

Cstaff1

From: Mike Kalinoski <kalman333@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2024 12:15 AM
To: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov; council@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: File #2023-10-090 A concern about reconstruction of the Almy Creek Bridge (#292), Tiverton, RI

TO: RI Coastal Resources Management Council

FROM: Mike Kalinoski (kalman333@yahoo.com)
62 Francis Lane
Little Compton, RI 02837

SUBJECT: Potential loss of parking from the reconstruction and widening of the Pond Bridge Road Bridge (#292) at Almy Creek, Tiverton, RI

DATE: 2/14/2024

The 2/8/2024 edition of the "Sakonnet Times" mentions a plan to replace the Pond Bridge Road Bridge (#292) at Almy Creek and also widen it by 8.5 feet. At present, there is a long, narrow parking area on the southwest side of the bridge. I'm writing to politely and courteously express my concern that this parking might be lost forever unless the new, wider bridge design specifically includes a broad apron with designated parking spots. Parking on the northwest side of the bridge is already restricted because the fire pump pipe at Nonquit Pond must be kept clear for fire trucks.

For decades, many Tiverton, Little Compton and other area residents have routinely parked southwest of the bridge to launch kayaks and canoes into the beautiful Almy Creek and Almy Marsh and to fish, crab, watch birds, etc. To my knowledge, this is the only area on the entire marsh system that allows parking close enough to Almy Creek to launch a heavy kayak or canoe.

Perhaps provisions are already in place to preserve the parking area on the southwest side of the new bridge once it is constructed. But if not, please ensure that a generous amount of parking remains there for future generations. As time goes by, it seems like there are fewer and fewer places available to park and access the water. It would be a tremendous loss for the people of Tiverton, Little Compton and other area residents if this parking area on the southwest side of the bridge were to also disappear due to the widening of the bridge. Please prevent this from happening by designating some parking spots in the new bridge plan.

Very respectfully,

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