

PUBLIC HEALTH

(Not in order of priority)

Objective 1. Expand Sewer Capacity and Protect Drinking Water Supply

Protect ground water quality, the environment, and the health of the town's residents, workers, and visitors.

STRATEGY A. Implement the sewer expansion plan to increase environmental and public health protection.

Task 1. Set sewer expansion goal to increase system capacity to sewer every property in Town and allow for future growth.

Task 2. Identify funding sources for sewer capacity expansion and infrastructure upgrades.

Task 3. Prioritize discontinuing cesspools and septic systems most proximate to the harbor, wetland resource areas, and areas with high ground water.

Task 4. Explore the viability of changing the enabling legislation for the municipal sewer in order to eliminate voluntary connection.

Task 5. Plan for relocating strategic sewer infrastructure currently located within the flood zone

STRATEGY B. Manage potable and non-potable water usage to protect public drinking water quality and supply.

Task 1. Set drinking water expansion goal to increase system capacity and allow for future growth.

Task 2. Identify funding sources for water capacity expansion and infrastructure upgrades.

Task 3. Conserve ground water by setting potable water extraction reduction goals.

Task 4. Implement a distribution system water-loss management program.

Task 5. Investigate the feasibility of a municipal grey water system.

Task 6. Plan for other opportunities to provide potable water, including desalinization and piping water from more remote well locations.

Objective 2. Assess and Address Community Public Health Needs

Provide public human services for behavioral health challenges, including addiction and depression, and partner with private health care providers to ensure appropriate education and care is available for our diverse populations.

STRATEGY A. Regularly assess community public health needs and the capacity of existing human services agencies or private health care providers to meet those public health needs.

Task 1. Create a community health assessment process that also identifies the most appropriate sources for specific health services.

Task 2. Identify additional community health parameters (such as air quality, hunger, lead paint, chemical exposure, housing security, pest management for mosquitos, ticks and other disease vectors) that may be added to the public health assessment and service plan.

Task 3. Revise/update public health policies to ensure they are consistent with the health assessment and service plan.

STRATEGY B. Collaborate with community partners to better serve the health needs of all subpopulations living and working in Provincetown, including families with young people, immigrants, seasonal workers, LGBTQIA+, and seniors.

Task 1. Establish a working group with representatives from non-profit service providers, Outer Cape Health Services, and the health department to coordinate services to different groups.

Task 2. Create clear messaging and a communication nexus that connects those seeking health services with the appropriately qualified providers.

Task 3. Develop a reporting system where data on services being provided is tracked and reported back to the community.

STRATEGY C. Provide and enhance substance use disorder education to improve the community's knowledge and increase the availability of evidence-based information on treating addiction and substance use disorder.

Task 1. Propose using marijuana tax revenues to provide substance use disorder public health and human service needs.

Task 2. Include addiction and substance use disorder treatment as part of the coordinated health service plan and public health communication plan.

Objective 3. Implement public health mitigation strategies

STRATEGY A. Identifying methods to reduce the risk of public health hazards or reduce losses to hazards that occur.

Task 1. Develop an emergency housing plan with Outer Cape communities and the Cape Cod Commission to address emergency housing needs in collaboration with regional partners.

Task 2. Post completed public fire inspection reports, completed by the responsible entity, for residential and commercial properties to reduce the risk of overloaded/frayed extension cords, rusted fire panels, and other fire hazards.

Task 3. Offer and communicate where health risk management services are offered or supported such as home risk of falling assessment, smoking cessation, Narcan application, and CPR training.

Task 4. Advocate for universal healthcare to better serve the needs of visitors, workers, and other non-residents who come to Provincetown and may need to use the local health care services.

STRATEGY B. Where possible, integrate public health mitigation strategies and response/recovery plans with public and private service entities.

Task 1. Provide regular training for the emergency response/recovery team that includes private and not-for-profit service providers.

Task 2. Develop a clear messaging and communications plan for response/recovery that directs the public to the best providers for necessary services.

STRATEGY C. Ensure public health preparedness plans outline planned operations, planning, logistics, and financing.

Task 1. Revise/update public health preparedness plans to ensure they are consistent with the health policies and emergency response plan.

Objective 4. Explore regionalization for public health services

Work collaboratively with the other Outer Cape municipalities to identify opportunities to share resources and offer additional health services.

STRATEGY A. Identify public health services being offered regionally, gaps in service offerings, in other areas of Massachusetts and/or states to develop a model for regionalization.

Task 1. Research other applicable models that could be adapted to the Outer Cape in coordination with Barnstable County and the Cape Cod Commission.

STRATEGY B. Collaborate with the Outer Cape municipalities and health care providers on the core public health functions that need to be provided per the Department of Public Health.

Task 1. Seek to collaborate with Outer Cape Health Services to restore seven-day urgent care and dental care services.

Task 2. Collaborate with Outer Cape Health Services to provide health services that are identified as a priority for the region.

STRATEGY C. Create public outreach that addresses finding public health services that are offered through the region, but not specifically locally, and the proximity of certain medical services.

Task 1. Create a regional public health communication plan that can be adopted by each municipality that includes triage service to respond to inquiries about resources to address perceived threats to public health.

Task 2. Provide additional information about transportation options, hours of operation, and availability of access for persons with disabilities or special needs.

Task 3. Integrate reporting on regional services being provided to each municipality to clearly communicate what services are being provided at which locations.

STRATEGY D. Coordinate the regional public health service provider plan with public safety, fire, police and emergency response.

Task 1. Provide public safety, fire, police, and emergency response entities throughout the region with a list of public health service providers by type of service, location, and hours.

Task 2. Update the regional service plan routinely and offer regular training to public safety, fire, police, and emergency response workers.