

Harwich Bikeways and Pedestrian Committee Meeting

September 16, 2025,
Harwich Community Center

Attendance: Fran Salewski, Chair
Charlie Walkley,
Paul Gazaille, and
Jim Ferry

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m.

September, 2025, meeting minutes approved.

New Business

1. "Walk Left, Ride Right" discussion. Although the idea of walking left to face oncoming bicyclists makes sense and is used in other locales, the current State Rule is that both walkers and riders keep to the right. It would require a DCR mandate to change the rule, which is beyond our jurisdiction.
2. Speeding on the Rail Trail. Susie Johnson of Nickerson State Park recently met with the Friends of the Cape Cod Rail Trail. New signs will be going up and there will be more enforcement. Signs reading something like "Only Class 1 e-bikes permitted on Rail Trail" will be going up. Bike rental shops will need to inform Class 2 and 3 e-bike renters that they will not be allowed on the rail trail. If one is caught riding on the trail, the bike rental shop will be informed. Most people do not know the definition of Class 1 (pedal assisted with no throttle and maximum speed of 20 mph.)
3. The recent accident near Long Pond that required Med-Evac involved an e-bike that was traveling over 20 mph. The area of the accident is a fairly straight line with no obstructions.
4. The Friends of the CC Rail Trail met with Michael Holcomb, assistant to Julian Cyr, who was shown the bumps near Nickerson State Park in hopes of getting budget for repairs. Perhaps a permanent State fund for maintenance should be established.

Old Business

1. The extension of the trail at the Wellfleet end will wait until the State does work on Route 6, so that they can be accomplished together. The Bourne extension is also on hold (again) because of the permitting required to make rail crossings.
2. "Safe Routes to Schools" project is scheduled to go out for bid in December. Linc Thacher is working on securing the right of way. It will be a \$3.2 million project to be done in 2027. A sidewalk will be added to Main Street between Sisson Road and South

Street. There will be signage at the school and near the monument company. We should monitor that work.

3. The realignment of the trail near Oak Street and Rt 124 is planned for 2027 also.
4. 2000 new maps have been received. They are very similar to the old map. Updates to the kiosk signs are planned as well.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 P. M.

Next meeting scheduled for October 21 at the Community Center