

Streetscape Project

Steven Steinberg <stevesteinberg@me.com>

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To: Oak Bluffs Planning Board <planningboard@oakbluffsma.gov>

Cc: Cindy Steinberg <sindys@me.com>

As the owner of a Rosie's Frozen Yogurt, I am writing in to express my support of the proposed Streetscape plans for Oak Bluffs, specifically with regard to a change to parallel parking in order to accommodate wider sidewalks.

This proposal addresses several of the inadequacies present in our downtown area: lack of sufficient sidewalk space for wheelchairs and strollers, inefficient foot traffic patterns due to narrow sidewalks, relieving congestion and crowding on our sidewalks and accommodating the thousands of pedestrians unloading from ferries in to Oak Bluffs during our busiest months.

Parking in Oak Bluffs is a larger issue than losing a limited number of spots to this change. I implore the town planning board to give this acute issue more attention. Edgartown has a parking lot on top of Main St, that is covered by a bus stop...I think Oak Bluffs needs to search out something similar. Additionally the number of "24 Hour Spots" on Seaview Avenue is unnecessary creating more turnover there, by default creates more parking.

I would like to see these changes implemented and for the planning board to move forward with the proposal to eliminate diagonal parking and widen sidewalks throughout our downtown. Main Street America is dying - we are being afforded the chance to keep ours thriving - this won't be done by preserving parking at the expense of all else - it will be done by preserving and improving the pedestrian experience.

To the Members of the Oak Bluffs Planning Board:

Kudos, to the board!

Thank you for your time,