

Bike route expansion, shuttle proposed

By Kevin Mullaney
kmullaney@wickedlocal.com

PROVINCETOWN — Bicycle riders may soon be able to follow a path from Cape Cod National Seashore all the way out to MacMillan Pier.

The Cape Cod Commission and the Seashore are proposing to develop a bike route from Race Point Road to the pier, as well as a bicycle shuttle from Provincetown to Wellfleet.

Clay Scofield, traffic engineer for the Cape Cod Commission, and Karst Hoogeboom from the Seashore appeared before selectmen last week to deliver a copy of the newly finished Cape Cod National Seashore Integrated Bicycle Plan for Cape Cod, which identified a number of possible projects in Provincetown and Truro.

Scofield told the board that they will need to develop a more detailed plan with Provincetown and Truro, but were ready

to go forward with obtaining funding for the bicycle route from Race Point Road to the pier, which is described in the documents as a "share the road facility." It would pick up where the bike trail ends, near the entrance to the transfer station, to Beech Forest, across Route 6 on Conwell Street to Cemetery Road, down Alden Street then down Standish and across Commercial Street to the pier. The town's department of public works would do the work and the town would get the funds. There would be no matching funds required from the town, just staff time.

The second project, a bicycle shuttle from Provincetown to Wellfleet, would be implemented later this year or early next year. According to Hoogeboom, the shuttle would use 12-person vans with bike trailers and there would be 11 stops. The \$250,000 program would run seven days a week all summer long. The Flex bus has only a two-bike capacity, and the new shuttle would allow more people to leave

their cars behind.

Selectmen unanimously approved the master plan, and the National Park Service granted submission to extend the bike trail.

The intent of the master plan is to establish a final list of bike and pedestrian projects, prioritize them and then develop funding for design and construction. The Commission and the Seashore would provide the technical assistance, coordination between towns and explore funding possibilities.

Contained in the master plan are several possible projects for Provincetown and Truro, to include widening and striping Route 6A and Shore Road to create a bicycle and pedestrian lane; identifying a dedicated alignment within the 250-foot-wide Route 6 right of way for bikes and pedestrians; and extending the Cape Cod Rail Trail from South Wellfleet to Provincetown. The Moors Road bike lanes are in the process of being finished.

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