

At the Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown, County of Washington, and State of Rhode Island, held in and for said Town, County, and State this 24th day of March, 2025 at the Town Hall Council Chambers, 80 Boston Neck Road, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT WERE: Gregory A. Mancini, President
Linnea M. Drew
Elizabeth Hill Ross
Matthew B. McCoy
Dr. Kimberly Ann Page

ALSO PRESENT: A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager
Jeannette Alyward, Town Clerk
Susan A. Murray, Deputy Town Clerk
James M. Callaghan, Town Solicitor

An audio recording and video recording of this meeting was made to supplement the written record.

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown held on March 24, 2025 was called to order by President Mancini.

2. Notice of Meeting being posted

Pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-6(c), notice of this meeting has been posted on the Secretary of State's Website.

3. Salute to Flag

President Mancini led those in attendance in a salute to the flag.

President Mancini led those in attendance in a moment of silence in memory of George Hammond, Peggy Fitzpatrick, and Nicolas Musumeci.

I. PUBLIC HEARING

4. Second Reading – Amendment to Chapter 13, Section 13-26, Section 13-31, and Section 13-32

Motion by Councilor McCoy, seconded by Councilor Page and unanimously

VOTED: To open the Public Hearing.

There was no public comment.

Motion by Councilor McCoy, seconded by Councilor Page and unanimously

VOTED: To close the Public Hearing.

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: To adopt an Ordinance in Amendment of Chapter 13 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of North Kingstown, entitled, "Public Beaches", by amending Section 13-26, entitled, "Enforcement of Article", deleting Section 13-31, entitled, "Use by Nonresidents", and amending Section 13-32, entitled, "Beach Parking Permits", and that this shall constitute the Second Reading thereof.

5. Second Reading – Amendment to Section 9-4

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To open the Public Hearing.

There was no public comment.

Motion by Councilor McCoy, seconded by Councilor Page and unanimously

VOTED: To close the Public Hearing.

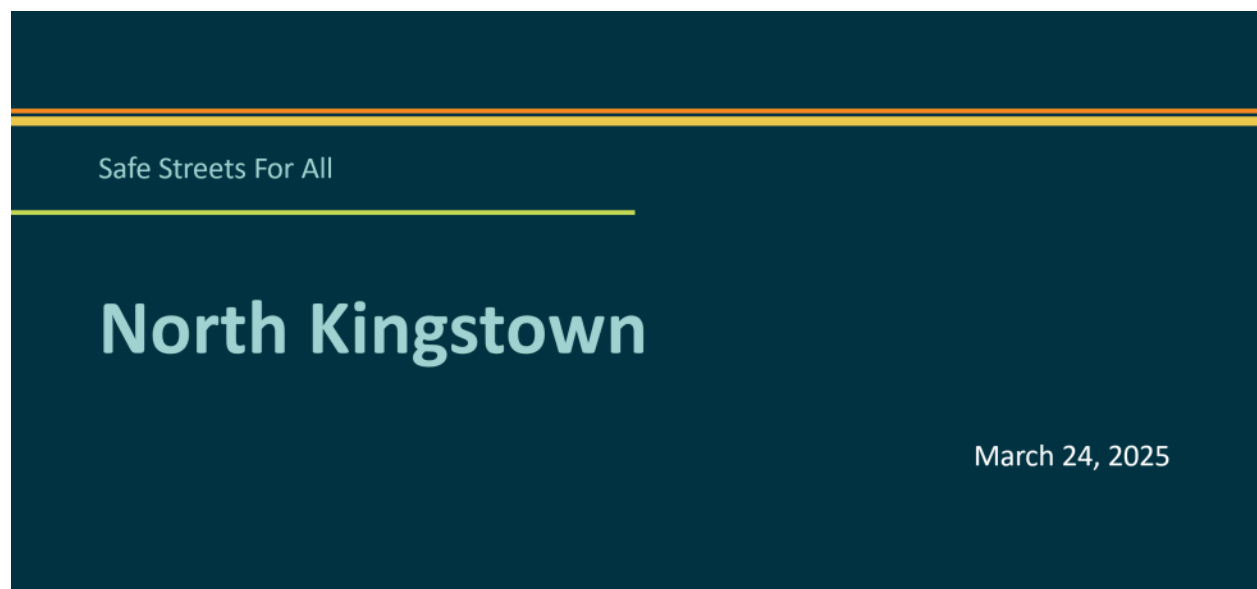
Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To adopt an Ordinance in Amendment of Section 9-4 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of North Kingstown, entitled, "Fee Schedule Enumerated - Table VI - Recreation Department Fees - Beach Parking Permits", and that this shall constitute the Second Reading thereof.

II. SPECIAL BUSINESS

6. Presentation by Bowman Engineering – Safe Streets for All Safety Action Plan

Director of Planning and Development Nicole LaFontaine stated that the Town of North Kingstown opted into a statewide project with RIPTA using USDOT grant funding for the planning process to develop a safety action plan for our community. Over the course of 2024 the NK Safe Streets Task Force included planning staff, school transportation supervisor, and police, fire and engineering worked with Bowman consultants to review community goals, policy, safety and identification of priority locations/projects. Ms. LaFontaine introduced Eric Weis of Bowman Engineering who gave the following presentation:



Agenda

- 1. What is Safe Streets For All?
- 2. Staffing
- 3. Safety Action Plan
- 4. Data Collection & Analysis
- 5. Community Engagement
- 6. Equity Considerations
- 7. Policy & Process
- 8. Safety Action Plan
- 9. Next Steps



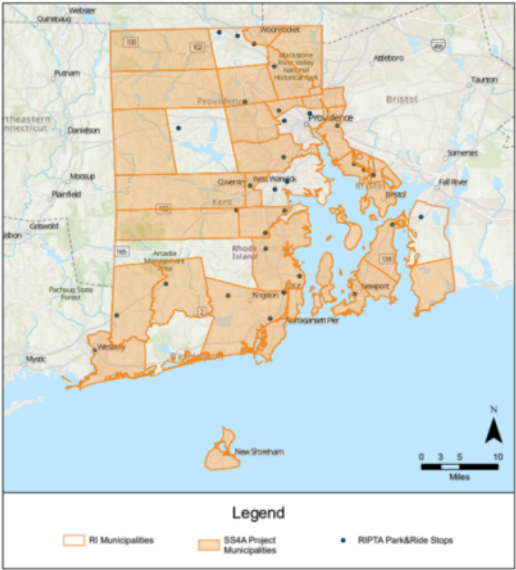
SS4A Program Goals

| Overarching Goal |
|---|
| Significantly reduce and eventually eliminate fatalities and serious injuries across Rhode Island. |
| Specific Goals |
| Create an implementable Safety Action Plan (SAP) rooted in the Safe Systems Approach* for North Kingstown. |
| Prepare North Kingstown in their ability to adapt to known/emerging safety and mobility challenges for all modes of transportation. |
| Support multi-jurisdictional collaboration and regional impact . |
| Promote broad public involvement/ engagement and equitable access to information for underserved and minority communities and low-income areas. |
| Keep North Kingstown in a position for continued SS4A implementation funding eligibility . |



Participating Municipalities

31 of RI's 39 municipalities are participating



Staff

- North Kingstown Team
 - Nicole LaFontaine, Director of Planning & Development
 - Elle Moore, planning staff
 - Chief John Urban, North Kingstown Police
 - Captain John MacCoy, North Kingstown Police
 - Officer Nicholas Salois, North Kingstown Police
 - Adam White, Public Works Director
 - Aly Sparks, Deputy Public Works Director
 - Michelle Hulme, Transportation Supervisor, NK Schools
- Bowman Team
 - Eric Weis, AICP, Project Manager
 - Dan Lamere, AICP, Planning Lead
 - Dara Clough, PE, Engineering Lead



Safety Action Plan Components

1. Leadership Commitment and Goal Setting
2. Planning Structure
3. Safety Analysis
4. Engagement and Collaboration
5. Equity Considerations
6. Policy & Process Changes
7. Strategy & Project Selections
8. Progress & Transparency

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Safe Streets and Roads for All
Action Plan Components

This document is not meant to replace the NCHRP. Applicants should follow the instructions in the NCHRP to correctly apply for a grant. See the SS4A website for more information: <https://www.transportation.gov/SS4A>

Leadership Commitment and Goal Setting

An official public commitment (e.g., resolution, policy, ordinance, etc.) by a high-ranking official and/or governing body (e.g., Mayor, City Council, Board of Directors, etc.) that sets an overall goal of zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries. The commitment must include a goal and timeline for eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries achieved through one, or both, of the following:

- (1) the target date for achieving zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries, OR
- (2) an ambitious percentage reduction of roadway fatalities and serious injuries by a specific date with an overall goal of eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries.

