund to Hope Acts RE: Hope House Rehabilitation - Sponsored by Housing and Economic Development Committee, Pious Ali, Chair

The Housing and Economic Development Committee voted 4-0 to move this to Council at their July 21, 2026 meeting.

Hope Acts is requesting \$386,037 in funding for Hope House, a mixed-use property with office space and thirteen single-room-occupancy residential units. This building is currently undergoing significant rehabilitation. The funding would be used to support energy efficiency improvements and address critical structural issues in the basement which were unknown prior to the start of construction.

This item must be read on two separate days. It received its first reading on August 24. Five affirmative votes are required for passage after public comment.

Order 28-26/27 Approving Agreement Between the Maine Department of Transportation and Portland RE: Improvements to State Street, High Street, and Forest Avenue at Fourteen Intersections - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

The currently-funded Traffic Signal Replacement Project project is part of MaineDOT's Multimodal Program. The State is administering this project and paying for 100% of the

costs associated with replacing the existing 14 traffic signals associated with State and High Streets. The City has requested additional work on this project to allow for the two-way reversion of these streets and adding enhanced bicycle facilities primarily along State Street. By signing the partnership agreement, it enables MaineDOT to proceed with the project and obligates the City to for additional engineering to complete the design, at \$100,000.

This item must be read on two separate days. It received its first reading on August 24. Five affirmative votes are required for passage after public comment.

Order 29-26/27 Accepting and Appropriating a \$73,721 United States Department of Justice Grant - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This item accepts and appropriates a \$73,721 grant awarded to the Police Department by the US Department of Justice. The Justice Assistance Grant is an annual formula grant made to law enforcement agencies. Award amounts are determined by a statutory formula which considers violent crime statistics and population. Funds may be used for a wide variety of activities pertaining to crime prevention, control or reduction, or the enforcement of criminal law.

This item must be read on two separate days. It received its first reading on August 24. Five affirmative votes are required for passage after public comment.

Order 30-26/27 Approving the Service Contract Between the State of Maine Health and Human Services Department and the City of Portland and Accepting and Appropriating \$20,000 of Additional Grant Funding for Victim and Witness Advocacy Services - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This item is to accept and appropriate a grant from the State of Maine in the total amount of \$75,000 to the Victim Witness Advocate program. City Council has previously approved \$55,000 out of this specific item in our budget. This revised agreement appropriates the financial difference of \$20,000.

This item must be read on two separate days. It received its first reading on August 24. To make this item effective immediately, staff is requesting that this item be passed as an emergency. Seven affirmative votes are required for passage as an emergency after public comment.

Order 32-26/27 Amendment to Portland City Code Chapter 2 RE: Opioid Settlement Funds - Sponsored by Health & Human Services and Public Safety Committee, Anna Bullett, Chair

On July 14, 2026, the Health & Human Services and Public Safety committee provided guidance to City staff to draft an ordinance to be adopted by the Council to establish a dedicated fund tha would govern the allocation, prioritization, and reporting of the City's Opioid Settlement Funds received through national litigation. The fund ordinance achieves several goals:

- Creates a more permanent policy framework for managing settlement revenues.
- Provides greater predictability for future budgeting and multi-year planning.
- Clearly defines eligible uses in City Code.

- Minimizes the need for recurring policy deliberation regarding settlement revenues.
- Formalizes reporting requirements to support regular Committee review

If approved, this item would also add emergency winter warming services to the approved priorities for the fund. The priority areas for fund use would then be:

- Community Paramedicine Substance Use Support
- Contingency Management
- Day Space
- Emergency Winter Warming Shelter
- Housing Support to Unsheltered Individuals
- Syringe Redemption Program

For additional information, please see [the associated HHSPS Committee memo from July 14, 2026.](#)

This item must be read on two separate days. It received its first reading on August 24. Five affirmative votes are required for passage after public comment.

ORDERS:

Order 36-26/27 Traffic Schedule Amendment RE: Fore Street - Sponsored by Sustainability and Transportation Committee, Regina Phillips, Chair

Fore Street between Mountfort St. and Munjoy South St. is currently underutilized. There is a portion of the road approximately 225 in length that is wide enough to accommodate parking on the north side of the road in addition to maintaining adequate drive lanes. In order to maintain site lines for vehicles exiting Mountfort St., a setback would need to be included from Mountfort St. to the first utility pole. It is recommended to include the additional spots in Residential Zone 11 which would increase the capacity of parking near the Casco Bay Lines terminal. The Parking Division regularly receives feedback that it is difficult to find time zone street parking in this area.

Five affirmative votes are required for passage after public comment.

Order 37-26/27 Accepting and Appropriating \$151,500 Grant Revenue Award from Workforce & Enterprise Operations to the Portland Jetport TSA K9 Unit - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

Accept and appropriate a \$151,500.00 grant revenue award. The approved award is from Workforce & Enterprise Operations. It was submitted to the TSA Contracting and Procurement's Acquisition Support Division (ASD) for the three canine units at Portland, ME Jetport.

This item must be read on two separate days. Staff is requesting that the second reading be waived, which requires seven affirmative votes. Staff also requests that this item be passed as an emergency. Seven votes are required for passage as an emergency following public comment.

Order 38-26/27 Approving a Cooperative Agreement Between the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the City of Portland and Accepting and Appropriating \$500,000 from the EPA for Brownfields Assessment - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

The City applied to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for additional funding to support the City's Brownfields Assessment and Remediation programs. For three decades, the City has used EPA Brownfields funds to protect public health and the environment by assisting with assessing and remediating contaminated properties, which helps boost local economies through job creation, increased tax revenues, and sustainable property reuse. The \$500,000 in assessment funding awarded by the EPA brings the total assessment funding received by the City since 1996 to \$1,985,000. The \$1 Million in clean-up funding brings the total funding amount received since 1999 to \$8,635,850.

This is a companion order to the order below.

This item must be read on two separate days. This is its first reading.

Order 39-26/27 Approving FY26 Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Amendment Agreement Between the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the City of Portland and Accepting and Appropriating \$1,000,000 for Brownfields Cleanup - Sponsored by Danielle P. West, City Manager

This is a companion order to the item above.

This item must be read on two separate days. This is its first reading.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT: