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CAPE COD
COMMISSION

REPORTER

Policy Committee Continues Work on Ocean Management Plan for DCPC

The Policy Committee for Barnstable County's Ocean Management Planning District of Critical Planning Concern (DCPC) met on February 4 for the first of three proposed workshops with the Cape Cod Commission staff.

The committee is reviewing and making recommendations on the draft Cape Cod Ocean Management Plan (see the "Documents" section of the web site www.capecodcommission.org/oceanplanning). Among issues being discussed are possible policy options for siting offshore wind energy facilities within the state waters surrounding Cape Cod, and consideration of sand and gravel mining operations and cable and pipeline installations in those waters. Topics being addressed include public safety, compatibility with existing marine activities, natural resources in the marine environment, visual impacts, community benefits, and the potential allocation of turbines within the planning area.

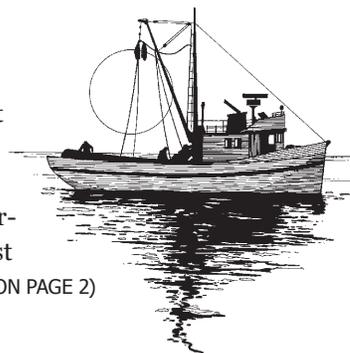
Additional workshops are planned for Friday, February 18, and Friday, February 25 (both at 1 p.m. at the Cape Cod Commission office; call 508-362-3828 to confirm). Commission Natural Resources Specialist Heather McElroy is coordinating the DCPC work.

Two Studies Focus on Harwich

It's not planes, trains, and automobiles, but bikes, buses, and boats that are the subject of two technical reports recently prepared by the Cape Cod Commission staff. Both focus on the Town of Harwich, specifically on access to two of the town's harbors.

Saquatucket and Wychmere Harbors

Barnstable County's 2009 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) identified the creation of "coastal use templates" as a regional priority project. The short-term goal is to complete a thorough analysis of coastal land uses and regulations from the perspective of economic development and economic impact on the rest



(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

of the region’s economy. Over the long run, the templates should contribute to a vibrant coastal economy with year-round employment and business opportunities, helping to reinforce and, in some cases, re-establish the Cape’s historic connections to the sea.

The Town of Harwich has also identified economic development as a primary goal, with beaches and harbors as key economic drivers. Saquatucket and Wychmere harbors are two of three active harbors in Harwich accommodating recreational and commercial maritime uses; however, infrastructure upgrades are needed to fully capitalize on their true economic potential. The town is also interested in acquiring two acres next to the Saquatucket Marina and determining how to integrate it with the marina. Wychmere Harbor is nearby and shares similar uses and management.

In pursuit of these goals, the town requested help from the Cape Cod Commission’s coastal and natural resources, planning, and economic development staff to complete a preliminary study for Saquatucket Harbor under the state-funded District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) program.

The Harwich project also became one of the five “coastal use template” regional priority projects (the others are Woods Hole, Hyannis Inner, Chatham, and Provincetown harbors).

The report entitled “Saquatucket and Wychmere Harbors Baseline Study and Conceptual Plan” will be available on the Commission’s web site, www.capecodcommission.org/technicalassistance.

Harwich Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities

The Commission’s transportation and planning staff also just completed “A Plan for Improved Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities in Harwich.” The plan is part of an effort to improve bicycling, walking, and transit service in Harwich and to enhance the economic development of Saquatucket Harbor in Harwich Port.

The town wants to provide safe and effective pedestrian and bicycle facilities between the Cape Cod Rail Trail/Old Colony Rail Trail and Route 28, with a connection between Harwich Center and Harwich Port, and to provide safe pedestrian/bicycle connections and coordination with public transit service especially between Wychmere and Saquatucket harbors.

For the plan, the Commission staff conducted an inventory of existing sidewalks, bike trails/routes, and transit routes and analyzed these for connectivity within the study area. The staff also reviewed crash data and weekday and weekend daily traffic flows, then developed potential alternatives for share-the-road, bicycle routes, sidewalks, bicycle paths, and shuttle bus route improvements.



