

**Municipal Comprehensive Land Use Plan
Annual Report**

** New Question added - - #4 Opportunities for technical assistance**

Name of Municipality: Fenwick Island, DE

Date of Plan Certification: February, 2024 **Date of Report:** July 16, 2024

In accordance with 22 Del. C. §702 (g) Municipalities shall provide to the Office of State Planning Coordination a report describing implementation of their comprehensive plan and identifying development issues, trends* or conditions since the plan was last adopted or amended. The report shall be due annually no later than July 1.

*Please note that the development trends data is collected each year to further supplement this requirement. Please contact the Office of State Planning Coordination with questions regarding development trends or this annual report.

1. Please review the recommendations, goals and implementation items within your comprehensive plan and Please indicate which items are complete, underway, or not yet started. Also please include any other comments you may wish to add.

Please see Attachment A.

2. Please highlight any significant accomplishments, development issues, trends or conditions since the plan was last adopted or amended that may either have enhanced or hindered the implementation of your plan. These accomplishments may be used in the annual report to the Governor.

The Town of Fenwick Island Planning Commission received notification of our newly adopted Comprehensive Plan earlier this year. Unlike the past two Comprehensive Plans, 2007 and 2017, the Planning Commission was very clear, that this plan would not be “shelved” but rather that Fenwick Island would have the opportunity to use this as a navigational tool. With the support of Town Council, not only did the Planning Commission create the 2024 Comprehensive Plan but has also organized a matrix and implementation process.

Upon completion of the plan and aligning with the new committee year set to begin in October 2023, we created a system for educating, reporting and supporting the various committees tasked with the recommendations within the plan. In addition, each member of the Planning Commission is acting in a liaison role to support the committee chairs and members.

After holding a Workshop in late September, the implementation of the plan was off and running in the new committee year. We all worked within the framework of our

new 2024 Comprehensive Plan to accomplish several of the tasks and recommendations. At the end of March, the six month point of the committee, we requested the chairs to provide a Semi-Annual Implementation Report. This information is valuable not only to the Planning Commission but also helps the chair and committee members achieve their goals. This information was reviewed by the Planning Commission and a report presented to Town Council in May.

The Planning Commission is now focused on the implementation items still outstanding and will support the committee chairs in addressing these issues. A second Semi-Annual Implementation Report will be administered in September, which is the end of the "committee year". The information will be handled the same as the first Semi-Annual Implementation Report. The Planning Commission understands that little remains constant. These reports will allow easy transition for new committee chairs.

This process has also provided an educational awareness of the Comprehensive Plan, and the value it plays in establishing Fenwick Island's future.

3. Are there any planning issues that the municipality is currently facing Do you anticipate any comprehensive plan changes for which the Office of State Planning Coordination may be able to offer technical assistance? If yes, please describe below.

Not at the time of this report.

4. Opportunities for technical assistance, planning help, and funding for resiliency related projects that arise throughout the year. What resiliency projects* or efforts might your town need help with?

**Resiliency projects might include (but not limited to) addressing flooding impacts, energy efficiency/sustainability efforts, identifying vulnerability to climate change, etc.*

Fenwick Island has the following needs:

1. Support for GIS/Mapping and the value of integrated database on current properties and conditions;
2. Authorizing the re-building of Seal Island, owned by the State of DE, to break up wave action which will protect the bayside community of Fenwick Island from coastal storms. The need for this has been raised and discussed with DNREC on several occasions;
3. Support for beach renourishment;
4. Support for public safety and public/town infrastructure relating to flooding;
5. Support / best practices for public education;
6. Reconstitute the DE Inland Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study;
7. Coordination and collaboration amongst affected municipalities and agencies (e.g., DeIDOT) in order to mitigate sea level rise jointly;
8. Continuation of Municipal Street Aid Funds;

9. Possible grant funding for resiliency related green infrastructure and public open space.

DRAFT

5. Please help update our mailing list by supplying the following information:

Mayor: Natalie C. Magdeburger
e-mail address: nmagdeburger@fenwickisland-de.gov

City/Town Manager: Lori Dabbondanza
e-mail address: ldabbondanza@fenwickisland-de.gov

Planning Chair: Susan Brennan
e-mail address: susanbrennan721@verizon.net

Town/City Clerk: Erin Ellinger
e-mail address: eellinger@fenwickisland-de.gov

Council/Commission Members:
Natalie Magdeburger, Jacque Napolitano, Janice Bortner, William Rymer,
Richard Benn, Ed Bishop, Kurt Zanelotti

Planning Commission Members:
Julie Lee, Lois Twilley, Natalie Magdeburger, Ann Riley, Lisa Lange, Odis Braxton,
Winnie Lewis (Emeritus)

On behalf of the Town of Fenwick Island, I respectfully submit this comprehensive plan annual report to the Office of State Planning Coordination. The information contained in the report is correct and complete.

Signature of Mayor

Date

Printed Name of Mayor.