

Goal: To Promote Quality of Life in the Community

1. Maintain Jamestown’s “Rural Character “

- A. *Define rural character and Jamestown’s unique character and sense of place;*
 - a. This is expressed in the Preamble of the Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission spent several evenings defining “Rural Character” as it pertains to Jamestown. The Planning Commission, acknowledging the vagueness and vastness of the term “rural character,” has defined it to mean, “that which is unique to the Island of Jamestown – a town infused with a rural feeling, an insular spirit and a village identity”.
- B. *Encourage preservation of open space on individual lots and small subdivisions;*
 - a. The Planning Commission has adopted amendments to the Comprehensive Plan related to Conservation Development and the importance of designing meaningful open space into subdivisions. The Planning Commission is in the process of adopting amendments to the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations (Conservation Development) which encourage open space in all subdivisions and mandate it in subdivisions of 5 lots and over. (Expected completion date December 2015). More clarification is needed to define “preservation of open space on individual lots” since development of existing lots requires nothing but a building permit in most situations.
 - b. The Tax Assessor’s office will continue to support and monitor properties in the Open Space Program. These properties, which must remain undeveloped for a period of 15 years, benefit by way of reduced assessments. **There have been no significant changes in the Open Space Program during the past two years.**
- C. *Develop a strategy for the protection of vistas, views, and open space including landscape elements that evoke rural character;*
 - a. One effective option for the Council to consider in developing this strategy would be to task the Planning Commission and to include this language in the Zoning Ordinance/Jamestown Special Development District, in areas that provide and share the islands most treasured scenic views/vistas, open space and landscape elements. One of the purposes of the Zoning Ordinance is, 5) *Provide for the protection of the natural, historic, cultural, and scenic character of the town or areas therein;* The Rhode Island “Green Book” also provides for a solid basis for identifying such landscape elements. Additional work in this area is required in the coming years.
- D. *Develop a policy regarding preservation of historic structures;*
 - a. This topic has at times been somewhat divisive within the community in terms of residential structures with various perspectives offered by Planning Commission members, various organized groups as well as individuals within the community. Further discussion and research should be conducted in order to assess the need and/or support for such a policy/regulation in the community. The preservation of historic structures and community landmarks has received general support from local residents. A continued effort to preserve these important community assets should be formalized for future consistency. **This discussion will be an important part of the upcoming Sustainability Plan as renovation of older structures is a more sustainable way to construct rather than building new.**

- E. Support initiatives that encourage farming, sustainable agriculture, fishing and aquaculture;*
- a. The Town is working with CRMC on evaluation process of permits for expansion and management of aquaculture activities in local waters. **As varying perspectives exist within the community on this topic, a balancing of commercial and residential interests will be required as the future of the industry looks favorable in terms of economic activity, jobs and improvement in the bays water quality.**
 - b. Seeking viable options for the installation of upwellers at the Fort Getty waterfront and possible improvements to support commercial fishing operations. Discussion and research in this area will be ongoing through the winter months 2016-2017. **An RFP has been developed by the Planning Department and is ready to be released to the public to assess interest and potential options to address the Towns ability to accommodate this activity.**
 - c. The Tax Assessor's office will continue to support and monitor properties in the Farmland Program (Farm, Forest and Open Space). These properties, after being approved by the RI Division of Agriculture, must be actively farmed and undeveloped for a period of 10 years. The parcels are assessed at reduced rates based on state guidelines. **The new owners of Fox Hill Farm on Fort Getty Road have renewed and updated their Farmland Designation.**
- F. Continue to support Farmers Market and Community Farm;*
- a. The Town continues to support the application and function of Farmers Market at Fort Getty – seeking ways to increase the presence of locally grown products at farmers market and balance this with other locally made products. With the improved pavilion facilities, the grounds and restroom amenities are being utilized to enhance the market experience. **Town staff are supporting the effort without managing it directly and allowing for growth in this public/private partnership.**
 - b. The need for a winter farmers market should be considered, if a sufficient number of local vendors, including Newport and South County vendors, if needed, express interest and a viable location can be secured.
 - c. The Zoning Dept. will review and advise on all Special Use Permits, License's, and Permits in support of community farming and farmers markets in the community.
 - d. The Town will continue to coordinate with the organizers of the Community Farm on a wide array of issues, albeit the nature of the farms activities are technically that of a non-profit, it does fulfill an important community need and preserve an important parcel of land. In addition, the farm does link with residents that utilize the Eldred Ave. playfields and will also do so on a larger scale with the users of the future shared use path.
- G. Develop a strategy for road marking, signage and lighting that reduces visual clutter; and*
- a. The Shores parking program is designed to limit signage by area regulatory approach, versus signing each specific roadway. Broader Town-wide strategy remains in discussion before Traffic Committee. A community-wide assessment should be conducted along with improvements to directional signage, street signs and directional signs for places of local importance. **As of July 2016 the Traffic Committee finalized its thoughts on the northern Shores area, and focus its attention on other roads and neighborhoods in town regarding the issues of overnight parking and public safety access.**
 - b. Coordination with RIDOT regarding state signage throughout the community and updating of existing signs, where needed.

- c. Council approves (Sept. 2015) delegation of permit review to Bldg./Zoning Official to address sandwich board signs used by community organizations and within the commercial district(s). Future review of sign ordinance is required in commercial district to facilitate appropriate revisions.
- H. *Support the development of trails, walks, habitat restoration and programs that support resident's awareness and knowledge of the natural world around them;*
 - a. Ongoing Projects include, the Taylors Point Initiative, Mackerel Cove Dune Restoration, the Creek Restoration program, Fort Getty Trails, Hull Cove and other public rights of way. Also included is the continuation of an active dialogue on access to North and South Pond property inclusive of the future shared use path at the North Reservoir.

2. Protect Natural Resources

- A. *Continue to protect the center island watershed;*
 - a. Discussion on various supporting initiatives continue at this time, with more in-depth study required in future years.
- B. *Support community efforts towards habitat restoration, resource protection;*
 - a. Dune restoration efforts at Mackerel Cove and Fort Getty continue with the use of dune fencing and grass replanting efforts are continuing. A major restoration project is in the planning stages at Taylor Point with inventorying of invasive species already underway along with a detailed mapping of the property and the establishment of a partnership with a habitat restoration program at the University of Rhode Island.
- C. *Implement measures to address poor water quality in Sheffield Cove;*
 - a. Consultant hired and water testing phase is ongoing; town staff with the support of several college interns worked with our consultant ESS Group researching the source of elevated bacteria levels in stormwater discharges to Sheffield Cove. During a period over several months water samples were collected from the drainage and watershed during wet and dry weather events. Another round of sampling will be conducted and a report will be prepared that will summarize their findings.
 - b. In October 2015, the Council supported the submittal of a grant application for \$118,200 with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC) along with the Narragansett Bay Estuary Program. A 40% Town match is required, although the Town's proposal includes a \$5,000 financial match and \$35,000 in-kind match. This is a competitive review process and the Town has since received notification that our 2016 application has been approved. Town staff will coordinate and manage this project in working with the consultant, the ESS Group on this project. Design and permitting plans of the proposed drainage improvements are expected to be complete for submission to CRMC and DEM in winter 2016/2017.
- D. *Continue to update and revise the Ground Water Ordinance;*
 - a. Ongoing program - Ordinance revisions being prepared for consideration and updating in 2017.
- E. *Continue to purchase environmentally sensitive tax lots in the Shores neighborhood;*
 - a. This program is ongoing in the shore neighborhood with the Town providing the closing costs and related expenses associated with the acquisition of property.