Planning Structure

A committee, task force, implementation group, or similar body charged with oversight of the Action Plan development, implementation, and monitoring.

Safety Analysis

Analysis of existing conditions and historical trends that provides a baseline level of crashes, including fatalities and serious injuries across a jurisdiction, locally, state, or region. Includes an analysis of locations where there are crashes and the severity of the crashes, as well as contributing factors and crash types by relevant road users (motorists, people walking, transit users, etc.). Analysis of systemic and/or specific safety needs is also performed, as needed (e.g., high-risk road features, specific safety needs of relevant road users, public health approaches, analysis of the built environment, demographic, and structural issues, etc.). To the extent practical, the analysis should include all roadways within the jurisdiction, without regard for ownership. Based on the analysis performed, a prioritized identification of higher-risk locations is developed to high-injury network or equivalent.

Engagement and Collaboration

Robust engagement with the public and relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and community groups, that allows for both community representation and feedback. Information received from engagement and collaboration is analyzed and incorporated into the Action Plan. Overlapping jurisdictions are included in the process. Plans and processes are coordinated and aligned with other governmental plans and planning processes to the extent practical.

US Department of Transportation

Still have questions? Visit the SS4A website
SS4A Action Plan Components | Page 1 of 2



Safety Analysis



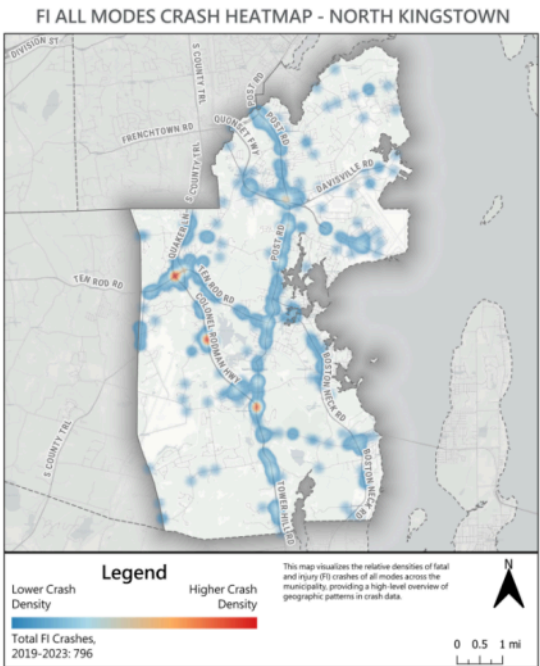
Safety Analysis

- State level data available includes statewide police crash reports provided by RIDOT, existing crash maps by municipality, and additional Complete Streets data.
- Baseline Crash Analysis (BCA)
 - This analysis is a series of maps, charts, tables, and narratives describing **recent crash trends, key factors, and overall patterns in serious and fatal injury crashes over the past 5 years.**
- High-Risk Network (HRN)
 - The HRN is a map that shows **locations that are at a higher risk for fatal and serious injury crashes** based on the factors like speed, number of lanes, land use context, equity metrics, and more.
 - This analysis identifies trends that support the systemic implementation of low-cost treatments.
- High Injury Network (HIN)
 - Reflects **elements of both the Baseline Crash Analysis and the High-Risk Network**



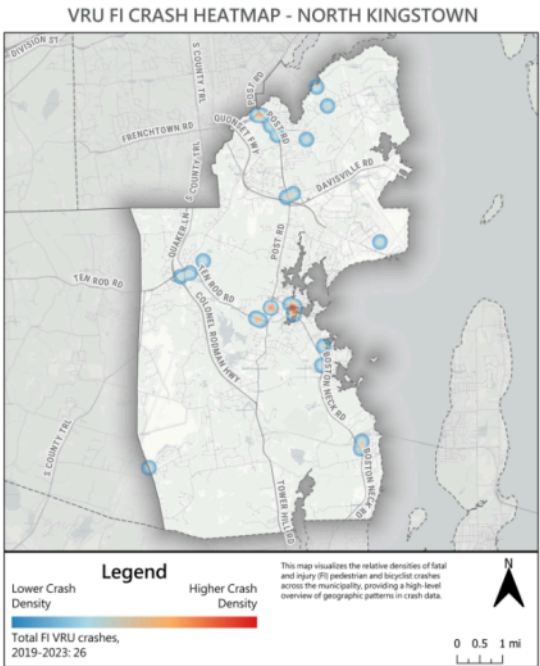
Safety Analysis

- Focus: fatal and serious injury crashes
- **Baseline crash analysis**
- High-risk network
- High injury network



Safety Analysis

- Focus: fatal and serious injury crashes
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Safety Analysis

- Focus: fatal and serious injury crashes
- Baseline crash analysis
- **High-risk network**
- High injury network



N. Kingstown High Risk Network - VRUs



Safety Analysis

- Focus: fatal and serious injury crashes
- Baseline crash analysis
- High-risk network
- **High injury network**



N. Kingstown High Injury Network - All Modes



Safety Analysis

- Focus: fatal and serious injury crashes
- Baseline crash analysis
- High-risk network
- **High injury network**



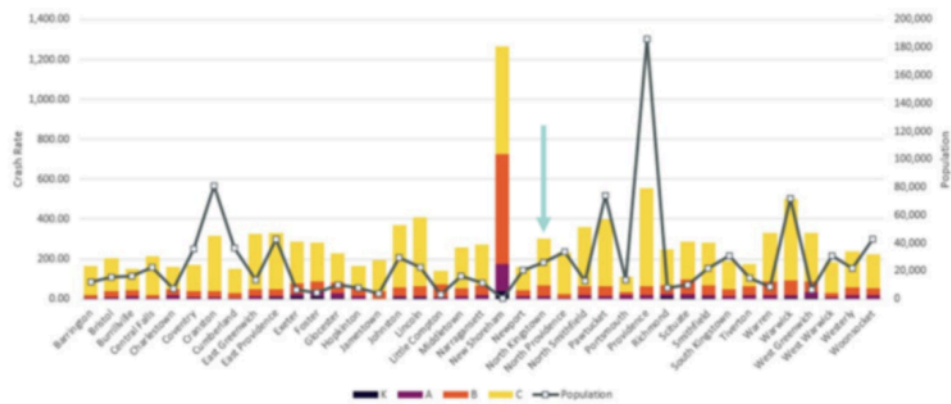
N. Kingstown High Injury Network - VRUs



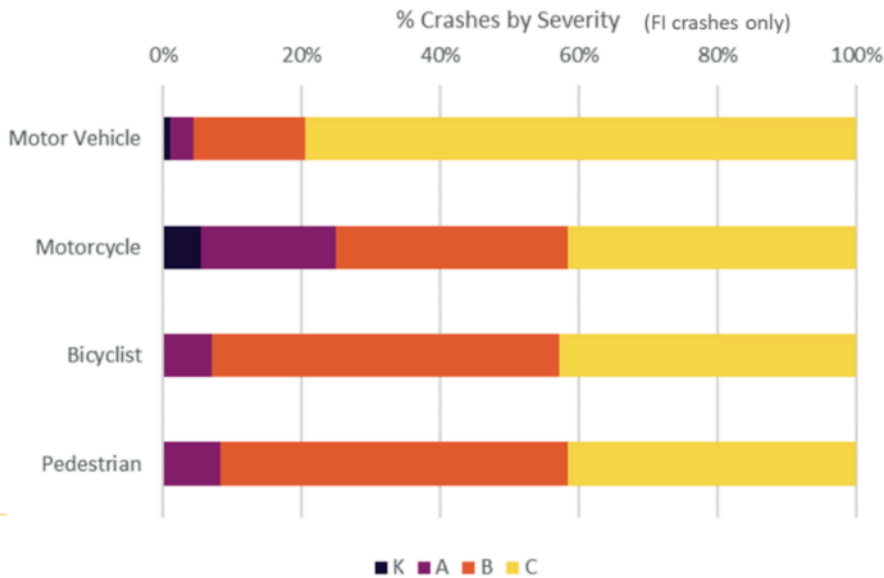
Safety Analysis

The crash rate in North Kingstown is near the state median

The overall crash rate in North Kingstown (the number of crashes per 10,000 residents) ranks 21st out of 39 total municipalities, as shown in Figure 3. The town’s crash rate is near the median when comparing crash rates for all cities and towns in the state.



