



THE CITY OF AUGUSTA

MARK S. O'BRIEN, MAYOR

CITY COUNCIL

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To: Council and City Manager
From: Mark S. O'Brien, Mayor
Date: September 5, 2023
Re: Rental Inspection Ordinance Task Force

This past spring City staff presented the City Council with a proposal to adopt a rental unit inspection ordinance for the City of Augusta. At the March 9, 2023 City Council Informational Meeting, the Council received extensive written and oral comments about the topic. As a result of the discussion at that meeting, the Council expressed interest in and support for the establishment of a committee of stakeholders to review the proposed ordinance and the topic generally, and to report back to the council with recommendations.

This memorandum serves to establish an ad hoc Rental Inspection Ordinance Task Force. The charge to the committee is to review the proposed rental inspection ordinance, consider modifications to the ordinance, discuss possible alternatives to address the underlying concerns over safe and sanitary housing stock, and to report back to the council with recommendations, including but not limited to whether the proposed ordinance should be adopted and if so, in what form.

I have considered expressions of interest from members of the public and persons representative of a variety of stakeholder groups. While not every person who wanted to be on the task force was selected, it is my intention that my appointments reflect a range of perspectives.

I appoint Councilor Courtney Gary-Allen as the chairperson of the task force. Other members hereby appointed to the committee are:

Linda Conti, City Councilor, Ward 1
Kim Gleason, McAllister Real Estate
Kathryn (Katy) Childs, Managing Attorney, Pine Tree Legal Assistance
Ratnasiri (Ratna) Liyanage-Don, President, Capital Area Housing Association
Glen Guerrette, Guerette Properties
Alec Rogers, Maine Evergreen Hotel
Matt Nazar, Director of Development Services, and/or Rob Overton, Director of Code Enforcement, or their designee(s), shall serve as staff to the committee.

It is anticipated that the task force will call upon subject matter experts for input as the need arises. Meetings shall be scheduled at the discretion of the task force chair in consultation with other task force members. All meetings shall be open to the public.