

2026 Committee Priorities

IMPLEMENTATION (TABLE 8.)											
Tasks		Occurrence or Priority	Committees							STATUS	
2026 PRELIMINARY	Community Engagemen		Environmental	Infrastructure	Charter & Ordinance	Town Council	Town Staff	Planning Commission	Ad Hoc		
1	Review the comprehensive plan on a semi-annual basis and develop a workplan to implement priority tasks	Semi-annual					X		X		
2	Report semi-annually to the town council on status updates to the Comprehensive Plan	Semi-annual							Sept Mar		
3	Pursue grants and partnerships that support town priorities.	OG					X	X	X		
4	Enforce existing codes	OG					X	X			
5	Review town ordinances and consider changes in regard to:										
6	• The relationship between freeboard and fill in regard to the height allowance	OG				X	X				
7	• Lighting and further prevention of light pollution	OG								Dark Sky	
8	• Enhanced landscaping and tree protection standards	OG		X			X	X			
9	• Requiring bicycle parking as part of redevelopment in commercial areas	ST				X	X	X			
10	• The use of sidewalks for pedestrian usage only	ST				X	X	X			
11	Promote and inform residents and visitors of the value, benefits, and opportunities for:										
12	• Dark skies initiative	OG								Dark Sky	
13	• Green infrastructure and native landscaping	OG		X	X		X	X			
14	• Bike and pedestrian safety	OG					X	X			
15	• Importance of the dunes	OG		X	X			X			
16	• Wellhead protection areas	OG			X			X			
17	• Volunteer and public service opportunities in the town	OG					X	X			
18	Designate a town liaison to regularly communicate, coordinate and advocate with DelDOT, DNREC, and other state agencies.	ST					X				
19	Invite the DelDOT circuit rider planner to attend town meetings on an annual basis, more if needed.	Annual						X	X		
20	Coordinate with Sussex County, DelDOT, and local legislators to understand the path forward in advancing the town's priority projects in the State's transportation improvement	OG					X	X	X		
21	Invite DNREC Division of Parks to meet with the town and establish periodic check ins to discuss concerns and opportunities for collaboration	Annual					X				
22	Participate in planning processes by DNREC's Division of Parks and other relevant agencies to promote preservation of the beaches as noncommercialized open space and recreation.	OG					X				
23	Participate in regional planning initiatives sponsored by nonprofit partners, federal and state partners, and others on topics of importance to the town.	OG					X	X	X		
24	Work with DelDOT and Sussex County to convert SR 1 into a resilient, multi-modal, and cohesive "Complete Street" from SR 54 through Fenwick Island State Beach Park.	LT/OG					X	X			
25	Explore traffic calming alternatives for SR 1 and Bunting Avenue with the Fenwick community	ST					X	X			
26	Advance policies that support pedestrian and bicycle safety.	OG					X	X			
27	Advocate for DelDOT to gather, analyze, present, and share timely and accessible traffic data with municipalities in order to provide a clearer picture of seasonal traffic demands and conflicts.	ST					X	X			
28	Work with DNREC and other coastal partners to identify ways to manage the demand for beach access in light of the continued population growth and heightened tourist demand in Southeast Sussex County.	OG		X			X	X			
29	Continue to support ongoing, periodic beach replenishment	OG					X	X			
30	Continue to provide and enhance universal access to the beach, while enhancing protection and maintenance of the dunes	ST					X	X			
31	Advocate for Fenwick's position regarding Off-shore Wind Energy	OG		X			X	X			
32	Continue to provide and improve systems and services pertaining to beach patrol, parking and sanitation management during peak season	OG					X	X			
33	Provide support for safe recreational boating	ST					X	X			
34	Continue to pursue funding to improve navigation of the bay through the channel dredging project.	ST									COMPLETED 2025

