

Community Preservation Committee
Town of Scituate, MA
600 Chief Justice Cushing Highway
Scituate, MA 02066

October 30, 2021

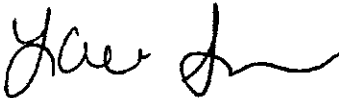
Re: Path between Cedarwood/Utility and Aberdeen

To Whom it May Concern:

Members of the Cushing Elementary School PTO Board recently walked the path between Cedarwood/Utility and Aberdeen Dr after concern was raised for its safety. With many neighborhoods surrounding the school, Cushing has always had many students who walk to school in all seasons of the school year. The entrance/exit of the path at the base of Cushing driveway makes this a safe option for our students. However, the current and declining condition of the path have presented significant safety issues.

The PTO Board hoped to support some minor fixes/upgrades, but in walking this path, we realized that it's far beyond our means. We would like to encourage the CPC to approve the requested grant to repair this path.

Sincerely,



Lauren Schlegel
Cushing PTO President

Dear Community Preservation Commission,

I am writing in strong support of the Cushing Trail proposal. My husband is a lifelong Scituate resident and former Cushing School student. In addition, my family and I have lived in the Cushing neighborhood since 2013. Our familiarity with the neighborhood and adjoining ones is thorough. I have four children and we utilize the paths for nature walks, going to play with friends, observing wildlife, bike rides, scootering, and even accessing the new field complex at the high school. The Cushing Trail allows seamless connection by foot throughout a multitude of areas in this part of town- unfortunately, it is in need of some TLC.

A renovated trail gives a large neighborhood of Cushing families significantly safer access to the elementary school grounds each day. In its current conditions, the trail is dangerous for kids on bikes, strollers, and on foot. It has large holes, standing water for breeding mosquitoes, vines and gravel/rocks throughout.

It may be a counter argument to approving this proposal that putting money into any school (related) projects as we move forward on the MSBA process to build a new elementary school would not be a smart use of funds. Though I am not representing the School Committee at large in this letter, but rather a Cushing neighborhood resident, contextually, as a member of the Scituate School Committee, I can say that we are many years away from a new school build being complete and the benefits for current families far out way that timeline. In addition, the multi-purpose use of the trail and its connectedness for residents and students to the high school regardless of the proximity of Cushing School is another factor.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Nicole Brandolini