- b. The Tax Assessor's office will continue to maintain up-to-date lists of all vacant properties acquired by the Town. **This office also coordinates the assessment list with the separate list maintained by the Planning Office.**
- F. *Continue with the ongoing efforts to improve the health and condition of Round Marsh; and*
 - a. In December of 2014 the DPW worked with staff from Save the Bay and RIDEM to improve tidal flow to Round Marsh. Tidal ditches were excavated and cleaned to restore tidal flows to the salt marsh. A contractor was hired to mulch invasive phragmites within Round Marsh. Over the next two years additional mulching will be conducted. Save the Bay has been monitoring the marsh for the effectiveness of the ditch excavation.
- G. *Continue efforts in wildlife management suggested by Tick Task force;*
 - a. The Task Force is entering its second year of program development and its second hunting season. The committee is working on the development of a comprehensive educational program, improved educational opportunities and media exposure to its messaging. The Taskforce has also forged a productive working relationship with URI's Tom Mather in his research associated with tick borne diseases and comprehensive prevention programming. In addition, communication remains ongoing with RIDEM officials regarding approved methods to manage the local deer population and future opportunities to positively impact the herd on Dutch and Gould Islands. The Town has coordinated a visit to Dutch Island with RIDEM officials in November 2015 to evaluate the improvements being conducted by the Army Corps. Of Engineers and further discuss the idea of a coordinated hunting program in 2016 and allowing for increased public access in the future. The approved budget for this program in FY2016-17 is \$15,000.

3. Promote Public Access to the Water, Water-based Activities and Use of Jamestown's Natural Resources

- A. *Develop stable funding mechanism and clear line of responsibility for maintenance of Public Right of Ways to the water;*
 - a. Town staff, along with the Friends of Jamestown ROW committee and the Conservation Commission is reviewing the findings of the most recent ROW report from 2013. In review of this document, and a series of on-site visits to specific ROW's in the Shores neighborhood, the Town is preparing to send letters to all ROW abutters alerting them the effort to clearly delineate all property lines and to appropriately mark all public ROW's. The High Street ROW has been completed in 2015 with the engineering being completed for the bid development for the Hull Cove accessible boardwalk project. **The Conservation Commission and Friends group are preparing a broader discussion with the Town Council and community on Public ROW's for later in 2016 and in 2017.** The Friends of Jamestown ROW's and the Conservation Commission presented information to the Council in Oct. 2015 and again in a public session in October 2016 with Town staff in updating the ROW inventory document that was produced in 2013. The first phase of this work included ROW's (1-21) from the Creek to the Northern tip of the island, with work on the southern ROW's to continue in 2016. Town staff have begun to visit each ROW in November 2015 with representatives of the Friends group in order to discuss possible enhancements at each location.

As of Fall 2016 a letter has been compiled that will be submitted to all ROW property abutters providing them with notice of the Towns intention to visually mark the various ROW's in the

community, with the appropriate CRMC public access signage and by visually marking the properties corners. In addition, maintenance assents have been field with CRMC for seven(7) existing ROW's, for minimal clearing of trails, delineation of property bounds, installation of CRMC signage and other minor improvements.

- b. Maintenance continues to be one of the greatest challenges in terms of the sustainability of a ROW program. Town staff are working with neighbors in an attempt to secure the necessary assistance in this area. Discussions on the possibility of alternate funding sources in this area is being researched.
- B. Improve restroom facilities and parking accommodations at Mackerel Cove and Fort Getty;*
- a. Funding in the amount of \$25,000 was approved for the replacement of restrooms at Mackerel Cove as part of the FY2015-16 Capital Program. The Town is in the process of seeking the necessary CRMC permitting to install this improved facility. The portable structure remains in the design and permitting phase and after additional public input is secured, construction will be performed in-house by Town personnel. Based on the timing of this project, installation may be delayed until the 2017-2018 summer season.
 - b. Discussion regarding improved restrooms at Fort Getty is continuing with more formal discussions expected to occur as part of the 2016 season review discussion with the Parks and Recreation Department. The future of both the lower and upper structures remain in question, and the need to replace both facilities is a priority improvement needed in the park. The concept of a shared facility in the park accommodating public restroom/shower use, park storage and program space is also being researched with the potential of a third party partner relationship. The Town is planning to complete the design of the new facilities during the winter/spring of FY2016-2017 with construction considered for the fall 2017 and spring 2018. A two-phase RFP has been drafted to develop a coordinated architectural style for the park to include a town accepted vision for new gatehouse, a maintenance building with public bathrooms and a sailing/marine education/multi-purpose building with public bathrooms. In addition, a second phase will include architectural design and bid documents of the new gatehouse and maintenance building including public bathrooms.
- C. Continue improvements to the Pier, Ramp, Boat Storage and Water Access at Fort Getty;*
- a. A thorough review of existing facilities is underway, Town staff has been in communication with RIDEM officials regarding various grant programs available to assist with the refurbishment and improvements to the Fort Getty waterfront. This in concert with a long-term Capital waterfront funding commitment and planning perspective offered by the Harbor Commission that will be necessary to support any major improvements that are desired.
- D. Refresh long-term plans for Fort Getty and Fort Wetherill in assessing future improvement and development options for each property;*
- a. Fort Getty long-term planning is set to be revisited in late 2016. Ongoing discussions include the refurbishment and possible relocation of existing restroom facilities, the construction of a new gatehouse, the completion of Pavilion improvements in 2016-2017, improvements to the waterfront facilities, and possible enhancements to the historic military facilities.
- E. Review the parking design at East Ferry and plans for rehabilitating the East Ferry-Ferry Landing;*
- a. Review and planning for the East Ferry parking area and sidewalk rehabilitation remains ongoing with a funding recommendation planned for the FY2016-17 budget program. This project will be phased with curbing and sidewalk reconstruction followed by pavement reconstruction. In terms

of the importance of the East Ferry area to the community, this project is deemed a priority to be considered in the upcoming budget cycle. A design will be presented to the Town Council for approval in Fall/Winter of 2016-2017.

- F. *Provide support for all community appropriate sailing, fishing, and marine-based activities; and*
- a. The Parks & Recreation Department began offering weekly paddle board and kayak lessons as part of its Summer Camp Program through a partnership with Jamestown Outdoors. The classes were well attended and there are plans to expand the program for the 2017 season.
 - b. The Parks & Recreation Department offered Adult Paddle Board Lessons weeknights at Fort Getty through Jamestown Outdoors.
 - c. Partnering with the Friends of Jamestown Rights of Way, the Parks & Recreation Department offered three events to help bring awareness to the ROW's as well as introducing paddle sport opportunities to the public.
 - i "Pancakes & Paddles" was held at Head's Beach was held on July 23. Over 50 people were in attendance including individuals and families. People were treated to a light pancake breakfast and the opportunity for a brief paddle board lesson offered by Jamestown Outdoors.
 - ii Two "Adventure Paddles" were arranged, one to leave from Park Dock and the other around Sheffield Cove. However weather and safety concerns prohibited the events to take place. Future Events will be scheduled in 2017.
 - d. In conjunction with CISF, in the Fall of 2016, the Parks and Recreation Department began offering an Outdoor Exploration Program at Fort Getty for Middle School Students. The program was taught by an Outdoor Educator, middle school aged children explored the rocky shoreline learning much about the ecosystem and its inhabitants.
 - e. The Harbor Commission is presently performing a complete review of the kayak, paddle board and dingy rack programs, pertinent regulations and the corresponding wait list and fee structures.
- G. *Complete components of bike path improvements and continue to assess options for integration of pedestrian/bicycle paths and trails connecting key areas within the community;*
- a. North Pond connector design funding approved in FY2016 capital program, with award of contract made in August 2015. Pare has completed the design of the bridge spanning the spillway at the North Reservoir and the project is ready for construction. Request for CIP funding is anticipated in the FY 2017-2018 and FY2018-2019, unless alternate funding can be secured to support the project. This project was delisted from the 2017-2025 State Transportation Improvement Program and the Town did provide an official objection to this action.
 - b. North Road reconstruction beginning in FY2016, with three year(three phase) road drainage and repaving program accompanied by a fourth phase that includes a bike path/trail connector from West Reach to North Pond to interconnect with the North Pond Connector that exits onto Eldred Avenue. Project completion anticipated in FY2019-2020, based on funding availability. The construction of the first phase of the North Main Road Improvement project began in September 2016 with the installation of drainage between West Reach and Sloop Street. We are anticipating this phase of drainage installation to be complete before winter shut down in 2016. Staff is currently working on the drainage design for the second phase of the project between Sloop Street and the North Reservoir for submittal to RIDEM wetlands for approval. Installation of the drainage for the second phase will be completed during the 2017 construction season.

