



Proposed Route 1 Lane Closure

The Town of Scarborough and MaineDOT are working on a plan to address high tide and storm flooding on Route 1 where it crosses Scarborough Marsh. A new configuration that provides safe bike and pedestrian access along this stretch of road will be considered. The Town has requested the proposed traffic pattern be piloted this summer.

PROPOSED SUMMER 2026 PILOT

ANTICIPATED CLOSURE DATES: JUNE 15 – AUGUST 10

WHAT'S BEING STUDIED? The feasibility of removing a northbound lane on Route 1 so the road's existing footprint may accommodate a future multi-use path. The temporary pilot area is roughly 1.2 miles long and includes the section of road that crosses Scarborough Marsh.

HOW? MaineDOT's data and modeling show that a northbound lane reduction will not create delays on Route 1, but models and data don't account for driver behavior. Before committing to a permanent lane closure, **the Town requested MaineDOT test the new design** to determine if the lane reduction should be part of the plans for the Route 1 Resiliency Project (see inset). MaineDOT agreed to a temporary lane closure this summer when traffic volumes are highest. If the design works under these extreme conditions, it should work other times of the year.

Before and during the closure, MaineDOT will monitor traffic by collecting real-time data, including: speeds, volumes, delays, and diversions to Payne Road or the Turnpike. They will analyze the data and provide recommendations for the Town Council and the public to consider as next steps in the Resiliency Project.

The road will return to four lanes at the end of the pilot.

WHY ADD A MULTI-USE PATH? Many local and regional studies and the Town's Comprehensive Plan show the need for active transportation facilities on Route 1. Recent Scarborough community surveys also indicate residents' desire to add bike lanes and sidewalks along Route 1. With a project of this scale that includes installing a bridge with a lifespan of 100+ years, **this is the only opportunity to provide bike and pedestrian access in this location.**

WHY NOT WIDEN THE ROAD INSTEAD? Scarborough Marsh is a highly valued and sensitive area. MaineDOT is required to limit the impact on the Marsh, which means **the road can't be widened to add the multi-use path.**

ROUTE 1 RESILIENCY PROJECT

The Town and MaineDOT have been working on a plan to address flooding on Route 1 since 2023. A general concept has been developed: raise the road four feet above the highest astronomical tide and replace existing culverts with a 75-foot bridge across the Dunstan River. As part of the initial planning discussions, **the Town requested MaineDOT explore adding bike and pedestrian facilities to this portion of the road.**