Safety Analysis



Safety Analysis

| | | Time of Day | | | | | | | | FI Crashes All Modes |
|-------------|------|-----------------|------|---------|------------------|-------|---------|-----------------|-------|-------------------------|
| Day of Week | From | 12 AM | 3 AM | 6 AM | 9 AM | 12 PM | 3 PM | 6 PM | 9 PM | |
| | To | 3 AM | 6 AM | 9 AM | 12 PM | 3 PM | 6 PM | 9 PM | 12 AM | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mon | | 5 | 4 | 10 | 21 | 22 | 20 | 14 | 9 | |
| Tues | | 3 | 2 | 16 | 23 | 26 | 45 | 14 | 9 | |
| Wed | | 3 | 3 | 17 | 20 | 22 | 37 | 12 | 6 | |
| Thu | | 4 | 4 | 10 | 18 | 18 | 27 | 12 | 7 | |
| Fri | | 5 | 1 | 9 | 19 | 28 | 36 | 16 | 8 | |
| Sat | | 6 | 5 | 5 | 17 | 34 | 22 | 21 | 6 | |
| Sun | | 9 | 4 | 8 | 15 | 18 | 27 | 13 | 2 | |
| | | Dark Conditions | | AM Peak | Light Conditions | | PM Peak | Dark Conditions | | |



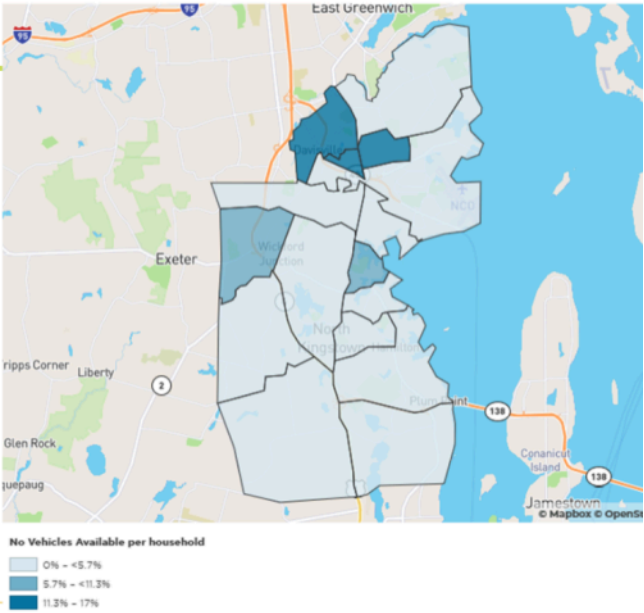
Engagement & Collaboration

- Summer tabling events
- Stakeholder interviews
- Community survey



Equity Considerations

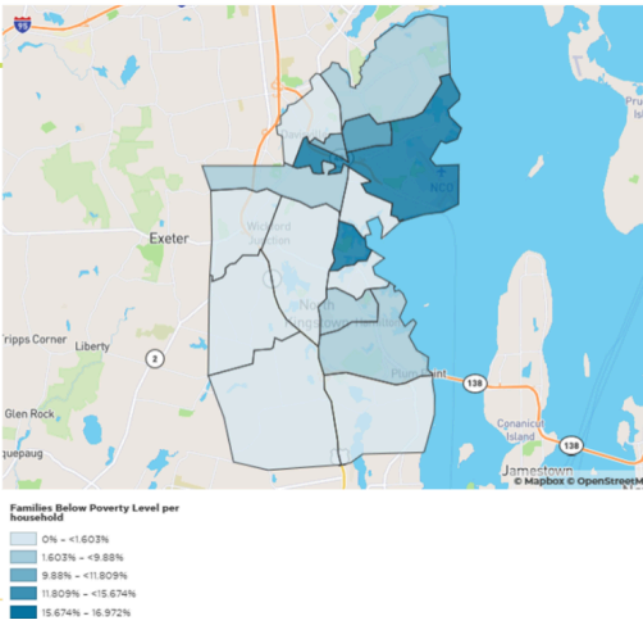
5.4% of households in North Kingstown do not have access to a vehicle, with some Census Block Groups as high as 17%



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2019-2023

Equity Considerations

Approximately 3.5% of families in North Kingstown are below the federal poverty level, with some Census Block Groups as high as 17%



Sources: US Census Bureau ACS 5-year 2019-2023

Policy and Process Changes

- Review/assess current **policies, plans, guidelines, standards**, etc. to understand how safety is or is not impacted
- Make **policy recommendations** and provide guidance on **implementation**

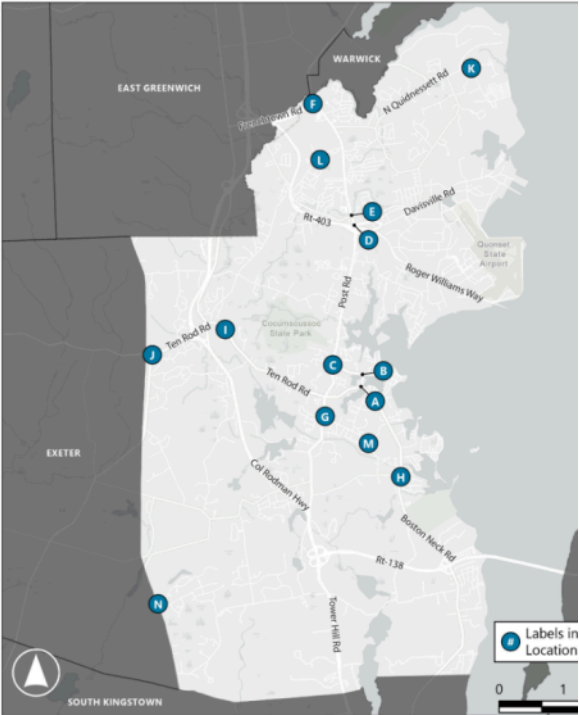
Policy Areas/Departments:

- Leadership
- Public Works
- Police
- Education/Public Awareness
- Planning



Action Plan: locations

| Townwide Rank | Location | Map Label | Total Score |
|---------------|---|-----------|-------------|
| 1 | Brown Street / Phillips Street / Boston Neck Road | A | 18.0 |
| 3 | Post Road / W Main Street | C | 17.1 |
| 3 | Post Road / Gate Road | D | 17.1 |
| 3 | Post Road / Devils Foot Road / Newcomb Road | E | 17.1 |
| 5 | W Main Street / Main Street / Brown Street | B | 15.4 |
| 6 | Post Road / Frenchtown Road | F | 13.1 |
| 7 | Annaquatucket Road corridor (near High School) | M | 12.8 |
| 8 | Wickford Junction | I | 11.1 |
| 9 | Tower Hill Road (between Haverhill Ave and Wickford Lumber) | G | 10.3 |
| 10 | School Street corridor (near Davisville Middle School) | L | 10.2 |
| 11 | Boston Neck Road / Hamilton Allenton Road / Salisbury Ave | H | 8.6 |
| 12 | Slocum Road / Glen Hill Drive | N | 6.3 |
| 13 | North Quidnessett Road / Harrison Street | K | 5.9 |
| 14 | Ten Rod Road (Rt 102) / Rt 2 | J | 5.2 |



Action Plan (example)

| Cost | Approximate Range | Icon |
|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| Low | Less than \$50,000 | \$\$\$ |
| Medium | \$50,000-\$250,000 | \$\$\$ |
| High | \$250,000-\$1,000,000 | \$\$\$ |

| | | |
|---|--|--------|
| Post Road / W Main Street (*see note below) Map label: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adjust signal timing (\$)• Install continental-style crosswalks to improve visibility (\$)• Install cast iron detectable warning panels (\$)• Ensure ADA-compliant curb ramps and landing areas (\$)• Add backplates with retroreflective borders to the signal heads, if feasible (\$)• Consider removing one lane on W Main Street westbound, as there is only one receiving lane on Tower Hill Road for left turns from W Main Street, installing bump outs or widening the pedestrian median island (\$\$)• Ensure landscaped areas do not affect sight lines (\$) | \$\$\$ |
|---|--|--------|



Post Road / Tower Hill Road / W Main Street

Key observations:

- ADA compliance issues on curb ramps
- No pedestrian signal across W Main Street
- Outdated pedestrian signal crossing Post Road
- Low visibility crosswalks
- No backplates on signal heads
- Landscaping may restrict drivers' view of pedestrians



Post Road / Tower Hill Road / W Main Street

Potential countermeasures*:

- Signal timing adjustments
- Continental crosswalks
- Cast iron detectable warning panels
- ADA-compliant curb ramps and landing areas
- Backplates with retroreflective borders, if feasible
- Consider removing one lane on Main Street westbound
- Ensure landscaped areas do not affect sight lines

*NOTE: these are possible improvements to incorporate into ongoing Post Road / West Main Street project



Post Road / Tower Hill Road / W Main Street

Potential countermeasures*:

- Signal timing adjustments
- Continental crosswalks
- Cast iron detectable warning panels
- ADA-compliant curb ramps and landing areas
- Backplates with retroreflective borders, if feasible
- Consider removing one lane on Main Street westbound
- Ensure landscaped areas do not affect sight lines



Next Steps

- Delivery of **final Safety Action Plan**, pending completion of RIPTA review
- USDOT Safe Streets For All **Implementation Grant**: notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) expected in late March or April
- Town adoption



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Thank you! / Questions?

