

Dear Members of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee,

In addition to my comment at last evening's meeting that it would be far, far too easy for the Town to install this simple, inexpensive solution as temporary---and just never get around to installing a permanent solution, I have three specific comments which make this plan **completely and totally** unacceptable to me, and I expect to many others. While at first glance it seems possible, on consideration I am afraid that it does not.

Below are my concerns:

1. The path for bikes (8 feet) appears to be wider than that for Junction Park pedestrians of all ages and abilities—most of whom are Concord residents. Pedestrians have as much right to this space being safe as do bicycles.
2. There is no connection/impediment etc. that would **require** bikers entering Junction Park from the North at the Club Car to join the separated bike lane, the result of which is that most of the bikes coming from the North will comingle with pedestrians in the very narrow pedestrian path. Note here that documented studies show clearly that most of the cyclists entering JP from the North do NOT cross at the safe crossing installed behind Mandrioli Park, but rather at the opening close to the Club Car.
3. To be safe for pedestrians (especially young children who, as you all know, do not naturally walk in a STRAIGHT line) there cannot be a break in the bike path to which kids are likely to run and enter in front of a moving bike, and this is yet another accident waiting to happen.

I am sincerely grateful that your committee is actively looking for an interim/temporary solution which is equally safe for ALL, but, with honest regret, I am forced to say that this is not it. I hope that you will consider my comments which I believe to be balanced.

After I have had a chance to review the more permanent options I plan to respond with a second note.

Dorrie Kehoe
March 18, 2022