

TALKING POINTS

Crime is up in Bangor while it fell statewide.

4,124 crimes were reported in 2024, up from 3,700 in 2023. The rate, 104.63 per 1,000 residents, was the highest of any city in Maine. The statewide rate went down to 28.83. [1]

Be fair about the numbers.

Departments may report crimes differently under the FBI's newer system, so city to city gaps can be wide. Bangor's own year over year rise is the cleanest comparison. [1]

Downtown safety money needs results.

Streetplus costs about \$310,000 a year; the city paid \$193,000 last year. Residents and at least one councilor question whether it works. [3]

Sweeps move people, they don't house them.

The railroad encampment held more than 40 people at its peak and was cleared Dec. 22, 2025. The city manager said the pattern keeps repeating. [4]

The Council promised to do better.

After a June 2026 meeting that fell short of its own standards, the Council unanimously passed a civility resolve on July 27, 2026. [8]

Keep it about the record.

Don't name or attack candidates. Point people to the sources and let the numbers speak.