Millie McGinnes

From: Lisa Sprague [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 9:20 PM
To: Millie McGinnes
Subject: Re: Letter to Council re: Mopeds - Invitation to view

Lisa Sprague
1593 West Side Rd. - Box 53
Block Island, RI 02807
08/15/2020

New Shoreham Town Council
Drawer 220
Block Island, RI 02807

Dear Council Members,

I don't believe that there is anyone on the island, at the present time, who has fought the moped battle longer than I have. I have been a member of the Rescue Squad since 1976 - with 42 of those years as a very active member of the squad and a licensed EMT and the last 2 years as a reserve member acting as a rescue assistant and only responding when extra hands or ambulances were needed. In that time I have responded to hundreds of moped accidents. When I was Captain of the Squad, in the mid-1980's, we fought a long hard fight on the State level to ban the mopeds on the island for many of the same reasons that this issue must be re-visited immediately.

There is absolutely no reason for visitors and residents to have their sensibilities insulted and resources depleted on a daily basis from the constant aggravation which is brought upon the community from the rental mopeds. It is not necessary to draw you a picture, everyone is well aware of the issues - we have been over this time and again.

The difference is that now it is time to take back control of our home instead of being bullied and held hostage by a handful of 'business people' who don't seem to care about our home at all. There is no middle ground in this discussion, no compromising, no deal making, no unkept promises.

As a Town Council you proved this past spring that you could enact ordinances very expeditiously for the health and well-being of the community. Well, no one has died from the Covid virus, but someone has died from a moped accident and this could have been prevented if previous councils had the

courage to make decisions that were in the best interest of the town, respecting and acting on the will of the people regarding this scourge upon our landscape.

We knew at the conclusion of the summer of 2019 that our community had reached a tipping point. We have officially toppled over now. There are several considerations to regaining control, but a most doable and positive step would be to stop all rental mopeds forever. (It would also be in everyone's best interest to include motorized scooters, electric skateboards, Segways etc. in this discussion.)

Have the courage to make this wrong right once and for all. This plague has gone on far too long and you, the Town Council, have the antidote.

Fighting the fight for 37 years,

Lisa Sprague

cc: Block Island Times
Chief Vincent T. Carlone

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From:	Eliot Nerenberg [redacted]
Sent:	Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:33 PM
To:	Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc:	governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject:	Moped Ban

Dear Town Council.

I have been a homeowner here on BI for 37years. I have been here, this year, since March. This year's outrageous behavior of moped users, and the moped business owner's lack of responsibility, has now resulted in a fatality. How many more people need to die before the Town Council orders a ban on moped rentals for the remainder of this season? If you do not do so, you are going to be held responsible morally for further incidents. All of us who own homes are watching you and seeing if you will take the moral and life saving action that sanity requires.

I thank you in advance for your action,

Respectfully,

Eliot Nerenberg
1055 Cooneymus Road

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Anne Connelli <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:32 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov

As a longtime resident of Block Island I ask you to PLEASE ban the use of mopeds on Block Island.
The continuous accidents, sirens and lifestars add tremendous stress to the lives of those who live here. Not to mention the thought of all the lives that are affected by those who are injured or die.
Thank you,
Anne Connelli
PO Box 205
274 Amy Dodge Lane
Block Island, RI 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Douglas Mehne[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:31 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov; Cara Mehne
Subject: Requesting Ban on Mopeds on Block Island

To the Town Council,

We are writing to ask you to support the ban of mopeds on Block Island.

Cara and Doug Mehne
1061 West Beach Road

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Guerry, Dupont [redacted]lu>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:31 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Moratorium

Dear Members of the New Shoreham Town Council,
I have just read in the Block Island Times' e-edition of the tragic death within a week on Island roads of a second moped driver, together with the severe injury of a passenger.
Please let me add my voice to that of the many who are calling for an immediate moratorium on moped rentals. This should last until there is consensus on and implementation of a plan to manage the intolerable threat to public safety and quality of life of this poorly regulated business.
I look forward to hearing the outcome of tonight's emergency Council meeting and to live streaming your meeting scheduled for Wed, 8/19/20.
Thank you,
DuPont Guerry, MD
Sarah T Guerry, RN
884 Cooneymus Road

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Arlene Tunney <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:28 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: mopeds

1. Ban mopeds if possible.
2. If not possible, require age min. of 25 to rent.
3. Renter to have a readily identifiable, difficult to remove (i.e. can be cut off)wristband - he/she MUST be the driver and bars shall not to serve folks with wristband.
4. Only 1 person per moped, no passengers.
5. Reduce the number of mopeds that can be rented by at least 1/2.
6. Leones is leasing Moped man so that increases their moped business, not good.
7. No practice on Weldon's Way. Let them rent, or buy, a piece of land to demonstrate moped use. They can bus people to the site.
8 Max speed 25 mph
9 Operation only on right side of the lane, in single file (many travel on the center line)
10 Violators need to be fined and restrained if necessary.
11 Saw Officer Deane stop someone without a helmut yesterday. Fellow said the the leasee didn't give him one - DUH!!!
12 The leasees should wear masks, or lose their license.
Thank you for your consideration
Arlene Tunney jand Ken Maxwell

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Marisa Parrella <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:18 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: MOPED concerns

To Whom it May Concern,

I am deeply troubled by the moped fatality that occurred yesterday on Block Island and continue to be gravely concerned about the safety of Block Island residents, vacation homeowners, and all visitors who come to enjoy the island. I am in full support of a temporary ban on moped rentals until such time the town can unite and design greater safety measures and rethink mopeds as a method of transportation on the island altogether.

As a homeowner here for 25 years and the mother of three teenage boys who use their bicycles to get to work and other recreational activities, I am gravely concerned about their safety and continued safety of those on the roads. Moreover, during a time when our first responders and medical professionals are stretched thin to contain a COVID-19 outbreak and treat this illness, it is shameful that their resources are used to care for those in preventable moped accidents.

I eagerly await the emergency town council meeting and hope that the votes support this temporary ban.

Marisa Parrella

--

Marisa A. Parrella, LICSW
[redacted]
m[redacted]

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Karl Beinkampen <[redacted]et>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:20 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped (Scooter) Ban on Block Island

To the Town Council of Block Island:

My name is Karl Beinkampen. I have owned a home on Block Island at 1512 West Side Road on Block Island since 2005. My family and I have been coming to Block Island every summer for 25 years.

I am urging you to enact a temporary ban on moped rentals on Block Island. I own a moped and understand that it can be a wonderful way to experience the island. But a moped is a motor vehicle - not a bicycle - and while it may not require a motorcycle license, it takes more than a drive down Weldon's Way to understand how to operate it responsibly. Particularly when combined - as it often is - with alcohol, lack of training and unsafe conduct results in accidents and injuries that tax our incredible volunteer EMTs and health center. Yesterday it resulted in a death.

I know there is an effort underway to address these issues with the town manager this fall, and I am supportive of a comprehensive plan to address the moped problem. But yesterday's death has made clear that we do not have the luxury of time. I urge the Town Council to take action tonight and place a temporary ban on the rental of mopeds before we lose another life.

