

Anne Carney  
21 Angell Point Road  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

February 21, 2018

Dear Members of the Town of Cape Elizabeth Harbors Committee:

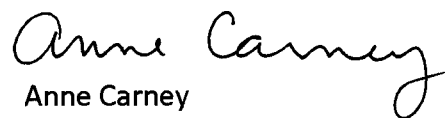
I write in support of the recommendations in the February 16, 2018 draft of the Town of Cape Elizabeth Harbors Committee Report. I have lived in the Angell Point Road area since 1992. I frequently walk along Kettle Cove and Crescent beaches, and am familiar with the current commercial fishing access at Boat Cove, the steep recreational access ramp off Kettle Cove Road, the historical boat launch area, and the vehicular traffic congestion that sometimes occurs. Two of my children served on the Cape Elizabeth WETeam, and have responded to commercial and recreational boating emergencies using the commercial fishing access at Boat Cove.

The Harbors Committee recommendations in section 4.4 take into consideration all of the current uses in the Kettle Cove area and provide a comprehensive plan to improve access. As a concerned citizen, I want to emphasize the importance of recommendations 2 and 6, which relate to negotiating easements that will permanently preserve public access for public safety, commercial and recreational access. My experience leading the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust's national accreditation process reinforced the importance of taking the 'long view' – taking steps today to permanently preserve land that meets important community needs.

Reliable, quick access for public safety and the WETeam is critical, in this area of commercial and intense recreational use. Given the limited launch sites appropriate for the commercial fleet, protecting Boat Cove with an easement is vital to our local economy and our community values. Improving recreational access by reviving the historical boat launch area will benefit Cape residents and visitors, by simplifying and expanding access to the shore.

All of the recommendations will improve public safety, commercial, and recreational use in the Kettle Cove area, and I strongly support this comprehensive approach. As the Town improves the current situation at Kettle Cove, I urge the Town to take the steps necessary to permanently secure the access outlined in the plan, by securing easements that protect these shore access points forever.

Sincerely,

  
Anne Carney