



FRIENDS OF THE MATTAPOISETT BIKE PATH

Here's What Happened in 2018

New Faces

Bill Coquillette joined our Board. (We are actively seeking other interested people with a variety of backgrounds to join.) Robin Lepore became actively involved with the Marion Connection Project. Ann Bryant lent her graphic design capabilities, and Jack Dresser advised on fundraising efforts.

Another Successful Tour de Crème

The third annual Tour de Crème (partnered with the Mattapoissett Land Trust) was a great success. We raised \$7,000 for each organization. We have a well-oiled planning machine now, but we are always looking for more people to help keep this yum-filled event in motion.



Harbor Days

Despite challenging weather, we operated the Friends booth once again at Harbor Days in July. This is one of our best opportunities to stay in touch with our supporters.

Bike Share in Town

Friends was instrumental in bringing VeoRide to Mattapoissett this summer, a bike share program that encourages exercise and helps reduce carbon consumption.



Phase 1b Out to Bid - Construction to Start in 2019!

CLE/Foth, our project engineers, made the final submissions to MassDOT, who put the project out to bid in September. Bid opening is scheduled for January 10, 2019. Assuming all bids/project costs are in line with MassDOT's expectations, a contract will be signed in Winter 2019. The schedule of construction, based on the regulatory conditions for protecting the marshes and waterfront, will be determined by the contractor.

We are Fundraising for the Marion Connection

Plans for the Marion Connection are taking shape thanks to a Friends committee that met over the Winter/Spring of 2018 to plan for a fully paved half-mile connector between Marion Town line and Mattapoissett's Industrial Drive. The hope is for the connector to be in place when MassDOT-funded Marion Pathway (on schedule for 2021) is built.

In June, the focus moved from a privately funded, Friends-built effort to one paid for with public grants. Through East Coast Greenway, we learned Mattapoissett is eligible for a federal grant program called BUILD. If awarded, project costs would be reimbursed to the Town as grant-related tasks are completed. Friends worked with the Town in July to make a submission. We are now vigorously supporting the town by helping to fund a Cost Benefit Analysis and by promoting Town Meeting funding for professional project management, surveys, and preliminary design.

Read more about the project, stay updated, and find out how you can help this year by visiting our website at mattapoissettrailtrail.org. We are a 501c3 (tax deductible) organization. Any contributions will go towards the design of the Marion Connection.