Respectfully,

Karl Beinkampen

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Jabez Dewey [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:19 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped Ban

I would like to support the ban of mopeds on block island. They are no safe and do more harm then good. Even if they were replaced with an electric scooter which is more safe and better for the environment. I know a great company.

Thank you

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Carol Hill <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:18 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Ban on mopeds

Carol and and Henry Hill
587 Beach Ave

We request a ban on mopeds ASAP.

Sent from my iPad

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Shannan S[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:17 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov; Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped ban

Town Council,

I am writing to urge a temporary ban of mopeds on Block Island. After multiple accidents, numerous injuries, and countless reckless driving incidents, something must change. The island resources cannot support this behavior.

I have seen many mopeds in places that are not safe (e.g. dirt roads), multiple people standing while driving (one with his leg sticking out like an L while standing and his friend driving another moped video taped him), and people passing cars when there is traffic. From what I have seen, there are no repercussions for this behavior until it's too late.

Please temporarily ban mopeds to make the island safer for all.

Thank you,

Shannan Smith
Grace's Cove Rd

--
Regards,

Shannan Smith

Smith.Shannan.L@gmail.com
[redacted]

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Don Mccluskey [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:17 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped ban

Town Council et al,

It has come to my attention that a meeting will be held tonight to discuss a temporary ban on mopeds for the remainder of the 2020 season. I fully support any ban imposed.
Don McCluskey
Block Island resident

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Andrew <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:16 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Request to Ban Moped Rentals on Block Island

Good afternoon,

My name is Andrew Costello and I reside at 1031 Corn Neck Road, New Shoreham, RI 02807. I am writing to request that the town ban the rental of mopeds within Block Island.

I have watched most of my life as moped rentals disturb the peace on the island and cause dangerous accidents. They do nothing to serve the community. And during a time when the strength and wellbeing of our community is more important than ever, they should go.

Sincerely,
Andrew Costello

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Mark C. Smith <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:15 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island mopeds

As longtime seasonal residents, We've watched as island resources and responders get overwhelmed season after season with the recurring theme of moped operator injury's, never mind the nuisance of bikes, cars, pedestrians and mopeds sharing the same limited roadside space and collateral personal and property damage! Some moped businesses even use a public roads as 'training grounds' as the town previously tried to put a bandaid on the volume of accidents. These businesses are self serving and bear little consequence for the harm and disruption their pesky contrivances cause ! A permanent ban from the highest authority should be the desired outcome. Please vote at least for a temporary ban tonite!

Sincerely,
Mark Smith,
1262 Graces Cove Road
Block Island , RI.
Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: TAD <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:49 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.com
Subject: Mopeds

Dear Members of the Block Island Town Council: My wife and I are residents of Block Island. For many years we have seen the dangers presented to our public safety by the presence of mopeds on this island. The recent tragic death of an individual Is the latest evidence that this urgent problem must be dealt with immediately. While I understand this presents a hardship for businesses on this island, I think the clear and present danger of the continued use of mopeds to such an extraordinary degree in this small place likewise represents a terrible hardship for the safety and well-being of people who live and visit here. My wife Ellen and I ask you to use your powers in government to suspend the right to practice this dangerous business on Block Island.

Respectfully,

Thomas A (Tad) Devine
Ellen D Devine
Fire Stop 675 Corn Neck Road
Block Island

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail
Get the new AOL app: mail.mobile.aol.com

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Drew Schutte <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: In support of banning mopeds on Block Island

Dear Block Island Town Council and honorable Governor of RI,
I support banning mopeds on Block Island, for the safety of residents and visitors alike.
I am a fan of Block Island's relaxed culture, but every once in a while there is a greater good reason to create a new law for public safety. This I believe is one of those moments.
I hope you will support this ban.
Sincerely,

Andrew Schutte
1148 Payne Road, Block Island

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Sean or Leslie Hartnett [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:42 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.com
Subject: No Mopeds Please!

We are hoping that you will vote to get rid of mopeds on Block Island. They are dangerous and a terrible nuisance.

Sean and Leslie Hartnett
Southwest Point, Block Island

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Cindy Baute <[redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:39 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov
Cc: Fiona Fitzpatrick; Thomas Warcup; Ken Lacoste; Andre Boudreau; Sven Risom; Christopher Willi; Martha Ball; Jim Kern
Subject: Mopeds

In light of yesterday's fatal moped accident, I am requesting that there be an immediate suspension of moped rentals on Block Island until a thorough and unbiased investigation is completed.
This community is reeling from the tragedies and serious injuries that have occurred this summer.
I am writing this as Board Chair of Block Island Health Services, Inc. This is my voice...I have no intention of speaking for other members of the board but I'm certain you will hear from them.
One of my responsibilities is to support the staff of the Medical Center and I will tell you they have been pushed to the limit both physically and mentally.
The community needs action.
Cindy Baute RN, MS

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Kenneth Ross <k[redacted].com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:35 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island moped ban

Dear town council and governor,

The moped situation on our island is out of control, extremely dangerous and destroying the culture of our small island. Yesterday's fatal accident at the foot of my driveway on Spring street is horrible but not at all surprising given the volume of mopeds and the negligence of the drivers. I fully support an immediate temporary ban on mopeds to get this situation in order.

With warm Regards,

Kenneth Ross, 326 Whale swamp road, Block Island, RI, 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Dylan Hickey <[redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:34 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Dylan C Hickey; 1363 Lewis Farm, Cooneymus Road BIRI 02897

Dear Town Council,

Mopeds are a danger to everyone on the island. Every time I see someone driving a rental moped, it seems as though they are destined for a accident. Renting mopeds to people with zero qualifications is outright dangerous as seen with this fatal crash yesterday. I hope we can ban rental mopeds and figure out a way to reinstate them in a safer way in the future.

Thank you,
Dylan C Hickey

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Amy MacDougall [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:34 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Temporary Moped Ban

I am writing in full support of a temporary and then hopefully permanent ban on mopeds. The behavior of drivers this summer has been reckless, and the several times I have driven on Water St and Weldon's Way show how poor the driver training is. In addition, the lack of mask wearing by any moped staff as well as the security force that supposedly polices this practice is horrendous. Our island, our roads, those of us who live here and walk and ride our bikes along the side deserve better than motorized mopeds weaving about, beeping horns, nearly hitting pedestrians and going too fast for safe conditions. Please, please ban these awful devices.

Sincerely,

Amy MacDougall
841 West Side Rd.
Block Island, RI

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: brooke hammarskjold [redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:32 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Temporary Ban on Moped Rentals

Hello,

My name is Brooke Hammarskjold and I live on:

914 Coast Guard Road
New Shoreham, RI 02807

I am writing in support of the temporary ban on moped rentals. Given all the recent accidents and the fatality yesterday, I think the incidents caused by these mopeds are a drain on our limited medical facilities and a risk to everyone on the island. I've spent the last 23 summers on this island and have witnessed countless horrible accidents caused by reckless moped driving. Block Island is one of a kind and I hate to see people use it as a haven for reckless behavior.

