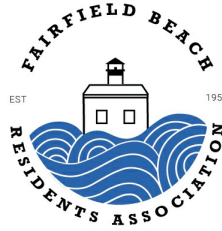


March 2, 2023



## Fairfield Beach Residents Association NEWSLETTER

# Penfield Pavilion Decision



## Make your voice heard on what to do regarding the Pavilion

Your FBRA is asking you to write to Brenda and our town bodies **TODAY** letting them know your thoughts.

The Board of Selectmen will be meeting on Monday March 6th and one of the agenda items will be a recommendation on remediating the Pavilion. Meetings of the Board of Finance and the RTM will follow later in March.

The FBRA strongly supports a town decision on how best to remediate and an approval of funding BEFORE March 31, 2023. If a decision is not made by then, the town will be retrograded in the Community Rating System (CRS) and this will mean starting October 2023, close to 1800 town residents who carry FEMA flood insurance will see their premiums go up. This could cost beach area residents close to \$500,000 in increased flood insurance costs over the 2+ years it might take to get the Notice of Violation addressed.

It is our understanding that the BOS will be asked to vote on an \$11.5 M Penfield remediation package, \$5M of that will go towards removing the contaminated fill under the building and spots of the parking lot and \$6.5 M will go towards lowering the grade beam foundation structure and related construction needs to be in compliance with FEMA's Notice of Violation. A second option will also be discussed which is \$8.5M, of which \$4.0M goes towards removing the contaminated fill, \$2.0M goes towards tearing down the main pavilion room but leaving the locker rooms with their bathrooms, and an estimated \$2.5 goes to adding a large covered deck, adding ramps, a concession stand and a lifeguard shack area.

The town has also committed to fund a \$100K study to address resilience options for the neighborhood behind the pavilion. The FBRA supports this funding and would like to see a minimum of \$5M towards the implementation costs built into the 5 year capital plan.

Below is a suggested letter - but please feel free to make it your own. Also below are the address links for the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance and the RTM. We have also included links to key topics if you would like to get more information on this. or feel free to write us at [FBRA06824@gmail.com](mailto:FBRA06824@gmail.com)

Dear Board of Selectmen

Thank you for taking immediate action on addressing the Penfield pavilion NOV. We feel strongly there must be a town aligned approach and agreed budget prior to march 31, 2023.

I support the following remediation approach /...( option 1) or ( option 2)

Thank you for also agreeing to fund a \$100K study to explore the best resilience options for the neighborhood behind the pavilion. We would like to also see funds for the implementation of the best option put into the five year capital plan.

Your name and address here

Here are the Links to the [BOF](#), [BOS](#) and [RTM](#) e mails

For more information, here are links to explain the issues in greater detail:

1. Options under consideration on HOW to rebuild the pavilion: [HERE](#) on pages 12 and 13
2. Background on why there is this level of urgency [HERE](#)
3. Background on the actual Notice of Violation [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)



**TONIGHT**

**FLOODING STUDY OF FAIRFIELD UNDERPASSES**

**MARCH 2nd at 7 pm on- line**

The Connecticut Institute for Climate Resiliency and Adaptation (CIRCA) and the Town of Fairfield are collaborating on a planning level to study to investigate solutions to persistent flooding problems at four underpasses that cross under the New Haven Line in Fairfield.

Flooding in these locations occurs following heavy rainfall and can be exacerbated when combined with a high tide. These underpasses are key north/south connections between the Town's shoreline and interior sections.

CIRCA will be hosting the first of three engagement events on Thursday, March 2nd, at 7:00 PM, using the Teams webinar platform. This event will be an opportunity for residents to meet the study team, learn about CIRCA and the scope of Fairfield's pilot project, and provide feedback about your experience with flooding downtown and at these underpasses.

Register [here](#).

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## ALERT

### EVENT ADVISORY:

This is a community message from the Town of Fairfield.

The Fairfield University Student Organization, in association with The Seagrape Café, located at 1144 Reef Rd., will be hosting "Sham Jam" on Saturday, March 4th, from 1PM through 5PM. Although this event is not sanctioned by Fairfield University, the administration has partnered with the Fairfield Police Department to establish a significant police presence in the areas of The Seagrape, Lantern Point, and Burr Court. Residents in the area should anticipate heavier pedestrian traffic flow than normal during the hours of this event.

For police assistance, please call either our non-emergency number, 203-254-4800, or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

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On a more lighthearted note....

## Announcing the 2023 FBRA photo contest



The FBRA will be offering residents a chance to submit their best photos and the winners will get really fun prizes ( along with the admiration of our community).

More information will come in the next newsletter, but there will be different age categories to enter; one for best picture of all submitted, one for best picture from residents ages 11 - 18 and one for best picture taken by residents 10 and under.

There will also be categories such as best Nature photographs, best Beach photos and more.

We are still working out the details and would love help if anyone wants to be on the selection and photo contest team - just e mail us at [FBRA06824@gmail.com](mailto:FBRA06824@gmail.com)

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#### About the FBRA:

Founded in 1955, the Fairfield Beach Residents Association is a 501(c)4 advocacy organization comprised of homeowners from the Old Post Road south to Fairfield Beach Road west to the end of the road, and Reef Road east to Beach Road. The FBRA aims to: Represent and implement the interests and desires of the membership in maintaining and improving Fairfield Beach and vicinity; promote cooperation among the owners and renters; represent the common interests of the membership in relation to governmental authorities; and provide for the mutual assistance, enjoyment, and quality of life for all people residing in the Fairfield Beach area.



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