4. Recognize the Importance of the Village as the Town Center, the Focal Point for Most Community Activities

- A. *Encourage economic development, especially in prime and undeveloped properties to achieve suitable commercial and retail growth, with emphasis on the Town Center and waterfront;*
 - a. Consider the development of an Economic Development Committee to guide a local process. The sustainability of Jamestown's economy will be a specific topic addressed during the Sustain Jamestown program. Discussions are ongoing with cultural arts-based organizations in developing concepts around exposure to the wealth of the artist community residing in Jamestown and how this resource can be harnessed to benefit the community and commercial district. This working group is hosting an internal organizational meeting in July 2016 with additional meetings to be scheduled, with the hope of moving the program forward during the fall 2016. The first phase of the initiative includes public engagement and information gathering to assess the community's sentiments regarding the arts and culture program. One of the group's goals is to assess the accuracy of the local sentiment on this topic. Discussions are also occurring with business owners/Chamber of Commerce seeking alternative methods to attract unconventional businesses and entrepreneurs to the community to fill vacant storefronts.
- B. *Continue to work with Newport County Communities, Washington County Regional Planning Council and local organizations (i.e. Chambers of Commerce) to develop strategies to encourage investment and business sustainability in the village;*
 - a. Discussion is continuing with the Washington County Regional Planning on the street light purchase and replacement program; Town also looking into other options for street light replacement with neighboring Town's. **The Town is scheduling a presentation on the Prism program and the 372 inventoried street lights in town for some time in the Winter 2017.**
 - b. Progress is continuing with the development of a Newport County EDC agency to champion the opportunities that exist in each participating county community for business retention and new business development; meetings are continuing and all Newport County Communities have committed varying financial commitments to implement this program in FY2015-2016. **Officials from each participating community are continuing to meet in the development of this regional organization throughout FY 2016-2017 and preparing to move to the next phase of organizational development in 2017. The next meeting of this group is scheduled in November 2016.**
 - c. The development of an economic development committee is something that the community may want to consider in the near future. The question still exists as to whether a formal committee is necessary for EDC progress or a more well-organized effort by the private sector with the town supporting the effort could address this specific need. Town staff have been working with the Chamber of Commerce on the installation of an informational kiosk in town to provide members with improved marketing opportunities; targeted conversations with individual commercial investors is continuing regarding properties that are presently available for possible development in the village. **The Planning Commission will engage the Chamber of Commerce and general business community during the Sustainability Planning in the Winter/Spring of 2017.**
- C. *Ensure that future development and renovation in the Village maintains small scale and "walkable" character, while supporting businesses and investment that will encourage residents' and visitors use;*
 - a. More detailed discussions need to occur on this topic in order to agree on best and appropriate practices in this area.

- D. *Provide improved customer and employee parking in the village;*
 - a. Continue to seek opportunities for parking enhancements in the village and encourage businesses to coordinate off-site parking for their employees. Seek Planning Commission attention to this issue in their review of applications in the Village District. Additional consideration should be given to the review of properties (possible acquisition) that may be able to assist in either seasonal parking, event parking or additional dedicated parking for local uses.
- E. *Develop a policy regarding preservation of historic structures in Village;*
 - a. This topic has previously been divisive within the community with various perspectives offered by Planning Commission members and residents. Further discussion and research should be conducted in order to assess the need and/or support for such a policy/regulation in the community.
- F. *Support the development of a Community Center, with the support and for the benefit of community organizations and residents;*
 - a. Continue to evaluate the options available to diversify the use of the existing community center facility (Recreation Dept.). Also, consider possible enhancements and/or repurposing of areas in other public facilities, including the Library, EMS Barn, Schools and quasi-governmental buildings like the Grange, for such purposes. The Library Building project in particular is one that has raised this point as nationally, Libraries are taking on an expanded role with the changes in services, technology and community demand. Research and communication on this item is ongoing and dependent on future public, private and grant funding to support any such initiative.
- G. *Complete the planning, design and construction of consolidated Fire/EMS station; and*
 - a. The bid for the project was awarded by the Council to Iron Construction for \$2,129,500 in June 2016 with the overall authorization amount for bonding was approved for \$2.2 million. The Town Council has decided to continue discussions pertaining to the possible addition of several add alternates pertaining to roofing and siding options and the potential allocation of contingency funding to address any unknowns later in the project. **The contractor has completed the foundation and masonry wall installation and is adding the steel framing and roof trusses with an anticipated completion of this work in early December. With roofing scheduled to be initiated in early December, the goal of closing in the building for winter work is expected to be achieved later in December 2016. The project remains on course to be completed in late Spring 2017.**
- H. *Coordinate planning, design and capital campaign activities with the Town's Library Board in guiding plans for future building improvements and the establishment of a Library endowment.*
 - a. Library Board is progressing with the organization for a Capital Campaign; evaluating its relationship with Friends of the Jamestown Library (501-c3); Building Committee is continuing to review the Library needs assessment and preliminary architectural designs; OLIS Consultant has been selected by Trustees per a requirement of the OLIS program; and alternative financial resources are being researched (Champlin Foundation, RI Foundation, OLIS, etc.) The Building committee has completed a community survey to assess any new input and/or changes in community sentiment regarding library services and the proposed facility enhancements. The results of the survey have been compiled and have been reported out publicly. The building committee has moved on to the building design phase in evaluating the physical needs of the Library. **The Building committee is expected to provide the Town Council with an update as to**

their progress at a public meeting in December 2016. The Board of Trustees for the Library began this process in 2011.

5. Support Cultural, Civic and Recreational Opportunities that Promote a Sense of Community

- A. *Implement an improved Parks & Recreation program based on resident need and ongoing community assessment;*
- a. Beginning in spring 2016, the Parks and Recreation Department has offered an expanded program base. Programs now run on a scheduled 4-season schedule with 8-10 week sessions. Youth Programs such as gymnastics, pee-wee PE, and youth yoga are now being offered. Added Teen Center programs such as crocheting, sewing, baby sitting and hip hop dance have been offered. Adult Programming has been expanded by the addition of programs such as Dog Obedience, Adult Kickball, Pickleball, and Line Dancing. Programs are being evaluated after each session and new programs are scheduled to be added in upcoming seasonal sessions. *Additional workshops were held in June and October 2016 that focused on the facilities and grounds that the department oversees, including several that the department was recently awarded state RIDEM grant funding for enhancement purposes, inclusive of the Playground on North Rd. and the Lawn Avenue Complex.*
- B. *Provide expanded, accessible and diversified program offerings for Jamestown's seniors;*
- a. *In the winter of 2016 the Parks & Recreation Department began its support of the Senior Services offered in Jamestown. The Senior Coordinator has been reporting to the Recreation Supervisor to expand and develop a well-balanced slate of senior programming. Programs have expanded since then through community partnerships with the Garden Club, Jamestown Fitness, and Library. Weekly programs as well as stand-alone one day events have been added to the schedule including mah-jong, balance, and Zumba. Daily trips have been offered to Foxwoods, Trinity Theatre, and the State House. Routine conversations with the Friends of Jamestown Seniors are conducted to fill in potential gaps in programming. All programs are evaluated and additions are planned to the quarterly schedule.*
- C. *Continue to maintain a strong partnership with the Jamestown Schools;*
- a. The Town maintains a close working partnership with the District and individual School Administrations, in terms of municipal department interaction, coordinated budgeting approach including capital program and long-term debt requirements, pension matters, as well as statewide financial issues and concerns, etc.;
 - b. The library participates and promotes in collaboration with the Jamestown Schools, a summer reading program; Afterschool activities: Book Groups, safe haven and meeting space, tutor space as well as class visits including library use instruction from professional librarians;
 - c. Coordinated use and maintenance of indoor and outdoor facilities continues by the Recreation Department for community programming and the board of canvassers for various town election functions.
 - d. Other town departments including Police and Fire provide for educational opportunities including a presence in the schools to establish stronger ties with the student and school department populations.
 - e. *Annual 5th Grade class visit to Town Hall and tour of the Town Clerk's Office, Vault, Historical Society Conanicut Land Agreement of 1657 Exhibit, and Town Council Chambers with explanation*

of town department operations. The history of the Town Hall and the origin of the Town Council form of government and its function also reviewed, with the assistance of a Town Council member. This activity is coordinated through the Town Clerk's Office.

