



The Town of Barnstable

Office of Town Manager

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Mark S. Ells, Town Manager

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December 3, 2024

To: Barnstable Town Councilors

From: Mark S. Ells, Town Manager

RE: Town Manager update for November 20 through December 3, 2024

1. We continue with the preparation of the Capital and Operating Budget for FY 2026. FY 2026 budget development is on schedule and following the budget action calendar. For information on our fiscal year budgets please view the Town's Open Budget website at <http://budget.townofbarnstable.us>.
2. The Finance Department presented the FY 2025 tax levy shifting options in a prerecorded presentation available for viewing on the Town webpage and at the November 7, 2024, Town Council meeting. The objective of the presentation is to illustrate the impact on tax bills when deciding on a minimum residential factor, commonly referred to as splitting the tax rate, and the adoption of a residential exemption. Property values have been approved by the Department of Revenue (DOR) allowing the Town Council to vote on these two options. The two votes are scheduled on the December 5th agenda for Town Council action.
3. As previously stated, a public hearing on changes to various Town of Barnstable permit and program fees for the Community Services Department's Golf/Hyannis Youth and Community Center Programs, Marine and Environmental Affairs Department's Marina/Sandy Neck Beach and Recreational Shellfish Programs and the Planning & Development Department's Parking Management Program that take effect on January 1, 2025 was held on November 12, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. The hearing can be viewed on Video on Demand (<https://streaming85.townofbarnstable.us/CablecastPublicSite/search?query=town%20manager%20fee%20hearing&site=1>). Those wishing to provide public comment may do so through December 11, 2024. All comments will be taken under advisement and calendar year rates will be approved as proposed, approved for an amount less than the proposed rate or not approved and remain at current rates.
4. We encourage residents and visitors to download the MyBarnstable app from the Apple or Google Play store. The app provides updates on a wide range of information in the Town including traffic advisories, election information, and seasonally Sandy Neck off-road availability, beach updates and more. The more includes reporting a problem such as an enforcement issue or a complaint of most

types with the exception of reporting an emergency which we strongly recommend dialing 911. In addition to Report a Problem there are numerous ways that residents can file complaints including: the town main mailbox (email@town.Barnstable.ma.us); the Citizen Resource Line: 508-862-4925; and the Rental Compliance Hotline: 508-504-9779. It should be noted that it is best for the resident to file the complaint directly rather than having others file it on their behalf to ensure prompt and efficient response. You can communicate with the Town Manager's Office at 508-862-4610. We will be providing further communication on our advances in better enforcement in Barnstable in the coming months and we look forward to working with our community to maintain our exceptional quality of life here in Barnstable.

5. On December 3, 2024, the Cape & Islands Bridge Coalition (CIBC) held its quarterly meeting. The meeting included an updates from the Chairs of the CIBC, a Regional Transportation Planning Update from the Cape Cod Commission, and a discussion with our federal delegation staff on funding for the projects. Progress continues to be made on permitting and securing funding for the projects. As part of the Cape Cod Commission staff update they referenced the release of the draft Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Amendment 2 to the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025-2029 TIP for a 21-day public comment period.
 - Amendment 2 included a proposal as follows: Cape Cod Bridges Program Phase 1 (Sagamore Bridge) \$365,420,000 to be programmed in FFY 2025-2029 utilizing Federal Bridge Investment Program (BIP) grant funds with a state match.

[FFY 2025-2029 TIP Amendment 2 Handout](#)

Comments regarding TIP Amendment 2 will be accepted through December 9, 2024 by contacting Colleen Medeiros, Transportation Program Manager, as noted below. A virtual public meeting of the Cape Cod MPO is scheduled for Monday, December 16, 2024 at 1:00 PM to hear additional public comments and consider endorsement of FFY 2025-2029 TIP Amendment 2.

The representatives to our federal delegation addressed their understanding of the status of the federal funding for the Sagamore bridge project. The funding is identified but has not been contracted to the project. They were cautiously optimistic that the funds will be available to proceed with the Sagamore Bridge project. The next CIBC meeting scheduled in March 2025.

6. James Kupfer, Director of Planning and Development, will provide a Housing Report.