



Manager's Report

**A. Ralph Mollis,
Town Manager**

May 12, 2025





School Department Capital Projects

- To update on the School Department Building Advisory Committee meeting last week and the status of the School Bond Project, Council Person Kim Page will provide an update immediately following this Manager's Report



Public Safety Complex Projects

- Progress continues in our internal work sessions with the architectural team in weekly meetings, with continued evaluation of moving Fire Administration to Station One versus a combined Fire/Police Administration at the Public Safety Complex and police station proposed in Quonset.
- Next, our attorney Bob Brooks will conduct a PLA study. The Phase I Environmental Study of the proposed site in Quonset has successfully been completed; preliminary boring will follow.
- We conducted an hour-long review of various mechanical options for each building; the focus of our next meetings will be progress towards 90% completion of design and footprint for each site.
- As mentioned previously, we will continue to meet weekly for another 4-8 weeks, then host a public meeting on this important project.

Updates:

- Bi-weekly virtual meetings with **Revolution Wind** continue; they had a large equipment delivery early morning last week with notification to nearby residents, the Town, and Public Safety with no issues.
- Site visit next week for Town staff that participate in bi-weekly meetings, to be followed by an in-person occurrence of the bi-weekly status update the same morning.
- Cable pulling continues along with other work at the Onshore Substation. They are approaching a point where a plan will be presented for landscape restoration.
- I encourage anyone with questions or concerns to contact Revolution Wind directly: 401-251-2207, or via email: info@revolution-wind.com
 - I receive regular reports on all outreach they receive and how any issues are resolved.



Updates:

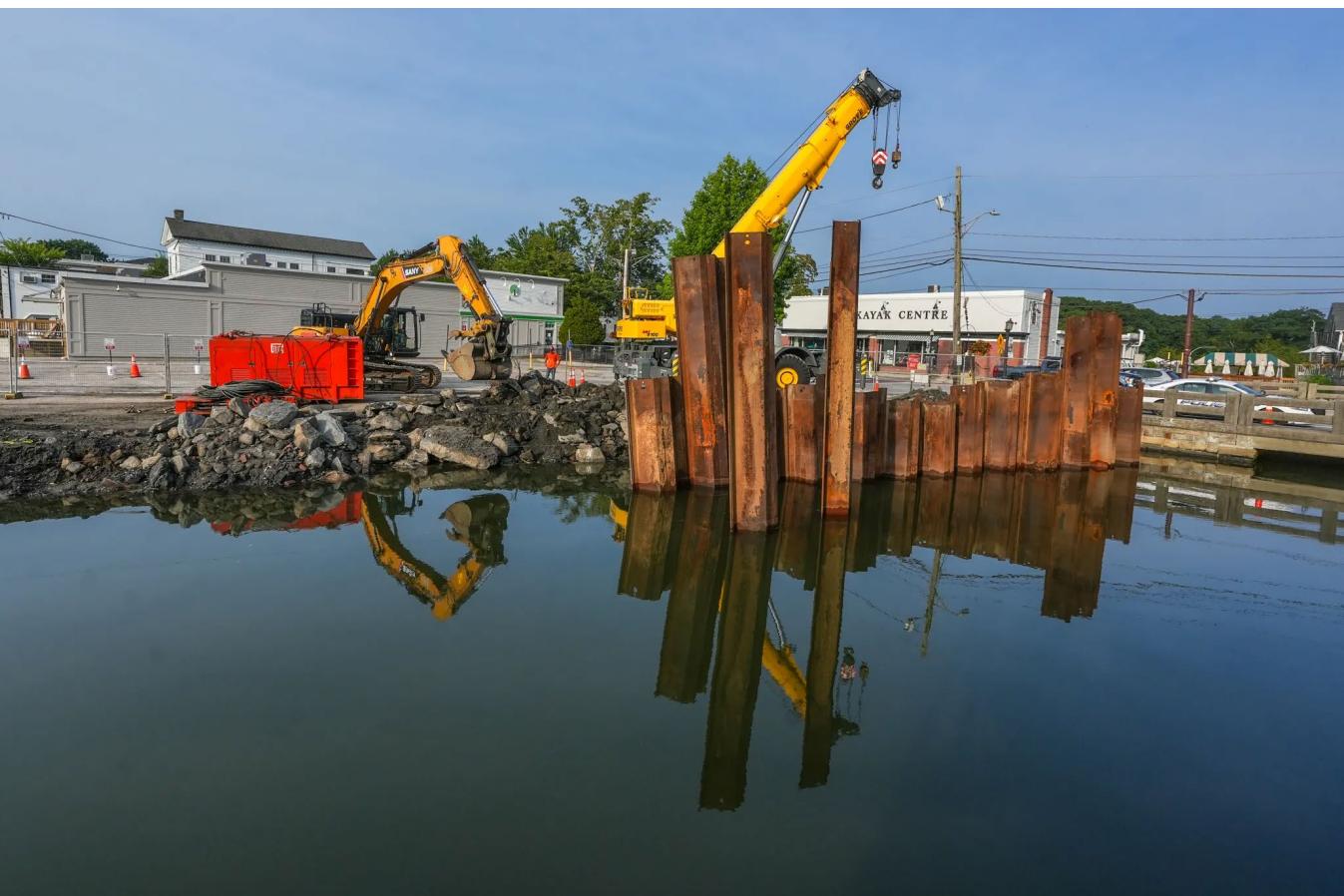
(continued)