Thanks,
Brooke

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Tim Dowling [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:30 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov; Liz Dowling; Emily Dowling; Grace Dowling
Subject: Emergency moped ban

Dear Wardens and Council Members,

We strongly support an immediate temporary ban on moped rentals. We hope you consider permanently banning these dangerous devices which have hurt so many visitors. Further, our quality of life has been reduced by the constant and illegal beeping as these mopeds pass our house.

Tim Dowling
770 Lakeside Drive

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:29 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Ban Mopeds on BI

Dear Town Clerk and Governor Raimondo,

Please, please for the sake of the safety of our citizens, ban mopeds immediately on Block Island. Deaths, life-altering injuries, traumatized witnesses, devastated families, ruined emergency workers— how long can GREED win? People are dying out here!

Please help!
Catherine Reed
West Side Road
Block Island

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Liz Dowling [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:27 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gob
Subject: Mopeds

The fact that a ban was not put on mopeds YESTERDAY after the tragic death and critical injury in the head-on collision is astonishing. What is it going to take? Ban the mopeds NOW!
Tim and Liz Dowling

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Mike Nolan, [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:26 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds on Block Island

To : Town Council and The Governor

We have had enough of rental mopeds causing death, creating havoc and terrorizing the community. We have owned our home here for 27 years and watched the business interests of a few take precedence over the will of homeowners.

Rental mopeds must be banned now, today, at once and forever. I have never seen the island in such a state of sorrow and disarray.

If mopeds are not banned at once I would like to know what rationale could be used to defend this cancer on the island.

If mopeds are not banned perhaps the people like us who donate to the medical center and conservation should hold our future contributions until sanity is restored.

Mike and Wendy Nolan
775 Lakeside Dr
Block Island

--
14 275 5197

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Cindy Kelly <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:12 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: letter for emergency meeting 8/16/20

To the Town Council of New Shoreham:

Please count my YES vote to BAN moped rentals on Block Island.

As others have stated, this is not a business issue, it is a public safety issue. The high numbers of incompetent moped drivers on our roads jeopardize every other driver, bike rider and pedestrian. Their presence on our rural roads diminish the quality of the Block Island experience for tourists and residents alike. The number of accidents inordinately preoccupy our island rescue personnel, medical staff and facility, impacting all other routine and emergency medical care. The presence of noisy, careless mopeds operated by inexperienced drivers create a hideous atmosphere of anxiety for all other users of our town's roads. I have been behind and passed by countless moped riders in various unsafe modes of operation and frightening positions: in groups of four to eight, zigzagging, driving up on sidewalk curbs, speeding down dirt roads, leaning out with phone cameras, riding with hands in the air, legs outstretched to the sides, with small children clinging on the back... on and on.

But you know all of this - we all do. So let's finally do something about it and make a change after all these years of seeing the problem and doing little or nothing about it. Mopeds rentals don't work here. The roads are not equipped to accommodate them, being too narrow and winding and shared by huge trucks, cars, bikers and walkers. There is no where to safely and thoroughly train inexperienced drivers- Weldons's Way is a town road and should be treated as such. The percentage of accidents - whether minor or major - has been too high over the decades to rationalize continuing this dangerous business. Time to go!

Please be courageous and do the right thing and ban moped rentals. The owners of those businesses are smart and creative enough to rethink how to make the almighty dollar.

Respectfully,

Cindy Kelly

Owner/operator Pots and Kettles food truck Coast Guard Road Block Island,RI

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Josephine Merck [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:11 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Please act on the banning of mopeds on block island

The island is under siege by incivility and reckless abuse of the mopeds' business' management.

Sincerely
Josie Merck

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Richard Lawrence <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:11 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.com
Subject: Mopeds on Block Island

Dear Governor of Rhode Island and members of the New Shoreham Town Council,

I was saddened to learn of the tragic moped accident on Block Island. What a horrible event for the victim's family to encounter. I can't help but feel we have failed his family.

Sadly, I was not surprised as in recent years I have witnessed an increase in moped accidents. I support efforts to replace mopeds with electric bikes, add speed regulators to the mopeds, eliminate training of riders on Town land, and to increase the costs of renting mopeds to reflect the true cost of the externalities that accompany the moped industry on Block Island.

With yesterday's accident, I think the time has come to put all the issues associated with mopeds on the table for comprehensive review. When it comes to personal safety, the commercial interests of Block can not be allowed to set and enforce the rules.

Thank you for your attention,

Richard Lawrence
house 1186
Mohegan Trail

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:10 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov; Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: In Support Of Temporary Ban

Hello,

I'd like to voice my support for a temporary moped ban on Block Island as to allow the town and community to take a breath and come up with a safe solution. This has been a season where sharing the roads do not feel safe, and the reckless culture and behavior of moped riders adds significant distress to getting from point A to point B.

Best,
Molly Nolan
775 Lakeside Drive
Block Island, RI 02807

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Janet English <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:10 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governorri.org
Subject: Moped ban on block island

We are writing in support of an immediate ban on all moped operations on Block Island. They are dangerous and deadly. The island is being over run and degraded by these dreadful machines.

Thank you,
Janet & Chris English
Block Island, RI

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Beinkampen, Emily Barlow <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:10 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island Moped Rental Ban

To the Block Island Town Council:

My name is Emily Beinkampen and I am a 21 year old summer resident of Block Island, RI.

I am emailing to support the temporary ban of moped rentals on Block Island. In these past few summers, and this summer more than ever we have seen countless accidents, injuries, Life Star rescues, and deaths as a result of reckless moped drivers. It is tragic and unfortunate that it has come to this point, and as island residents it is our responsibility to protect the lives of both our visitors and islanders alike.

As an island, we have watched too many people drive mopeds recklessly this summer. The death yesterday seems to be a major wake up call but it should not have come to this. We need this ban to protect lives before another accident happens.

Sincerely,
Emily Beinkampen

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: T.R. Newcomb <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:03 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped ban on Block Island

As property owners on Block Island, we would be highly supportive of an island-wide moped ban.

Thank you,

T.R. Newcomb
862 West Side Road
Block Island, RI

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Jason Page [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:04 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped Ordinance

Dear Town Clerk,

We are seasonal residents and live on the West Side, near Dorries Cove. After renting in the neck for a few years, we purposely purchased a property off a dirt road, so that we could not see the mopeds or hear their horns.

Over the years, the moped situation on the island has degraded to the point where we do not feel safe letting our children ride their bicycles to town. We have a personal experience last year on the 4th of July, where a moped crashed broadside into the front door of my vehicle as I was at a stop sign.

For the safety and well being of this island, we support a full ban on rental mopeds, but allowing electric pedal assist bicycles to be available for rent.

We love this island, but if there is one thing we could change it would be to ban rental mopeds. Please do what's right for Block Island.

Jason and Mary Elizabeth Page
#1452 West Side Road
Block Island, RI 02807
[redacted]

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Keith Lang <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:00 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped ban

Dear Town Council Members:

I understand you are considering a temporary ban on mopeds in light of yesterday's fatality and a summer full of horrendous accidents overwhelming volunteer first responders and island medical services. Know that we strongly support the immediate imposing of a ban for the remainder of this season or until some kind of long term solution can be developed to deal with this tragic scourge.

