



# THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

WILLIAM R. STOKES, MAYOR

WILLIAM R. BRIDGEO, CITY MANAGER

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TO: Mayor and City Council  
FROM: City Manager Bill Bridgeo  
RE: Administrative Report  
DATE: March 4, 2013

Meetings:

On Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, the Land – Facility Review Committee (OREO) will meet at 5:00 p.m. in Conference Room A.

On Thursday, March 7, the City Council will hold its regular Council Meeting at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers. There will be a pre-meeting at 6:30 pm in conference room “A”. The agenda is enclosed with your package.

On Friday, March 8, a senior staff meeting will be held at 9:15 a.m. in Conference Room A.

Other Items:

The committee work session on the bill to amend the Augusta Parking District charter is this Wednesday morning at 9:00. I will attend. The bill appears to have ample committee support thanks to the work of our legislative delegation.

With Council review of the natural gas RFP complete, I expect the request to go out this Friday. We will be distributing it to the four companies in Maine that are in the business (MNG; Summit; Unitil; Bangor Gas). They will have 45 days to respond. I will establish a technical committee to review the submissions and formulate a recommendation for Council. My hope is to have things in place for Council deliberation beginning with the informational meeting of May 9<sup>th</sup>.

With the positive discussion that took place at Friday’s TIF Committee meeting regarding the Flatiron redevelopment proposal, staff is now proceeding to assist Cyndy Taylor with what she needs to successfully apply for her various funding pieces. Matt Nazar will take the lead at this point. As soon as I have a completed purchase and sale agreement, I will get it to Council for review and authorization.

On Thursday, I signed the old hospital TIF application to the state DECD. Raegan LaRochelle, who is working with us through a contractual arrangement with Eaton Peabody Consulting while we recruit a deputy director of development services, authored the application and did a great job.

Matt's office is also finalizing the CDBG application to DECD for the Haymarket/Market Square restoration project. That will be submitted within the next couple of weeks.

On Friday, I joined about a hundred of my counterparts at a day-long seminar in Bangor. I used the opportunity to survey the group regarding how they all plan to deal with the budgetary uncertainty over the Governor's proposal to eliminate 100% of municipal revenue sharing for the coming biennium. Most (about 80%) indicated that they intend to propose full funding (at this year's 3.6% level) in their budget submissions with a narrative description of what the likely consequences of a lack of that funding would mean. I intend to do that also and avoid an explosive headline of either a huge tax increase or draconian cuts. Of course, if the Legislature is unable to deliver on this front it will mean a very difficult June for us.

WRB/pec

Enclosure

cc: Department and Bureau Directors  
Legislative Delegation