

**Bridge Bike Partners**  
**Connecting Rhode Island & Massachusetts by Bike**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Peter Moniz, Tiverton Trailblazers (401) 625-5328  
Brian Pearson, Bike Fall River [\(508\) 678-3814](tel:5086783814)  
Bari Freeman, Bike Newport (401) 924-3222

**Bridge Bike Partners Announce**  
**“Sakonnet Bridge Bike Lane Celebration”**  
**Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

Ride Begins from Portsmouth at 11:00 am

Ride Begins from Newport at 9:00 am

Gathering begins at 1:00 pm

*(Sakonnet Bridge, Tiverton, Rhode Island)* The newly-assembled *Bridge Bike Partners* are announcing a celebratory bicycle ride and program on Saturday, April 25, 2015, in recognition of the dedicated bicycle/pedestrian path on the Sakonnet River Bridge. This protected and separated multiuse bridge path, which opened one year ago, is an extremely safe path designed for all road users – a design that all of the Bridge Bike Partners support and hope to see in more road design throughout the region.

All users of the path are invited to come celebrate – people on bikes, walking, skateboarding, roller-skating, and running are welcome to participate.

The day’s celebration will begin at 11am with a 12-mile group bike ride from the Boyds Lane Park n’ Ride in Portsmouth, across the Sakonnet Bridge into Tiverton, south along Main Road to beautiful Nannaquaket Road, back north along Main Road and onto Riverside Drive. The group will then proceed to the entrance of the bike lane on Evans Avenue in Tiverton for a brief program and celebration at 1:00pm.

Cyclists are invited to begin their ride in Newport, leaving from Bike Newport HQ at 437 Broadway at 9:00am.

Tiverton Trail Blazers’ founder, Peter Moniz, has been enthusiastic to celebrate the bridge path since it was first planned. He says, “The Sakonnet Bridge is now the only truly bike-friendly and walk-friendly bridge in Rhode Island. The separated path is an invitation to all bikers, walkers, joggers, and other pedestrians to enjoy the bridge out of their cars. It connects Aquidneck Island with the RI mainland in a beautiful and healthy way. Let’s get together and celebrate what has been accomplished and what more is possible.”

Bike Fall River Chairman, Brian Pearson, adds, “This is a great first step in the creation of a bike path that would start at the beginning of Mount Hope Bay in Fall River, Massachusetts, and end in Newport along the Atlantic Ocean.”

Bike Newport likewise celebrates these first steps toward connectivity. “This bridge bike lane shows what is possible when we use 21<sup>st</sup> century design,” commented Bike Newport’s Executive Director, Bari Freeman, “We need to commit to adding and connecting lanes, paths, and routes, building statewide and interstate networks so we can get more people to opt for healthy, active transportation.”

Bridge Bike Partners is a coalition of local bicycle advocacy groups, including Tiverton Trail Blazers, Bike Fall River, RI Bicycle Coalition, Bike Newport, and the Narragansett Bay Wheelmen. The group intends to continue working together toward the ultimate goal of a dedicated multi-use path running from Newport, RI, all the way to Fall River, MA. This “Ocean Path” will be one of the most beautiful bicycle paths in the northeastern United States.

For more information, including bike routes to the event from Portsmouth and Newport: <http://bikewportri.org/celebratethebridgelane/>

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Bridge Bike Partners  
**Tiverton Trail Blazers – Bike Fall River – RI Bicycle Coalition – Bike Newport**  
**Supporter - Narragansett Bay Wheelmen**