

A scenic view of a coastline at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, with a bright light reflecting on the water. A dark silhouette of a person is visible on the shore in the background.

# The Shore Road Path

Cape Elizabeth, Maine

- The Shore Road Path is a proposed pedestrian pathway to be installed on Shore Road in Cape Elizabeth extending from Fort Williams to the Town Center (10,200 ‘). It includes developed neighborhoods, woods, meadow, wetlands and some dramatic ocean views.

# Genesis for the path study

## 2007 Comprehensive Plan:

Study the potential for creating an off-road path adjacent to Shore Rd that would be designed with sensitivity to the character of Shore Rd and in collaboration with property owners abutting Shore Rd.

Also recommended by the Road Safety Working Group

# Shore Road Path Committee

- Town Council creates study committee
- 7 citizens, plus 1 Town Councilor and 1 member of the Conservation Commission
- Charge mirrors Comp Plan recommendation requiring collaboration with property owners
- Study must include path layout, surface, mitigation and cost estimate
- No budget/funding

# Shore Road Path Committee Process

- Review history (1996 project)
- Site walk
- Grant funding/hire expertise
- Multiple public participation efforts
- Key decisions during process
- Report to Town Council

# Public Participation Plan

- Transparency - all meetings, schedules, minutes, other docs easily accessible
- Multi-level participation- comment at meeting, website, mailed letters, press releases, public forum, FAQ, status report
- Abutter priority (individual meetings)
- Town-wide resource

# Consultant Assistance

- Right-of-way survey
- Wetland mapping
- Landscape architect path layout
- Engineering concept level plan
- Funded by \$35,000 grant (\$7,000 local \$)

## Comparison of Land/Water side

	<u>Land</u>	<u>Water</u>
No. Property Owners	37	54
Largest frontage	2,200'	920'
Hydrants	No	Yes
Wetlands/ocean	1,044'	405'
Ledge	45'	90'
Public Access land	2,200	1,300'
Houses w/in 35' ROW	6	7
Stone walls	1,105'	1,925'
Less than 10' ROW	350'	2,110'
Telephone poles	27	68

# Principles of Path Design

(approved by Committee 9/24/08)

- Right-of-way
- Physical features
- Separation
- Wetland impacts
- Tree condition
- Shore Road crossings
- Land side

# Timeline

- Committee meets 1/08
- ROW survey 7/09
- Public Forum 11/19/08
- Study completed 3/09
- Town Council workshop 6/09
- Town Council public hearing 9/09  
(6-1 endorsed, 4-3 start up funds \$110,000)

# What I would emphasize about this study

- Abutter emphasis
- Misinformation
- Don't assume support
- It's great to have a constituency
- Get good data/good consultant