

2009 SIDEWALK OBJECTIVES PLAN

Presented by: The Road Safety Task Force

August 4, 2009

INTRODUCTION

The Road Safety Task Force concerns itself with all aspects of pedestrian and vehicular safety. Our charge includes: “recommend to the Board of Selectmen possible infrastructure (sidewalks) improvements that may be taken by the Town to enhance the safety of motorists and pedestrians and to promote and preserve a high standard of the quality of life for the residential homeowners in the Town’s five villages”. Significant residential and commercial growth in Dennis has increased traffic and safety concerns and led to a considerable need for additional sidewalks in most areas of the Town. To that end we submit to the Board of Selectmen this 2009 Sidewalk Objectives Plan.

SIDEWALK GOALS

Input from open hearings and historical data was used by the Road Safety Task Force in collaboration with other town committees and departments. At these public events the committee consistently heard locally-voiced demands for additional, safer and better maintained sidewalks. Along with safety, economic activity, health, and quality of life were considered while determining goals and developing this plan. This plan represents the solid and well researched thinking of local town professionals, tax payers and determined volunteers. The objectives cited below are a guide for town funding, planning and engineering. Plan flexibility has been included in order to accommodate anticipated factors impacting construction schedules. It is the committee’s opinion that financial criteria alone are not the prioritizing element; safety and construction scheduling and feasibility play a significant part. (An example of flexibility is the decision to include a sidewalk into the Swan River Road reconstruction although it was not a top priority at the time of construction.) Comprehensive implementation of this plan can be expected to span several years. The plans’ completion offers the Town’s residents a valuable opportunity to create a legacy all can be proud of while safely enjoying the very best the Town of Dennis has to offer.

Concerns for priorities include:

- Critical safety
- Volume
- Dangerous conditions
- Financial feasibility

First Objectives:

- Completion of existing sidewalks. There are a number of gaps in sidewalks throughout the Town. We should concentrate on filling in gaps as follows –

	<u>Linear Ft.</u> <u>\$25/L.F.</u>
- Old Bass River Rd. below Scargo Hill Rd. to the library \$21,000	831
- Rte.134 from Shipmate Dr. to Rte. 6A at the Cape Cod Coop Bank 12,000	480

SUMMARY

The \$250,000 voted by Town of Dennis taxpayers was earmarked for sidewalk construction and improvements. The 2009 Sidewalk Objectives Plan details our goals and objectives that looks to the future and requires time, energy, and funding. This plan is intended to direct attention to the need for sidewalks in areas that currently do not have one. It does not address the issue of maintenance, whether it be the repair or reconstruction, of existing sidewalks. The Road Safety Task Force presents this 2009 Sidewalk Objectives Plan to the Selectmen for approval and implementation.

THE ROAD SAFETY TASK FORCE

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