Keith, Kathleen & Gillian Lang
Cooneymus Road
Block Island, Rhode Island

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Cameron Greenlee <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:58 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Request temporary moped BAN

To whom it may concern,

I would like to add my name to the growing list of concerned residents, since the most recent moped fatality occurred this weekend.
I feel it is important that the Town of New Shoreham act urgently to temporarily ban moped rentals until a comprehensive plan can be put in place to make this island safer. There are many ways in which we have to improve the safety of our summer and full-time community, and the moped rental industry is arguably the one in most urgent need of addressing.
I in no way desire to see the business owners of the moped rentals to be impacted in a negative way, but I something must be done on a grander level to make the island a safer place.
Thank you for taking the time to acknowledge this message

Cameron Greenlee

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Monje, Thea <[redacted]u>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:34 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.gov; Ken Lacoste; Andre Boudreau; Sven Risom; Martha Ball; Christopher Willi; Jim Kern
Subject: Letter to the Town Council
Attachments: Letter to Town Council_ Monje.pdf

Hello all,

I have attached a letter. Please give it a read today.

Best,
Thea

Thea Monje
P.O. Box 1088
Block Island, RI
02807

Block Island Town Council
P.O. Box 220
Block Island, RI
02807

Dear Block Island Town Council members,

A couple months ago, Silas and I were sitting at the kitchen table and having a conversation about the pandemic. We were weighing out the data about the effectiveness of mask wearing, social distancing, etc. He ultimately claimed that what it essentially comes down to is "*Primum non nocere,*" a Hippocratic ideal that translates to "first, do no harm." Whether the masks are advantageous or not, if there is anything we can try to do in an effort to minimize harm, we should do it.

That being said, I'm not writing to talk about the pandemic today. I hope you will take a moment to read this letter and listen to my concerns and suggestions regarding island safety.

Our community should have immediate responses to preventable death. I don't like using the word "accident" to discuss moped related injuries and fatalities. In 2017, we saw 39 moped-caused rescue calls. In 2018 we saw 48. In 2019, we saw 54. In 2020, mid-pandemic, we are well on our way to exceed the numbers of past summers. These are no longer "accidents"—they are predictable, studiable, patterned events that we are complicit in the continuation of.

So, in response to the first fatality of the week, a car accident, this is what I would suggest:

—Raise the driving age for non-Block Island residents to 18.
—Annually render null and void the privileges of all provisional driver licenses for non-Block Island residents from May 15th to October 1st.

And in response to the second fatality, a moped accident:

—Ban the use of any roadway/parking area not owned by the rental company as an area for rider training for moped and/or bicycle rental.
—Ban moped rental to any customer who is...

- *under the age of 25*
- *not wearing close-toed, athletic shoes.*

—Reduce moped rentals to single riders: one rider per moped.
—Immediately cease moped rentals from all moped operators for the remaining duration of the business day after the first occurrence of a moped accident. All moped rental companies—combined—should be allowed to

use the services of the Rescue Squad no more than once a day. Anything more than that is abuse of a privilege—to be saved when you need saving, by an unpaid volunteer—all while the rental company profits.

I'm not writing to argue that those who run these moped rental businesses are villains and we need to immediately shut them down. That being said, they all *profit from* and are *complicit in* an industry that requires the assistance of our community's volunteer fire and rescue squad on a constant basis—nearly 40 times this summer alone.

I implore you to take a deep and uncomfortable look at the kinds of tasks these paramedics are doing—apart from the intensive physical work of sewing up bloodied, broken, and battered strangers, they are doing traumatizing emotional labor that you couldn't pay most people to do; informing a mother that their child is dead, watching the reactions of a person who unintentionally killed their loved one, realizing that they will have to attend the next call whether they want to or not. Our Rescue Squad is not filled with young medical professionals eager for experience—it is made up of older community members who are parents themselves, who are selflessly dedicated to keeping our visitors safe. For every one moped rental operator who ends their work day counting up their profits, there is an EMT tossing a bloody t-shirt into their laundry basket. If I asked you to do the jobs they do, would you do it? *Could* you do it?

Today, a 16-year old is dead, a 22-year-old is dead, and other lives have surely been ruined, and a family is grieving. Yet I was not surprised by what I witnessed on my walk to work this morning—more visitors packing into Weldon's Way, already being rented mopeds by people who have decided that the income is more important than pausing to deeply reassess the safety regulations of their industry. Most if not all of these moped rental companies are run by individuals and families who successfully operate various types of businesses. As experienced and industrial people, no doubt they would adapt to the financial effect of fewer moped rentals and expand their other pursuits to generate income in a safer manner.

Arguing that alcohol and substance abuse is the root of the issue is theoretically fair, but does nothing to effectively reduce harm in a timely manner. Curbing substance abuse on Block Island will require decades of reform, and serious investment in resources that divert the community away from high-risk behaviors and lifestyles. Truth be told, most individuals can drink as much as they want on Block Island and they'll probably leave us uninjured. But if they get on a moped or behind the wheel of a car, the odds are stacked against them. If we have the ability to regulate the thing that does the maiming and killing—mopeds and cars—why wouldn't we? Like I mentioned earlier, *primum non nocere.*

Lastly, I would encourage you to set up a system to hold island businesses accountable that relies on data, so that no single business feels unfairly targeted.

—Allow town council members to vote on the validity of business licenses of establishments requiring the services of Block Island's Volunteer Fire & Rescue Squad on more than three occasions per season (5/15-10/1). After that third call, hold a council meeting. If the nature of the rescue calls don't have anything to do with the business—stroke, heart attack, etc.—then no need to penalize them for anything. But if there are multiple calls for things like severe inebriation, avoidable injury, fights—penalize them. Suspend a liquor license, have them

shut their doors for a few weeks. Do something that shows that their business practices are unacceptable and that they will not be tolerated in our community.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing at the next meeting how you plan to take immediate action.

Best,
Thea Monje
High Street
[redacted]

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Kristin M. Nevins <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:55 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: govenor@govenor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds on Block Island

Dear Ms. Fitzpatrick:

I am writing this email to you and the entire Town Council to express my family's concern over the recklessness of moped drivers on Block Island this summer, along with the seeming irresponsibility of the business owners who rent mopeds. Here is a bit of what we witnessed:

Mopeds driving close to one another, with passengers passing (what looked like) Truly or White Claw cans back and forth to each other;

Moped passengers trying to take selfies - holding their phone out in front of the driver's face to take a video or pictures;

Mopeds making abrupt stops and u-turns on the road seemingly oblivious to cars or bikes who share the road - a couple of times this happened near the bend on Cooneymus, which lacks a line of sight for oncoming traffic in both directions;

Drivers and passengers of side-by-side mopeds trying to hold hands with passengers on the other moped; and

Constant and incessant "beeping" for no reason, which is not only loud and obnoxious but dangerous!

