

PUBLIC HEARING COMMENT

Kendra Amaral
Town Manager
200 Rogers Road
Kittery, Maine 03904

Russell H. Plante
1 Lyndon Way
Kittery, Maine 03904

November 13, 2020

Dear Ms. Amaral:

Beginning October 13, Love Lane became a one-way street, making it difficult for many people either living on Love Lane or on the side streets connected to Love Lane including George Street, Dunlea Avenue, Lewis Avenue, Hillcrest Avenue, and Lyndon Way to get to their homes. Although Love Lane may have more traffic in the early morning due to PNSY traffic, it is only for a very short period of time. At most, the traffic may increase twice a day but only for a short period and for only five days a week. I understand this one-way designation is in effect for 60 days because it is part of a demonstration project to test the effectiveness, safety, and neighborhood impacts of "road diet" for Love Lane, but the idea that the traffic on this road impacts the quality of life and safety is actually ludicrous and has very little bearing on the full use of this road during the other twenty-two hours a day, seven days a week for over 70 families. The idea of establishing Love Lane as a one-way street from Lutts Avenue to just above the TD Bank entrance is a very bad idea.

Apparently, it doesn't appear that much consideration has been given to Medical Emergencies and Fire Department access since it will take responders much more time to gain access to residents living off Love Lane. Instead of being able to access people expeditiously, a responder would have to either drive down Walker Street around by Gate One of the shipyard and back onto Rogers Road, increasing access time by at least a factor of four, or down Route 1, around the circle by the Dairy Queen and onto Rogers Road, increasing access time by at least a factor of eight. Those extra four or five minutes in delay could be life-threatening, particularly for Medical Emergencies.

The Joint Land Use Study is shortsighted in identifying Love Lane to become a one-way street. Not only is it extremely inconvenient for residents living on or adjacent to Love Lane, but it will decrease property values, increase the difficulty of winter/plowing, and create aggravating life-threatening liability issues because of unnecessary time delays during emergency responses.

I understand the Town Manager will be providing the Town Council with a report on the effectiveness of the demonstration project this November. Since the Kittery Town Council intends to schedule a public hearing on amendments to Title 10 Love Lane One Way on November 23, 2020, **I would request copies of this letter be given to the members of the Town Council for their discussion.**

This is a serious issue, and I am requesting that Love Lane **NOT** become a one-way street. There may be an intention of due diligence, but making Love Lane a one-way street would eventually cause undue harm—something the Town of Kittery should seriously consider before implementing such a dangerous plan.



Respectfully,
A Very Concerned Resident,
Russell H. Plante

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BY: _____

Fort Foster Entry - 2021

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTKate Hartwig 

Thu 11/19/2020 9:22 AM

To:town comments <tcomments@kitteryme.org>;

Hello,

I've been meaning to send along an email since the summer but here we are, almost at the end of the year!

I just wanted to let you know how well I think the entry process worked this year. We've had a season pass for the past 4 years and in the past, if you had this pass, you still had to wait in a long line of cars who were buying day passes and it took a really long time to get in. With everyone being required to either have a season pass or buy their pass ahead of time online this summer, it sped up the process and was so awesome!

I understand if you choose to go back to the "old ways" next year, but if there was a way to let holders of the season pass through in a separate entrance, it would be so great. I know that means we'd essentially have to go in on the exit side, but at least there aren't many people leaving in the morning when we're all trying to get in?!

Just wanted to share my two cents haha - thank you!

Kate Hartwig

Fort Foster Improvements during Covid nice work.

Shaye Robbins <[REDACTED]>

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Fri 11/20/2020 9:47 AM

To:town comments <tcomments@kitteryme.org>;

Thank you for hearing my comments related to Fort Foster during the pandemic.

Walking in Fort Foster has become a pleasure. I thank the many dog owners who now leash their dogs and pick up their waste and retain it with them during their walks. These two changes allow for more people to use the park without issues, and cost the town nothing.

During this time of change I have noticed the following:

More diversity in walkers

- People with walking aids- canes, walking sticks, and even wheelchairs. This is an important aspect of parks in general; a welcoming safe atmosphere for those unsteady and impaired.
- Parents with very young children biking long distances from their parents. This is an important aspect of parks as well- space for parents to build independence skills in a safe environment.
- Walkers without pets are, at more frequent times, the majority. This is the first time in my time using this park I have noted this change.

No waste bags left along the roads the past 5 times I have entered the park. This may be for two things; 1. The effects of the ACO and change in the Animal Code or 2. Those who only look for places where they can walk with their dogs off leash are loudly reporting on social media that they turn around, and will not return, until they can walk with dogs off leash. Perhaps there is a correlation there as well.

These changes have made the park a more pleasurable place to be for a wider variety of users. The stress of unwanted dog contact for those who are unsteady, young, or otherwise fearful is lifted when dog owners leash their dogs and make the park more welcoming to a variety of users. These changes do not constitute a 'dog ban', but do provide an environment where respect for other users is the norm. This includes those who regularly walk their dogs on leash and do not want approaching off leash dogs for their own pet.

I noted that a meeting was held with members of the Town of Kittery Staff, and the abutters to the park during the last week of October, I also note no representative of the Parks Commission was present, and no meeting notes have been provided in the text of the Town Council packet. It would be appropriate to summarize the meeting for the public. I do believe the abutters to the Park should have relief.

I highlight that the Parks Commission made recommendations late last year or early this year that included limiting parking at the gate and highlighting Town of Kittery and Fort Foster Stickers for the privilege to park in the majority of limited spaces. In addition to set up Iron Rangers to collect off season donations and/or providing limited parking, envelope paid parking for those without stickers. All these recommendations were made by the Parks Commission after careful consideration of the loss of revenue and over reliance on Town of

11/23/2020

Fort Foster Improvements during Covid nice work. - town comments

Kittery Tax payers, and the small number of Fort Foster sticker purchasers. Why not ask users to pay for the park prior to entering and do so year round? I encourage the Town Council to ask the Town Manger/Parks Manger to continue investigating this area.

The improvements made to the temporary no parking signs is very nice.

Thank you for hearing my comments,

Shaye Robbins
Kittery Point