The new document is available in the “Outreach” section of the www.gocapecod.org web site.

2010 Traffic Counting Data Available

Cape Cod’s traffic counting program began in 1984, and since then Cape Cod Commission staff have recorded 4,699 weekday counts and 502 weekend counts at more than 1,000 different locations. In 2010, staff performed 202 weekday counts and 26 weekend counts.



The latest data and downloadable reports are now available on the web site: www.gocapecod.org/counts

Thanks to County Commissioner Lyons



Sheila Lyons

Cape Cod Commission (CCC) members and staff extend thanks to Barnstable County Commissioner Sheila Lyons for her service on the CCC board in 2009 and 2010. The County Commissioners appointed Mary Pat Flynn to be their CCC representative in 2011.

CCC Regulatory Status Report

Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs) and other major regulatory matters currently under review by the Cape Cod Commission are listed below. A check mark (✓) in front of a proposal's name indicates that the Commission has scheduled regulatory activity for that project in the coming month. Details about activities listed here and in the calendar on the back cover may be found online in the "Regulatory" section of the web site: www.capecodcommission.org/regulatory

■ DRI Project Reviews:

BARNSTABLE

- **Barnstable Municipal Airport Terminal Access and Egress Design**—proposed major modification to access and egress. The scope of CCC review was limited to transportation issues. The CCC voted to approve the DRI with conditions on 6/24/10. A commercial abutter to the airport has challenged the DRI approval in Land Court.

- **BJ's Wholesale Club Addition**—proposed 19,438-sq.ft. addition to an existing wholesale-club facility on Attucks Lane in Hyannis. The project is proposed to be considered for Limited DRI review.

BOURNE

- ✓ ● **New Generation Wind Joint Venture**—proposed construction of seven commercial wind energy turbines and access roadways on multiple parcels. Extension agreement to 3/21/11.

BREWSTER

- **Windrift Acres**—resubmittal of proposed 22-lot subdivision on 55 acres in West Brewster. The project is proposed to be considered for Limited DRI review.

FALMOUTH

- **The Golf Club at Cape Cod/Ballymeade**—proposed construction of an 18-hole golf course on approximately 183.41 acres within Ballymeade Estates. Extension agreement to 9/29/13.

- ✓ ● **WHOI Quissett Campus/LOSOS Building**—proposed construction of a 26,600-sq.ft. building for the Laboratory for Ocean Sensors and Observing Systems at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

MASHPEE

- **Cape Cod Coop Bank Preliminary Plan**—proposed subdivision of 48 acres. CCC accepted the applicant's withdrawal of the proposal on 12/2/10. Resubmittal of application anticipated.

- **Mashpee Watershed Plan**—proposed watershed nitrogen management plan.

ORLEANS

- ✓ ● **Orleans Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan**—proposed draft Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan that identifies and evaluates three alternative plans for wastewater treatment and disposal. MEPA issued a certificate of adequacy for the Environmental Impact Report on 1/28/11, beginning the time clock for DRI review of the proposal.

SANDWICH

- **Forestdale Village**—resubmittal of a proposed 100,000-sq.ft. commercial development on Route 130.

- **Sagamore Line Reinforcement Project**—proposed installation of 11,000 ft. of 20-inch-diameter gas pipeline along Service Road between Route 130 and Quaker Meetinghouse Road.

YARMOUTH

- ✓ ● **Gladstone, LLC**—resubmittal of proposed relocation of a 17,150-sq.ft. structure from Hyannis to 31 Aaron's Way, West Yarmouth, for warehouse, accessory, and office uses.

■ Proposed Development Agreements:

- ✓ ● **Red Jacket Resorts Development/Yarmouth**—proposed development agreement filed 8/20/10.

- **Mashpee Commons Master Plan/Mashpee**—CCC approved the "Notice of Intent to File a Development Agreement." The deadline for filing extended to 2/17/12.

■ DRI Reviews Pending Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Certificates:

- **South Coast Watersheds Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan/Falmouth**—proposed Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan to address water quality problems of Little, Great, Green, Bourne, and Eel ponds, and Waquoit Bay.