A bit of background as to why I feel compelled to write this email. My family has been visiting Block Island for over 12 years. Some of our fondest memories were made on this island. We love this place so much, in fact, that my husband and I purchased a home on Cooneymus Rd last fall and are now summer residents. Our teenage daughter was thrilled to have her first summer job here. But, I must be honest that during the course of this summer I questioned whether we made the right decision to buy a home here. This has been a challenging year and I know these are not normal times, but even so - we are experiencing a change in the character of this community that needs to be urgently addressed before this charming town is forever altered.

Look no further than the issue with mopeds! Yes, moped have always been on the island, and are a convenient mode of transportation, however, what about the lack of etiquette by moped drivers, what about the recklessness of moped drivers, and what about the lack of oversight by the moped owners/operators and the town police who don't seem to educate or enforce moped etiquette or safety?

I am extremely concerned for the safety and wellbeing of the community and hope that the Town Council will act on finding solutions to this urgent issue. At a minimum the town should ban all moped rentals until a plan of action is developed and the necessary stakeholders are brought in to enact and enforce safer moped operations going forward. Please -- before it's too late!

Respectfully,
Kristin Nevins & Paul Shust
1312 Cooneymus Rd

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Jane Nelson <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:53 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governorr@hovernor.ri.gov
Subject: Please ban mopeds on Block Island RI the rest of the summer

Town Clerk

We email you to ask for a ban on mopeds for the rest of the summer. I watch these young people being completely irresponsible on mopeds while others seem uncertain how to ride them - equally as dangerous. I worry that these young people are so glad to be out and about, that they are demonstrating reckless behavior. However, I have been on this island since 1986 and I have seen the moped behavior progressively worsen over the years. This summer has been a tipping point.

We read the headlines in the Boston Globe this am which announced Block Island had two fatalities in one week. It saddened us to think that this is becoming our island's reputation and news.

I hope you consider a ban on the mopeds, giving us time to think through how we can address this crisis.

Sincerely,

Jane and Gordon Nelson
1595 West Side Road
Block Island, RI

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Weinstein, Arnold <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:48 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Ban

Dear Town Clerk (and Governor Raimondo),

As summer residents of Block Island since 1979 when we built our house there, my wife and I want to support, in the strongest terms possible, the motion for a Ban - even if Temporary - on Mopeds, in light of the two recent horrific accidents.

We also remember the historic efforts many years ago when the Town Council sought - and failed - to ban Mopeds in the past. I reference this earlier effort, in order to signal just how long this problem has lasted, even if it is particularly acute just now. Everyone knows the enormous health and security costs that Block Island bears on this front, and it is high time that the well-being and interests of the *entire* Island take precedence over the narrow business interests of a handful of people. This issue is urgent and overdue. Now is the time for action.

Sincerely,

Arnold and Ann Weinstein
1098 West Side Rd
Block Island, R.I. 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:48 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; Ken Lacoste; Andre Boudreau; Sven Risom; Christopher Willi; Martha Ball
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov; sen-ruggerio@rilegislature.gov; sen-sosnowski@rilegislature.gov; rep-mattiello@rilegislature.gov; rep-filippi@rilegislature.gov; ltrodson@blockislandtimes.com
Subject: A Plea for Action to Help a Grief-Stricken Town

Block Island is a grief-stricken town. We grieve for dead and injured persons we've never met and for their families. We grieve for everyone at our medical center and rescue squad. We grieve for police officers and troopers who must secure scenes of death and destruction. We grieve for the business owners whose mopeds have been involved in death and devastating injury. (How can they sleep at night?)

We also grieve for local and state political leaders of whom we are demanding the courage to protect a fragile town. New Shoreham can't enact the laws needed to protect our town alone. We need our local and state leaders to work together to stop the devastation. Please be bold!

Sincerely,

Kay Lewis
Off Cooneymus Road
Block Island
PO Box 399

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Melonie Chinnici [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:47 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.org
Subject: Block Island Moped Rental Ban

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of Block Island for 2 weeks out of the year every single summer. I'm 21 years old and never in my life have I seen such absolute disrespect for our beautiful island until this summer.

I truly believe that block island is so special and should be open to all, but witnessing the utter chaos for such a small island is heartbreaking.

While vacationing between July 19 and August 2, I had seen countless moped drivers being reckless on the road. For example, one time I saw a group of people not much older than me were standing ON TOP of the moped seat while driving. I had to look away because I feared that they were going to crash and die.

Something needs to be done. It's disrespectful and harmful behavior that is costing lives just for an "easier" means of transportation.

Please take action before someone else's life is lost.

Sincerely,
Melonie Chinnici
[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Rosemary Connelli <[redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:45 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped ban

Letter of request:
I request the moped rentals and operations be banned from the island community.

Rosemary Connelli
Amy Dodge Lane
Block Island, RI

Best.

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Deborah Newcomb [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:45 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Ban on mopeds

As both commercial and residential property owners and taxpayers on Block Island, we support efforts to curtail or ban mopeds on Block Island.
Jonathan and Deborah Newcomb
862 West Side Rd, Block Island, RI 02807

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Robin Langsdorf <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:44 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds

I am writing to request a temporary ban of the use of mopeds on Block Island until agreed upon restrictions are implemented.

Thank you.

Best,
Robin

Robin B. Langsdorf
PO Box 595
1501 Beacon Hill Road
Block Island, RI 02807
[redacted]
www.robinlangsdorf.com
[redacted]

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Amy Jaffe [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:43 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@govenor.ri.gov

moped situation on Block Island

Our moped situation has been problematic every summer season here on Block Island.
AS a homeowner here on Block Island our 40 years, I find this summer season particularly disaster due to many factors. The pandemic situation, more young people coming to the island due to mainland beaches being limited, less safety and care are on the part of moped owners,
and the traffic situation. How many young people are carelessly at risk for dangerous situations. The latest fatality is demonstration enough to cancel mopeds for the rest of the season and then carefully, and thoughtfully think through how to reasonably avoid another awful situation for now and seasons to come.

Our medical center and rescue squad are push beyond the limit. This puts the entiere community at risk. Are we to be a wild west or a community that cares about safety, health , and community??

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From:	Mariah Buzzell <[redacted]m>
Sent:	Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:38 PM
To:	Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc:	governor@governor.ri
Subject:	moped rental ban

To Whom It May Concern,

I am emailing to call for a ban on moped rentals on Block Island. It is heartbreaking and gut wrenching to witness preventable deaths during a global pandemic in which the healthcare system is already at its capacity. I am sick and tired of the profits of rental companies being prioritized over the lives of young people, all while the rescue squad volunteers donate their time and knowledge. We are on the wrong side of history by allowing these deaths to mount without taking direct action. I admire Block Island for the devotion of its residents to bettering the community, so to see businesses take over public streets for moped rentals, use and abuse the generosity of the rescue squad, and invite more traffic violence to this island is nauseating. I invite us all to #respectBI And imagine a world without traffic fatalities #VisionZero.

Sincerely,

Mariah Buzzell

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Susan Bush <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:25 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: mopeds

To the Town Council:

I support the temporary ban on mopeds on Block Island. The situation is out of control. The license holders use a public road for training; do not require even the most elementary safety measures like wearing shoes; allow two people per moped; and seemingly have no control over the people to whom they rent these vehicles.