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	Continued monitoring of canal health. Identify resources to characterize depths of waters in Little Assawoman Bay or consider ways to obtain such data to better inform needs for	MT					X	X			
35	Promote and participate in sustainable management of Little Assawoman Bay	OG		X	X		X	X			
36	Consider variety of strategies to protect and increase tree canopy and native landscaping, including resident education progs and volunteer opps, the planting of trees on existing public lands, and seeking grants to assist in all of these efforts.	ST		X			X	X			
37	Review recommendations contained in the 2021 State of the Inland Bays report, with a particular focus on Little Assawoman Bay. Identify actions that may be appropriate to implement in Town.	ST									COMPLETED
38	Continue to coordinate with DNREC and other state and federal partners on resiliency and flood mitigation efforts.	OG			X		X	X			
39	Continue to engage and coordinate with Deldot regarding the long-term resiliency of SR 1.	OG			X		X	X			
40	Work with community to determine moving forward with recommendations from the 2023 resiliency study, including prep for potential grant funding, establishing a resiliency fund, code updates, and resiliency design guidelines and standards.	ST			X	X	X	X			
41	Establish and maintain public engagement on SLR, climate change and the town's approach.	OG			X		X	X			
42	Continue evaluating and making improvements to the town's stormwater infrastructure, including the promotion of rain gardens and other innovative green infrastructure.	OG			X		X	X			
43	Limit impervious surface cover throughout Fenwick Island through enforcement of ordinances and consideration of more porous systems.	ST									COMPLETED
44	Maintain existing zoning in regard to maximum heights, floor area ratio, impervious surfaces, and parking requirements.	OG				X	X	X			COMPLETED
45	Develop a pollinator way station on Town owned property	ST		X							
46	Support collaborative efforts and ongoing discussions to address affordable workforce housing in Delaware, and specific efforts to address the housing needs of its seasonal workforce.	ST/OG					X		X		
47	Continue to seek opportunities to support the health and cultural aesthetics of residents and visitors through parks, recreational opportunities, and open spaces.	OG	X	X			X	X	X		
48	Develop an electronic document management system to allow easier sharing of documents with the public.	ST					X	X			
49											
RECOMMENDATIONS											
1	Support environmentally friendly programs and encourage community involvement such as oyster gardening and use of rain barrels.			X			X				
2	Incorporate resiliency and flood mitigation strategies as part of future road improvements.	OG			X		X	X			
3	Prioritize law enforcement practices that promote pedestrian and bicycle safety.						X	X			
4	Decorative street lighting to improve the visibility, comfort and security of pedestrians at intersections, pedestrian crossing areas and areas of high pedestrian activity.						X	X			
5	Engage the community on suggestions for traffic calming measures in order to maintain the character and usage of Bunting Avenue and other town streets, particularly in the summer months						X	X			
6	Support placement of bicycle amenities along the SR 1 corridor including, but not limited to, bicycle racks at commercial sites and benches. Consider including in town ordinances.						X	X			
7	Increase public awareness and understanding of pedestrian and bicycle safety.		X				X	X			
8	Encourage the development of bicycle riding groups and other bicycle centered events.						X	X	X		
9	Support signage that promotes pedestrian and bicycle safety awareness.										
10	Coordinate with Deldot and DNREC regarding the traffic control measures and standstills created at the Fenwick Island State Beach Park.							X			
11	Coordinate with DTC regarding the adequacy of transit service and stops (pads, benches and shelters)						X	X			

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12	Monitor availability of parking for town residents by permit and for visitors by daily fees. Identify ways to improve access for residents and for visitors as feasible and consistent with other needs for the town.						X	X			
13	Median enhancements such as natural plantings with trees and other landscaping to provide pedestrian refuge, incorporate green infrastructure opportunities, and create a neighborhood environment complimentary to Fenwick's unique character.			X			X	X			
14	Inform residents and visitors about the importance of the dunes and how to protect them through town communications.			X			X	X			
15	Encourage residents and visitors to participate in state-sponsored projects to plant new vegetation on dunes.			X			X	X			
16	Maintain or enhance capacity to provide on-going grooming of the beach contours and dune crossings to meet needs.							X			
17	Continue to provide and enhance essential public safety services for beach users for public safety, largely through a well-trained and organized beach patrol unit, assisted by the FIPD, Coast Guard and other entities.						X	X			
18	Continue to provide surface mats to ease pedestrian crossing to the beach. Work with DNREC as needed to quickly remedy deficiencies in the placement of the Mobi mats when access is reduced.						X	X			
19	Consider Resiliency Funding				X		X				
20	Advocate for and support change in law in DE that requires vehicles to stop at all crosswalks prior to pedestrians entering the crosswalks						X	X			
21	Continue to provide refuse collection services adequate to the need for beach users through facilities at the parking areas near the pedestrian crossings.						X	X			
	NOTES										
	*Dredging- Completed, summer 2025										
	*Ped Safety - Eliminated/redundancy - FIPD										
	*Technology - Eliminated - Town Staff										