Contact information: Eric Weis, eric.weis@bowman.com, 401-216-7803 x3089



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The Council thanked Mr. Weis for his presentation.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: To submit a letter of support to RIPTA for the Safe Streets and Roads For All Plan.

7. Public Comment

John Machata, 526 Shore Acres Avenue, stated that there are many people who hike and bike at the Ryan Park Trails. For the last 4 years, he has helped to make sure people can enjoy these trails. They helped lay stone on the trail to the rainbow bridge. He is asking that the Council allot funds to the Recreation and Public Works Departments for the purpose of trail maintenance. He also asked that DPW work with the trail users to inspect the trails outside of DEM jurisdiction. He has found twenty muddy spots at the request of recreation. He asked that recreation spread stone already located by the bridge, onto trail areas identified in need of repair. He asked that recreation inspect the trails annually.

Dan Moening, 84 Abby Lane, talked about the electric supply. He stated that he did three days of research on the RI Energy website and found some interesting things that will affect the savings we are going to get if we go with the new company. He stated that there are two different rates offered, residential rates and a low-income rate. The rates are governed by the RI Public Utilities Commission and they either approve or disapprove these rates that last for six months. Over the last fifteen years that he reviewed, the rates are cheaper in the summer than in the winter. He also stated that the new energy supplier must register with the Public Utilities Commission, but their rates are not governed by the Commission. When the Town selects a supplier, there are four things that we need to know – what is the supply rate, is it a fixed rate, is it a variable rate, and what is the length of the contract. He would also like to know who on the Council will approve these rates.

Karen Salvatore, 621 Gilbert Stuart Road, stated that with regard to the presentation on safer roads, they talked about the visibility of signals, and she asked if anyone knew if that includes the timing of the signals? She also stated that more signals might be needed. Her concern is with the new signals that we put in place. The ones on Post Road and Boston Neck Road are galvanized urban style and they are ugly. She asked if we could get signals that are nicer looking?

Richard Welch, 8 Arrow Lane, stated that at the last Town Council Meeting, he brought up concerns about the project and the high cost of construction materials that are only getting higher. About six months ago, he attended a meeting at the high school with the School Department Building Subcommittee and the architect. He stated that he didn't understand the plan because it is a tight site and they're making it tighter by using a two-story plan rather than going up and making it a three-story plan, it is more cost effective to go up rather than out. He suggested that everyone go to the school's website and watch the last School Committee meeting and listen to the speaker from RIDE talk about the application for the new school. He said he doesn't understand why there is no plan for a three-story building as well. He would like to see a three-story plan proposed. He stated that we cannot go ahead with the plan and find out we don't have enough money. His proposal is to stop the process and take a serious look at it.

Brett Mallery, 731 Annaquatucket Road, asked the Town Council to support redistricting the schools.

Tom Sgouros, 15 Boston Neck Road, stated that he would like to talk about RIPTA buses. He has been riding the buses for about thirty-five years and a couple of years ago the route changed. He made a complaint to RIPTA and they told him it was a town priority. He stated it makes his ride a little longer, but it does connect to other buses. The problem is it doesn't really connect, the drivers don't know there are people waiting for the other bus and you miss the connection. He would like whoever has the connection with RIPTA to make a system that actually connects so you can catch the bus. He also stated on April 7, 2025, there is a meeting in Kingston at 5:00 p.m. with RIPTA.

Meg Kerr, 151 Prospect Avenue, stated her comments are on Agenda Item Number 23:

Thank you to the Town Planners for formatting the report the way they were asked to do and she read the following statement:

Process

State Law and NK's Ordinances specify that the development of the comp plan is the duty of the Planning Commission (see NK Ordinance Section 804 and RIGL 45.22.2)

State law describes how the comp plan should be implemented. It specifically includes the language

“The strategic plan shall be reviewed annually by a municipality and the annual review shall be accomplished in the following manner: a municipal planning department shall submit a report to the municipal planning board for the board's review, comment, and finding. The Planning Board shall submit to the respective city or town council a report summarizing the status of the

implementation of the strategic plan which report shall be reviewed by the city or town council at a public meeting.”

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In my almost 3 years on the NK Planning Commission, we have never had a review of the Comp Plan on our agenda (except the review before you today). We have never reported to the Town Council. I hope we can begin to correct this moving forward. I can't speak for others who volunteer their time on the NK PC, but I am very interested in this work and would step up to work with town staff on annual reviews and reports to the Town Council.

Content

Overall, the report shows that the town is doing some of the work that was included in the 2018 Comp Plan. When you look at the time frames recommended, much of the work is behind schedule, and much of the public facing work is not happening. Here are a few examples:

4.5 Encourage energy efficiency and alternative energy solutions

The report includes no mention of work being done or planned to accomplish actions 4.5b (work with homeowners to complete home energy audits....) or 4.5c (partner with property owners to install solar panels...).

7.1 Ensure Existing property and business owners are aware of their exposure and risk to coastal hazards and support efforts to improve resiliency.

The report includes actions in response to property owners who reach out to planning, but this will not reach existing property owners who are not planning changes to their property. Robust outreach and community engagement is called for.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I have other comments, but time is short.

Moving forward, I hope the Council, the Planning Commission and the town will engage with the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

Bob Vanderslice, 151 Prospect Avenue, stated that the climate conversation team meeting is this Saturday hosted by the North Kingstown Free Library. He also stated that he is happy that we have a response to the Comprehensive Plan and wants to thank the Town for it. He has three suggestions for the Comp Plan, first use clearer language to describe the next steps, second invite the School Department to comment, and third more effort is needed to improve energy efficiency with residents.

Sue Alexander, 211 Earle Drive, stated that she is a year-round resident on Lone Tree Point. She is here to speak on the proposed dock. She stated that she is not only concerned but sadden by the plans submitted to construct a dock inside the mooring area. She stated she objects because of a recreational and environmental impact it will have, and it will create safety hazards for swimmers, kayakers and children within the cove. This dock will also affect the shell fishing in the area. She also stated she watched the RIDE Presentation from the School Committee Meeting, and it was an embarrassment. They have been given recommendations and haven't done anything about it.

David Fawcett, 70 Duck Cove Road, stated that he agrees with Sue Alexander and thinks this is a risk management issue and they might want to turn it into an Air B&B if it gets approved. The boats will get stuck there at low tide and it's also a safety issue.

Joyce Pastore, 174 Earle Drive, stated she agrees with both Sue and David.

Gary Robberson, 130 Earle Drive, stated that propellers and swimmers don't mix. It is almost impossible to see a swimmer. He also stated that a dock is in a swimming area, and it is an accident waiting to happen. This dock is too risky.

Kristen Flynn, 220 Earle Drive, stated that she spends a lot of time in the water there and at low tide the boats would be resting on the sand because there is not enough water in the cove.

Paula Work, 25 Russell Drive, stated that she doesn't have much more to add to the subject other than it would be a safety issue and an environmental issue.

Gen Meegan, 160 Duck Cove Road, stated that the beach is different in many ways. We have clams, boating, and fishing and if you add a dock, it will take away the beauty of the beach and it will be dangerous.

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Amy Denhoff, 98 Duck Cove Lane, stated that a dock is not necessary, it will ruin the shell fishing in the area.

Joe Denhoff, 98 Duck Cove Lane, stated that he is a scuba diver and there are a lot of quahogs and seafood in the area. A dock would destroy all of them.