- f. The Parks & Recreation Department has begun to build partnerships with the Jamestown Schools collaborating on student input projects regarding the renovation of the Community Playground. The Melrose students were asked to draw pictures of what they would like to see at the new playground. The Teen Center Coordinator makes routine visits to the Lawn School to promote teen programming and building strong relationships with the staff and students alike.
- D. *Review the need for additional community space, condition and quality of space, and long-term funding options for improvements;*
- a. The Council may wish to consider the reformation of the Buildings and Facilities Committee to provide useful input into this analysis. Ongoing at this time is the work being performed at the Library through the efforts of the Board of Trustees who are looking into the redesign of the facility and improvements to the existing structure to meet the needs of the community; Initial review of restoration work needed at the Recreation Center facility is underway with smaller projects being addressed by Town staff and larger improvements yet to be fully defined; and further review is being performed for the construction of a new Clubhouse at the Town Golf Course. **The Town Council directed staff to hire an architect for design of the new golf course clubhouse facility in 2013.**
- E. *Complete the planning, design and refurbishment of PAC facility as a potential new recreation center, subject to voter approval;*
- a. This property has been sold and project is no longer viable. Ongoing discussions continue in review of alternate Town facilities to consolidate services or to provide for expanded recreation space.
- F. *Support the development of a Community Center, with the support and for the benefit of community organizations and residents;*
- a. Continue to evaluate the options available to diversify the use of the existing community center facility (Recreation Dept.). Also, consider possible enhancements and/or repurposing of areas in other public facilities, including the Library, EMS Barn, Schools and quasi-governmental buildings like the Grange, for such purposes. Research and communication on this item is ongoing and dependent on future public, private and grant funding to support any such initiative.
- G. *Coordinate planning, design and capital campaign activities with the Town's Library Board of Trustees in guiding plans for future building improvements and the establishment of a Library endowment;*
- a. The Board of Trustees are moving forward in this area with planning and design work on a redesign of the facility and planning of a capital campaign and partnership with the Friends of the Library in terms of managing private donations raised during the campaign to support the building project and the establishment of an endowment to support future library needs. Discussion with the Friends and evaluation of other organizational models with the Town or other agencies in support of a building rehabilitation capital campaign are being evaluated by the LBOT. The matter of expanding the Library endowment is being discussed by the LBOT in terms of the future use of this funding and coordination with long-term goals of the Town Council and community.
- H. *Coordinate planning for the replacement of the Town's playground with proposed library improvements, safe routes to school and neighborhood;*

- a. The CIP for FY2015-2016 included the first allotment of funding for the refurbishment of the Town's playground and with a second amount in FY2016-2017 at total of \$85,000 in CIP funding is available. It is anticipated that this project will cost in the range of \$250,000 - \$300,000 to fully develop. The remainder of resources required will be made up from the \$100,000 grant award from RIDEM and funds being raised for the Ryan Bourque Memorial. A total of \$243,000 is available as of November 2016.
 - b. As part of the playground enhancement, the Public Works Department is working on a redesign of Valley Street in order to provide for angle parking along the playground and the installation of a sidewalk to tie-in with the sidewalk to be installed along North Road.
 - c. The Town has authorized Crossman Engineering to proceed to 90% design on the Safe Routes to School program(which has been completed), specifically addressing the parking, sidewalks and crosswalks along North Road adjacent to the Library and Playground. The Town staff are planning to meet with Federal and State Highway officials, including a representative from the Narragansett Tribe regarding the next step in the authorization process.
 - d. Informal discussions have occurred involving the Town, Library staff/Board of Trustees, select artists, the JAC and Worldway Social Marketing representatives, regarding an investigation into submitting a Planning grant with the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA). This grant that would be submitted in FY2016-2017 or in a later grant cycle that would involve the development of a Master Plan that would reflect the physical and programmatic integration of various public and private entities in the Village. This integration possibly culminating in the creation of a Cultural distinction that could be branded to attract and service residents and visitors. Future meetings are being planned with various partners to assess public sentiment to the concept of coordinated programming and marketing of arts/culture-based programming along with various municipal initiatives all that provide for ancillary benefits and support of the business community.
- I. *Complete the 90% design phase and secure approval to initiate the implementation of the Safe Routes to School program;*
- a. The consultant (Crossman Engineering) has completed the 90% design phase plans that will prompt the initiation of the implementation phase of the program; Town staff are in contact with Federal and State Highway representatives and will be meeting once this next phase is completed.
- J. *Complete components of bike path improvements and assess options for integration of pedestrian/bicycle paths and trails connecting key areas within the community;*
- a. The final design has been completed by (PARE) the project consultant hired to complete the design work on bike path connector (bridge design) at North Pond. CIP funding will be requested in future budget cycles and alternate funding sources are being researched to support the construction of the project.
- K. *Review the need for a new Golf Course Clubhouse project and related facility needs;*
- a. Project options are still under review although planning recommenced in a public discussion with the Council in November 2016. The operators lease expires in 2016 although with the Council having approved a 1-year extension through 2017 this allow for a thorough RFP process to commence and for the building plan to be developed. Overall golf program need was established during prior review of Building and Facilities Committee and additional review of both gold and community need continues. Staff has re-engage the architect of record to finalize a draft plan for Town Council review in winter 2016-2017. The goal of the administration is to have a viable plan

and funding options presented to the Town Council in preparation for a 2017 referendum or the 2017 FTM. Additional public discussions and work sessions are being scheduled.

L. *Acknowledge and support social and cultural organizations in the allocation of town spaces (meeting rooms) and services (security for events); and*

a. This remains on ongoing discussion amongst community groups. Thoughts on this topic are being revised since the PAC was not acquired by the Town. Social and cultural organizations remain interested in addressing this ongoing space issue and are seeking to creative options to do so. Town staff are working on research for future improvements to the Recreation Center space, repurposing opportunities of other Town/local facilities, and future opportunities to collaborate in the development of a solution to this challenge.

M. *Complete Fort Getty Pavilion improvements;*

a. **Pavilion Improvements are approximately 85% complete as of summer 2016 with the anticipated completion date estimated in 2017, depending on funding availability. Additional improvements still pending include, stonework on the east and west needs of the structure, hardscape paver walkways, and expanded shell surfaced walkways and additional lighting fixtures. A fundraising component has surfaced with this project, with donors being sought to fund several of the final finishing elements of the project. The western side of the pavilion includes the construction of an outdoor fireplace and stone sitting wall. Construction of the foundation for the chimney is complete however additional funding is required to complete that element of the design.**

6. *Promote a Sustainable Jamestown*

A. *Adopt Sustainable Jamestown Plan that supports community goals;*

a. **Process scheduled to begin in December 2016. The Horsley Witten Group was hired and have begun the planning process.**

B. *Support initiatives that encourage farming, sustainable agriculture, fishing and aquaculture;*

a. *Town staff working on elements pertaining to support for aquaculture and farming initiatives. In 2015-2016 the Town has supported an expansion of oyster and seaweed farming in leases on the west side of the island. The Town Council heard concerns of residents in West Ferry regarding the proliferation of aquaculture fields along that coastline. These points were raised at a CRMC hearing before the Coastal Council in October 2016. This discussion will remain ongoing as this industry continues to evolve in local waters.*

C. *Ensure that future development and renovation in the village maintains small scale and “walkable” character, while supporting businesses and investment that will encourage residents’ and visitors use;*

a. *Town staff working on an update as to various initiatives to address this element.*

D. *Promote the use of green technologies and energy conservation;*

a. **RISE completed an audit of lighting for the Town Hall, Library, Police Station, Highway Garage, and Recreation buildings in January 2016. The lighting improvements for each of the buildings will be funded through future capital budgeting proposals. The Sustainability Plan will assist in the energy planning for Jamestown.**

b. *Research grant opportunities to support town-wide energy conservation measures and energy-based facility improvements; and*

1. *The Town is taking on this initiative in terms of planned energy enhancements to all town facilities and town-wide street lighting replacement and these improvements are a major part of the work being performed as part of the library*

redesign efforts, in terms of energy efficient lighting, HVAC systems and water conservation.

