



**TOWN OF SAINT ANDREWS
PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION
ELECTRONIC MEETING
Monday, July 20, 2020, at 7:00 PM**

MINUTES

OPENING OF THE PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

The Town of Saint Andrews provided the community with an opportunity to give feedback and comments on the Proposed Coastal Link Trail Route. The Coastal Link Trail is an initiative to connect a trail system in Maine, USA to the Trans Canada Trail System that starts in Saint John, NB. A regional group is working towards the completion of this and they are asking the Council to support an official segment within the municipal limits. As part of the public process, the Town of Saint Andrews hosted a Public Information Session on the Coastal Link Trail proposal on Monday, July 20, 2020. A presentation was made by Coastal Link Trail Organization on the proposed route.

Facebook Participants – 21
Zoom Participants - 10

PRESENTATION

Tanya Harrington, Recreation Director, Southwest New Brunswick Regional Service Commission. Overview presentation of the Proposed Coastal Link Trail and the Saint Andrews trail link.



- Yellow lines are public roads
- Green lines are trails

The proposed route would follow:

- Coming up the 127 from Bayside;
- Turn down Marine Science Drive;
- Go to Brandy Cove Road, entrance to the new golf course;
- Cross over stopped up section of the road;

- Through Joe's Point Road onto Water St;
- Catch the Van Horne Trail on Water St. and follow through to Bar Rd.
- At this point, Bar Road options to link to 127.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK AND QUESTION PERIOD

1. *Is there any intent to add shoulders on Highway 127 on the Bayside side within the town limits?*
 - a. *We are proposing that with new infrastructure to have extended shoulders on the Highways.*
2. *Our group has looked at the Coastal Trails, love the idea, health benefits, etc. Question and worry, 80% of the trail is on public land. What of the 20% that is left? Is there an intention to confiscate private property, or treaty land of the Passamaquoddy?*
 - a. *No, the trail has no intent of expropriation of private land. 80% of the trail will be on public-owned roads and trails, the 20% on shared property. We will work with private landowners on agreements to ensure the trail is maintained and cared for.*
3. *So the trail intends to use private property inside and outside Saint Andrews?*
 - a. *Yes, with the proper agreements in place.*
4. *The main highway, can you ride your bike on the main road now?*
 - a. *The infrastructure on the double lane highways is currently not in place for cyclists. We have some studies and information on how to make it better but we are still waiting on safe road infrastructure on provincial highways. We have studies, working with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, on upgrades to make them safer for cyclists. We would only encourage those expert cyclists for high traffic and high-speed roads if you wish to travel them at this point.*
5. *Will your group have to pay for the upkeep of the trail or will it be built into the system?*
 - a. *Each segment will be different and maintaining the trail will be the responsibility of the municipalities. On provincial highways, the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure would maintain them. We are still working on this.*
6. *Is your PowerPoint presentation online?*
 - a. *We will have it online for anyone who wishes to see it after the meeting.*
7. *I cannot think of a better or greener economic initiative for the Coastal Link Trail. Take advantage of the tourism season and foot traffic in the community. Great initiative. Age-friendly and active transportation, what a great compliment of uses.*
8. *The route from St. Stephen, would you come to the waterfront trail and around to the 127?*
 - a. *Yes, there is a bit of a detour around Oak Bay camping, up and around to avoid traffic. You will not have to cross the causeway.*
9. *Would you have to cross the bridges and the bridge at Waweig, NB?*
 - a. *We are still working with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure on the development of extra space and signage notification of active transport. It will be the share the road concept.*
10. *Any chance of new bridges with bike lanes?*
 - a. *Not at this point. It is too costly to change the current bridges. There is potential when bridges are replaced, that bike lanes can be added.*
11. *The \$1,000,000.00 you mentioned, was that the entire project?*
 - a. *This was the initial funding to get started. This helped to get the studies completed and the next steps for more funding for infrastructure projects. Some money has been spent in St. Stephen so far.*
12. *Will, there be a crossing at Digdeguash or will we have to cross the highway?*
 - a. *There is a by-pass route through the area's rural roads to prevent the crossing of water or in dangerous areas.*
13. *When is this trail to be completed?*
 - a. *We are implementing the trail in stages, starting with municipalities and working from there.*
14. *We are coming to the end of the route development and project development stages. Thank you to everyone who has helped and displayed support. Increasing*

tourism and health is important. Economic development and new business to the area, e-bikes, eco-tourism, new beginnings, population attraction, etc. lots of great holistic developments. Issues going forward, going back to sponsors with questions to get answers. Policy strengthening, timelines, and aligning priorities for implementation throughout the project.

15. *Big thanks to Tany and Daren. This is an excellent project, a great group of volunteers, so many positives to bring to the community. Lots of work ahead of us and with community engagement we will be successful. If we can come up with the route, federal funds are available and move quickly shortly.*
16. *Thank you for the great work.*
17. *Thank you Tanya for the work. Thank you to the public for the opportunity to provide feedback.*
18. *Thank you for the hard work and great job to the committee.*
19. *Thank the entire team and the Kiwanis for starting the process. It is an important asset for the community. Important to do the consultation and hearing positive comments.*
20. *Great ideas, looking forward to the trail.*
21. *Hearing from Tanya sounds like an exciting project. Lots of growing pains but a big addition to the town and area.*
22. *Looking at the map of New Brunswick, the trail could have skipped us but great work to get this going and into town.*

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:47 p.m. the meeting be adjourned.



Doug Naish, Mayor



Paul Nopper, Clerk – Senior
Administrator