Jennifer Suh, 189 Earle Drive, stated that she is opposed to this dock in this area. She has two small children, she is a swimmer, and there are safety concerns, and the water is too shallow.

Mary Worobec, 25 North Road, thanked the Council for the resilience plan, the composting plans at the schools, and the grants we have been receiving. It is good to see we are making progress. Her question is how we are informing the residents of the sea level rise issues.

Linda Taraborelli, 36 Russell Drive, stated she has many safety issues concerning the dock that is being proposed, and she is opposed to the dock.

Lincoln Munro, 25 William Street, stated that the proposed dock will interfere with the needs of the neighborhood and will cause safety concerns.

Heather Houle, 33 Russell Drive, stated that the safety hazards are her biggest concerns with the dock. She also stated that she emailed the Council earlier with her concerns.

President Mancini said he would like to thank everyone for helping to move the public comment along. He also wanted to congratulate Kaz Morosetti of the North Kingstown Wrestling Team who was the wrestling champ two years in a row and finished third in New England.

Councilor Hill Ross stated that she had 79 more signatures in opposition of the Wickford roundabout and asked that the clerk file them.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and unanimously

VOTED: To approve Consent Agenda Item Numbers 8 through 20 as presented.

8. Approval of Minutes

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 24, 2025 as submitted by the Office of the Town Clerk.

9. Tax Abatement List #880

VOTED: To approve Tax Abatement List #880 submitted by Deb Garneau, Tax Assessor, in the amount of \$504.65; and it was

FURTHER VOTED: That overpayments, if any, resulting from these abatements are hereby approved for refund by the Tax Collector.

10. Receipt of Donation

VOTED: To accept with gratitude a donation in the amount of \$1,100.00 given by an anonymous donor to be used for "Al's Kids" Recreation Program Scholarships.

11. Approval of Purchase

VOTED: To approve the purchase for the Code Enforcement Department of one (1) 2025 Ford Explorer from Tasca Ford, 250 Webster Square Road, Berlin, CT 06037, (MPA Contract #563), in the amount of \$37,878.50.

Funding is from Code Enforcement - Capital Outlay Account #00115010-550701.

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12. Award of Bid

VOTED: To award the bid for the Water Department for the purchase of fifteen (15) Fire Hydrants to John Hoadley and Sons, 672 Union Street, Rockland, MA 02370, for a total bid price of \$49,875.00.

Funding is from FY2025 Budget - Water Department Hydrants/Hydrant Repair Account 44040091 540514.

13. Award of Contract

VOTED: To award the contract for Actuarial Valuation Services/Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) to Conrad Siegel, Inc., 501 Corporate Circle, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9744, for GASB 74/75 Valuation Report for FY2025 in the amount of \$7,000.00, FY2026 update in the amount of \$750.00, and FY2027 update in the amount of \$7,000.00.

Funding will be charged to Finance/Consulting Services 00105010-530607.

14. Award of Concession Contract

VOTED: To authorize the Recreation Director to award and sign a Concession Contract for Mobile Food Services to Matt Picard, dba The Snack Bar, 223 Dahlia Drive, for the sale of various food items, novelty ice cream/frozen desserts and non-alcoholic drinks, excluding frozen lemonade, at Wilson Park, in the amount of \$501.00.

Revenue will be credited to Recreation Revenue Account #00147016 471008.

15. Entertainment License (renewal)

VOTED: To approve to December 1, 2025 the renewal application for an Annual Entertainment License by the Town of North Kingstown, 100 Fairway Drive, to hold various outdoor concerts on various dates, on the grounds of the North Kingstown Town Beach Campus and bandshell, subject to taxes and water paid to date and compliance with the recommendations of the Fire Department, the Police Department, the Planning Department, and the Building Official.

16. Authorization to apply to the T-Mobile Hometown Grant

VOTED: To authorize the Planning Department to apply for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant to be used for improved wayfinding signage for the Wickford Village Wayfinding Initiative.

17. Acceptance of the Learn365 Municipal Learning Project and Math Matters RI Grant

VOTED: To accept the Learn365 Municipal Learning Project and Math Matters RI Grant in the amount of \$55,000 to support expanded out of school programming in collaboration with the Recreation Department and the North Kingstown School Department Office of Family Learning.

18. Acceptance of the RI Interlocal Risk Management Trust's Life Safety & Emergency Action Grant

VOTED: To accept the Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust's Life Safety & Emergency Action Grant in the amount of \$480.00 to be used to purchase emergency "go-bags" (fully equipped first aid bag) for the Town Beach.

19. Acceptance of the RI Interlocal Risk Management Trust’s Safety & Risk Management Scholarship

VOTED: To accept the Rhode Island Interlocal Risk Management Trust's Safety & Risk Management Scholarship in the amount of \$1,250.00 for the Recreation Director to attend the National Conflict Resolution Center Certification Training.

20. Joint Pole Location

VOTED: To grant the petition by Rhode Island Energy and Verizon New England Inc. for one (1) joint pole location on Roger Williams Drive with the stipulation that the proposed underground service line shall be encased in concrete. An excavation permit must be issued by the Town's Engineering Department.

IV. REPORTS

21. Report by the Town Manager

Town Manager Mollis gave the following report:

March 24, 2025

Manager’s Report

A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager





Regular Update:

- A meeting of the School Department Building Subcommittee took place on Wednesday, March 12th. Both Council Person Kim Page and I are members and were in attendance.
 - The Committee unanimously voted to move forward with a recommendation for legal review followed by forwarding to the School Committee, as the Building Subcommittee is an Advisory Committee, for RFQs for a new Architecture and Engineering Firm and an Owner's Project Management Firm, as both current contracts have expired.
 - It should be noted that all Bond expenditures need to be approved by the Council so the final approval of any contract will be before Town Council.
 - The Subcommittee also voted to invite Mr. Langlais of the RI Building & Construction Trades Council to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss Project Labor Agreements for the upcoming Middle School Project.
- The Subcommittee was further informed that the School Administration was attempting to set up a meeting with RIDE to get an update on the Stage II Submission. This was prior to the School Committee meeting of March 18th in which a RIDE representative appeared before the Committee which I expect will be discussed during the next meeting of the Building Subcommittee on April 9th.

As I've done the past few months, I'm including updates on our School Department Bond Projects and Public Safety Complex Bond Project in my Manager's Report.

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- An update on the School Department Bond Project...a meeting of the School Department Building Subcommittee took place on Wednesday March 12th. Both Council Person Kim Page and I are members and were in attendance. The Committee unanimously voted to move forward with a recommendation for legal review followed by forwarding to the School Committee, as the Building Subcommittee is an Advisory Committee, for Request for Qualifications for a new Architecture and Engineering Firm and Request for Proposals for a new Owner's Project Management Firm as both current contracts have expired. It should be noted that all Bond expenditures need to be approved by the Council so the final approval of any contract will be before the Town Council.

The Subcommittee also voted to invite Mr. David Langlais of the RI Building and Construction Trades Council to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss Project Labor Agreements for our upcoming Middle School Project.

The Subcommittee was informed that the updated Demographic Study should be completed shortly and will then be submitted to RIDE.

The Subcommittee was further informed that the School Administration was attempting to set up a meeting with RIDE to get an update on the Stage II Submission. This was prior to the School Committee Meeting of March 18th in which a RIDE representative appeared before the Committee which I expect will be discussed during the next meeting of the Building Subcommittee on April 9th.



Public Safety Complex Project

Regular Update:

- We have now moved meetings from biweekly to weekly, as time is of the essence.
- We had a lengthy meeting last Wednesday in which we discussed the QDC site we are hoping to purchase for the new Public Safety Complex, and heard recommendations for potential and standard environmental and geotechnical studies to take place.
 - We discussed the needed cash flow over the next 15 months and further discussed a revised and reduced footprint to bring estimated costs down.
 - The Committee also voted to invite Mr. David Langlais of the RI Building & Construction Trades Council to attend our next meeting to discuss Project Labor Agreements for the upcoming projects.
- These meetings have been very productive and are moving along at a fast pace.
- I expect to have more in an update in my next Manager's Report.