● Holland Mills Well and Pumping Station/Mashpee

—proposed installation of new water supply well/pump station.

- **Provincetown Airport Capital Improvements Plan**—proposed safety and facility improvements to the Provincetown Municipal Airport.

- **Sandwich Beach Nourishment/Dredging**—proposed beach nourishment/maintenance dredging.

- **Herring River Tidal Restoration Project**—proposed reestablishment of tidal flow to the 1,100-acre Herring River estuary and floodplain.

- **Parker's River Marine Park/Yarmouth**—proposed marine park on the 22-acre site of the former Yarmouth drive-in theater.

- **Yarmouth Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan**—proposed plan for the construction and operation of a wastewater treatment plant, pumping stations, sewer mains, and related facilities.

■ Active Districts of Critical Planning Concern (DCPCs):

- **Craigville Beach DCPC/Barnstable**—On 6/10/10, CCC found that the draft implementing regulations prepared by the Town of Barnstable conformed to the DCPC guidelines, but could be strengthened. The Town Council considered the draft on 8/5/10 but did not get the number of votes needed for adoption. On 10/28/10, CCC voted unanimously to adopt the regulations for the district. The Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates approved and adopted them as county ordinance on 1/19/11.

- **Ocean Management Planning DCPC/Cape Cod**—The Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates voted unanimously to designate the district by regional ordinance on 4/21/10. Policy Committee and Technical Advisory Work Groups began meeting in summer 2010. In November, CCC held a listening session for stakeholders. CCC sent a draft of the Cape Cod Ocean Management Plan to the Policy Committee in early January 2011, for review and revision during February workshops. Implementing regulations must be adopted by early May 2011.



Keeping a Special Place Special

20 Years Ago This Month...

The United States–United Kingdom Countryside Stewardship Exchange announced that Cape Cod was to be the site of a summer case study of 'green tourism' by experts in land conservation. The group visited in July 1991 to study ways to encourage environmentally sensitive tourism and mesh eco-tourism with coastal resource management, including planning for projected sea-level rise. They ultimately chose to set aside using the phrase 'green tourism' in favor of placing an emphasis on the need to promote and protect 'heritage tourism' in this and other regions worldwide.

Cape Cod Commission Meetings and Events

Cape Cod Commission (CCC) meetings and hearings are open to the public. Call (508) 362-3828 to confirm times and check for last-minute changes.

CCC Standing Committees

Regulatory, Planning, and Executive committee meetings held at the Commission offices. Call for times.

Monday, February 28
Monday, March 14
Monday, March 28

Regulatory Calendar

■ **February 22:** HEARING: WHOI Quissett Campus/LOSOS Building (Falmouth project), 6 p.m., Falmouth Public Library

■ **February 24:** HEARING: Gladstone, LLC (Yarmouth project), 6 p.m., Yarmouth Fire Station #2, Route 6A, Yarmouthport

■ **March 3:** CCC MEETING: 3 p.m., Assembly of Delegates Chamber. Agenda tentative; please call to confirm.
– Red Jacket Resorts Development Agreement (Yarmouth project)

Other Events

■ **Cape Cod Ocean Management Planning DCPC Policy Committee Meetings:** Scheduled for two Fridays, February 18 and 25, 2011, beginning at 1 p.m., at CCC office, Route 6A, Barnstable, MA. Please call to confirm.

■ **Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting:** Monday, February 28, beginning at 10 a.m., in Rooms 11/12 of the Barnstable Superior Courthouse, Route 6A, Barnstable, MA.

■ **Citizen Planner Training Collaborative 10th Annual Conference:** Saturday, March 19, 2011, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Hogan Conference Center of Holy Cross College, Worcester, MA. \$50/person. Deadline for receipt of registrations is Friday, March 11. For details: www.umass.edu/masscptc

■ **SAVE THE DATE: Annual Cape-wide Historic Preservation Workshop:** Thursday, April 7, 2011, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Harwich Community Center, Harwich, MA. Sponsored by the Cape Cod Commission, Preservation Mass, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

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