--
Susan Bush
208 Old Harbor Meadow
Block Island, RI 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:24 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island Moped Ban

Greetings,

Our family (Loveridge-Kling) owns a house at 287 Spring Street.

I respectfully write to all concerned, as one who wishes to see Block Island not turn into the "Spring break of the North" to immediately and permanently ban all moped rentals and/or sales. Few benefit and many are negatively affected.

The reasons are painfully numerous; public safety and quality of life are most obvious, followed by the strain; financial, emotional and physical on the volunteer members of the Rescue Squad.

As one recent letter to "The Editor" of the Block Island Times succinctly stated and I am paraphrasing....the moped operations, abundance of alcohol and other factors are turning Block into a "carnival" ride.

Time to cease and desist moped rentals for the sake of saving Block as a quality family and tourist destination.

Sincerely,

Frank and Lynn Loveridge Kling

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Lisa Lourie [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:24 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island moped ban

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am writing in support of a moped ban on Block Island, RI. As the owner of two residences along Corn Neck Rd, I can attest to the noise and danger the mopeds bring upon the citizens of Block Island. They have overwhelmed our emergency resources and have significantly altered the peaceful nature of our delightful island. Please, let's return to bicycle rentals only.

Respectfully,
Lisa Lourie
613 and 610 Corn Neck Rd
Block Island, RI 02807

Cell: [redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Sarah Treanor [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:24 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: govenor@govenor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped ban

Our names are Chris and Sarah Treanor 1520 Graces Cove Rd Block Island RI 02807

We support a complete ban on Mopeds in Block island. They go against the environmental consciousness of the island and it's residents and seems to benefit only a few.

Please add our name to the request to immediately ban mopeds.

Chris and Sarah Treanor

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Cotter, John J.[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:22 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island Mopeds

Dear Town Clerk,

I am a town taxpayer and summer resident of Block Island at my home, #341 Off High Street, since 2004, and a lifelong Island visitor. I write to express my concerns over public safety issues created by moped drivers that violate traffic safety rules, the apparent lack of vigorous enforcement of those rules by the Block Island and State Police, and the moped rental companies' takeover of Weldons Way and unsafe rental practices. Please express my concerns to the members of the Town Council, who I urge to vote in favor of a moped rental ban.

Thank you for your consideration of these important issues. Feel free to call me at +16172409141 or email me at this address if you have any questions.

/s/ John J. Cotter

Sent from my iPhone

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Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: melanie kroupa [redacted]n>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: BAN THE MOPEDS ON BLOCK ISLAND

August 16, 2020

TO: THE BLOCK ISLAND TOWN COUNCIL
cc: GOVERNOR RAIMONDO'S OFFICE

I'm writing to ask that the Town Council vote to ban moped rentals immediately on Block Island.

Enough is enough. The moped industry on the island is totally out of control, and has taken over the island. there is not enough enforcement, and those of us who live here and pay taxes deserve better. As do the visitors who come seeking the Block Island that brought us all here in the first place.

Sincerely,
Melanie King
831 Beacon Hill Road
Block Island, Rhode Island -2807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Doogler <[redacted]n>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:17 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped Ban

I am Jeff MacDougall of 841 west side road

I have witnessed 4 moped accidents this year, not come across... witnessed.

Our Emergency services are spread far too thin, especially during this pandemic and the moped companies have taken no responsibility.

The owners of these moped companies are more motivated by money than human lives.

I am in full support of a moped ban until these business owners can provide a plan to the town that ensures the safety of all Island visitors and residents.

Act Now before more lives are lost.

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Emily Cummiskey <[redacted]com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:14 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped reform on Block Island

Dear Town and State Leaders,

I am writing to you today in hopes that you will prioritize moped reform on Block Island. The island needs a rebranding and it needs to happen immediately. The noise pollution, the accidents, and the toll the mopeds are taking on this once peaceful island- it has all gotten severely out of hand.

Children are not safe to ride their bikes due to the unsafe conditions caused by the sheer number of mopeds on the roads. Families are not safe to take a walk on the public streets. This is a detriment to tourism and is threatening the sustainability of our beloved island in so many ways. Most importantly, are being lost.

Many people have ideas on how the situation can be resolved- some include increasing the age to rent to 25, instituting a longer training session, allowing single riders only, imposing a moped tax on each rental to supplement EMS costs and additional police detail, and limiting the number of moped rentals per day to better match the island's capacity to name a few.

Please place a temporary ban on moped rentals until a plan for reform is established.

Emily Cummiskey
702 Mansion Beach Road

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Jerry Noonan <[redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:11 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.com
Subject: Emergency Town Council meeting—August 16, 2020

We are 25+ year seasonal residents of BI living now at 1051 Whale Swamp Rd.

We fully support at least a temporary ban on mopeds until a much more safe and manageable plan can be devised. While always a challenge to the island's beauty and safety, the recent past years and this summer in particular are worse than it has ever been in our experience.

While driving around town, we regularly witness and at times experience ourselves near misses with reckless moped drivers. We never walk on the roads or bike ride after very early in the morning so as to no put ourselves in harms way of being hit by a moped.

We have come across several bad accidents over the years and watched yesterday from our home up to the top of Whale Swamp Rd. Our small group of first responders and medical team are being regularly asked to deal with very challenging situations distracting them from the broader responsibility of protecting everyone on the island on crowed summer days.

Jerry and Jenny Noonan
[redacted]

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: susan weissman <[redacted].com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:09 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: ban on mopeds

I totally support a ban on mopeds. Yesterday I clocked 10 of them going over 30mph on corn neck rd. I thought they had to have governors on them so they can't go faster than 25. On mainland a motorcycle license is required to operate mopeds. Why not here?

--
Susan Weissman
1012 West Side Rd
Block Island, RI 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Mindy Ignarri <[redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:07 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island Moped Rental

Dear Town of New Shoreham Town Council and Governor Raimondo,

Please suspend the use of mopeds on Block Island. It is not safe for moped operators nor the pedestrians and cars who share the road with them. This summer has been particularly bad.

Respectfully,

Bob and Mindy Ignarri
614 Corn Neck Rd
PO Box 1393
Block Island, RI 02807

Sent from Mindy's iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Susan Stover <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:07 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; Ken Lacoste; Andre Boudreau; Sven Risom; Martha Ball; Christopher Willi
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: please help us preserve Block Island - stop mopeds

to our Town Councilors and Governor,

Please help our community take a breath — and possibly save a life. Place a temporary ban on moped rentals.

Mopeds allow the onslaught of visitors to put themselves at risk and impose beyond measure on our community of volunteer EMTs and devoted Medical Center staff.

Until we can settle on workable regulations and enforcement to keep moped renters and our community safe, I implore you to stop all moped rentals.

