

02.12.23

Hi Jen,

I would like to submit the following for discussion at a Select Board meeting. If it were necessary for me to attend, I could do so.

The Select Board are representatives of the Town which owns the Mill Pond dam. Would the select Board therefore consider filing a formal Notice of Intent with the West Tisbury Conservation Commission to permanently manage the height of vegetation as has been done in the past within the Mill Pond buffer zone? ( I was many years ago a member and chair of the WTCC ).

After consultation with the Town Highway department, this notice might be couched as a safety and liability concern.

I was also a member of Bill Haynes' Paths Beside the Roads Committee and we got the sidewalk constructed from the affordable housing neighborhood to the Mill Pond dam. The intent was to allow safe foot and cycle passage to Town center for seniors and kids among others. But due to various reasons the dam section of this project could not be improved.

The WTCC presently mandated height of vegetation obscures clear sight lines to oncoming traffic from the east along the long, gently curved bend of the road. With increasing density, speed and mix of vehicles on this stretch of road, oncoming traffic may not see a child or person at the crossing point and adult pedestrians cannot see oncoming traffic from the east.

Compounding this problem and related to it is the fact the WTCC terminated the east end of the Brandy Brow path in a private driveway, thus precluding any MA DOT construction of a signed and painted crosswalk on the State Road. Perhaps this matter could be rectified at the same time.

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