



Matthew Brackman
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Chilmark Board of Selectmen
401 Middle Road
Chilmark, MA

Dear Board:

Please accept my sincere thanks for allowing me to present my triathlon concept at this past Tuesday's Board of Selectmen's meeting. I believe there were many valid concerns raised regarding my endeavor, yet with diligent effort I believe we can find solutions. As the Board requested, I am providing a graph which depicts projected athletes passing through the Chilmark Community Center area of South Road. This data was taken from the 2010 Mighty Hamptons Triathlon, held in Sag Harbor, NY; an area very similar in geography and demographics to Chilmark.

I would like, additionally, to reiterate some key points I hope the Board will consider as it makes its decision:

800 athletes, and their families, would bring exceptional economic benefit to Chilmark.

The Edgartown and Aquinnah Boards of Selectmen have voiced their excitement and have approved the portions of the race which would pass through their towns.

*The main body of athletes passing through BeetleBung Corners will pass through in a **one hour period**, and all athletes will pass through within 3 hours.*

Traffic data provided by the Martha's Vineyard Commission shows an estimated 1.61 vehicles per minute passing through the South Rd. area at race time, which is a fairly light traffic volume.

The impact of South road traffic could be further lessened by detouring non-essential traffic away from the racers' proposed left turn into the Community Center parking lot. (i.e. westbound traffic detoured to Fulling Mill Road to Middle Road, and

*eastbound traffic from State or Menemsha crossing via Middle Road to Fulling Mill.)
Again, this would only need to be for two to three hours.*

Cyclists of far less skill level navigate the same roadways during a busier summer season, and during similar events (e.g. Cycle Martha's Vineyard, MS Bicycle Tour).

As the fishing industry can be fickle (declining ground fish stocks and fish landings currently), athletic tourism could be a new "backup" industry for Chilmark. Events such as ours could introduce this new such industry. As the sport of triathlon explodes, and competitors seek new venues to race and train for races, it is not hard to envision training camps year round in the Up-Island area.

I look forward to the Board's decision, and would be happy to provide further alternatives or data if so requested by the Board in rendering its decision.

Sincerely,
Matthew Brackman