- I participated in and spoke at the RIDOT **I-95 Missing Move/Quonset Ramp Groundbreaking** last week.
- Our federal delegation, Governor, RIDOT Director, and members of our local delegation were also in attendance.
 - This is a significant project for North Kingstown and Quonset Business Park as it will provide a direct link to I-95 South and North to and from our community. It is a \$144 million project, funded predominately by federal funds, and supplemented by state and QDC monies as well.
 - In addition to the significant and obvious economic impacts, the project is expected to reduce congestion and wear and tear on local major roads.
 - RIDOT projected significant construction completion by Winter 2027, and closeout of the project will occur in Winter 2029.
- As reported in previous Manager's Reports, RIDOT has a number of **bridge projects** scheduled for our area in the coming weeks and months.
- Our public safety departments, as well as those in East Greenwich, have expressed concerns. Some have been resolved; others remain and will be addressed in another meeting on Wednesday of this week.
 - It is our understanding that RIDOT may commence work at the end of next week.



Updates:

(continued)



- I am happy to report that work has resumed with the **Wickford Waterfront** (Brown St. Municipal Parking Lot) project.
 - The construction site is already much improved.
- **My thanks to our staff and Solicitor, James Callaghan, as well as our Project Manager, BETA, and the new contractor, RICON, as well as the patience and understanding of the businesses and residents affected in this area.**
- Work is on schedule with all sheet pilings to be removed by Memorial Day weekend, add the asphalt binder to the entrance of the lot (Phase I) installed by the Wickford Harbor Fire event on June 19.
 - Substantial completion is expected by October 18.
 - Prioritization of Phase I is to provide a larger parking area and ease of movement to assist local businesses and their patrons.

Updates:

(continued)

- Previous Manager's Report included an update that RIDOT would host an informational meeting for Wickford businesses and residents to present the details of the **Mini-Roundabout** project and answer questions relevant to the time of construction, dates of construction, and others related to project design.
- This meeting has been rescheduled from a tentative date of May 14th, to *May 29, at 5:30 p.m. in our Town Hall's Council Chambers (80 Boston Neck Rd).*
 - Information will be shared via online flyers, posts, etc. once all details have been confirmed.



Updates:

(continued)



- During my last Manager's Report, Council Person Ross asked for an update on **bike lanes**:
 - Along with staff in our Planning Department, I have had numerous meetings with RIDOT to aggressively pursue bike lanes along Ten Rod and Boston Neck Roads.
 - We were able to workaround concerns of isolated businesses and their utilization of on-street parking, then submit a Ten Rod Road bike lane proposal as part of our STIP (State Traffic Improvement Plan) submission.
 - Our aggressive pursuit of bike lanes on Boston Neck Road has led to RIDOT recently notifying us that this year, they will stripe bike lanes in both shoulders of Route 1A between Beach Street the north of Old Boston Neck Road in Narragansett to the south, with appropriate signage throughout this corridor.
 - We will receive advance notice once the work is scheduled to begin and share that information widely.

Department Updates:



- As shared, **Town Beach Campus Parking Passes** for the 2025 season are on sale at the Recreation Department (Town Hall/80 Boston Neck Rd) and at the Town Clerk's Office (Municipal Office Building/100 Fairway Dr) during weekday business hours.
 - The **Recreation Department** will offer extended evening hours on June 11 and June 26, as well as weekend hours on June 14 and June 22. These times will be shared in their emails, on our website, and social media platforms,
 - Parking pass prices have not changed from the 2024 season, with discounts for senior citizens, residents and veterans being offered.
 - To purchase, please bring cash or check as well as valid identification and vehicle registration with proof of address for resident rate.

- Planning Department:** In effort to enact some recommendations presented in the Boards & Commissions Report to Town Council last year, we are planning to have EDAB and the Wickford Advisory Committee make presentations to Town Council, most likely at your June meeting.
 - Nicole LaFontaine, Planning Director, will coordinate this.
- The North Kingstown Arts Council**, in conjunction with our Recreation Department, will begin their Tuesday Summer Concert Series and Thursday Family Concert Series on June 17th.
 - For a full schedule, please visit www.NKArtsCouncil.org.

Department Updates:

(continued)



Please join elected representatives, town officials, and members of the Parades Committee for a brief wreath laying ceremony in Veteran's Memorial Park to honor North Kingstown lives lost in service of our country

MONDAY, MAY 26
10:00 AM - PARADE START
WILSON PARK TO ELM GROVE CEMETARY

Participants to gather starting at 9:00 AM. Route: Wilson Park - W. Main St - Brown Street through Wickford Village - Phillips St - Tower Hill Rd to Elm Grove. A short ceremony at the Civil War Memorial will begin at approx. 11:00 AM to conclude the Memorial Day Parade

- The **North Kingstown Free Library** has revised and improved their website, already having received significant positive feedback.
 - Please note: the Library will not open until 1:00 p.m. on Friday, May 23rd to accommodate a staff meeting and training sessions that will take place in the morning.
- The **North Kingstown Parades Committee** will present their annual **Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26.**
 - There will be a 9:00 a.m. wreath laying ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park, followed by kickoff of the Parade from Wilson Park at 10:00 a.m., with concluding ceremonies planned for 11:00 a.m. at Elm Grove Cemetery.
 - We look forward to seeing you, and the "Dogs of Wickford" there!



Thank you.

**A. Ralph Mollis,
Town Manager**

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