- An update on the Public Safety Complex Bond Project...we had a lengthy meeting this past Wednesday. As time is of the essence, we have moved our meetings to weekly. We had a lengthy discussion on the QDC site we are hoping to purchase for the new Public Safety Complex and heard recommendations for potential and standard environmental and geotechnical studies to take place. We discussed the needed cash flow over the next 15 months and further discussed a revised and reduced footprint in order to bring the estimated costs down. The Committee also voted to invite Mr. David Langlais of the RI Building and Construction Trades Council to attend our next meeting to discuss Project Labor Agreements on our upcoming projects. These meetings have been very productive and are moving along at a fast pace. I expect I will have more to update in my next Manager's Report.

Revolution Wind

Regular Update:
Offshore Wind Farm



- We had our bi-weekly meeting with Revolution Wind the week before last, regarding their **Offshore Wind Farm** Project in Quonset Business Park.
 - Construction continues with significant work taking place in Quonset Business Park on their Onshore Substation with over 200 people working during the daytime shift there each day.
 - Work is ongoing at the Interconnection Facility as well.
 - They conducted a successful Site Emergency Drill on March 12th in coordination with Public Safety; all abutters were notified.
- As always, anyone with questions and /or concerns is encouraged to contact Revolution Wind directly, at (401) 251-2207 or info@revolution-wind.com. All calls and how they were resolved are reported to my office.

- We also had our regular bi-weekly meeting with Revolution Wind regarding the Offshore Wind Farm Project taking place within Quonset Business Park. Significant work is

taking place within their Onshore Substation within Quonset with over 200 people working during the daytime shift there each day at the site. Work is ongoing at the Interconnection Facility as well. They conducted a Site Emergency Drill on March 12th in coordination with Public Safety and all abutters were notified and it went well. They continue to provide outreach notifications and respond to any abutter concerns, so I continue to encourage anyone having any questions or concerns to contact Revolution Wind at 401-251-2207 or email them at info@revolution-wind.com. As mentioned, Revolution Wind provides us with regular reports on any outreach they receive as well as how the outreach was resolved.

Projects/Initiatives

Wickford Waterfront Project



- Regretfully, I don't have any significant information to share at this time regarding the Wickford Waterfront Streetscape Project other than that conversations are taking place on a regular basis regarding the current work stoppage.
 - It is in good hands with our Town Solicitor, is temporarily a legal issue, and we hope to have answers soon which will result in work commencing and the project getting back on schedule.
 - I will be sure to keep the Council, public, and Wickford Village up to date.
- I, regretfully, don't have any significant information to share at this time regarding the Wickford Waterfront Streetscape Project other than conversations are taking place on a regular basis regarding the current work stoppage. It is in good hands with our Town Solicitor, it is temporarily a legal issue, and we hope to have answers soon which will result in work commencing and the project getting back on schedule. I will be sure to keep the Council, public, and Wickford Village up to date.

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Updates

RI Department of Transportation



- We had a meeting with RIDOT this past Thursday which included representatives of Fire, Police, Public Works, and myself to discuss the public safety concerns with the upcoming Bridge Projects.
 - As I reported, they will be working on the Frenchtown Road Bridge, South County Trail Bridge, and Devils Foot Road/Railroad Bridge over the next 15 months. Public Safety expressed concerns with their plans and RIDOT went back to the drawing board to revise their plans closures, accommodate these concerns.
 - As a result, the South County Bridge Project will not experience any closures. The Frenchtown Road Bridge Project will experience a handful of night closures but will not be closed to emergency apparatus.
 - Public Safety left this meeting more comfortable however, we agreed to continue to reviewing and pass along any concerns to RIDOT. RIDOT also expressed a willingness to meet us bi-weekly on these projects to keep us up to date.
- They also advised that the Post Road/West Main Sidewalk Project will be advertised this summer with construction planned in 2026. RIDOT is working with our Water Department to coordinate our water main replacement project along Post Road and will also be meeting with the Post Road Business Group later this spring to continue their outreach to stakeholders.
- They further advised that the mini-roundabout project will be advertised next month with construction scheduled this fall. They, at our urging and invitation, will be meeting with businesses and residents of Wickford along with Town Staff later next month or early May to hear concerns in order to assure the success of this project with minor to no disturbance.

In some RIDOT news:

- We had a meeting with RIDOT this past Thursday which included representatives of Fire, Police, Public Works, and myself to discuss the public safety concerns with the upcoming Bridge Projects. As I reported, they will be working on the Frenchtown Road Bridge, South County Trail Bridge, and Devils Foot Road/Railroad Bridge over the next 15 months.
- Public Safety expressed concerns with their original plans and RIDOT went back to the drawing board to revise their plans in order to accommodate these concerns. As a result, the South County Bridge Project will not experience any closures, and the Frenchtown Road Bridge Project will experience a handful of night closures but will not be closed to emergency apparatus. Public Safety left this meeting more comfortable; however, we agreed to continue reviewing and pass along any concerns to RIDOT. RIDOT also expressed a willingness to meet with us every other week on these projects to keep us up to date.
- They also advised that the Post Road/West Main Street Sidewalk Project will be advertised this summer with construction planned in 2026. RIDOT is working with our Water Department to coordinate our water main replacement project along Post Road and will also be meeting with the Post Road Business Group later this spring to continue their outreach to stakeholders.
- They further advised that the mini roundabout project will be advertised next month with construction scheduled this fall. They, at our urging and invitation, will be meeting with businesses and residents of Wickford along with representatives of the town staff later next month or early May to hear concerns in order to ensure the success of this project with minor to no disturbance.

Mayor & Manager meeting with Governor McKee



- Along with other Mayors and Managers, I recently had a lunch meeting with Governor McKee and his team at the State House.
 - We spoke about the Federal Continuing Resolution which canceled all Fiscal Year 2025 Earmarks. Our communities were recommended to reapply for FY26 with what is a hopefully strong possibility for consideration.
 - We discussed various legislation, primarily related to housing, and I provided my priorities to the Governor of properly financing education; continuation of the Rhode Works Program; the fact that housing isn't a 'one size fits all' issue; and unfunded mandates.
 - I thought the meeting went well.
-
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Updates



RI Interlocal Trust and Risk Management Agency

- Regretfully, we received some negative news after what I thought was a very productive and successful budget session with Town Council last week.
 - The RI Interlocal Trust has notified us that we will be experiencing a 10.6% rate increase in our Health Care Premiums, a 6.29% increase in our Dental Premiums, and a 49.39% rate increase in the Work-Related Injury component of our insurance.
 - While The Trust has notified us that these increases are less than industry trends as Blue Cross submitted a request for a 13.5% increase for their Large Group book of business to the Health Insurance Commissioner, these are much greater than we had budgeted for.
 - We are reworking numbers and I'll be back to Town Council with suggestions as to how we address this in the final budget with my hope that we will find ways to do so outside of having to raise tax revenue.
- As I've said frequently, this budget, along with next year's budget, are two of the most challenging budgets I've worked on in my many years in the public and private sectors, and we've been able to address these challenges successfully to date – and will continue to do so.



Post Road Business Alliance

- For some good news
 - The Post Road Business Alliance is hosting their first-ever annual **Post Road Sidewalk Cleanup: Saturday, April 27th from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.**
 - To sign up as a participant or get further details, contact the Alliance at postroadnk@gmail.com or speak with Ben Mandel in the Planning Department: bmandel@northkingstownri.gov
-
- Regretfully we received some negative news after what I thought was a very productive and successful budget session with the Town Council last week. The RI Interlocal Trust has notified us that we will be experiencing a 10.16% rate increase in our Health Care Premiums, a 6.29% increase in our Dental Premiums, and a 49.39% rate increase in the Work-Related Injury component of our insurance. While the Trust has notified us that these increases are less than industry trends as Blue Cross submitted a request for a 13.5% increase for their Large Group book of business to the Health Insurance Commissioner, these are much greater than we budgeted for.

We are reworking the numbers and I'll be back to the Town Council with suggestions as to how we address this in the final budget with a goal of finding ways to do so outside of having to raise tax revenue. As I've said frequently, this budget, along with next year's budget, are two of the most challenging budgets I've worked on in my many years in the public and private sector and we've been able to address these challenges successfully to date, and we will continue to do so.

- Some good news...the Post Road Business Alliance is hosting their first-ever annual Post Road Sidewalk Cleanup. It will take place Saturday, April 27th from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. To sign up as a participant or for further details, contact the Alliance at postroadnk@gmail.com or speak with Ben Mandel of the Planning Department at Bmandel@northkingstownri.gov.



Reminder

North Kingstown Notes

- Another reminder to sign up for our newsletter, North Kingstown Notes: <https://bit.ly/NKNOTES>
 - The fourth edition will be in Inboxes tomorrow!
- This free, email newsletter provides the latest official Town news, information, events, and connections to municipal resources.
- I've received outreach from fellow Managers on this initiative. They've noticed it and want to do something similar in their towns.

