

# State of the Town -2015



# “The 20 Mile March”



# Exeter Demographics

- ▶ Population: 14,429 (US Census Bureau estimates)
  - ▶ 19<sup>th</sup> Largest Town in the State of NH
  - ▶ 2000 Population: 14,098, 2010 Population: 14,306
  - ▶ Largest age group: 35–54 years of age, 4,796 or 33.5% of population
  - ▶ Per capita income: \$38,220
  - ▶ Median Family Income: \$97,090
  - ▶ Median Household Income: \$72,231
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# Exeter Housing

- ▶ 6,472 housing units (American Community Survey 2008–2012)
  - ▶ 3,381 single family attached, detached
  - ▶ 777 two to four units
  - ▶ 1,438 five or more units
  - ▶ 876 mobile homes and other
  - ▶ Residential Land/Buildings: 76.3%
  - ▶ Commercial Land/Buildings: 21.8%
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# 2014 Property Tax Rate Information

- ▶ Town – \$7.77/1,000
  - ▶ School – \$14.63/1,000
  - ▶ State Ed – \$2.50/1,000
  - ▶ County – \$1.16/1,000
  - ▶ Total Rate: \$26.06/1,000
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- ▶ Total Levy: \$41,872,287
  - ▶ Town share of levy: 28.75%
  - ▶ \$300,000 home municipal services: \$2,331

# 2014 Selected Tax Rates – Comparables

- ▶ Rochester – \$27.47/1,000
- ▶ Durham – \$30.52/1,000
- ▶ Newmarket – \$25.75/1,000
- ▶ Epping – \$24.42/1,000
- ▶ Goffstown – \$27.00/1,000
- ▶ Dover – \$26.01/1,000
- ▶ Portsmouth – \$18.10/1,000
- ▶ Hampton – \$18.31/1,000
- ▶ Kensington – \$23.86, Newfields – \$24.25, Brentwood – \$25.19, East Kingston – \$25.00, Stratham – \$19.91.

Different factors in different communities determine tax rates:  
Education and Community spending/resources/offering, tax base implications (large commercial base, etc.)

# Taxpayer Information

- ▶ Top 3 property taxpayers: Riverwoods Co. at Exeter, Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter Hospital and Subsidiaries.

## Major Exeter property taxpayers:

- ▶ Unitil – Drinkwater Road
- ▶ Cobham Defense Systems – Continental Drive off Epping Road
- ▶ Exeter Mills LLC – Chestnut Street
- ▶ First Alltex Realty – 100 Domain Drive
- ▶ Bank Rocks LLC – 1 Hampton Road Offices
- ▶ Osram Sylvania – Portsmouth Avenue
- ▶ Hannafords Plaza – 137 Portsmouth Avenue
- ▶ Exeter Commons – 75 Portsmouth Avenue
- ▶ Hampton Inn – Portsmouth Avenue

# Recent Capital Projects/Purchases

## General Fund

- ▶ Swasey Parkway/Water Street culverts – 2011–12
- ▶ Jady Hill Area Drain Improvements – 2012–13
- ▶ Fire Department Ladder 1 Replacement – 2013

## All Funds

- ▶ Jady Hill Phase I and II Water/Sewer/Drain improvements

## Grants

- ▶ DPW Wastewater Solar Array
  - ▶ Getty property purchase
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# Recent Capital Projects/Purchases

## Water System

- ▶ Surface Water Treatment Plant Wastestream Reduction Project – approved 2012, completed 2013.
- ▶ Groundwater Plant Design/Construction – approved 2012, expected completion September/October 2015.
- ▶ Water Meter changeout/upgrade project – 2013–14.
- ▶ Fuller Lane Water Tank – Rehabilitated 2014.
- ▶ Cross Road Water Tank – Rehabilitation scheduled 2015.

## Sewer System

- ▶ Water Street Sewer Interceptor – ARRA project, approved 2009, completed 2012.
- ▶ Portsmouth Avenue Sewer Line – approved 2013, completed 2014.
- ▶ Wastewater Facilities Plan – approved 2012, final draft completed 2015.
- ▶ Long Term CSO Abatement Projects (stormwater/sewer overflows, I and I reduction, manhole rehabilitations) – ongoing.

# Upcoming Capital Projects

- ▶ Lincoln Street, Winter Street, Daniel/Tremont Streets Water and Sewer Line Replacements – approved 2014, expected construction 2015.
- ▶ Great Dam Removal – approved 2014, expected to be removed September/October 2015.
- ▶ Kingston Road Sidewalks/Bike Paths – \$750,000 project (\$150,000 capital fund, \$600,000 NHDOT Grant).
- ▶ Downtown Sidewalks – Articles 12 and 13 Town Warrant 2015, expected construction 2015 if approved.
- ▶ Linden Street/Court Street culvert/bridge replacement projects – Linden Street 2015, Court Street 2016.
- ▶ String Bridge – Approved 2008, Bridge Aid eligible, currently in design phase.

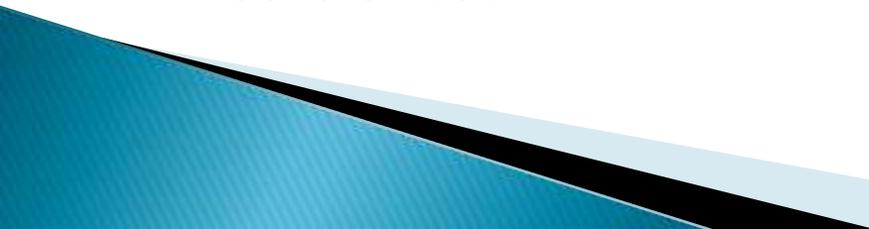
# Economic Development Efforts and Happenings in Exeter

- ▶ Epping Road TIF Initiative (Articles 8, 10, 28, 29 of 2015 Town Warrant) – \$132 million dollar development potential = 3.3 million annual revenue to Exeter.
- ▶ Downeaster Train Station – Top Ridership in NH
- ▶ Neighborhood Beer Company – Epping Road
- ▶ Loaf and Ladle Redevelopment
- ▶ IOKA Theatre
- ▶ 2 Hampton Road Residential Project
- ▶ 27 Chestnut Street Residential Project
- ▶ YMCA on Linden Street – under construction
- ▶ Great Bay Kids – Epping Road – groundbreak March 5th
- ▶ Epping Road TIF Initiative (Articles 8, 10, 28, 29 of 2015 Town Warrant)

# Future Trends and Issues

- ▶ Population Growth/Loss.
  - ▶ Appeal to young families – community balance within an aging national demographic.
  - ▶ Redevelopment of the Lincoln Street/Train Station area.
  - ▶ Creating jobs and retaining/expanding workforce opportunities.
  - ▶ Tax Base – Expanding commercial base, keeping property tax rates stable.
  - ▶ EPA mandates – new Wastewater Facility, cost and treatment. Regional options and approach to future services.
  - ▶ Enhancing quality of life in Exeter.
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# Where We Stand –2015

- ▶ Exeter remains a premier community in NH to live and work.
  - ▶ Exeter continues to offer a high quality of life.
  - ▶ Exeter is making investments in key infrastructure (water, sewer, roads).
  - ▶ Exeter is being more aggressive when it comes to economic development (Epping Road TIF, other projects) to expand the commercial tax base.
  - ▶ Exeter is reviewing several regional methods of service provision (EMS, Water, Sewer) to assist in offsetting future costs of these services to Exeter residents.
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# Wrap Up

- ▶ 2015 will be an exciting year in Exeter!
  - ▶ Question and Answer
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