

JANUARY 2026 COMMITTEE REPORTS

BIKE & PEDESTRIAN SAFETY (Shields)

Committee members met with Chief Lovins to determine our priorities for next years budget. We settled on these:

- One illuminated stop sign for a roll through intersection
- two digital speed signs
- funds for Bike Rodeo

BUDGET & FINANCE (Bartholomew)

No report or update

CANAL WATER QUALITY (Biciocchi)

An end of year note of thanks to the Committee for their volunteer service participation. At our December 15, 2025, meeting, CWQ submitted a budget for consideration by Council that includes Engineering Services to expand understanding of our Canal water quality and movements to help SBTC determine the best active management plan going forward.

In 2025 the CWQ conducted several activities in support of Council directives;

- Continued the Water Quality Measurement and Monitoring led by Dave Wilson and other volunteers that reports SB Canal oxygen and dissolved particulates found as collected from numerous sampling sites. All the data is shared with the State for record and analysis.
- CWQ worked with the SAV project and DNREC in the study of Widgeon Grass population harvesting for our canals. These grasses help oxygenate the water and DNREC sponsors their harvesting to help other areas of the bay to benefit.
- The Committee also supported SBTC Public Works in their planning to reestablish the Rain Gardens that are an important part of our Stormwater Management efforts. Special thanks to Pete Trelenberg of the Committee in his inventory/inspection and restoration cost estimates of locations that feed into the Canal network.
- John Beauregard of CWQ helped to research new water quality solution technologies from Solitude contractor to evaluate how to neutralize the buildup of Phosphate concentrations in the canal water. The Committee working with our Town Manager helped to introduce Solitude to the DNREC Water Quality department about the issue.
- Committee Members were vigilant of our Envirotech and Solitude contractors canal algae and seasonal clean up arrangements which has helped to stabilize water quality in its 3rd year of these efforts.
- Special thanks to previous Chair Chris Vanuga in his preparation of the State of the Canals Report to Council 2025 which chronicled the past 20 years of past CWQ projects and related initiatives into a concise 15 chart digital content presentation.

The recommendations of the Report will be relevant to maintaining our Canal infrastructure, water quality, and navigability now and into the future.

COMMUNITY PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP (Van Horn)

Nothing to report

COMMUNITY RELATIONS (Keefe)

The CRC is scheduled to meet again on February 4, 2026.

The “Coffee With” Program will continue on February 20, 2026

PLANNING COMMISSION (Van Horn)

Nothing to report

RESILIENCY (Dondero)

The Committee did not meet in December 2025.

A Request for Proposals for a flood mitigation project on the secondary streets in York Beach was posted this week. Bids are due in 30 days, and the award will be made at the February Council meeting.

The Committee is reviewing the Resiliency Planning Report prepared by our consultants from the University of Delaware and will send comments on the report to Council for their consideration.