- And finally, another reminder to sign up for our Newsletter, North Kingstown Notes. This newsletter provides the latest official town news, information, events, and connections to municipal resources. I've received outreach from fellow Managers on this initiative as they've noticed it and want to do something similar in their towns. To receive the Newsletter, simply visit our website and sign up with your email address.

Thank You



March 24, 2025
A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager

The Council thanked Mr. Mollis for his report.

Nicole LaFontaine, Director of Planning and Development, gave the following update on Good Energy:

The Town Manager recently signed the electric service agreement between Next Era Energy Services and the Town with the stipulation that we must be under the last resort service prices at launch of the program.

Our most important update is that Good Energy/Next Era was planning for a June launch; however, Good Energy has contacted us and is recommending that we delay the launch and wait until the renegotiated price in October/November. The reason being is that the market has jumped and for us to join in June, Next Era would need to negotiate a price for North Kingstown only and other municipalities are in existing contracts. As it stands, it is not possible to get a price lower than RI Energy’s last resort service. Both Good Energy and Next Era expect the winter market rate to drop and this overlaps when the existing contract encompassing the other 7 municipalities will be negotiated.

The Council thanked Ms. LaFontaine for this update.

22. Report by the Finance Director

Finance Director Deb Bridgham gave the following report;

Town of North Kingstown
Fiscal Year 2025
February
Financial Report



Presented by: Deb Bridgham,
Finance Director

March 24, 2025

This presentation is based on the revised budget for FY 2025. The revised amounts were for State Aid to the three Libraries and the School Department. The increase in revenues and expenses has no impact to the taxpayer. This aid is a pass through from the state.

| Revenue Type | FY 2025 Revised Budget | FY 2025 July-February | % of Total Budget | FY2025 Projection | Variance |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Taxes, Interest | \$87,535,731 | \$67,313,678 | 76.9% | \$87,535,731 | n/a |
| Pilots | \$ 5,649,927 | \$ 2,785,059 | 49.3% | \$ 5,649,927 | n/a |
| State Aid | \$ 8,349,345 | \$ 5,856,852 | 70.1% | \$ 8,704,417 | \$355,122 |
| Department | \$ 4,271,855 | \$ 3,410,461 | 79.8% | \$ 4,671,855 | \$400,000 |
| Other | \$ 2,885,116 | \$ 2,774,244 | 96.2% | \$ 3,846,116 | \$961,000 |
| Passthrough: Library | \$ 325,575 | \$ 169,547 | 52.1% | \$ 325,575 | n/a |
| School | | | | | |
| Unrestricted | \$13,448,841 | \$ 8,712,236 | 64.8% | \$13,448,841 | n/a |
| Restricted | \$ 45,954 | | | \$ 45,954 | n/a |
| Total | \$122,512,344 | \$91,022,077 | 74.3% | \$123,888,969 | \$1,716,122 |

Revenues:

Projections include increases over revised budget of \$1,716,122. The largest portion of the increase is interest earned by investing funds in high yielding accounts. This report also includes the loss of revenue for the sale of the Wickford El property.



| REVENUE VARIANCES | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|--------------|---|
| INCREASE | STATE AID | | |
| | Tangible Property | \$ 329,980 | The reimbursement is based the grand lists' assessed value at the rate set in 2024 (17.85 per thousand). This amount will not vary each year. Approximately 902 businesses received an exemption; maximum exemption is \$50,000 per business. |
| | Public Service | \$ 25,142 | Budgeted \$367,064, State Adopted Budget \$392,206 |
| | DEPARTMENT | | |
| | Fees | \$ 75,000 | Subdivision review fees and reimbursement for steno services |
| | Police Detail | \$ 325,000 | Billing for police detail increased and collections strong |
| | OTHER | | |
| | Interest Income | \$ 1,100,000 | Continued high yield investment |
| | Insurance Payment | \$ 53,754 | Final payment for cyber claim |
| | Grant Revenue | \$ 12,648 | Learn 365 RI Admin Fees |
| DECREASE | Energy Refunds/credits | \$ 94,606 | Rhode Island Energy refund |
| | OTHER | | |
| | Sale of Property | \$ 300,000 | Postponement of sale of Wickford El |

Police Detail continues to generate revenue for the town. We receive a 15% administrative fee over the cost of the officer and the patrol car, which is reflected in the total revenue.

As previously reported, Tangible Personal Property Tax of \$329,980 was not included in our adopted budget, therefore, this is a favorable addition to our revenues.

| Expense Type | FY 2025 Revised Budget | FY 2025 July-February | % of Total Budget | FY2025 Projection | Variance |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Salary | \$20,827,811 | \$13,620,324 | 65.4% | \$21,417,811 | \$590,000 |
| Fringe Benefits | \$9,213,681 | 5,931,831 | 64.4% | \$9,354,681 | \$141,000 |
| Department Operations | \$8,145,111 | \$5,057,536 | 62.1% | \$8,045,111 | (100,000) |
| Utilities, Civic Contributions, QDC | \$2,456,109 | \$1,588,163 | 64.7% | \$2,356,109 | (100,000) |
| Library Appropriation | \$1,700,791 | \$848,920 | 49.9% | \$1,700,791 | n/a |
| School Appropriation | \$61,416,009 | \$46,062,007 | 75.0% | \$61,416,009 | n/a |
| School State Aid | \$13,448,838 | \$10,070,698 | 76.0% | \$13,448,838 | n/a |
| Unrestricted | \$45,954 | | | \$45,954 | |
| Restricted | | | | | |
| Debt Service | \$5,258,038 | \$5,258,038 | 100.0% | \$5,258,038 | n/a |
| Total | \$122,512,344 | \$88,437,516 | 72.2% | \$123,043,344 | \$531,000 |

Expenses:

The increase in salary and fringe benefits are attributed to additional costs from union negotiations, increase in pension and health cost, and increase in police detail wages (this is offset by revenue). The projection also includes savings from open positions or from positions that were filled during the fiscal year. This projection only reflects the savings through February. There will be additional savings if positions remain unfilled until the end of the fiscal year.



| EXPENDITURE VARIANCES | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| | DEPARTMENT | | |
| | | | |
| | Salary and Fringe Benefits | \$ 731,000 | Contractual obligations Police and Local 1033. Health, Dental, and Pension rates higher than originally provided. Increase in Police Detail Cost, offset with increase in revenue Overtime increased for Police, Fire, Dispatch Net of Savings from unfilled positions in various departments, reducing the impact of increases. |
| | Operations Utilities | (\$100,000) (\$100,000) | Varies Departments Streetlight cost reduced |

My report also includes an increase in overtime for Public Safety personnel. However, all three divisions have open positions. This reduces the overall impact on the Public Safety’s budgets.

This report reflects a slight decrease in expenses in the Utilities and Departmental budgets. Utilities are reduced from savings we receive under the Solar and Net Metering programs. After discussion with the department heads, some expenses came in less than expected, therefore, I am projecting a slight savings within some of the departments.

Town of North Kingstown
February FY2025 Financial Report



Summary: Surplus of approximately \$1,185,122

Why

- Interest Income
- State Tangible Tax Reimbursement
- Open Positions reducing Fiscal Impact of Union Negotiations and Contractual Obligations (Pension, Health & Dental)

Questions ??

Based on the available information at this time, I am pleased to report a projected surplus of \$1,185,122.00.

The Council thanked Ms. Bridgham for her report.

V. NEW BUSINESS

23. North Kingstown Comprehensive Plan 5 Year Implementation - Resilience

Ms. LaFontaine stated that the Council has been provided with a report on the Town’s implementation on certain items in the Comprehensive Plan. State law requires that we submit an informational report 5 years from municipal approval, which we have been working on in-house. As you can imagine, it takes time and coordination to produce a document of that size. We have temporarily placed this effort on hold to respond to the request to bring forth resilience

related items. We hope to bring forward the full report in the next few months and we are required to provide yearly reports which we will do.

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The Comprehensive Plan is a planning document, a guidance document. It is not a regulation; it is not a directive. It is meant to coordinate planning within a community and to coordinate planning between state and local governments. If you look at the document, there are 14 or so handbooks that are used in creating the document based on the regulations and requirements to be in the document. It is a process to create a document that addresses all of the visions, needs, and desires for everybody and everything in a community.

