Brunswick’s city commissioners began to prioritize some of the most important projects going into 2018 at a city planning meeting Monday.

Commissioners, along with Mayor Cornell Harvey and city staff, reviewed notes taken during a commission retreat Jan. 27, when the commission discussed nearly all ongoing and planned city projects.

Commissioner Julie Martin said Tuesday that a foremost concern, shared by all commissioners, is the pervasive flooding issue in the College Park neighborhood.

“College Park is overwhelmingly the No. 1 project, and all the continuous stormwater flooding in that neighborhood area is the No. 1 top priority,” Martin said.

Two commissioners — Johnny Cason and Vincent Williams — were absent from the meeting and will schedule a time to come in and rank the projects as well, Martin said.

“Everything will be ranked, so we can clearly see what we need to be focusing on,” she said.

Commissioners also discussed encouraging the completion of the ongoing Manseld Street water and sewer construction project, which has continued well past its original deadline for completion.

The project, a joint effort between the city of Brunswick and the Brunswick-Glynn County Joint Water and Sewer Commission, began in June 2015 and was expected to last 270 days.

“We’re all very frustrated about that,” Martin said.

Martin said the commission hopes to have its priorities from the Jan. 27 retreat finalized by next week.
“It was the full commission consensus that College Park is the No. 1 project that we're focusing on,” she said.

The city commission will hold a work session at 4 p.m. today, during which commissioners are expected to review a full report from engineers who spent the last couple of months doing an in-depth study of storm water systems in the College Park neighborhood.

“We also want to make sure we're moving toward resolutions and concrete solutions on how to remedy the flooding that happens there all the time,” she said.

The city will hold its regular commission meeting at 6 p.m. Both the work session and regular meeting will take place at Old City Hall, 1229 Newcastle Street.

Lauren McDonald