

Orleans Select Board – FY26 Goals (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)

At a meeting on July 23, 2025, the Select Board discussed and approved the following policy goals and objectives for Town government for the Fiscal Year 2026 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026).

Orleans Select Board annually selects goals and objectives which embody its core values to preserve the best of the past, facilitate effective, participatory local government in collaboration with the Town Manager and staff, boards and committees ("multi-member bodies"), as guided through town meeting actions.

Philosophy

We commit to improving the quality of life for our residents and the health of our natural environment. We encourage our departments and multi-member bodies to bring forward bold, innovative, and achievable initiatives grounded in thoughtful, well-analyzed strategies that consider both immediate and long-term impacts.

The Select Board recognizes the values and importance of:

- Governance: effective, responsive, and transparent
- Financial Management: budget and capital planning to maintain financial stability and sustainability
- Infrastructure: that is well-designed, maintained, reliable, and provides the highest level of service
- Schools: that deliver best-in-class educational outcomes
- Housing: attainable housing for our year-round community
- Economy: protect and promote the vitality of the Town and local Businesses
- Sustainability: manage our energy use in a climate-responsible manner, reduce carbon emissions, and conserve natural resources. Emphasize the health of our environment and the well-being of Orleans' residents
- Quality of Life: responsive Town Services for Orleans citizens at all stages of life

Goals and Objectives		Status (as of 10-1-2025)
1. Organizational		
1. a. i.	Review current multi-member body charges and provide professional guidance to multi-member bodies to ensure compliance with legal requirements, Open Meeting Law and improved communication to enhance the volunteer experience.	Annual Orientation set for 10/6/25
1. a. ii.	Promote and move ahead on voted plans through cross-committee collaboration on Select Board and Town Manager goals, where multiple boards have shared responsibilities.	Housing and Economic Roundtables in process
1. b.	Enhance Performance process for direct reports to the Select Board	Testing with TM for FY25 Use written (monthly) updates for SB and public to convey board/committee work
1. c.	Complete review/revision of all Select Board policies (including the Charter Land Acknowledgement)	In Process
1. d.	Strengthen enforcement, advocacy and compliance with: short-term rental registration, noise bylaw, drought restrictions, signs, outdoor lighting, fertilizer and pesticide bylaws, zoning reforms & Comprehensive Plan	Zoning is in process for Fall STM. Need further action on noise, light and sign challenges and Health is working with Planning Dept on update to Rental Registration policy/program. Plan for public engagement by Spring '26.
1. e.	Expand our 21st century communications platforms for increased customer service across residential, commercial and visitor needs, including standardized processes to list, register, discover, purchase, evaluate and report across silos of activities	Several things in process - e.g. OpenGov for permits.
2. Fiscal Management		
2. a.	Prioritize hiring a Director of Municipal Finance	Hired 9/15/25.
2. b.	Manage town assets through timely investments while continuing to maintain AAA bond rating	Facilities Study and Capital Planning is in process.
2. c.	Explore the options of a Residential Tax Exemption including applicability and timing of implementation in Orleans	Held 2 sessions
2. d.	Initiate a long-term capital planning framework, that presents investment opportunities beyond the 5-year CIP, with clearly defined responsibilities and accountability measures	New Finance Director will Chair and is one of his priorities.