None of the timeframes in the Comprehensive Plan are life or death but are guidance. The responsible parties listed for each item are the best fit at the time of creation and adoption. The implementation report is the perfect time to reflect on how well a community is aligning to its vision, what paths changed along the way, and to think about whether or not what you planned to do or how to do it still makes sense, when we look at various projects.

This is an opportunity to work together and see the full vision of what the town as a whole sees as its priorities. This is a document that takes every single thing thrown at us from housing policies, resilience, economic development, historic features, and infrastructure so we can determine a path that is good for the town as a whole.

The memo/report that the Council has been provided focuses on seven actions, each with a sub action out of over 50 in the plan. It is important to note that a majority of the time when things haven't been done or are in the process, is a coordination of obtaining funding for some of these projects, having staff to implement the project. We depend on grants to do these projects such as the OSCAR Project, the parking lot, even the school bond and public safety projects will be based on what we can afford. This also applies to private projects and what the homeowner or business owner can afford based on code requirements.

The School Department has provided a facilities and curriculum plan which includes updating HVAC systems, energy efficient roof replacements, energy efficient windows, the new middle school is being designed as a net zero building, and the child nutrition services developed food recycling programs at the elementary schools. They also have instituted stricter guidelines for their vendors and composting. The School Department is definitely doing their part.

Resiliency is not a separate topic for action in municipal planning or government. Everything has a need for resilience, and we automatically go there. Even your average citizen has an understanding of climate change/resilience. One of the biggest things we have accomplished is that we are in the process of receiving our 5 Year verification information from CRS where we get flood insurance reduction for our residents. We have been at a Class 9, a 5% reduction, and we anticipate being at a Class 7 which is a 15% reduction on flood insurance for our residents. We have been able to accomplish this based on all of the things we have done through the Comprehensive Plan.

President Mancini thanked Ms. LaFontaine for her comprehensive memo. The Comprehensive Plan is not the law but because we are a coastal community we need to adhere to the guidance in the plan. This is a very complex issue that affects everything we do. This is a great first step and the Council looks forward to continuing to work together to make resilience front and center.

Clerk's note: Ms. LaFontaine's memo is filed with the back-up materials for this meeting.

24. Coastal Resources Management Council Application Number 2024-04-075

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: That a substantive objection be filed to Coastal Resources Management Council Application Number 2024-04-075 to allow Edon Realty Trust, c/o Donna Rossetti, Trustee to construct and maintain a residential boating facility consisting of a fixed pier to a ramp to a float, 353 Earle Drive, Plat 89, Lots 101 and 110, for the following reasons and concerns:

- Due to the proximity to the public beach, there is concern for a public safety hazard and infringement of use of the waterway.
- The proposed dock is in close proximity to a beach area highly utilized for swimming, kayaking and shell fishing, creating safety issues for recreational users. Local residents have longstanding, historic use of the shoreline area.
- The proposed dock may have detrimental impacts on the ecology of the area.
- The property line extension of abutting properties should be respected.

25. Coastal Resources Management Council Application Number 2025-02-016

Motion by Councilor McCoy, seconded by Councilor Page and unanimously

VOTED: That no substantive objection be filed to Coastal Resources Management Council Application Number 2025-02-016 to allow the Quonset Development Corporation, c/o Steven J. King, P.E. to install a wave attenuator system along the north side of the Pier 2 pile supported extension, known as the "Pier 2 Extension", 242 Terminal Way, Port of Davisville, Quonset Business Park, Plat 193, Lot 15. The purpose of the wave attenuator system will be to minimize wave energy and decrease wave height, thereby protecting the launching, berthing, testing and retrieval of prototype seaglider vehicles and other small commercial watercraft along the western side of the Pier 2 Extension.

26. Arts Council - Appointment

Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor McCoy and unanimously

VOTED: To appoint Selina Gerosa, 98 Worsley Avenue, to the Arts Council to March 1, 2026;
and it was

FURTHER VOTED: To amend the composition of the Arts Council by reducing the membership from thirteen (13) members to ten (10) members.

*Amended at the Town Council Meeting of April 14, 2025.

27. Zoning Board of Review - Appointment

*Motion by Councilor Page, seconded by Councilor Drew and ~~unanimously~~ was

VOTED: To appoint Max Reynolds, 179 Vista Circle, Second Alternate to the Zoning Board of Review to July 1, 2026 to fill the unexpired term of Richard Welch.

*Councilor Hill Ross did not vote.

28. Correspondence

3/11/2025 - Donna Hutchinson - Long-term Rentals - Sent TC article about another RI town (Middletown) who is considering tax breaks for homeowners who rent their homes long-term as a way to increase housing availability. No specific TC ask in her email.

3/17/2025 – Michelle Rigs, 32 Taylor Place – School Redistricting - Against redistricting of Reynolds Farm from Fishing Cove to Quidnessett.

3/17/2025 – Kevin Hirsch, 20 Swan View Lane – School Redistricting – Against current school budget approval and gave concerns about several school issues (pre-K expansion, elementary enrollment projections, and lack of Hamilton representation on the redistricting subcommittee).

3/17/2025 – Abby and Steven Aldridge, 76 Ipswich Boulevard – School Redistricting - Against redistricting of Reynolds Farm from Fishing Cove to Quidnessett. Gave specific requests for SC decisions/policy changes.

3/21/2025 – Sue Alexander – Earl Drive Dock - Against proposed dock for many well-stated reasons: lack of utility given shallow water, safety for people using the beach (including children), requested variance in dock length would reduce recreation space in the water, ecological impacts on surrounding salt marsh and aquatic life.

3/21/2025 – Holly Quinn – School Bond - Concerned about RIDE comments regarding the school bond and asked for the TC to be more involved in the school building process.

3/21/2025 – Sean Henseler, 230 Earle Drive – Earle Drive Dock - Against proposed dock for many well-stated reasons: lack of utility given shallow water, safety for people using the beach (including children), requested variance in dock length would reduce recreation space in the water, ecological impacts on surrounding salt marsh and aquatic life.

3/21/2025 - Patricia Mancini, 50 Earle Drive – Earle Drive Dock - Against proposed dock because it will impact surrounding wildlife, and owner isn't a full-time resident.

3/21/2025 – Steve Fawcett, 101 Duck Cove Lane – Earle Drive Dock - Against proposed dock for many well-stated reasons: lack of utility given shallow water, safety for people using the beach (including children), requested variance in dock length would reduce recreation space in the water, ecological impacts on surrounding salt marsh and aquatic life.

3/21/2025 - Janne Roehm, 17 Russell Drive – Earl Drive Dock - Against proposed dock for many well-stated reasons: lack of utility given shallow water, safety for people using the beach (including children), requested variance in dock length would reduce recreation space in the water, ecological impacts on surrounding salt marsh and aquatic life.

3/22/2025 – Kara Martone, 73 Woodridge Drive – School Bond/Equity Statement/Safe Schools - Concerned about RIDE comments regarding school project, including SC asking for a larger gathering space that would not be reimbursed by RIDE; asked if the district mission statement would be included in the equity statement promotion; asked about specific section of the new Safe Schools Policy (Section G). These are all better addressed by the SC.

3/23/2025 – Heather Houle, 33 Russell Drive – Earle Drive Dock - Against proposed dock for many well-stated reasons: lack of utility given shallow water, safety for people using the beach (including children), requested variance in dock length would reduce recreation space in the water, ecological impacts on surrounding salt marsh and aquatic life.

3/23/2025 – Jim Roberts – 151 Duck Cove Road – Earle Drive Dock - Against proposed dock for many well-stated reasons: lack of utility given shallow water, safety for people using the beach (including children), requested variance in dock length would reduce recreation space in the water, ecological impacts on surrounding salt marsh and aquatic life.

3/24/2025 – Jim Roehm, 17 Russell Drive – Earle Drive Dock - Against proposed dock due to adequate alternate mooring space available and owner does not live there full-time, thus possibly giving temporary renters opportunities to pose recreation and safety risks

3/24/2025 – Gen Meegan, 160 Duck Cove Road – Earle Drive Dock - Against proposed dock due to the likelihood that it would disrupt the beauty and nature of the area and pose safety risks.

3/24/2025 – Dick Welch, 8 Arrow Lane – School Bond and more - In favor of removing charges for seniors to have a parking pass (beach pass?) and use of the transfer station, asking for a fixed auto expense stipend for Zoning Board and Planning Commission Members in the next budget, concerned about the school building plan.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Jeannette Alyward
Town Clerk