I feel our community is at a breaking point and we need your leadership and action.

thank you,

Susan Stover

Susan Stover
[redacted]
PO Box 1435
Block Island, RI 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Anna Giannuzzi <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:06 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Please temporarily ban moped rentals on Block Island

Town Clerk,

In light of the recent moped fatality on the island, I, along with my fellow island residents, demand that something be done regarding the danger these vehicles pose. Please ban the rental of mopeds on the island.

Anna Giannuzzi

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Tori Jones <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:06 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov; Graham O. Jones; Gay Jones
Subject: Block Island Temporary Moped Ban

Hello,

Our family has joined the #RespectBI coalition. In light of yesterday's moped fatality, we are writing to express our support of a ban on moped rentals. Based on the events of this summer, it's clear that our island is at a tipping point. We hope you will hear our concern.

Sincerely,
Graham, Gay and Tori Jones

--
Tori Jones
[redacted]
@torijonesstudio
www.torijonesstudio.com

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Jean Larkin [redacted]om>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@govenor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Crisis Block Island

We are requesting immediate ban on Mopeds on BI.

We Block Island residents and taxpayers have reached the limit on loss of life as a result of moped accidents on our beautiful island. It is time for serious discussion on the removal of Mopeds from our roads.

Dan and Jean Larkin
Old Mill Road
Block Island , RI 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: meaghan barrett [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:04 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Ban Mopeds on Block Island

Good Afternoon:

The time has finally come for the Town Council to do the right thing and finally ban mopeds on Block Island. How many more people must die or be seriously injured before the Town recognizes that it has to do something? How much more emotional and psychological pressure are you going to force on the volunteer rescue squad and the staff at the medical center?

It is obscene that even after the fatal crash yesterday, moped rental companies were still renting mopeds. Please do the right thing and issue a ban, at least a temporary one for the remainder of the summer to allow a through investigation of the accident on 8/15/2020.

Many thanks for all that you do and for considering my position.

Meaghan Barrett
341 High St

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Karen Giannuzzi [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:02 PM
To: [redacted]fberg Belisle,<jl[redacted] A[redacted]35 @[redacted]e.[redacted] Him[redacted]a [redacted]chele@yahoo.com, [redacted]de [redacted]eV
Subject: Mopeds and Block Island

As a home owner, I am writing to urge the Town Council to temporarily ban the rental of mopeds on Block Island until the safety issues that have plagued our island can be adequately addressed. The fatality that occurred yesterday was an inexcusable tragedy and a poor reflection on the administration of safety on Block Island.

Between covid and the rampant use of mopeds this summer, I feel our precious island is confronting dangers on all fronts. The roads are practically mayhem. We need to slow down and take stock of how we can maintain rules and regulations that will ensure the safety of our residents and tourists.

Please act immediately.

Respectfully,

Karen Giannuzzi
648 Corn Neck Road
Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Ellie Krusewski <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:00 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped ban

I am totally in favor of the ban on mopeds On Block Island... temporarily or permanently. We live at 1153 Spring St Close to the site of yesterday's tragic Accident. There was a lovely young Family of five walking up to the SE Lighthouse when the accident occurred.
Luckily they were not involved but their Youngest, perhaps age 6, was traumatized by what he witnessed. He was crying and Kept asking his mom if the "man" would Be ok. She was reassuring him but I can't Help wondering what she will tell him.
This family, the family in the vehicle,
The young deceased man and his passenger are all in my thoughts. The Police, The rescue squad, and the physicians All need a break from this totally unnecessary activity.
Most sincerely
Eleanor M Krusewski

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Sarah Bacon [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 12:57 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Request for temporary ban on moped operations at tonight's emergency meeting

Dear Town Council,

At tonight's' emergency meeting, I respectfully request Town Council vote on a temporary injunction on all moped rentals through Labor Day, or at least until Town has a plan to effectively enforce reckless moped use on the island. Thank you.

Sarah Bacon / #Respect BI
1172 West Side Road
Block Island, Rhode Island

***
Sarah H. Bacon
Cell: [redacted]
Sarah.bacon9@gmail.com

Twitter: @SarahHogate
Instagram: @Baconiste

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Ruddle, Nancy <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 12:57 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Temporary ban on mopeds

The rescue squad is stretched beyond capacity emotionally and physically with the 2nd fatality within a week. Everyone needs a reset. Please enact a temporary ban on mopeds.
Thanks.
Nancy Ruddle

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Chris Cass <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:50 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island

Dear Town Council,
I consider myself extremely lucky to be a part of a family that has been a member of the Block Island Community since before the 1900's. For my 50 years of living on Graces Cove with my family, my love for the people and the nature of Block Island is difficult to express with words. What I can express to you is my sadness an disappointment of the abuse our beautiful Block Island has endured this summer.

I have been living on the island this season since May 1. Once June 1 hit, it was like the unleashing of chaos. As I write this, there are so many examples that pop to mind of the absolute insanity of moped disasters I have witnessed. Or sadly do I mention the fact that my kids count the life flights each day. Yes, they comment, "oh only two today". This is so disheartening.

I am an avid runner and biker and have always loved my morning routine. I now have to plan my mornings to avoid the obnoxious mopeds who not only follow me down dirt roads, which we know if off limits, but even scarier they have attempted to be funny and chase me off the road. Shockingly, the two mopeds that came at me in my car on the wrong side of the road is not my worst story. The worst was watching one of the owners of the moped companies witness a man with his possibly two year old, maybe younger, ride between his legs down a busy road. I saw this owner run his hands over his face with an "oh my god" look but instead of addressing it with the moped renter, he decided to just drive by him without doing anything. Shocking and disgusting at the same time.

Someone recently mentioned we have a branding issue. I think that person is spot on. This thought that Block Island is the place to go because the rules don't apply has effected my family directly. Honestly, Covid concerns for my mother to come out to her own home on the island was a concern but as a family we were just as concerned that she would not be able to handle driving with the weaving and bobbing of the mopeds. Unfortunately, this is the first summer EVER that she has not been able to enjoy her island retreat.

We are all challenged during this time but please help our unbelievable rescue team and residents by doing something about these mopeds and get a handle on the day trippers. I foresee the season being extended with so many people working remotely and college kids not going back to their schools. You have an opportunity to fix this please help us get our island back!

Christine Murphy Cass
Graces Cove Road

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: burt king <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:52 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov
Cc: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: BAN MOPEDS ON BLOCK ISLAND

Governor Raimondo:

After another tragic death on Block Island this week I want to urge you and our Town Council to take immediate action to ban rental mopeds on Block Island.

These rental mopeds have become a huge detriment to our public safety - both for residents and the many visitors who respect our island. In just one day there were seven Life Star flights off the island. Without action now, more accidents and possible deaths are likely to occur. The owners of the moped rental licenses have extraordinary clout here and in state government which seems why the situation has deteriorated to this level.

Immediate action has to be taken NOW.