2. *Take part in initiative to improve energy efficiency of Town street lights, while curbing light pollution and improving traffic safety;*
 - i. Town staff are evaluating several options in this regard. Continued efforts by the Washington County Regional Planning Council with the PRISM program, along with National Grid programs and other sub-groups of Rhode Island Town's will all provide the community with viable alternatives in the next year to consider moving forward with this effort. The preliminary assessment of the Towns street light inventory has been completed and we are awaiting approval for Phase 2 of this assessment in order to move toward purchase of the inventory and the eventual change in ownership and implementation of more efficient lighting fixtures.

7. Ensure Housing Affordability and Provide a Range of Housing Choices for Residents

- A. *Develop, renovate or restore units of affordable housing by promoting affordable accessory apartments and existing opportunities to subdivide lots for affordable housing purposes;*
 - a. *Program remains active with periodic interest from property owners.*
- B. *Develop new strategies to buy "development rights " for existing homes, allowing current residents to age in place;*
 - a. *Affordable Housing Trust Fund implemented and presently active.*
- C. *Encourage the development of an Affordable Housing Trust that could include private donations;*
 - a. *Program approved, funded and implemented.*
- D. *Support the development of additional affordable housing units;*
 - a. Review of new opportunities for affordable housing development remains ongoing. The Tax Assessor's office will assist in the identification of potential affordable housing properties. Several properties in the Village are under review at this time as possible candidates. The former PAC property is moving through the review process with a private developer proposing 16 units, including 4 affordable. Phase 1- broke ground in fall 2016 with building-1 and building-2 is expected to follow shortly thereafter.
 - b. *Review strategies for creating or subsidizing work-force housing for Town employees;*
 1. Very little interest has been expressed in this area by town personnel, although further research is needed.
 - c. *Research additional funding sources to support housing initiatives;*
 1. Research is ongoing, future updates to be provided.
 - d. *Complete Rules and Regulations for Affordable Housing Revolving Fund project eligibility;*
 1. Completed on 5/18/2015.
- a. *Continue to provide stable and consistent annual grant funding for housing programs*
 - a. In FY2015-2016 Town providing consistent \$75,000 in grant funds for affordable housing opportunities. \$400,000 Revolving fund local program also activated in FY2015-2016.

- E. *Foster and expand partnership opportunities with Housing Agencies seeking to build-out projects;*
 - a. Educate the community as to the importance of this initiative, the existing Affordable Housing Funding Programs and the efforts of the Affordable Housing Committee;
 - 1. Education Program efforts remain ongoing through the efforts of the Planning Department.

8. Senior Citizen Programming and Services

- A. *Ensure Senior Citizen program, facility, transportation and funding needs are being met.*
 - a. Coordination with Senior Association Board and Senior Program Coordinator is ongoing with communication occurring as to expanded program opportunities inside and outside of the community, including expanded transportation services. These services are to be supported by the Association, jointly with the Parks and Recreation Department. Additional staff and facility coordination is being implemented via improved communication amongst agencies and personnel involved. Quarterly reports being submitted by Association to Town regarding meals, programming data and other pertinent information. The Town also provides guidance in the areas of payroll, information technology and purchasing procedures. Library programs and services are available seniors and include home delivery of materials and assistance within-home library technology.
 - 1. The Tax Assessor's office will continue to assist seniors with the Elderly Exemption Program, which aims to help qualifying seniors remain in their homes by offering them a reduction in taxes. The Elderly Exemption Program continues to provide generous and effective financial aid to Jamestown's low income seniors.

Goal: Ensure Effective and Accountable Town Government

1. Improve Access to Local Government

- A. *Improve services provided by the Town's web site;*
 - a. *Enable on-line application process and payments;*
 - 1. The Finance Department has established an on-line payment system for water/sewer payments for credit card use through a third party vendor at no cost to the Town. This work has been completed and is actively in use.
 - 2. The Tax Assessors/Finance Department are collaboratively working on placing all motor vehicle and real property data on-line which will add great flexibility and search capability of the data by residents.
 - 3. Research is being conducted into various financial accounting systems that would provide more direct access and transparency with Town revenues and expenditures. A recommendation from the Finance Director regarding a specific software package is anticipated as part of the FY2017-18 budget program.
- B. *Encourage both internal and external public engagement and pursue cooperative relationships with various local, state and regional organizations;*
 - a. Town staff are continuing to work on the development of public engagement opportunities with local, state and regional groups. An example of this includes, joint efforts to address the

- C. *Maintain open communication with the School Committee/Administration to allow for coordinated approach in achieving transparent financial management practices;*
 - a. There exists an ongoing dialogue with the School District. Annual budget meetings are planned with the Superintendent in anticipation of the joint meeting with the Town Council and School Committee in preparation of developing the Towns annual budget. Discussion on consolidation of services, long-term debt coordination, OPEB program collaboration and addressing various forms of long-term liability are held on an as-needed basis.
- D. *Implement a Capital Budget year closeout process for projects to assess the need for project continuation;*
 - a. Closeout of CIP projects is reviewed on an annual basis during the budget process and managed by the Finance Department.
- E. *Ensure a clear process and stable funding source to support Town waterfront improvements;*
 - a. Revisions to the Harbor Management Plan and Ordinance have provided for the Waterfront Reserve Fund in conjunction with annual harbor commission funding and periodic Town Capital Funding to provide the consistent availability of funding in this area.
- F. *Streamline the local government process, by improving efficiency through prioritization of resource allocation, and continual review of unfunded mandates;*
 - a. Internal and external assessments are being performed annually in reevaluation areas where improved efficiencies can be achieved. An example of this is a reduction in 20% of the Tax Assessor services in FY2015-2016 and a statewide effort being considered locally for the consolidation of dispatch services.
 - b. With the hiring of a new Building/Zoning Official the existing permitting systems in that office are under review for potential updating and online options. The State is presently managing a PILOT program for a new statewide e-permitting system that may the Town may want to consider in the future for implementation.
 - c. The consolidation of the Fire Department into one facility and the centralization of dispatch services in the Police Department are steps recently taken to improve efficiency and streamline the government process.
 - d. A merger has been facilitated with NAGE 68 with the positions of the Harbor Clerk (union position 30 hr.) and Police Chief's Administrative assistant (non-union 30 hr.). This position has been located at the Police Station, thus consolidating the Harbor Division activities the Station and streamlining staffing to one full-time position (37.5 hrs.).
 - e. With the resignation of the GIS and Environmental Coordinator planned in late January 2016, an opportunity to seek a realignment of this position and its duties has become available. This position has been filled as of spring 2016.
 - f. The Harbor Master position was negotiated out of the NAGE 69 agreement during this most recent round of negotiations and the scope of annual duties has been reduced.
 - g. **Consideration is being given to fill a Water Operator position in place of an Assistant Superintendent position at this time. The Assistant position may remain vacant allowing for this position to be filled at the time when a licensed individual becomes available.**
- G. *Continue to maintain a favorable bond rating; and*
 - a. This effort is ongoing with a continual focus on prudent budgeting and fiscal responsibility. The towns recent upgrade to a (Aa1) rating, up from the former (Aa2) rating is very strong

rating and only one of five towns in Rhode Island to achieve this standing. The Town has already reaped the benefits of achieving the rating upgrade with savings on a bond refinancing and on the debt associated with the Fire Station project **and equipment acquisition. The Aa1 rating was recently confirmed in a Moody's review.**

