

PUBLIC COMMENT ON DRAFT 2016 BICYCLE-PEDESTRIAN PLAN

May 18, 2016

May 3: Kristen Knupp, 327 Foreside Road

I completely agree with point 35 about route 1. Why is all that space in the middle going to waste? Surely there needs to be a plan to use it better and a separate bike and walkway from the rest of the road makes sense, with nice landscaping. I agree with the sidewalk from eye 88 to town landing. I also think a better marked bike/pedestrian lane on Rte 88 from town landing to the Cumberland town line is desperately needed before this summer to make walking and biking on this busy and well-used section safer. A lower speed limit near town landing would also be very helpful, such as 30 mph, to make it safer for cyclists and pedestrians to cross the street.

Thank you and best wishes, Kristen Knupp

May 3: Kristen Knupp, 327 Foreside Road

Dear Theo,

Thank you for all your hard work on these issues. And please don't forget about families riding along Route 88; it is not only about the lycra-clad super serious cyclists. Cycling to the shops instead of driving an SUV on a short trip is also worth being able to do safely and may actually benefit the environment more than a cycling commuter does.

If you haven't already done so, please look at other countries such as Denmark and the Netherlands that are world leaders on creating safe cycling routes. They may have done something really great that could be emulated on the Route 1 section from the bridge to Rte 88.

Best wishes,

Kristen

May 4: Kim Filippone

Why isn't Blackstone road a short term priority? There are large cycling groups that use Blackstrap and Mountain Rd. and the condition of the roads in that area are terrible.

Hi Kim: Thanks for writing. We'll convey your suggestion to Town Council.

In the meantime, you may want to review pages 127-129 in more detail. That attachment represents our effort to take the feedback we got from everyone (136 people) on all actions and develop some sense of priority, as not everything can be a short term priority.

This is what we learned for action 46 Blackstrap Road:

Stakeholder score: 2.15	Medium range: 2.05-2.44
Forum score: 2.38	Medium range: 2.00-2.40
Survey score: 1.94	Medium range: 1.90-2.10
Average score: 2.16	Medium range: 2.00-2.25

So, you see it fell consistently in Medium range, which is where the CDC decided to keep it.

This [priority] is not the end-all-be-all of course, but gave us a sense of direction. Hope this gives you a sense of how we arrived at that.

Thanks. Theo

May 5: Kim Filippone

Hi, if it went by vote was there consideration for rider safety? Blackstrap road in Falmouth is in terrible shape. When you cross over the surrounding town lines the road actually improves. I'm not a cyclist, but have noticed for years that riders have to be in the middle of the road to avoid the tire ruts and road damage. And there is no shoulder at all on the road, with most of the edges in disrepair as well. Does the town of Falmouth determine where road improvements take place?

The town spent a small fortune on Rt. 1 improvements and I've seen very little as a result of those. Blackstrap gets a lot of cycling traffic - cyclists seem to prefer the more rural side of Falmouth for long trips - yet Blackstrap gets worse every year and nothing is done. Does this have to do with the east part of town having more residents and higher earnings?

Hi Kim: Thank you for your follow-up. I will make sure to pass your concerns on to the Council. FYI, most of Blackstrap Road is maintained by the MaineDOT, not the Town of Falmouth. Thank you. Theo

May 7: Kim Filippone

Thank you, I will contact the DOT as well. Would hate to have an accident be the cause of the repairs - there was a bad one just last week.

May 6: Jay Reynolds

Hi Theo,

Public Safety is continuing to receive questions and inquiries from a resident about pedestrian safety, speeds, signage, etc., etc.

Did Andrews Ave. sidewalk, per Nathan's email, ever get included into the draft bike-ped. plan?

I searched the draft and didn't see it.

Let me know. Thanks.

Jay Reynolds, Public Works Director

June 19, 2015: Nathan Poore

Hi Theo,

Can you make sure the new bike/ped plan includes a recommendation to install a sidewalk on Andrews Ave? I am not sure if I requested this in the past. If I have, I apologize for the redundancy.

Thanks,

Nathan A. Poore, Town Manager

Hi Jay:

You are right: Andrews Avenue is not (yet) in the plan. My oversight...

I will make a note of it in my memo to the Council. Council can then include it, if desired.

Thanks for reminding me of this.

Thanks, Theo

May 9: Michelle Lamb

Thank you so much to you Theo and the CDC for considering the feedback from my neighborhood and incorporating it into this new draft -- much appreciated!

Best, Michelle