



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Lake Mary Road Bike Path Project



What is the Lake Mary Road Bike Path Project?

The Town of Mammoth Lakes contracted Spiess Construction Co. Inc., to construct a Class 1 bike path (separated from traffic) for bikes and pedestrians from the intersection of Lake Mary Road and Minaret Road (SR 203) to Horseshoe Lake. The alignment of Lake Mary Road will be adjusted to make room for the bike path along with pavement rehabilitation from Juniper Ridge Road to the lower Twin Lakes Bridge.

What is the route of the bike path?

The first 1-1/2 miles of the bike path parallels Lake Mary Road. The path then enters the Lakes Basin adjacent to Upper and Lower Twin Lakes meandering its way through the campgrounds, by the camp store, and up and through perennial spring areas, past the Mammoth Lakes Pack Outfit (Equestrian Center). The route winds up to the Twin Lakes scenic overlook where a new 40-foot span bridge will be constructed to cross Mammoth Creek. From here, the path continues through the forest to Horseshoe Lake parking lot and picnic area.

What are the construction details of the project?

The project consists of constructing approximately 40,000 feet of an 8 foot wide Class 1 asphalt bike path, erecting 27,000 sq. feet of retaining walls, building several prefabricated bridges, installing concrete curbs and gutters, laying down 4,000 feet of 26-28 foot wide pavement rehabilitation, erosion control, and drainage improvements. Street lights will also be moved, along with traffic signal modifications at the Lake Mary Road and Canyon Boulevard intersection.

Why is the Town of Mammoth Lakes doing this project?

These facilities are needed to provide non-motorized circulation and access to commercial, residential and recreational areas within and around the Town for both commuting and recreational purposes. Lake Mary Road was identified in the Mammoth Lakes Trail System Plan, adopted in May 1991, and in the General Bikeway Plan as an on-street bike route. Implementation of the General Bikeway Plan and the Mammoth Lakes Trail System Plan is also a recommendation of the 1994 Mono County Regional Transportation Plan.

Project History and Process

Preliminary engineering for the bike path started in 1998 with a Project Study Report that formed the basis for a funding request to the State Transportation Improvement Program. Funding was approved and subsequent environmental studies were started in 1999 and 2000 with a Draft Forest Service Environmental Assessment published in January of 2001. Public comment was incorporated into a Final Environmental Assessment published in September of 2001. A lengthy TOML and Forest Service review and approval process led to approval from the Federal Highway Administration of the Environmental Assessment in March of 2003. Detailed engineering drawings were started, however, the State budget crises in 2004 led to several years of funding delays. Construction funding was finally approved on February 1, 2007.

How will the construction benefit the Town of Mammoth Lakes and the Public Lands?

The construction will benefit the community in several ways:

- Expansion of the bike route per the Mammoth Lakes Trail System Plan will add 5.3 miles to the existing trail system.
- The Class 1 bike path is completely separated from Lake Mary Road and is for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians making it a safe and family friendly non-motorized route to and from the Lakes Basin.

FAQ - Lake Mary Road Bike Path Project Cont...

Who is funding the project?

The project is primarily funded by grant funds received from the 1998 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in the amount of \$6,952,000 and additional Federal Transportation TE funding totaling \$2,635,000. The Forest Service is contributing \$450,000 for the roadway asphalt between Juniper Road and the Twin Lakes Bridge. Local funds that include Development Impact Fees (DIF) also contribute to funding the project.

How much will the construction cost?

The cost of the project is \$12,044,214.50.

When did construction begin?

The initial phase one of the construction commenced on Monday, August 27, 2007, and ran until the winter shutdown in December.

When will the construction resume?

Construction will re-commence on Monday, May 5, 2008 – weather permitting.

When will the project be completed?

The Project is estimated to be completed by Fall 2009.

Will the construction be seven days a week?

At this time, construction will take place from Monday thru Saturday. No construction is anticipated to occur on Sundays or observed holidays.

What time will the construction start and finish every day?

Construction will commence at 7:00 a.m. and finish at 8:00 p.m. daily. Most of the work will be performed between 7:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Can I still drive up to the Lakes Basin?

Yes, the road will remain open for vehicular access.

Will there be any delays?

Yes, please expect delays of up to 30 minutes. Electronic signage along Lake Mary Road will inform you of the expected delays.

Where do I go to find out more information about the project?

Visit the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center or the Lake Mary Road project page online at www.visitmammoth.com/lmrproject. The Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center is located on SR 203 (opposite the Mammoth Mountain RV Park). At the Welcome Center you can learn about the project by reviewing a project map, collect construction schedules or talk to the Welcome Center agents.

Can I receive regular updates about the project?

Yes, please e-mail your contact details to LMRinfo@visitmammoth.com and we will include you on an e-mail distribution list.

Who is the Town of Mammoth Lakes Public Works contact for this project?

John Milne is the Project Manager for the Town and can be reached at (760) 934 8989 ext. 276 or jmilne@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Who is the Forest Service contact for this project?

Mike Schlafmann is the Deputy District Ranger for the Forest Service and can be reached at (760) 924 5503 or mschlafmann@fs.fed.us.