- b. In order to maintain fair, accurate and up-to-date property values, the Tax Assessor's Department conducted a scheduled 3 year Statistical Revaluation as of December 31, 2015. **The new assessments, which were reflected in our 2016-17 tax bills, are being monitored closely in order to evaluate the fairness of the revaluation project. Real estate sales has remained very strong in 2016 and the new assessments are proving to be quite accurate, with the average ratio of assessments to sales prices at a healthy 94%.**
 - c. With the RI State pension suit having been settled, further investigation was initiated by the Town and School to assess the need for a dedicated Trust Fund to address future OPEB liability. The Town Council and school Committee decided to enter the RI Interlocal Trusts OPEB Irrevocable Trust Program in FY2016-2017. The school department has already transferred \$500,000 of their assigned reserve funds and recently authorized a second transfer of \$500,000 into the Trust. The Town and School have also transferred their PAYG – pay as you go - annual funds into the trust for FY2016-2017. Revisions to the GASB regulations may in fact impact the Towns bond rating should funding not be dedicated for this purpose.
- H. *Develop a consistent and equitable fee policy and rate structure for outside organizations when public safety details are required.*
- a. This effort is limited by the collective bargaining agreement language and will need to be addressed in future negotiations.
 - b. In discussion with the RI Interlocal Risk Management Trust representatives, the concept of using trained CSO officers and/or retired law enforcement officials to assist in filling open details has been implemented to provide the additional support needed.

3. Maintain and Improve Town Infrastructure

- A. *Continue to support the Towns Pavement Management Program;*
 - a. *Complete the drainage and road reconstruction of North Main Road in accordance with the Towns Pavement Management Plan;*
 - 1. **Drawings were completed in August 2015 for submission to RIDEM for review and approval, with the Phase I drainage permit having been secured. Drainage installation between Sloop Street and West Reach began in September 2016 with an estimated completion date of December 2016. Drainage design has begun on the second phase between Sloop Street and North Reservoir. Plans will be submitted to the RIDEM for approval during the winter of 2017.**
- B. *Complete planning, design and construction of consolidated Fire/EMS station;*
 - a. The bid for the project was awarded by the Council to Iron Construction for \$2,129,500 in June 2016. The overall authorization amount for bonding was \$2.2 million. Estimated project completion period, is spring/summer 2017. **The contractor has completed the foundation and masonry wall installation and is adding the steel framing and roof trusses with an anticipated completion of this work in early December. With roofing scheduled to be initiated in early December, the goal of closing in the building for winter work is expected to**

be achieved later in December 2016. The project remains on course to be completed in late Spring 2017.

- b. The Building and Zoning Department will be working with the Planning Office, TRC, Planning Commission and Zoning Board to ensure compliance of this project with the Building and Zoning Codes.
- C. *Complete the planning, design and refurbishment of PAC facility as a potential new recreation center, subject to voter approval;*
 - a. Property has been sold and project is no longer viable.
- D. *Review the need for additional community space, condition and quality of space, and long-term funding options for improvements;*
 - a. The review of community needs in this area is an ongoing process with additional discussions planned in fall/winter 2015. The library currently acts as a defacto secondary Community Center offering resident instructed classes, meeting space for non-profit Boards, community organizations and groups: Children’s programing, story hours, book discussion for adults and children, the Friends cultural and educational programing. Future needs in the area of a community wide center, inclusive of recreation programming and senior services will require further community discussion and research.

Continue to evaluate the options available to diversify the use of the existing community center facility (Recreation Dept.). Also, consider possible enhancements and/or repurposing of areas in other public facilities, including the Library, EMS Barn, Schools and quasi-governmental buildings like the Grange, for such purposes. The Library Building project in particular is one that has raised this point as nationally, Libraries are taking on an expanded role with the changes in services, technology and community demand. Research and communication on this item is ongoing and dependent on future public, private and grant funding to support any such initiative.

- E. *Coordinate planning, design and capital campaign activities with the Town’s Library Board in guiding plans for future building improvements and the establishment of a Library endowment;*
 - a. Library Board is progressing with the organization for a Capital Campaign; evaluating its relationship with Friends of the Jamestown Library (501-c3); Building Committee is continuing to review the Library needs assessment and preliminary architectural designs; OLIS Consultant has been selected by Trustees per a requirement of the OLIS program; and alternative financial resources are being researched (Champlin Foundation, RI Foundation, OLIS, etc.) The Building committee has completed a community survey to assess any new input and/or changes in community sentiment regarding library services and the proposed facility enhancements. The results of the survey have been compiled and have been reported out publicly. The building committee has moved on to the building design phase in evaluating the physical needs of the Library. The Building committee is expected to provide the Town Council with an update as to their progress at a public meeting in December 2016. The Board of Trustees for the Library began this process in 2011.
- F. *Coordinate planning for the replacement of the Town’s playground with proposed library improvements, safe routes to school and neighborhood;*
 - a. The playground program presently has \$243,000 available as of November 2016 for the replacement and upgrading of the Towns playground. This total is made up of \$85,000 in Town CIP funds, a \$100,000 RIDEM grant and private funding from the Officer Ryan Bourque

Memorial. Informal discussions have begun involving representatives for the Library staff, Library Board of Trustees, Town Administration and JAC regarding the coordination of infrastructure improvements and programming. Additional public discussion and research is required.

- G. *Complete the 90% design phase and secure approval to initiate the implementation of the Safe Routes to School program;*
 - a. The consultant has completed 90% design phase plans that will prompt the initiation of the implementation phase of the program; Town staff are in contact with Federal and State Highway representatives regarding review of the 90% plans.
- H. *Complete Fort Getty Pavilion improvements;*
 - a. Landscape improvements are complete. Walkways, field stone seating areas, and chimney foundation will be completed as of summer 2016. Modular Bathrooms have been installed by the highway department and are in use for the 2016 season. Additional grounds work is needed in FY2017 and should be completed by spring 2017. Fort Getty long-term planning is set to be revisited in late 2016. Ongoing discussions include the refurbishment and possible relocation of existing restroom facilities, the construction of a new gatehouse, the completion of Pavilion improvements in 2016-2017, improvements to the waterfront facilities, and possible enhancements to the historic military facilities.
- I. *Complete components of bike path improvements and assess options for integration of pedestrian/bicycle paths and trails connecting key areas within the community;*
 - a. This is an ongoing discussion, with existing projects including the safe routes to school program, North Reservoir connector and North Road path proposals. Design of the bridge crossing the North Reservoir spillway is complete and the project is ready for construction pending future funding. The North Road path is part of a 4-5 year program to reconstruct the final two phases of the North Road Drainage and repaving project. This work is also subject to available funding.
 - b. North Pond connector design funding approved in FY2016 capital program, with award of contract made in August 2015. Pare has completed the design of the bridge spanning the spillway at the North Reservoir and the project is ready for construction. Request for CIP funding is anticipated in the FY 2017-2018 and FY2018-2019, unless alternate funding can be secured to support the project. This project was delisted from the 2017-2025 State Transportation Improvement Program and the Town did provide an official objection to this action.
 - c. North Road reconstruction beginning in FY2016, with three year(three phase) road drainage and repaving program accompanied by a fourth phase that includes a bike path/trail connector from West Reach to North Pond to interconnect with the North Pond Connector that exits onto Eldred Avenue. Project completion anticipated in FY2019-2020, based on funding availability. The construction of the first phase of the North Main Road Improvement project began in September 2016 with the installation of drainage between West Reach and Sloop Street. We are anticipating this phase of drainage installation to be complete before winter shut down in 2016. Staff is currently working on the drainage design for the second phase of the project between Sloop Street and the North Reservoir for submittal to RIDEM wetlands for approval. Installation of the drainage for the second phase will be completed during the 2017 construction season.

