

**Town of South Bethany
Resiliency Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 15, 2026**

In attendance: Mayor Dondero (Chair), G. Injaian, A. Burritt, J. Marini (virtual), and M. Powell (virtual)

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 am.
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2026
 - Minutes were unanimously approved with no comments
3. Report on Status of Mitigation Projects
 - York Road, phase 1 work is underway. Construction work started on April 14 and should be complete with the exception of striping by April 16 or 17.
 - York Road, phase 2 contract was awarded to AECOM on March 13. The engineering work is expected to take about 9 months and be completed by the end of 2026. A draft report should be available for review in September 2026.
 - The contract to conduct a Coastal Analysis was awarded on March 13 and work is just starting. The engineering study is expected to be complete in or around August 2026. Committee members requested to see the winning proposal and asked questions about the timeline and scope of work.
4. Update on Reinstated FEMA BRIC Grant Program
 - A federal court recently ordered the reinstatement of the BRIC grant program.
 - Applications are currently being accepted for FY2024 and FY2025 BRIC grants, with a submission deadline of late June. Committee members asked if the town should apply for a grant. Per the grant guidelines, awards are being issued for construction projects only and the Town does not have any engineered projects ready to submit. The Committee will aim to apply for a grant in the next round, which should be released this fall or winter.
 - The court also ordered that the previously committed funds for FY2023 grants be awarded. The town is waiting for more information about if and when it will receive its award of funding for Cat Hill flood mitigation.
5. Status of Community Planning Group Recommendations to Council
 - The recommendation to revise the code to improve the definitions of impervious/pervious soils was presented to TC. General alignment was received; the next step is to prepare a draft definition for consideration. Mayor Dondero committed to work with the town solicitor and code constable to prepare a draft for resiliency committee input.

- The recommendation to revise 55% impervious maximum in setbacks was presented to the Council. General consensus on the amendment was received and the town staff will prepare the ordinance changes for presentation at a future Council meeting.

6. Discussion of Next Steps for Committee

- Mayor Dondero offered a view that much of the Resiliency Committees work has been completed or is in progress and the committee should be able to reduce the meeting frequency in the near term. Art Burritt offered a view that while good progress is being made in a number of areas there is still much work to be done. As an example, he noted that the town should consider further code adjustments to decrease the amount of impervious surface in town. He also asked when the committee's recommendation for a mandatory freeboard would be brought to TC for consideration. Mayor Dondero said now that the budget process has been completed, the freeboard recommendation will go to Council at a future meeting.

7. Public Comment

- None offered

8. The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 am.