

**Canal Water Quality Committee Report  
To SBTC Council Meeting  
For August 9, 2024  
Submitted By Robert Biciocchi, Liaison**

This Committee has myself, Robert Biciocchi, as Council Liaison, and Chris Vanuga as Chair, CWQC.

The CWQC July meeting discussed and unanimously voted in support of amending a DRAFT Mission and Scope for the Committee to present to Council in a near term SBTC session. The purpose of the proposed amendments to the CWQC Mission and Scope is to address the development of a Comprehensive Plan for the Canal system which is asset so vital to the Town. Water Quality is a continued focus with more specific scope as to Water Circulation and also associated Structural Maintenance that can contribute to navigability and flood resiliency. A Canal system maintenance plan would provide a data document with GIS mapping of existing Storm Water infrastructure, Bulkhead heights and Dredging Water depths, potential sites for access for equipment, and Water Quality data measurement locations.

The benefit to SBTC and Council is to add to our much needed resources performing project support tasks of a Comprehensive Plan for South Bethany.

The CWQC has drafted an updated strategic projects plan including research on financial resources required per project line item. This shall be presented to Council as an update to the SBTC Strategic Planning overall effort in a near term Council Workshop agenda.

The CWQC is interested in finding additional Committee candidates to fill one to two openings to support amended scope if approved by Council.

The CWQC also can report the active Widgeon grass seeds and plant harvesting in much of the canal areas. Contracts for the Algae and ongoing general maintenance clean up of the canals are in place.

CWQC is interested in pursuing a review of Town Ordinance for lawn maintenance companies to collect their clippings that are presently being blown into the canals.