

SELECTBOARD WORK PLAN – Town of Essex - Special Projects FY26

Budget year: FY26

Department: Selectboard

Item #	Task	Priority Level	Progress status	Selectboard Value	Selectboard long-term goal
1	Determine plan for long-term management of the Tree Farm Recreational Facility.	1 - Mandatory	In progress	Accountability	Recreation
2	Complete Recreation Needs Assessment (Town Plan action 9.50).	2 - High	In progress	Accountability	Recreation
3	Continue to make progress on planning for, taking public input on, and exploring future development of a municipal complex and more at 80 & 90 Upper Main St.	2 - High	In progress	Thoughtful Growth	municipal complex
4	Make improvements to the capital budget process and outcomes, including water and sewer capital budget and plan (including water and sewer vehicles)	2 - High	In progress	Fiscal Resonsibility	Capital
5	Make improvements to the operating budget process and outcomes (including looking at public-private partnerships and when to contract out work such snowplowing and mowing, etc.)	2 - High	Not started	Fiscal Resonsibility	Guiding documents policies and standards
6	Plan for the future of Fire and Rescue in Essex	2 - High	In progress	Inclusivity and Safety	Public safety
7	Review, update, and/or create forest management plans for large-scale public properties, and begin to implement those plans.	2 - High	In progress	Accountability	Recreation
8	Conduct public outreach on drug and overdose issues, and work with Police Department and Essex Westford School Disctrict to do so. Determine use(s) for opioid settlement funds.	3 - Medium	In progress	Inclusivity and Safety	Opioids
9	Explore creation of community gardens.	3 - Medium	In progress	Cohesiveness and Connectivity	Recreation
10	Explore property acquisition for public water access along the Winooski River through potential use of the Conservation Reserve Fund	3 - Medium	In progress	Inclusivity and Safety	Recreation
11	Pursue the installation of a crosswalk on VT Route 15 at Saybrook Road and the ice cream shop.	3 - Medium	In progress	Cohesiveness and Connectivity	multimodal transportation
12	Study and propose solutions to minimize truck traffic on Sand Hill Road.	3 - Medium	In progress	Thoughtful Growth	multimodal transportation
13	Tree Nursery partnership with Center for Technology-Essex	3 - Medium	In progress		
14	Create liquor license approval policy to clarify conditions of approval/denial.	4 - Low	Not started	Accountability	
15	Explore housing initiatives, particularly with help and reporting from the Housing Commission.	4 - Low		Thoughtful Growth	Housing
16	Investigate increase of non-property-tax revenues, such as licensing fees allowed by charter, impact fees, local option tax (in part and in whole), etc. (Considered to include "Update Parks & Rec fees to maximum extent possible")	4 - Low	In progress	Fiscal Resonsibility	non-property-tax revenue
17	Review (with legal) of Conservation and Trails Committee/Commission proposed charter, and respond to and weigh in on committee requests to become commissions	4 - Low	Not started	Accountability	Guiding documents policies and standards
18	Revise fund balance assignment process and Fund Balance Policy.	4 - Low	In progress	Accountability	Guiding documents policies and standards