



PUBLIC NOTICE – EASTERN ROAD STRIPING PILOT PROJECT

Dear Residents,

Greetings, we are providing this notice to make you aware that after Eastern Road is repaved later in June, the Town intends to stripe Eastern Road in a way that adds priority and safety to the walkers, joggers and bikers that routinely use it. More specifically, this striping will delineate 4 – 5 ft. wide shoulder areas on both sides of the road. These areas will serve as advisory bike and pedestrian lanes and will be delineated with dashed white lines. The middle of the road will be a 14 - 16 ft. wide shared travel lane for motorists. This is the first pavement striping of this kind in Scarborough, so we wanted to make you aware of this and provide the following information:

Use of the Advisory Bike and Pedestrian Lanes

The following diagram shows how bikers, walkers and motorists should travel along Eastern Road with this striping layout. The advisory bike and pedestrian lanes are priority areas for these users. Automobiles should travel in the shared center lane, but can encroach into the advisory bike and pedestrian lane to pass oncoming vehicles. When encroaching into the advisory lane, motorists must yield to bicyclists and pedestrians.





Why Is This New Striping Proposed?

The Eastern Road is primarily a residential street with some thru traffic, but it also is uniquely situated along the Eastern Trail corridor. Given this, there are a lot of walkers, joggers, and bikers who use the road regularly and link to the Eastern Trail. Further, the Eastern Trail is very likely to be improved through to South Portland as an off-road trail from the Nonesuch River (where it ends today) so this section of Eastern Road will become even busier with trail users within the next few years.

Given this, we wanted to try a new approach to pavement striping to recognize and prioritize the amount of bike and pedestrian activity on Eastern Road and make it a safer and friendlier environment for these users. In addition, this type of striping is known to slow the travel speeds of motorists.

Is This an Example of “Complete Streets”?

Yes it is! Much like the recent crosswalk improvements at Eastern Road and Black Point, the Town has been working hard over the past five years to update and adapt many of our roads and streets to be more “complete”, safe, and useable for bikers, pedestrians and automobiles. This is another such initiative, and is a great example of the Town’s recently adopted “Complete Streets” Policy.

Comments, Feedback and More Information

Our plan is to stripe Eastern Road as described in late June of 2016 and try it for roughly a year until the final paving is put down in the spring of 2017. Over the course of this year, we are interested in your feedback and comments on how it works for all users of Eastern Road. For more information on the project and to provide your feedback, please go to our website at: www.scarboroughmaine.org/departments/planning-codes . There will be an online survey later in the summer to receive your feedback on this treatment. You can also contact Dan Bacon, Scarborough Planning Director at dbacon@ci.scarborough.me.us with more specific comments and questions.

Eastern Trail “Close the Gap” Fundraiser

Very related to this initiative, the Town, the Bicycle Coalition of Maine and the Eastern Trail Alliance are working together to raise the necessary funding to complete the remaining gap in the Eastern Trail and link Scarborough to South Portland all the way to Bug Light! This trail is at your doorstep, so to learn more and consider donating at: www.easterntail.org to help make this project happen!