- J. *Continue to study the need for a new Golf Course Clubhouse and equipment storage facility, design, funding, lease solicitation and program implementation schedule;*
 - b. This project was placed on hold pending the outcome of the PAC referendum. Project options remain under review although planning recommenced in a public discussion with the Council in November 2016. The operators lease expires in 2016 although with the Council having approved a 1-year extension through 2017 this allow for a thorough RFP process to commence and for the building plan to be developed. Overall golf program need was established during prior review of Building and Facilities Committee and additional review of both gold and community need continues. Staff has re-engage the architect of record to finalize a draft plan for Town Council review in winter 2016-2017. The goal of the administration is to have a viable plan and funding options presented to the Town Council in preparation for a 2017 referendum or the 2017 FTM. Additional public discussions and work sessions are being scheduled.
- K. *Perform evaluation of existing Town assets in assessing options for improvement, repurposing, or removal from Town asset list; and*
 - a. The Department was actively seeking a \$200,000 grant through the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program which was to be committed to the Bay View Drive revetment project. This project was ultimately funded through the Town Capital Projects at a much reduced overall cost. The project was completed in the summer of 2016. Continued review of the Towns other assets including Fort Wetherill, EMS Barn, Fort Getty, the Recreation Center, and other facilities like the grange as well as open property and the town's parks system continue to be actively discussed on an annual basis.
- L. *Refresh long-term plans for Fort Getty and Fort Wetherill in assessing future options for each property.*
 - a. Rehabilitative work is continuing on the Fort Wetherill building, including the restoration of the exterior of the building, new windows and a new roof slated for spring 2017. The lease renewal with the FWBOA has been finalized and approved by the Town Council and FWBOA for the period, October 1, 2015 – December 31, 2020. Additional assessment of both properties for long-term options will recommence in fall/winter 2016-2017.

4. Pursue Effective Local, State and Regional Partnerships

- A. *Schedule routine public discussions with our local State Legislative team to educate them as to local concerns and areas of interest;*
 - a. This matter will be brought to the Council for consideration in the winter 2016.
- B. *Research regional and statewide programs for financial opportunity;*
 - a. The library staff participates in continuing education through OLIS and is a member of the Ocean State library Consortia. The Town supports professional staff development on a state, regional and national level.
- C. *Research grant opportunities to support town-wide energy conservation measures and facility improvements;*
 - a. Take part in initiative to improve energy efficiency of Town street lights, curb light pollution and improve traffic safety.
 - 1. Town staff are engaged with the RI League of Cities and Towns as well as other joint regional assessments as to the most efficient course of action and fiscally prudent choices to consider in this regard.

- D. *Adopt Sustainable Jamestown Plan;*
 - a. Town staff working on plan with selected consultant Horsley Witten Group that offers a Sustainable Design that promotes an integrated approach to development and redevelopment that considers natural resource protection and energy consumption through a holistic design approach.
- E. *Continue to work with Newport County groups, Washington County Planning, Jamestown Chamber of Commerce and local organizations to develop data and strategies to encourage investment and business in village;*
 - a. The Town is engaged with the regional organization representing Newport and Bristol County's to address this specific issue investment business and the health of our commercial districts.
- F. *Support and work with community organizations in the development of trails, walks, habitat restoration and programs that support residents' awareness and knowledge of the natural environment.*
 - a. Ongoing Projects include, the Taylors Point Initiative, Mackerel Cove Dune Restoration, the Creek Restoration program, Strom Drain Educational Program, Fort Getty Trails, active dialogue on access to North and South Pond property, and interaction with the State of Rhode regarding their local assets of Beavertail, Fort Wetherill and through CRMC and the permitting of aquaculture zones.

Goal: Ensure Public Health and Safety

1. *Maintain an Effective and Responsive Community Policing Program*

- A. *Ensure that all public safety officials become familiar with the community and establish a positive working relationship with its residents;*
 - 1. Improve and diversify a visual presence throughout the community, the schools, the waterfront and at special community events; and
 - 2. Encourage community engagement with residents, local organizations, the schools, boaters and businesses by all Officials.
 - a. In 2014, the Police Department developed and adopted a detailed and specific plan to enhance the overall community policing effort. Since that time, a department-wide philosophy of community policing and building a strong relationship with the community has begun to develop. This includes officers attending a variety of community events, community group meetings, bicycle patrols, walking beats within the village, specific liaison officers assigned to the senior population and school department. A computerized system of monitoring all officer activities in these specific areas has been developed. All supervisors are held accountable by monthly monitoring and reporting of all community policing based activities.
 - b. The department has established the police leadership council which is comprised of a variety of local residents. The council has met on three occasions and will continue to meet bi-annually. Meetings to date have included discussions regarding police community relations as a local and national topic and police use of force as a local and national topic. We expect the next meeting scheduled for early fall to include additional participants such as high school aged residents. The

Council assisted in facilitating a public workshop on police department matters and public engagement in the community.

- c. The Police Department is significantly involved with the Local Traffic Committee as it weighs a wide variety of traffic related concerns.
- d. The department hosted several public discussion opportunities in the spring 2016 regarding the Police Accreditation program, community policing and the department in general.
- e. The department was awarded the 2016 community policing award from the New England Police Chiefs Association. Jamestown was one of only two communities to review this honor in 2016.

2. Maintain a Safe and Secure Environment for Residents of all Ages

- A. Provide improved town-wide emergency and alert communication through the use of the Code Red Notification System;
 - 1. The Police Department continues to maintain and use the Code Red System to notify residents as necessary due to local event related emergencies. The Department was a key stakeholder working with Rhode Island Emergency Management in the development of a statewide emergency notification system. This led to RIEMA contracting with Code Red to provide a statewide system. When fully implemented, it will result in a greater data base available to Jamestown and a cost savings to the Town.
- B. *Improve local systems to address community, school and Harbor needs during disaster events;*
 - 1. In 2015, the Police Department applied for and received a grant to fund the replacement of all 21 mobile radios installed in the entire DPW fleet of vehicles. This upgrade along with the transition to a high-band radio system will allow for reliable radio communications with all emergency personnel assigned to the DPW.
 - a. In 2016 a \$30,000 RIEMA Grant was secured for 800mh portable radios to equip the school department administration with improved communication to engage emergency responders.
 - 2. *Secure a portable generator for use at Town Hall and to support other critical government functions; and*
 - a. In 2014, the Police Department applied for and received a \$17,500 grant to replace the aging and undersized generator at the police station. This project was funded through a combination of grant and local capital dollars. The end result was a 60 KW generator was installed along with a modern automatic transfer switch.
 - b. In 2015, the Police Department applied for and received a grant of approximately \$20,000 which assisted in the funding of 70KW portable generator to be assigned to the Town Hall in times of significant duration power outages. This generator has been delivered, is available for use and is stored at the DPW.

