

Jason Lew

Thu 10/13/2022 9:58 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

First I would like to thank the MVC for all the hard work you do on behalf of the island. I would also like to thank the Oak Bluffs Planning Board and the Streetscape Committee for all the work they have put into improving our town. We have attended many of the meetings.

The North Bluff is our residential neighborhood. We have lived in this beautiful spot for forty years, and have felt the slow but steady spread of the town and business onto our areas. As such we have some comments regarding the North Bluff Modification.

1- This area is perhaps the most active corner in all of the Vineyard. The Island Queen, the Rhode Island Fast Ferry, the Patriot, fishing boats all use this area. It is also busy with bicycles, motorcycles, mopeds and pedestrians (many of whom have dogs), as well as traffic from town and the other boat arrival spots (Hyannis, Nantucket at Dockside). The Steamship is nearby and has a profound affect on the traffic as well. This is the site of a busy beach and boardwalk.

When the boats arrive (and often there is more than one at a time). There is a chaos of busses, taxis, cars, trucks, bikes, pedestrians etc. But somehow the chaos works and within minutes all the vehicles leave with their passengers. On studying the new plan, it seems that in an effort to make it more beautiful, we are diminishing the size of the vehicular traffic. I am afraid, in an effort to make it more beautiful, we will be creating bottlenecks. In an effort to make it look better, we may be creating a disaster with vehicular flow.

2- The new design calls to place eight tour busses directly in front of our home. First of all, if they are to be placed in the angled parking, I wonder how they will not block traffic by sticking way out into the traffic lane. Secondly over the years, we have already had a problem with tour busses as they sit idling for long times waiting for passengers. This is noisy, and smelly (the fumes come into our home). We have asked them to not idle, but they often ignore our request (often stating they need to keep the air conditioning going for their arriving clients). Not a good example for pollution/global warming, or being good neighbors. Secondly, they are ugly. Who would want all these busses parked in front of their home? We also wonder why eight busses, there is usually only one or two. We hope the planners can come up with an alternative placement for these busses. They would definitely block our view, diminish the value of our property and decrease the quality of our life.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jason Lew