Bristol Town Administrator

From: Bob Donnis <rdonnis@gmavt.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 9:01 AM
To: Bristol Town Administrator

Subject: Bicycle Event

Hello, again!

I saw the bicycle event in the agenda for Monday's Selectboard mtg. I will not be able to attend, but want to share my recommendations.

I am a cyclist. I am very concerned about bicycle safety. I have seen way too many cyclists without helmets, without bright clothing, riding thru stop signs, riding 2 or 3 side by side.

This event is an opportunity to educate cyclists about safety. I recommend the following:

- before it starts, present safe cycling requirements
- to participate:
 - all must wear a helmet, children and adults
 - all must wear bright clothes red, orange, etc
- ride single file
- stop at every stop sign
- stay a foot or so from the edge of the road

I recommend Bristol Police be there and talk about the stop sign requirement.

The law says that vehicles must pass with a min of 4 feet, but many do not adhere. The law also allows cyclists to ride 2 abreast. Given the 4 foot law, riding 2 side by side makes more difficult for cars to stay 4 ft. Also, if you go around a blind corner and all of a sudden come on 2 cyclists, it could be a tragedy, especially if there is another vehicle coming in the other lane.

I think this is an opportunity to make people aware of cycling safely. It is fun and healthy as long as it is safe.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope the Selectboard will approve the event with requirements for safety.

Bob

"Consider Gran Fondo application for use of Bristol roads for annual bicycle event on Saturday, June 25, 2022."