2. e.	Invest in infrastructure of the Town that supports the Blue Economy, including public access and recreation at: Rock Harbor; 72 Tonest Road development (resident parking, kayak racks, water access/moorings)	Rock Harbor Wharf well underway with a scheduled completion in May 2026. Goose Hummock Bulkhead planning in process.
2. f.	Continue comprehensive review of Enterprise Fund performance to balance service delivery, fee equity and taxpayer impact (i.e., subsidy)	Review with public transition from EF to same transparency in town accounting
2. f. i.	Beaches - recognized as biggest supporter of economic development, analyze License Plate Recognition (LPR) & sticker data, improve mobile services and long-term retreat plan facilities/services	To look at over Winter.
2. f. ii.	Transfer Station - 1. Advance food composting and leaf composting in coordination with the BoH and increase Annual Grant Program. 2. Document percentage of annual solid waste reduction and analyze user data to continue to improve the efforts of waste reduction and efficiency.	Food composting bins are in place - signage and public outreach to follow. Need to confer with BoH on income streams to support rising subsidy of Transfer Station.
2. g.	Explore additional ways to offset the taxpayer burden including allocation of Cannabis Revenues.	More clarification in budget prep. on revenue side.
3. Infrastructure		
3. a.	Sewers: Support the work of the Wastewater Management Advisory Committee recommendations including implementation of the CWRMP phases	Submitted loan application package to SRF on 10/2 for Phase 3 to get go ahead to bid.
3. a. i.	Continue to work with the Town of Eastham leaders to explore creation of watershed permit for Nauset Estuary and Rock Harbor consistent with new MassDEP regulations	Ongoing through efforts of WMAC and Town Planning Director.
3. b.	Fire-Rescue: Advance the new station design to prepare a construction funding request for Fall 2025 or May 2026 Town Meeting	Building Committee working, OPM award has taken place and contract development in process.
3. c.	Advance Enhanced Broadband access for residents and businesses	
3. d.	Complete Wayfinding signage program	Prepare 2026 Annual TM request for implementation
3. e.	Eldredge Parkway roadway widening from Lot's Hollow Intersection to Rte 6A	Coordination with Eversource requested and traffic engineering underway. Need to clean up former chamber building site.
4. Schools		
4. a.	New Nauset Regional School District (NRSD) Agreement	In Process
4. b.	Completion of the Brewster, Orleans, Eastham, Wellfleet Elementary School Regionalization & Efficiency Study	In Process working with the consultant and work is underway. The next phase is community meetings in each participating town.
4. c.	As part of the townwide building assessment, prioritize facility needs of Orleans Elementary School	in scope of Assessment
4. d.	Consider article for future Town Meeting to provide separate Town Operating Budget and School Budgets	
5. Housing Initiatives		
5. i.	Monitor occupancy at Phare (former CC 5/Pennrose) and the 107 Main St developments	In-Process through E. Jenkins, Asst. Dir. of Planning & Dev.

5. ii.	Advance the Gov. Prence project(s)	Development team is finalizing a Comprehensive Permit application to file with the Zoning Board of Appeals (per 40B regulations, filing for a Comprehensive Permit requires Project Eligibility Letter (PEL) from the state authorizing them to proceed. (The Select Board submitted a letter of support for their application in March.) They have received a PEL for the Phase II and III homeownership projects, but are still waiting for the PEL for the Phase I rental units. The Development team has also finalized engineering plans for the building demolition. This work must be publicly bid under state procurement laws (because portions are being publicly funded), and Planning Dept. is assisting them in fulfilling these requirements. Finally, Planning Dept. assisting with a Mass OneStop Application for additional funds to support the demolition and site work.
5. iii.	Advance the 44 Main St project (6 affordable units, community space, public restrooms, basement); prioritize Modular, Net Zero approach.	Pending Fall STM Zoning amendments to explore viable options.
5. iv.	Evaluate implementation of Lease to Locals program	Program kick-off in August, 2025.
5. v.	Explore town-owned properties for housing potential, including: 1. Former Hubler Motel (at Nauset Beach upper pkg); 2. Gavigan Cottages; 3. Bay Ridge Lane (former Parks & Hwy); 4. Track achievement of goal of 350 new housing units.	more discussion to come
6. Environmental Sustainability		
6. a.	Achieve Climate Leader designation by the Commonwealth of Mass	Special Code Adoption and decarbonization roadmap acceptance last step to be completed. Next Opportunity to apply for designation is December 30th. This would qualify Orleans for up to \$1million grants for town facilities
6. b.	Advance the Town meeting voted solar projects	Bidding Process was completed in August and we are currently in the contracting phase.
6. c.	Review position of Tree Warden to determine if it meets current expectations for native plantings, lawn maintenance, water usage, fertilizers/pesticides, pruning and plantings	In Process
6. d.	Continue plastics reduction measures through achievable actions such as reducing single-use plastic straws, utensils, etc. in coordination with BoH	In Process
7. Quality of Life		
7. a.	Advance the Eldredge Park area project	CPC Application and Supplement submitted for consideration at Fall Special TM
7. b.	Advance the multi-modal Depot Square redesign	Community engagement underway
7. c.	Continue ways to look for opportunities to ease the cost burden on taxpayers, including support early childhood education, after-school programming, recreation access, intern programs to enhance livability.	Device Advice intern partnership with CCRRegTechHS received the 2025 Spirit of Massachusetts Award for excellence in technology on 9/18/2025. Alex F working on Early Childhood program to bring to future SB mtg.
7. d.	Identify opportunities to invest in space for future municipal needs	In Process

7. e.	Upon completion of the Facilities Assessment, work with our community partners to plan investment in future community needs (i.e., Library, Community Center).	RFQ issued 8/18/2025, has closed 9/19/2025 and responses are under review. Timeline proposes a draft report in March, 2026 (estimated).
8. Goals Review		
8. a.	Implement a quarterly status check on progress at a Select Board meeting in the following months: October, January, March/April and June/July.	First status check on 10/1/25