

MAYOR'S REPORT
AUGUST 14, 2026

Rep. McBride's office informed us she received communication from the Army Corps that the letter notifying DNREC of the termination of the Delaware Inland Bays and Delaware Bay Coast Study (aka "the Back Bay study") was sent "prematurely" and that the Corps continues to "conduct a comprehensive review of the study" with higher level coordination. It is unclear (to me) exactly what that means but the Congresswoman's office felt it was encouraging news.

Fenwick Island and Ocean City are working with the University of Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System (MARACOOS) to potentially create a network of tidal gauges in the Little Assawoman Bay that will provide real-time monitoring of tide heights and water levels. This equipment would be installed in various locations around the bay to record data that can be used for resiliency planning projects. The Town of South Bethany was invited to partner on the effort.

Summary of July 2026 Activity

- Call with Rossi Group regarding logistics for July community meeting and promotion of community survey
- Reviewed draft community survey and Planning Commission comments
- Attended University of Delaware webinar
- Discussions with Town Manager and Police Chief regarding holiday weekend preparations and readiness
- Monitored communications from Sussex County Emergency Management regarding extreme heat advisory and warnings
- With Town Manager, met with team from MARACOOS regarding shoreline monitoring project and potential tidal monitoring camera
- Meeting preparation and chaired July Resiliency Committee meeting
- July Town Council meeting agenda, minutes, preparation, and attendance
- With Town Manager, met with Fenwick Island representatives regarding MARACOOS tidal monitoring network for Little Assawoman Bay
- Attended Coffee with the Planners community forum re: comprehensive plan
- With Town Manager, met with Councilmember regarding various topics
- With Town Manager, met with SBPOA President regarding annual donation
- Conducted research for resiliency committee, began preparing materials for community meeting in late August
- With Town Manager and Planning Commission Liaison, met with Rossi Group to discuss next steps in comprehensive planning process
- Call with Solicitor regarding FOIA matter
- Call with consulting engineer regarding pervious coverage and stormwater runoff
- Numerous calls, meetings with Town Manager and other staff
- Answered all emails with resident issues and/or complaints