



Cumberland County

27 Northport Dr
Portland, ME 04103

Position Paper

File #: 26-006

Agenda Date: 1/5/2026

Agenda Item Request:

Establishment of a Cross Insurance Arena Task Force to explore future opportunities and feasibilities of the arena.

Background and Purpose of Request:

This item is being brought forward for your consideration to establish a Cross Insurance Arena Task Force to explore future opportunities and the feasibility of the arena.

With the arena's fiftieth anniversary approaching in 2027, a small group has met briefly to discuss its future. Trustee Chair Steve Woods, Commissioner Tom Tyler, County Manager Jim Gailey, and the Maine Mariners' ownership have held preliminary discussions regarding the potential structure of a Task Force and the review of existing studies to guide these efforts.

Current discussions propose a Task Force comprised of ten to twelve individuals representing various regional stakeholders, including business leaders, tourism representatives, arena management, tenants, promoters, and local, county, and state government officials. The Task Force would operate for an initial duration of twelve to eighteen months and provide periodic updates to the County Commissioners.