

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Towns of Naples, Bridgton, Sebago, Harrison, and Casco Maine
Shared Use of the Naples Recreation Complex
as a Regional Warming and Cooling Center

Effective Date: June 1, 2026

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is entered into by and among the Town of Naples, Maine; the Town of Bridgton, Maine; the Town of Sebago, Maine; the Town of Harrison, Maine; and the Town of Casco, Maine (collectively referred to as the “Participating Communities”) for the purpose of establishing a cooperative regional agreement for the use of the Naples Recreation Complex, anticipated to be constructed in 2027, as a shared emergency warming and cooling center for residents of the Lakes Region of Maine.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to formalize the intent of the Participating Communities to collaborate in providing a safe, accessible, and centrally located public facility during periods of extreme heat, extreme cold, natural disasters, prolonged power outages, public health emergencies, and other emergency situations affecting residents of the Lakes Region.

The Participating Communities recognize the importance of regional cooperation in emergency preparedness and response and acknowledge that the Naples Recreation Complex will serve as a valuable community asset capable of supporting public safety and emergency sheltering needs.

FACILITY

The Naples Recreation Complex, upon completion and opening anticipated in 2027, shall serve as a designated regional warming and cooling center. The facility is expected to include appropriate gathering areas, restrooms, heating and cooling systems, backup power capabilities where feasible, and accessibility accommodations consistent with state and federal requirements.

ELIGIBLE USERS

The warming and cooling center shall be available to residents of the following municipalities:

- Town of Naples, Maine
- Town of Bridgton, Maine
- Town of Sebago, Maine
- Town of Harrison, Maine
- Town of Casco, Maine

Access shall be provided without discrimination and in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal laws and emergency management protocols.

ACTIVATION OF THE CENTER

The Naples Recreation Complex may be activated as a warming or cooling center during:

- Extreme heat advisories or warnings
- Extreme cold advisories or warnings
- Extended power outages
- Severe weather events
- Public health emergencies
- Natural disasters or other emergency conditions

Activation decisions shall be coordinated among municipal leadership, emergency management personnel, public safety officials, and relevant county or state emergency agencies as appropriate.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTICIPATING COMMUNITIES

The Participating Communities agree to cooperate in the following ways:

1. Communication and Coordination

Each community shall designate appropriate municipal staff or emergency management personnel to coordinate communication regarding activation, operations, and public notification.

2. Public Information

Each community shall assist in disseminating information to residents regarding the availability, hours, and use of the warming and cooling center.

3. Operational Support

The communities may collaborate in providing staffing, volunteers, transportation assistance, emergency supplies, or other support services during activation periods as resources allow.

4. Emergency Planning

The communities agree to incorporate this regional facility into local emergency preparedness and response plans where appropriate.

FUNDING AND COSTS

This MOU represents an agreement of cooperation and intent and does not obligate any Participating Community to specific financial commitments unless separately agreed upon in writing. Future agreements regarding operational costs, staffing, maintenance, equipment, or emergency reimbursements may be developed as needed.

TERM OF AGREEMENT

This MOU shall become effective on June 1, 2026, and shall remain in effect unless modified or terminated by mutual written agreement of the Participating Communities.

NON-BINDING NATURE

This MOU is intended to express the cooperative intentions of the Participating Communities and does not create legally binding financial obligations or liabilities among the parties unless expressly provided through future agreements.

SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned municipal representatives hereby acknowledge and support this Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of their respective communities.

By: _____
Randy Lessard, Town Manager - Naples, Maine

Date: _____

By: _____
Donald Kasprzak, Town Manager - Bridgton, Maine

Date: _____

By: _____
Harold Davis, Town Manager - Sebago, Maine

Date: _____

By: _____
John Bellino, Town Manager - Harrison, Maine

Date: _____

By: _____
Tony Ward, Town Manager - Casco, Maine

Date: _____