



CIRCULATION / MOBILITY / ACCESS

Overview

For the purposes of the Oak Bluffs Master Plan, “circulation, mobility, access” is considered to include:

Vehicular Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roadway system, safety, capacity • Traffic, congestion, parking, etc. • Pavement management • Autonomous vehicles
Pedestrian Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sidewalks, crosswalks, trails • Pedestrian, wheelchair, etc.
Bicycle Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-road usage • Bicycle paths
Transit Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled services, routes • Dial-a-ride • On-demand services (taxi, Uber, Lyft, etc.)
Ferry Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule / operations • Facilities

Five-Year Update

This “briefing booklet” has been prepared as part of the process of preparing an update to the 1998 Master Plan for Oak Bluffs.

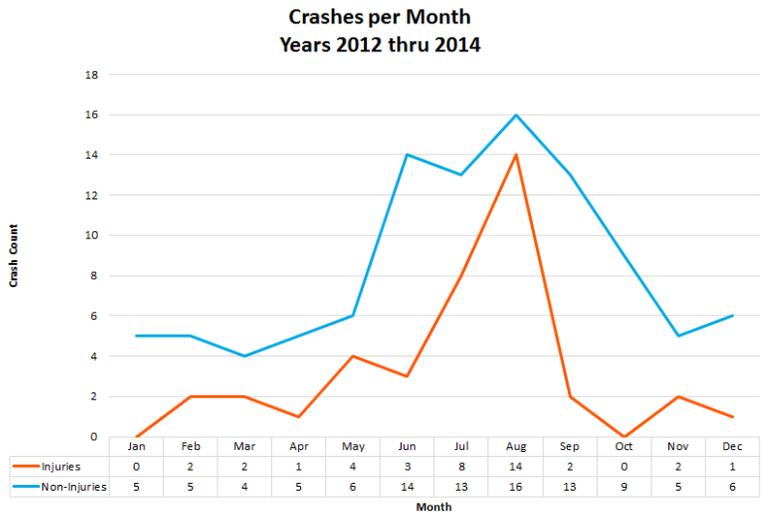
This booklet is intended to provide some context about this topic for the members of the Master Plan Update Committee and others.

Reference Materials

1. Oak Bluffs Master Plan, 1998
2. Regional Transportation Plan Update (MVC, 2011)
3. Martha's Vineyard Island Plan (MVC, 2010)
4. Extension of the Martha's Vineyard Network of Shared-Use Paths (MVC, 2009)
5. Port Area Infrastructure Assessment (MVC, 2000)
6. Transportation Improvement Program (MVC, 2014)

2. Traffic congestion can be a significant issue in the summer and was recognized as a common “sorry” in the community survey.
3. The Island Plan (MVC, 2010) expresses a desire to retain the two-lane rural roads integral to the island’s character and discourages road widening.
4. Accidents incidence increases during the summer. Some common locations include:
 - Edgartown-VH Road at Barnes Road (before roundabout?)
 - Edgartown-VH Road at County Road
 - County / Barnes / Whig intersection
 - County Road at Eastville Road

What issues associated with vehicular travel do you feel need to be considered in the Master Plan?



5. The MVC Draft Transportation Improvement Program recommends funding for intersection improvements at Eastville / County / Temahigan.
6. Roadway pavement generally appears to be in “good” condition due to favorable soils, adequate drainage, and limited deep freeze cycles.
7. Some roads may exhibit speeding or “cut-through” traffic. The MVC Draft Transportation Improvement Program recommends funding for “traffic calming” near the High School / YMCA.
8. Parking availability can be a significant issue in and near downtown and the beaches and was recognized as a common “sorry” in the community survey. Police monitor parking and enforce time limits during the summer.
9. The 1998 Master Plan suggested considering “pay parking” (meters or lots) and implementation of a resident parking system.
10. The Island Plan (MVC, 2010) reports that Tisbury and Edgartown have park-and-ride lots to reduce parking needs in the Town Center.
11. Autonomous vehicles are not expected to have a significant presence on Martha’s Vineyard during the next 10 years.

What issues associated with pedestrian travel do you feel need to be considered in the Master Plan?

