

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

1. SEPTEMBER IS BAY STATE BIKE MONTH

The Cape Cod Commission and the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority will join regional and state-wide efforts to celebrate bicycling as an alternative to driving motor vehicles during Bay State Bike Month in September.

The Cape Cod Commission is sponsoring several events in the region including:

Free Bike Safety Checks and e-Bike demonstrations

Thursday September 23, 2021 2-4 p.m.

Cape Cod Rail Trail at Main Street, Dennis, MA

Sponsored by the Cape Cod Commission and SeaSports Cyclery

Join the Cape Cod Commission and SeaSports Cyclery on the Cape Cod Rail Trail to celebrate with free bike lights and gear. View maps of the region's long-term vision of a complete bike path system from Falmouth to Provincetown. SeaSports Cyclery from Hyannis will be offering free bike safety checks, tune-ups and e-bike demonstrations.

For a listing on all of the bicycling events please visit the Cape Cod Commission website -

<https://www.capecodcommission.org/about-us/newsroom/cape-cod-celebrates-bay-state-bike-month-2021/>

2. NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM UPDATES -

Town Planner Dan Fortier has shared with me the following information; the new, long delayed, roll out of the program to make flood insurance rates be more reflective of actual risk will become effective October 1, 2021 for all new policies, essentially home sales are now beginning to feel the effect of this. For all sales of homes within the flood zone, that triggers the writing of a new policy, an Elevation Certificate is going to be required. Risk Rating 2.0 will go into effect for existing policy holders starting in April.

The Elevation Certificate provides significant information that will be used to determine what the policy will be based on. The Certificate includes the flood zone of a property; base flood elevation; elevation of the ground adjacent to the structure; basement elevation; basement type, including whether it has flood vents; and first floor elevation, which in some cases could be the basement. All of these factors will be used to generate the true risk for a property. The insurance risk will be based upon the following factors:

- Distance from water's edge
- Type of basement
- Claims paid out in last 10 years

The Planning Office has started fielding inquiries on Elevation Certificates. Elevation Certificates have been required since the first adoption of the National Flood Insurance Program, which for Dennis is 1978. However, outside of new construction, certificates are not required to be filed with the town. Additionally, in 2014 over 3,000 properties were added to the flood zone, none of which were previously required to have elevation certificates for construction.

The following link provides more information on the National Flood Insurance Program
[National Flood Insurance Program | Cape Cod Cooperative Extension \(capecodextension.org\)](http://capecodextension.org)

Additionally, if you have a question on flood zones and whether your property is located within a zone please do not hesitate to call the Planning office at 508-760-6119.

3. SPECIAL/ FALL TOWN MEETING DATE, LOCATION -

Special Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, at 7:00 pm in the Nathaniel H. Wixon Innovation School Auditorium.

We are underway with the Town Meeting article review process; the Select Board will be reviewing draft Town Meeting Articles for placement on the warrant this evening, and reviewing a draft warrant at their meeting on October 5th the Town Meeting Warrant must be posted on or before October 12, 2021.

For more information on the Special Town Meeting, contact the Town Clerk's Office at (508)760-6112 or Town Administration at (508)760-6148.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth C. Sullivan, Town Administrator