

## Update on Bicycle Parking

Over the past month there has been much discussion regarding bicycle parking on the east side of Route 1. Town Council has made the property owners aware that the owners of the two empty lots in Sandpiper Village have requested no bike parking on their lots. As with prior requests the Town will honor the request to remove the bike racks from their lots. This action will not take place until after the end of the 2019 summer season.

In addition, the Town has received multiple complaints regarding individuals parking their bikes on private property along Ocean Drive. As one can see, this is an issue not just in Sandpiper Village but on all Ocean front roads. The proliferation of bike and car traffic over the past few years has brought this issue to a tipping point. Town Council has made the decision that it's time for this issue to be addressed. It is important to recognize that both car and bike parking inevitably will be limited and there is a need to be fair to both options of getting to the beach. Walking is always a third option that many of us did in the past.

At the July 2019 Town Council meeting, this issue was formally sent to the Planning Commission for study and possible recommendation to improve the current situation. It is strongly recommended that if any individual has a comment or suggestion, to submit them to Linda Lewis at [linda.e.lewis@gmail.com](mailto:linda.e.lewis@gmail.com). Planning Commission meetings and agendas are always posted on the Town website if anyone is interested in attending their meetings.

The Town Council has requested the Planning Commission findings be submitted at the October Town Council workshop scheduled for October 24 at 3:00. At that time, the Planning Commission and Town Council will discuss the findings and recommendations. No final decisions will be made at that Workshop, but rather a set of possible changes will hopefully be developed that the Town Council can review and finalize. The Town Council will vote on a final recommendation at a meeting in late 2019 or early 2020. Our goal is to take the correct action to satisfy walkers, bikers and drivers.

Finally, no action will be taken this summer season. We need to allow time for the Planning Commission to formulate a plan. If for any reason the Planning Commission requests additional time, we will inform property owners.

Have a safe and fun time this summer season.

Mayor Saxton

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