Pedestrian Travel

12. There is much pedestrian activity in the summertime in the downtown area and near the beaches.
13. Sidewalks and pedestrian walkways are located mainly in the downtown area and along the beachfront. There are a number of off-road trails as well.
14. Sidewalk widths on main downtown streets can present a challenge to pedestrians (and motorists).
15. ADA accessibility (ramps, crosswalks, etc.) would be a consideration if roadway improvements were undertaken in the downtown area.
16. The Island Plan (MVC, 2010) recommends creating a working group to address pedestrian / bicycle issues.

What issues associated with bicycle travel do you feel need to be considered in the Master Plan?

Bicycle Travel

17. There is much bicycle activity in the summertime in the downtown area and near the beaches.
18. A system of bicycle routes (both on-road and shared use paths) helps ease traffic congestion in the summer and provides an amenity. Enhancing this system could involve widening road shoulders, adding pavement markings, signage, etc.).
19. Bicycles are available for rental by summer visitors.
20. According to the 2009 MVC study, bike paths often stop at the edge of downtown and/or do not connect to ferries or the bike rental shops, forcing bicyclists into the roadway at the places where roads are most congested.
21. Moped rentals have been an issue and a resolution at the 2018 Town Meeting directed the Town to explore banning such rentals in Oak Bluffs (but not in other island communities).
22. The Island Plan (MVC, 2010) recommends creating a working group to address pedestrian / bicycle issues.
23. The MVC Draft Transportation Improvement Program recommends funding for a "shared use path" from the Lagoon Pond drawbridge to the Oak Bluffs Harbor (at Lake Avenue).

Transit Services

24. The Island Plan (MVC, 2010) places a strong emphasis on transit services to provide mobility without increasing roadway capacity.
25. Oak Bluffs is served by four bus routes as part of the Martha's Vineyard Transit Authority:
 - Route 1 = Vineyard Haven to Edgartown (inland)
 - Route 13 = Vineyard Haven to OB Center to Edgartown (shore)
 - Routes 7/9 = Hospital to OB Center to Airport
26. These bus routes are intensively used in the summertime and bus frequency is increased to address the increase in ridership.
27. Some bus stops have shelters and/or benches.
28. While MVTA busses go by public beaches, there is no direct shuttle service from the Oak Bluffs ferry landing to public beaches. The 1998 Master Plan suggested consideration of a beach shuttle.
29. The Transit Authority provides "dial-a-ride" service on a reservation basis for persons qualified in advance. The Transit Authority also operates "Medivan" service to medical appointments in Boston on Tuesdays. Since the number of older residents is expected to increase in the future, a growing demand is anticipated for these services.
30. On demand transit such as taxis, Uber, Lyft, and other services are available.

Ferry Services

31. The Steamship Authority provides ferry service for passengers and vehicles between Oak Bluffs and Woods Hole from May to October (eleven ferries per day between June and September and four ferries per day in the shoulder seasons).
32. The Steamship Authority provides ferry service for passengers and vehicles between Vineyard Haven and Woods Hole year-round.
33. Other ferry services (generally passenger only) operate in the summer months between Oak Bluffs and:
 - Falmouth (daily)
 - Hyannis (daily),
 - Nantucket (daily),
 - New Bedford, MA (daily),
 - North Kingstown, RI (daily), and
 - New York City and New Jersey (weekly).

What issues associated with transit services do you feel need to be considered in the Master Plan?

What issues associated with ferry services do you feel need to be considered in the Master Plan?



- Roads**
- Primary Road
 - Secondary Road
 - Neighborhood Road
 - Local Road
- Traffic Crashes (2012 thru 2014)**
- Injury - Non-Fatal (39 Oak Bluffs)
 - Non-Injury (101 Oak Bluffs)

- Ferry Service**
- Year-Round - Passengers and Vehicles
 - Year-Round - Passengers
 - Seasonal - Passengers and Vehicles
 - Seasonal - Passengers
 - Water

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 See Master Plan report for data source information.

