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## CHAPTER 12: REGIONAL COORDINATION

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Waterville is closely linked in a number of ways to other nearby communities, serving as a regional center for retail, services, culture, and employment. The City shares both services and facilities with neighboring communities.

The following is a partial summary of Waterville's regional coordination efforts:

### Economic Development:

- The City co-owns FirstPark, an industrial park in Oakland, with twenty-three other towns.
- Waterville supports the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce, Kennebec Valley Council of Governments, and Central Maine Growth Council, an economic development agency which serves Waterville, Winslow, and Fairfield.

### Public Services:

- **Emergency Services:** Currently, the City has mutual aid agreements with Fairfield, Oakland and Winslow for police and fire protection. The Waterville Fire Department also had a mutual aid agreement with Sidney and shares a fire chief with Winslow. The City provides dispatching of emergency services to seven (7) other towns for a fee.
- **Utilities:** Waterville partners with other towns through the Waterville Sewerage District, the Kennebec Water District, and the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District. For a list of towns served by each district, see Chapter 6: Public Facilities and Services.
- **Solid Waste:** The City and the town of Winslow both share the use of the Oakland Transfer Station and the agreement for waste transport to the trash incinerator in Orrington. The City also partners with Winslow in the Waterville-Winslow Solid Waste Corporation for recycling purposes.
- **Public Works Departments:** The Waterville Public Works Department hauls sand with Winslow, Fairfield and Norridgewock and shares mechanics and equipment with the Winslow Public Works Department.
- **Schools:** The City is a member of AOS 92. The City houses the superintendent's office and the Regional Area Resource Center and owns the Mid-Maine Technical Center which serves students from many other towns. Waterville also is home to Educare, a regional early childhood learning center attached to the Mitchell School.

- Technology: The City provides information technology support to Winslow, Oakland, and Clinton on a fee basis.
- Waterville Public Library: WPL is used by residents of other towns for a fee.
- Public Transit: Waterville supports KVCAP's operation of the Kennebec Explorer. Kennebec Explorer provides low-cost fixed route community bus service for Waterville, Fairfield, Augusta, Gardiner, Randolph, and other nearby communities.

Recreation:

- The City welcomes residents of other towns to use our municipal swimming pool (for a small fee), Pine Ridge Golf Course, and our Quarry Road Recreation Area, among many other recreation facilities.

**Future Regionalization**

This plan envisions that the City and surrounding towns will continue to support these regional efforts and that regionalization will benefit all participants. In addition, the City intends to explore options for additional regional delivery of services.