

Aaron Naparstek

Thu 10/13/2022 11:16 AM

Great news! Thanks for the clarification, Tim.

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Tim Wong

Thu 10/13/2022 11:11 AM

To:

Aaron Naparstek

Aaron,

Thank you for your feedback. The plan you reference is an earlier plan from 2017. Our current plans maintain Circuit Ave Extension as a one-way street (heading north) until the taxi stand oval. The Town is not considering changing the circulation in the area of your concern. I will clarify this point in the MVC public meeting tonight.

Tim

**Timothy Wong** \ Landscape Designer

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Aaron Naparstek

Wed 10/12/2022 10:36 PM

Dear Martha's Vineyard Commission:

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the North Bluff Modification project. My name is Aaron Naparstek. Our family is an abutter to the North Bluff Modification project. We have owned the property at 6 Saco Ave. for almost fifty years.

Overall, the plan looks good. As someone who works in transportation planning myself, I appreciate all of the thoughtful effort that has gone into it. I have just one piece of critical feedback:

If a goal of this project is to enhance pedestrian safety and relieve traffic congestion, then it seems like it would be a mistake to convert Circuit Ave. Ext. to two-way operation between the ferry dropoff area and the bottom of Saco Ave. I urge the Commission to maintain Circuit Ave. Ext. as a one-way street between Saco Ave. and the ferry dropoff area.

During the summer high-season, this section of Circuit Ave. Ext. is jam-packed with pedestrians and bicyclists. This is where ferry passengers go to rent bicycles and mopeds or simply start their stroll up Circuit Ave. Converting this section of Circuit Ave. Ext. to two-way operation, will cause more mixing of vulnerable road users with motor vehicles (particularly

taxis, which often tend to be driven more aggressively). It will create more turning movements across crosswalks (like at the bottom and top of Saco Ave.). And it will force pedestrians and cyclists to deal with vehicles traveling in two directions rather than just one. This is a recipe for less safety and more traffic chaos. But it seems easy to fix: Just maintain that small section of Circuit Ave. Ext. from Saco to the ferry dropoff as a one-way, as it currently is and has been for decades.

I am a little bit surprised that no traffic counts or crash data have been provided as part of this proposal given that the plan aims to improve circulation and safety. In our family's anecdotal experience, the current conditions on this section of Circuit Ave. Ext. and on Saco Ave. are very safe for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. We happily, safely, and independently walked and biked around the North Bluff as young children in the '70s and '80s. And we played on Saco Ave. all the time. Our own kids have enjoyed the same in recent years. Converting this section of Circuit Ave. Ext. to two-way operation invites more car traffic and creates more points of conflict. This seems contrary to the stated goals of this otherwise fine project.

Sincerely,  
Aaron Naparstek