Transportation

Oak Bluffs, MA

1 inch = 3,000 feet (approx. 0.5mi)

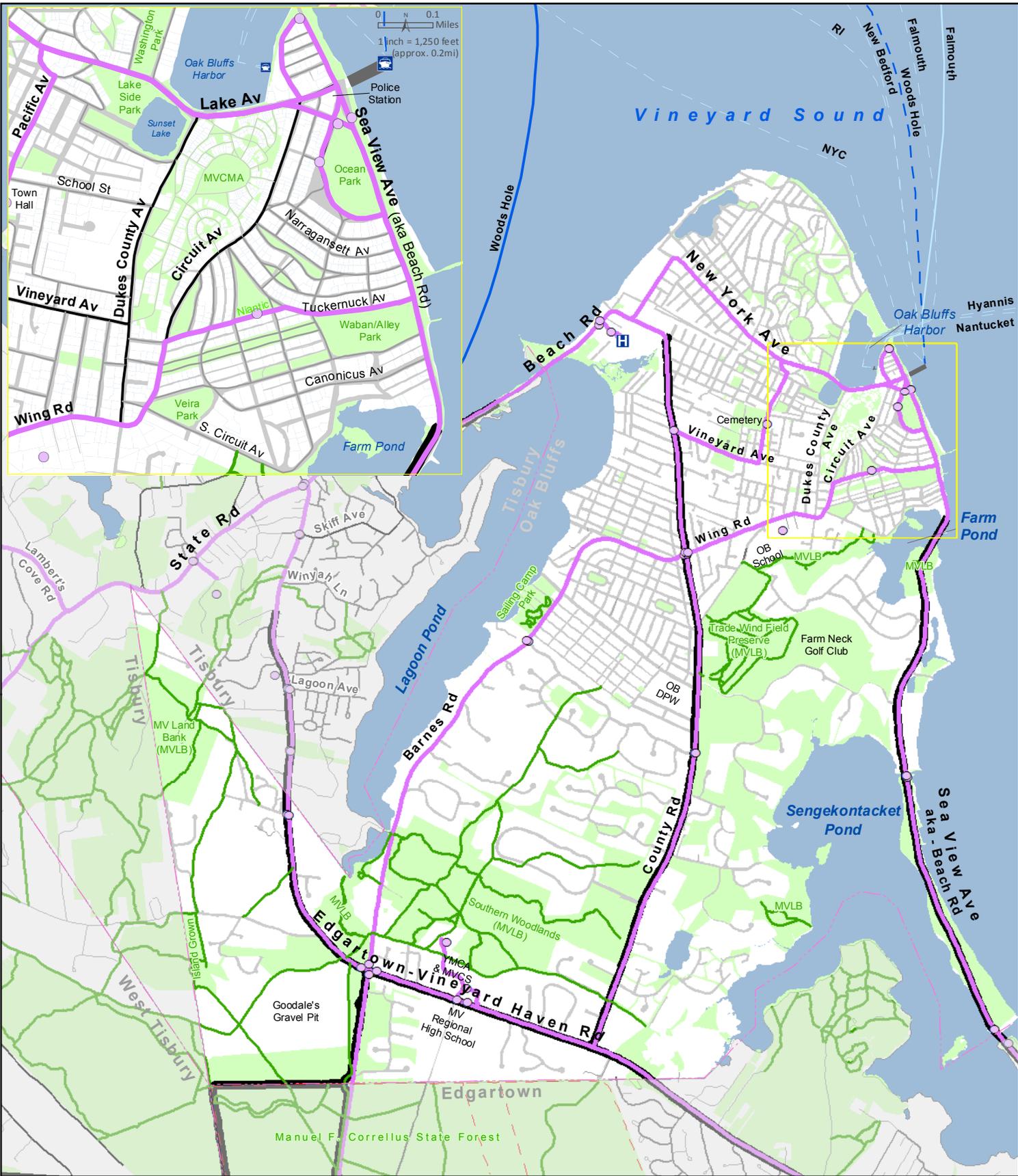
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Miles



Compiled By: MVC, CL Seidel
 For planning purposes only.





Transportation Network

Oak Bluffs, MA

1 inch = 3,000 feet (approx. 0.5mi)

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Miles



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|--|--|
| Ferry Service | ● Signed Bus Stop |
| — Year-Round - Passengers and Vehicles | — Public Bus Route |
| — Year-Round - Passengers | — Shared Use Path Beside Road |
| — Seasonal - Passengers and Vehicles | — Trail (walking/biking) |
| — Seasonal - Passengers | — Fire Trail (walk/bike/emergency vehicle) |
| □ Right of Way | |
| □ Water | |

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Possible Goals / Strategies

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Planimetrics
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