



TOWN OF OAK BLUFFS

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Board of Selectmen

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January 11, 2018



Adam Turner
Executive Director
Martha's Vineyard Commission
PO Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Robert L. Whritenour, Jr.
Town Administrator

RE: East Chop Bluff Stabilization DRI

Dear Mr. Turner:


I am writing with a clarification on the East Chop bluff stabilization project that is currently before the Martha's Vineyard Commission as a DRI. The clarification specifically concerns the issue raised at the LUPC meeting concerning traffic patterns on East Chop Drive once the bluff is stabilized. At their meeting last night the Oak Bluffs Board of Selectmen heard an update from Carlos Pena, CLE Engineering, on the stabilization project. The issue of traffic patterns was addressed. The Selectmen confirmed that the project as proposed is specifically the stabilization of the coastal bluff.

As the bluff became unstable one lane of the road was closed temporarily pending bluff repair. Thus the plan is to stabilize the bluff to return the road to a traditional two-way traffic pattern. The DRI proposal does not include East Chop Drive; it is purely a bluff stabilization project. As such, the roadway will remain the same. The Selectmen request that the Martha's Vineyard Commission move forward on review of the bluff stabilization project as proposed.

The Town (Roads and Byways Committee, Board of Selectmen) might consider an alternative traffic pattern at some point and may request the assistance of the Commission in researching alternatives. But the traffic on East Chop Drive has no bearing on the validity of the bluff project and a review of traffic, by the Town or Commission, will take time and hold up the bluff review process unnecessarily.

Please let me know if you any questions.

Sincerely,


Robert L. Whritenour
Town Administrator