3. *Expand the Town's fuel capacity to support emergency operations and community need, when necessary and available;*
 - a. The Police Department has applied for a federal grant to partially fund the purchase of a 4,000 gallon diesel tank which will be installed at the Highway Department. The department was unsuccessful in their initial application, although ultimately received \$17,500 of the total \$35,000 project from RIEMA. The new 4,000 gallon diesel tank was installed in the summer of 2016.
 4. *Achieve Police Department Accreditation;*
 - a. The Police Department continues to work toward accreditation through the Rhode Island Accreditation Commission with a full assessment planned in January 2017. The department just recently completed a mock assessment element of the process. Lt. Deneault has served as the primary individual responsible for this endeavor. In doing so the Department has revised the rules and regulations and presented this draft to the Town Council for consideration and adoption. Apart from the rules and regulations are the Department's policies and procedures. The existing 60 policies have been reviewed and resulted in the re-write and revision of 20 policies. An additional 52 policies have been developed and are currently under review. Nine job descriptions have been written and are under review. An in-house process of tracking all accreditations standards and the required proofs has been developed including the development and disbursement of nearly 12 reporting forms required for a variety of accountability tracking purposes.
 5. *Maintain active MOU's and ongoing communication with our neighboring communities, State Police and Turnpike and Bridge Authority; and*
 - a. The Police Department currently has active MOUs with the Town of North Kingstown and the City of Newport. These respective MOUs require review and revision on a periodic basis and received Council authorization for FY2017.
 6. *Adopt policy regarding town surveillance cameras;*
 - a. *A draft policy has been developed and no further action has been taken on this initiative. Dialogue should be re-engaged once the new Superintendent of School is in place.*
- 3. Continue to Support Volunteer Fire Department and EMS Modernization and Improvements**
- A. *Complete planning, design and construction of consolidated Fire/EMS station;*
 - a. The bid for the project was awarded by the Council to Iron Construction for \$2,129,500 in June 2016 and the Council has decided to continue discussions pertaining to the possible addition of several add alternates pertaining to roofing and siding options and the potential allocation of contingency funding to address any unknowns later in the project. The overall authorization amount for bonding was \$2.2 million. *Project was awarded in the summer of 2016 and the estimated project completion is spring/summer 2017.*
 - B. *Continue to monitor new ALS service and support EMS efforts to maintain and upgrade services;*
 - a. The Fire Department and specifically the EMS Division are in close contact with the Town in regard to this program. Additional updates regarding this program are anticipated in fall 2015,

at which time we will have a much better sense of the accuracy of the Town's revenue and expense projects for this program. Additional updates on this program will be forthcoming.
Tax Assessor's office will continue to offer the \$700 tax credit to qualified volunteers.

- C. *Evaluate future need for EMS Barn property and department facility placement in community; and*
 - a. This future discussion will commence as part of the FY 2016-17 budget process and later in the FY2016-2017 budget year.
- D. *Define and clarify a framework for the relationship between the Town and Fire Department/EMS.*
 - a. This discussion has begun in the fall/winter 2015 and is continuing into FY2017.

4. Support Water System Improvements

- A. *Continue to evaluate and improve water system infrastructure;*
 - a. Water Department and DPW completed the installation of a new 12" water main in High Street in the winter of 2015. **Service connections will be completed in 2017. Anticipated completion fall of 2015. Staff will determine the next phase for water distribution improvements for the 2017 construction season.**
- B. *Manage water supply to meet needs of all users; and*
 - a. There are 3 existing sources of water supply - North Reservoir, Well JR-1, and South Reservoir (transfer to North Pond). Limitations continue to exist regarding the yield capacity of the water system and the demand to increase the size of the district and user base, beyond those properties already recognized in the buildout analysis.
- C. *Continue to research rate stabilization options;*
 - a. Driven by capital infrastructure investment of \$50,000 annually which is insufficient to meet the districts needs and general operating costs and conservation and annual usage, predicated on water restrictions limits the Towns ability to stabilize rates at this time. There remains significant needs in water infrastructure in the short term which includes the South Reservoir Dam reconstruction and Long Term capital requirements for a large investment in distribution piping estimated to be in the millions.

Revenues are annually driven by water usage, the need for water restrictions and the inability of the Town to dramatically expand the size of the district, based on properties within the district that have the right to tie-in at some point in the future, based on the calculated capacity of the system.

5. Support Continued Wastewater System Improvements

- A. *Continue to evaluate and improve wastewater system infrastructure;*
 - a. Sewer Lining and Rehabilitation of approximately 9,000 linear feet of sewer interceptor main was complete in the spring of 2016. **Staff is evaluating the sewer collection system for additional sections of piping that requires slip lining and rehabilitation using the funding remaining from savings from the first phase of the project.**
- B. *Monitor methods to limit excess wastewater flow to collection system; and*
 - a. Additional slip-lining will be required to eliminate sources of I-I to the system, which drives increased operating costs of the plant. Significant rainfall realized in the fall 2015

increased the flow at the plant from 100k to 1 million in less than 2 hours, which indicates significant I-I into the system. Funding is available to complete additional slip lining of the sewer collection system piping due to savings from the sewer interceptor lining project. Staff is reviewing the collection system to determine sections that are a priority for lining.

C. Continue to research rate stabilization options.

- a.* A large investment in collection system improvements are required over the next 10-year period and beyond. Presently the \$25,000 in capital investment is inadequate to fund the needed improvements in the system. Typically the \$25,000 is insufficient to address unforeseen equipment replacement needs on an annual basis. Staff is working on a comprehensive asset management plan for both the water and sewer divisions to determine a long-range capital program.

6. Maintain and Improve Town Roads and Facilities Used by the Public

A. Complete the 90% design phase and secure approval to initiate the implementation of the Safe Routes to School program;

- a.* The consultant has completed the 90% design phase plans that will prompt the initiation of the implementation phase of the program; Town staff are in contact with Federal and State Highway representatives regarding review of the plan.

B. Evaluate Village District pedestrian and bicycle safety features;

- a.* North Pond connector design funding approved in FY2016 capital program, with award of contract made in August 2015. Preliminary work on path base expected to begin in 2016 by the Town's consultant PARE. Project development timeline is based on Town staff availability and funding.
- b.* North Road reconstruction beginning in FY2016, with three year(three phase) road drainage and repaving program accompanied by a fourth phase that includes a bike path/trail connector from West Reach to North Pond to interconnect with the North Pond Connector that exits onto Eldred Avenue. Project completion anticipated in FY2019-2020, based on funding availability.
- c.* The traffic Committee has recently taken steps to improve pedestrian safety through interaction with the State Traffic Commission for improvements to the crosswalks located at Mackerel Cove and High Street/Spring Street along Southwest Avenue.
- d.* Traffic Commission is also evaluation the crosswalk placement on Conanicus Avenue adjacent to the Recreation Center and East Ferry.
- e.* The Town's proposed FY2017 – FY 2025 TIP recommendations for the Federal Transportation Improvement Program are due in early January 2016. Projects the Town will be considering in this round include, reconstruction of the approach and bridge at the Great Creek due to sea level rise, sidewalk enhancements, ferry landing improvements, bike path improvements, and road widening projects.

C. Complete the drainage and road reconstruction of North Main Road in accordance with the Towns Pavement Management Plan; and

- a.* This program is under way with Phase I- drainage funded in FY2015-16 with subsequent Phases of drainage and road reconstruction scheduled over the following three-year

cycle. The project in its entirety including the pedestrian /bicycle path is estimated to be completed in FY 2018-2019, subject to available capital program funding.

D. Improve restroom facilities at Mackerel Cove and Fort Getty.

- a. Funding for replacement restrooms at Mackerel Cove were approved as part of the FY2015-16 Capital Program. A proposed design will be presented to the Town Council for approval in the fall/winter of 2016.
- b. Discussion regarding improved restrooms at Fort Getty is continuing with more formal discussions expected to occur as part of the 2016 season review discussion with the Parks and Recreation Department. The future of both the lower and upper structures remain in question, and the need to replace both facilities is a priority improvement needed in the park. The concept of a shared facility in the park accommodating public restroom/shower use, park storage and program space is also being researched.

7. Reduce Incidence of Tick Borne Disease;

- a. Continue to pursue Lyme disease prevention strategies initiated by Tick Task Force and deer herd management under the process regulated by RIDEM.
 1. In 2014, the Police Department was tasked with developing the rules and regulations governing the hunting to be allowed on four parcels of Town owned property. These rules and regulations were adopted by the Council. Immediately following, the Department was tasked with managing the use of said properties. It is anticipated that this program will continue into the next hunting season with the same responsibilities remaining with the Department.
 2. The Town is scheduling a managed visit to Dutch Island with RIDEM officials to evaluate the restoration and safety work being performed by the Army Corps. Upon the completion of this work, it is anticipated that the Town will seek authorization from RIDEM to allow a controlled hunting program on the island. Town staff with RIDEM officials visited Dutch Island in November 2015 to assess this ongoing work and further discuss options for future public access. The approved budget for this program in FY2016-17 is \$15,000.