

## Paul Foley

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**From:** Jason Lew [jasondlew@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 05, 2015 1:21 PM  
**To:** Paul Foley  
**Subject:** Concerns Regarding The Protection and Preservation Of The North Bluffs Beach

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of the North Bluffs Neighborhood Association. We have grave concerns over the 'stewardship' of the North Bluffs Beach by our town's governing bodies. Our concerns are as follows:

1- We are primarily concerned about the preservation and protection of the North Bluffs Beach. We have heard our selectmen say at meetings that nobody uses that beach. This is far from the truth. On a hot summer day there might be 60-80 people enjoying the beach. Both Islanders and tourists alike. The value of this wonderful 'downtown' beach should not be overlooked.

Until the last meeting at the MV Commission, we never heard any mention of maintaining and/or improving the beach. Suddenly there is talk of replenishing the sand. That would be wonderful. But most of us remain sceptical. We would hope that a binding budget, plan and timeline would be in writing and that the town would be held accountable, keeping to this schedule for the protection and preservation of the beach.

The plan as presented has the new metal wall being placed 1- 2 feet in front of the present sea wall. In front of that would be 6-8 feet of large boulders. That would ostensibly eliminate the beach.

2-The first third of the beach wall was already replaced with concrete. Wouldn't you think it would make sense to continue the renovation with the same design, ie. concrete, rather than switching the appearance midway?

3-We have many questions regarding the steel plate structure:

a- Does it exist on any other beach setting on Martha's Vineyard, Cape Cod or Massachusetts?

b- How environmentally friendly is it. Everyone knows the corrosive effect sea water has on metal.

c- How will it be maintained. What is the schedule and cost? Where does that money come from?

d- We have concerns regarding it's appearance and lack of architectural continuity and integrity with what already exists.

4- Apparently governmental agencies have told the town that the wall is not failing, but simply needs repair. If that is the truth, might we just repair the wall at a mere fraction of the cost?

5- It seems that the focus of the project has shifted from the repair of the sea wall to the building of the walkway ( because that is where funding was available?). We are not sure how or why the priority has shifted.

6- In the meantime the dune/bluff that separates the street from the sea wall is eroding badly. Would someone please take responsibility for this and plant some sea grass -at least?

Thank you for your help and consideration.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the North Bluffs Neighborhood Association,

Jason Lew