



Town of Nantucket Capital Program Committee November 18, 2025

Attending Members:	Jill Vieth, Chair, Howard Matz, Vice Chair, Peter Kaizer, Caroline Baltzer, Christy Kickham, Liza Hatton
Staff:	Susan Carmel, Deputy Finance Director, David Gray, Sewer Director, Gregg Tivnan, Deputy Town Manager, Charles Johnson, Stormwater Manager
Absent	Dawn Hill

The Capital Program Committee discussed several key infrastructure projects, focusing on the Somerset Needs Area, stormwater management, and the replacement of the Children's Beach Pump Station. Key points included the Somerset project's 40% design completion, acquisition of land for a pump station, and the necessity of timely funding to avoid increased costs. The committee reviewed the need for updated stormwater infrastructure, including a new pump station at Jetties Beach, and emphasized the importance of incorporating green infrastructure. Additionally, the group addressed the challenges of dealing with PFAS contaminants and the exploration of new technologies. Funding strategies and stakeholder engagement were highlighted throughout the discussions.

Action Items

- Send the Brandt Point feasibility study link to Caroline upon her email request
- Add a statement to the project summary documenting the risk that the town could be removed from the state's intended-use-plan (0% financing) if funding/authorization is delayed

Somerset Needs Area Project Overview

- Jill Vieth introduces the Capital Program Committee meeting and announces it is being audio and video recorded.
- Motion to approve the agenda is made by Liza Hatton, seconded by Peter Kaizer
- Roll call vote: Liza aye, Peter aye, Christy aye, Caroline aye, Howard aye, Jill aye.
- Motion passes unanimously.
- David Gray explains the Somerset needs area project, highlighting its sensitivity due to nitrogen concerns and ongoing design progress (about 40% complete).
- Discussion on the necessity of acquiring more land for the project, particularly for a larger pump station to accommodate future developments.
- David mentions the challenges faced in securing land due to numerous restrictions and the importance of adhering to environmental guidelines.

Funding and Timeline Concerns

- Jill Vieth asks about the availability of funds to proceed with the design and construction phases.
- David Gray confirms that the necessary funds are available and emphasizes the urgency of maintaining momentum to avoid increasing costs.
- Discussion on the timeline for the project's completion, noting that construction could begin in two to three years.
- Consideration of the financial implications of delaying the project and the potential loss of eligibility for state funding.

PFAS Testing and Technology Evaluation

- Introduction of the topic of PFAS testing and the need for a local solution for waste processing.
- David Gray discusses various technologies evaluated for PFAS destruction, including foam fractionation and electrolysis.
- Gail Tivnan clarifies the budget allocations for the PFAS testing and pilot project, emphasizing the exploratory nature of the initiative.
- Howard Matz raises concerns about the reliability and commercial viability of the proposed technologies, suggesting a preference for proven solutions.

Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements

- Charles Johnson outlines the urgent need for stormwater infrastructure enhancements, particularly at Jetties Beach and surrounding areas.
- Proposal includes creating a pump station to manage sediment accumulation and improving stormwater discharge into the treatment plant.
- Discussion on integrating green infrastructure elements, such as bioswales, into the stormwater management strategy.
- Emphasis on the importance of regular maintenance and the challenges posed by regulatory changes and funding constraints.

Pump Station Replacement and Design Challenges

- Focus shifts to the replacement of the Children's Beach pump station, addressing historical issues with the current setup.
- Description of the pump station's history, including its initial design flaws and subsequent modifications.
- Plans for a comprehensive redesign to ensure proper functionality and compliance with water quality standards.
- Potential integration of the pump station with nearby developments, such as a new concession stand and public restroom.

Sewer System Inspection and Maintenance Issues

- Review of the condition of the sewer system, revealing severe deterioration and structural weaknesses.
- Identification of multiple instances where sewer pipes have become disconnected or damaged due to inadequate support and aging materials.
- Importance of conducting thorough inspections and repairs to prevent further degradation and associated risks.
- Mention of the need for continued collaboration with stakeholders to secure funding and prioritize repair activities.

Equipment Upgrades and Storage Solutions

- Discussion on the need for upgrading outdated equipment, such as the Track Machine and Hook Lift Truck.
- Proposals for improved storage solutions to protect outdoor equipment from weather-related damage.
- Cost considerations for purchasing new equipment and implementing protective measures, such as underground storage or durable coatings.
- Impact of frequent equipment replacements on project timelines and budgets.

Parking Lot Redesign and Green Infrastructure Integration

- Presentation of a proposal to redesign the Jetty Beach parking lot to enhance stormwater management.
- Concept involves creating a pump station to handle sediment accumulation and integrate green infrastructure elements.
- Collaboration with external partners, such as the Hobby-Yacht Club, to share responsibilities and funding for the project.
- Goals of reducing maintenance burdens and improving stormwater quality through innovative design approaches.

Flood Control Measures and Public Participation

- Examination of the broader context of flood control and stormwater management initiatives.
- Efforts to engage the public in identifying priority areas for intervention and supporting funding mechanisms.
- Development of a funding framework based on impervious surface charges to create a sustainable revenue stream.
- Alignment with regional practices and legal requirements to ensure compliance and effectiveness of the proposed measures.

Meeting Conclusion and Action Items

- Agreement on the need for continuous updates and communication regarding project progress and upcoming deadlines.
- Clarification on the availability of relevant documents and reports, such as the feasibility study and budget details.
- Motion to adjourn made by Liza Hatton, seconded by Christy Kickham.
- Roll call vote: Christy aye, Liza aye, Caroline aye, Jill aye.
- Motion passes unanimously.