

## **Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Action Plan<sup>1</sup>**

**Goal 1. Provide safe and affordable drinking water supply, wastewater disposal and stormwater improvements to meet existing and future demands of the Town.**

**Objective 1.1 Determine whether the Town should participate in the State's Water Infrastructure Improvement Program.**

**Action:**

- 1.1.a. Designate a Town board or committee to be responsible for assessing whether, and in what ways, the Town might participate in the State's Water Infrastructure Improvement Program (WIIP).
- 1.1.b. If the decision of the board or committee is in favor of participating in the Program, it should present to Town Meeting a proposal for participating in the Program, and if approved, take the proposal to the ballot at the next election.

**Objective 1.2 Develop a comprehensive plan to address water, wastewater and stormwater issues.**

**Action:**

- 1.2.a. If the Town at Town Meeting and by public ballot votes to participate in the WIIP, the town should then solicit financial support from the Town, State and private organizations to fund a comprehensive planning effort.
- 1.2.b. Engage the services of a well-qualified consulting group to prepare the plan.
- 1.2.c. Elicit the support of town boards and private organizations to provide the best available information and suggestions to support the efforts of the consulting group.
- 1.2.d. Educate the town boards and public as to cost benefits of implementing the comprehensive plan.

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<sup>1</sup> There is legislation currently under consideration in the State Legislature that would establish a new program for undertaking the very expensive task of upgrading water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure throughout the State. This program would provide for by-ins by local municipalities, boards and commissions to participate in the benefits which would include, among others, financial support for comprehensive water planning, for designing and installing new treatment systems, for installation of on-site treatment systems and many other features. It seems likely that this legislation will be passed in pretty much its present form. For municipalities to participate in the full benefits of this program, they will need to prepare comprehensive water infrastructure plans. This statement of Goals and Objectives is based on the assumption that the legislation will pass and that the Town of Westport will decide to participate in the program

1.2.e. Engage the town residents and leadership in a broad effort to understand issues and participate in decision-making to arrive at the most efficient, feasible and acceptable solutions to water-related problems.

**Objective 1.3. Based on comprehensive plan, begin implementation of priority programs in each sector.**

**Action**

**1.3.a. Initiate action on priority measures to address potable water-related program.**

**1.3.b. Initiate action on priority measures to address wastewater-related programs.**

**1.3.c. Initiate action on priority measures to address stormwater-related programs.**

**Goal 2. While awaiting results of comprehensive plan, move ahead with addressing critical, urgent problems in all three areas.**

**Objective 2.1: Continue to work on resolving water quality problems along Route 6.**

**Action**

2.1.a. Identify parcels to be used for water treatment facility.

2.1.b. Continue to work with Fall River to improve water quality prior to reaching Westport.

**Objective 2.2: Continue to implement septic upgrade programs and related septic improvement measures.**

**Action**

2.2.a.

**Objective 2.3: Improve Maintenance of Existing Stormwater Facilities.**

**Action**

2.3.a. Locate, assess and record existing stormwater facilities, including, basins, pipes, ponds, and outfall locations.

2.3.b. Begin testing of outfalls and prioritize areas that need additional treatment.

2.3.c. Identify areas in need of upgrades to reduce flooding.