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## MEMORANDUM

To: Bar Harbor Town Council  
cc: Department Heads  
From: Kevin Sutherland, Town Manager  
Date: April 5, 2022  
**Re: Manager Comments**

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### **Missed Tuesday memo**

At our retreat a few weeks ago, I committed to keeping everyone up to speed on the goings on of this office on a weekly basis.

Last Tuesday, I was still on vacation – so unfortunately, I've already deviated from my goal but am back at it today!

### **Community Access to Manager's Comments/Updates**

Your Council meetings include a section titled "Town Manager's Comments". This is where I propose sharing a memo as my comments. In the off week(s), I will provide a memo to the Council as an "Update". After the Council has received the memos each week, I will also upload them to the Town's website under [Manager Updates](#).

I hope this, along with many other efforts staff and I will be proposing, will be way for the Council and community to understand what the municipality is working which may be a precursor to future Council action or may not rise to that level.

### **FOAA Requests**

Another expansion of transparency we're currently working on is FOAA request page under the manager section of the website. This would be a place to publish the requested documents after they've been transferred to the requester. Our hope is that future requests for the same document will be more readily available for the public. I hope to have the site live before our next Council meeting. Stay tuned.

### **3/8 Retreat Takeaways**

I had hoped to have created a document based on the information gathered at the retreat last month and that tonight we'd be finalizing a motion to support the priorities established at the retreat. This would help build a path to identify solutions and establish goals, timelines, and reporting. Unfortunately, my return last Wednesday, came with a very long to-do list. This, along with some potential modifications to the Council Rules of Order will be on the agenda for April 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Congressional Discretionary Spending**

Both Senator Collins and Senator King are actively seeking projects to be funded through the Congressional Discretionary Spending (CDS) program. We're working with a few grant writers on this effort to get a few projects submitted by Friday 4/8 (for Collins) and next Friday 4/15 (for King).

Two of the three projects we requesting financial support for would work to address the needs outlined in the Bond Warrant Article:

1. Up Island Water Storage Tank - "Bar Harbor's sole water tank, the "Up Island Water Storage Tank", is in need of replacement with a new and larger water tank with capacity to hold both a public water supply and a fire suppression supply volume. Currently, due to the age and design of the system, Bar Harbor's sole water tank, the "Up Island Water Storage Tank" doesn't have the capacity to supply the public in some areas of the town and fire suppression in other areas of the town at the same time when such fires occur."
2. West Street Gateway Project - "As Bar Harbor endeavors to protect and safeguard its natural resources, spur affordable development, and increase pedestrian use and safety — it finds itself deeply in need of the West Street Gateway Project, a multi-faceted close-proximity project matrix aimed at eliminating combined sewer overflow (CSO) and protecting Eddy Brook and Frenchman's Bay through sanitary pipe relining; upgrading the existing 50-year old Water Street pump-house and adding a new storage tank to enable more development up Route 3 by increasing sanitary capacity; and extending and reworking an existing pedestrian shared-use path so that it extends safely from downtown Bar Harbor past the College of the Atlantic, through the Route 3 hotel corridor, all the way to the existing Ferry Terminal and Pier."

The third project we're submitting is for needs we previously tried to secure funding for:

3. Schooner Head Project - "Bar Harbor's Schooner Head Project will replace and extend deteriorating and undersized water and sewer lines and add additional municipal water storage along Schooner Head Road."

The remainder of the week will be spent on finding our community partners in providing letters of support for these projects.

### **Other Grant Opportunities**

We are now actively working to identify additional opportunities for grants and will continue to update the Council as those become available and will update the Council as we develop our message.

### **Union Negotiations**

Management met with IAFF union leadership again this morning. The work has been extremely productive, but I do not believe we will be ready for Council's consideration before May.

I am currently pulling some dates to begin the Public Works Teamsters Union in the coming weeks.