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[CE SBAC] safe & inviting pedestrian/bicycle access to CE schools

1 message

Jennie Smith-Brock <info@bikewalkrollcape.org>

Wed, Feb 14, 2024 at 9:22 PM

To: CESBAC@capeelizabethschools.org

Dear CESAC,

We are writing to urge the Cape Elizabeth School Advisory Committee to prioritize safe **pedestrian and bicycle access** for any proposed school renovation or rebuild.

Options B-G each include a net increase of combined parent drop-off and queueing spots, ranging from 43 - 69 additional spots, in addition to the current 10, apparently to address a stated need of 55. There appears to be a large increase in roadways in several of the options, and Options F and G both surround the whole campus with roadway.

Let's work on improving the safety and experience for current and potential bikers and walkers in order to address some of the "need of 55" by inducing walking/biking demand rather than inducing more driving. In the interest of promoting children's safety, physical movement, and emotional well-being at the start and end of the school day, we encourage the committee to focus on safe, connected pathways on the school grounds to the nearby neighborhoods and the town center.

For whichever of the three preferred options that come out of this initial process, please work to accomplish the following in the design work to create a pedestrian- and bike-friendly school zone:

- Maximize convenience and safety for pedestrians and people on bikes
- Separate parent drop-off/queueing from pedestrians/bike routes
- Create a clear and easy way to enter and exit school for walkers and cyclists
- Provide secure and ample bicycle parking of high quality, within 50' of the entrance(s)

Please plan multi-use pathways such that there are safe, comfortable connections to:

- The Longfellow neighborhood via a pathway to the middle or lower portion of Farm Hill

Rd.

- The Town Center Trail
- The sidewalk along Rt. 77
- The Pond Cove plaza

Increasing the number of students of all ages who can walk or bike safely to school decreases the number of cars, not only at the drop-off sites, but also along all of Cape Elizabeth's streets.

Sincerely,

Bike•Walk•Roll•Cape

www.bikewalkrollcape.org

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