Sincerely,
Burt King
831 Beacon Hill Road
Block Island, Rhode Island 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Mary MacGill [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:52 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island Moped BAN

To whom it may concern,

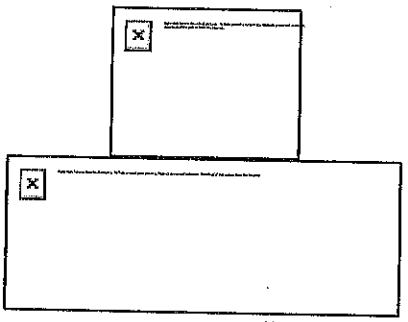
I, Mary MacGill of 890 Lewis Farm Rd., Block Island RI 02807, am requesting a ban on mopeds on Block Island effective ASAP.

In light of yesterday's fatal moped accident, the flagrant mis-use of these vehicles, and the disruptive behavior it promotes on the island, it is time we put a stop to this dangerous and unnecessary activity.

Personally, I have witnessed the following on multiple occasions both from my store's window, and driving home:
- large groups of mopeds zig-zagging across the double yellow lines
- moped riders with alcoholic beverages in hand
- moped riders texting, or taking "selfies" while operating the vehicle

With sincere hope that this issue is taken seriously,
Mary MacGill

--



www.marymacgill.com

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Caroline Capuano <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:52 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Ban #respectBI

We fully agree with the moped ban.

Block Island Address:
745 Corn Neck Rd
Block Island, RI 02879

Devlin Hart and Caroline Capuano

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Brianne Cotter <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:55 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov; Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Expressing concern for my loved ones

My aunt Julie Conant and cousin Mary Conant have, for years, scarified time and peace of mind to rescue people from traffic violence caused by the moped rental monopolies on this island. It is heart breaking and gut wrenching to witness preventable deaths during a global pandemic in which the health care system is already at its capacity. I am sick and tired of the profits of rental companies being prioritized over the lives of young people, all while our volunteers donate their time and knowledge. We are on the wrong side of history by allowing these deaths to mount without taking direct action. I admire Block Island for the devotion of its residents to bettering the community, so to see businesses take over public streets for moped rentals, use and abuse the generosity of the rescue squad, and invite more traffic violence to this island is nauseating. I invite us all to #respectBI And imagine a world without traffic fatalities #VisionZero

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Cecilia Masiello [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds Need to Be Banned on Block Island

Hello,
I am emailing regarding Mopeds on Block Island. I am a resident of Block Island and have seen numerous out of control moped drivers over the years. In addition to mopeds being dangerous for those who are driving them, they are also dangerous for people on bikes, walking or driving a vehicle. Yesterday (8/15) I witnessed a group of young men IN TOWN driving mopeds while drinking a beer and smoking marijuana. Mopeds need to be banned for the safety of every person on this island.

Thank you,
Cecilia Masiello

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Liam Cotter <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Rental Ban

To whom it may concern,

With all my heart, I ask that you please impose a ban on rental mopeds as soon as humanly possible to stop the premature death of young people on Block Island. Shame on those involved for letting the situation get this out of control. Please do right by those we have already lost in banning rental mopeds to prevent any further loss of life.

Thank you,
Liam Cotter

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Isabella Masiello [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 1:59 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Support for moped ban on block island

Hello,

My name is Isabella Masiello and I am a homeowner on Block Island on Dunn's Cartway, P.O. Box 876. I am writing to express support for a temporary moped ban on Block Island. The moped situation is incredibly dangerous on the island, especially in light of COVID 19. No one driving mopeds are wearing masks or respecting the rules of the road. I have seen people driving mopeds down nature conservancy trails which is prohibited, as well as drivers so clearly drunk that they cannot stay in their lane on the road. One of my family members this past weekend saw someone driving a moped while simultaneously drinking a beer and smoking what appeared to be illicit drugs. This behavior is dangerous to everyone on the island as well as to the moped drivers themselves, and the moped rentals need to be stopped. I also know from having spoken to staff at the medical center and on the rescue squad that the mopeds accidents have been causing an incredible strain on the medical resources, which is endangering all block island visitors and residents. Please do the right thing for everyone's health and safety and ban mopeds for the rest of the year.

Best,
Isabella Masiello

Get Outlook for iOS

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Lisa Arnold <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:05 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov; Fiona Fitzpatrick

I'm writing to the town council yet again- how many deaths and accidents do we witness or hear about due to the moped rentals in town? A temporary band, you say? How about forever? This situation is so beyond control and I don't know why it took so long to call a town meeting.

Lisa Arnold
1190 Sands Pond Rd.
BI, RI

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Meg Vitacco <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:06 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Rental Ban on BI

To Whom it may Concern,

I am writing this email to convey my support for a YES vote to BAN moped rentals on Block Island for the remainder of the summer. It has come to my attention that there is an emergency meeting tonight where a vote of this kind might take place, and I thought it was important to reach out and let you know where I stand.

As a full time Island resident and business owner, I hope the Town Council will take a step in the right direction to put the safety of our home above all else this summer.

Moped rentals have done more harm than good this summer. In fact, I often hear riders right outside my shop window say things like "I have no idea what I'm doing" or "I don't feel comfortable on this thing!" WHILE OPERATING their Moped. For this and so many other reasons, let's ban moped rentals for the rest of the season and give everyone a break from the incessant beeping, incompetent driving, and unnecessary accidents that our rescue squad has so tirelessly answered the calls to, day after day!

Thank you,
Meg Vitacco
MUTT HUT

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: albert casazza <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:07 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.gov
Cc: Mary Lou
Subject: ban mopeds on Block Island

Town Council, New Shoreham. please vote to ban mopeds on Block Island to restore public safety and tranquility.

--

Albert Casazza

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: scottiii <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 2:46 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governorri.gov
Subject: Mopeds on Block Island.

While we agree that the mopeds are out of control this year, we don't believe that an outright ban is an appropriate response. Measures to control them, such as making moped owners liable for the renters actions, whether criminal or irresponsible would be a step.
Lyn and John Scott 1549 West Side Road.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Gail Hall [redacted]com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:39 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: Governor (GOV)
Subject: Moped discussion, Block Island

Hi Molly,
Could you please forward this email to the council for tonight's meeting? I am sorry so last minute but I understand that the meeting was called last minute as well.

I would like to strongly suggest that the Town Council ban mopeds through Labor Day weekend. This can be a time to relieve our volunteer rescue squad, which is limited in numbers this year due to Covid 19, and allow them to provide standard medical care emergencies.

I understand there is a former court order in place, back when the moped licenses were debated for the same reason they are being debated today, volume of accidents and loss of life. A number of vehicles & licenses were restricted. Block Island is a much busier place than it was in 1984, and the needs of the community (including our tourist community), should be met, not overwhelmed by the volume of accidents surrounded by mopeds.

I was told that the moped dealers are now categorized as retailers, and therefore licenses cannot be revoked? This is not something I completely understand, it certainly is not logical, and should be up for debate as well.

I also have taken videos this summer of the moped training taking place on a two lane road, known as Weldon's Way. You can always tell who may be the next accident. People drive away wobbling and nervous, and the moped businesses let them go on their way.

Lastly, the peace and quiet on the roads, intersections and town in May, when the licenses were restricted was clearly evident, we all noted what a difference there was without the mopeds. Certainly not a reason to ban them, but something to consider as we reevaluate what we truly want to offer as a tourist destination. Families with children hiking trails, going to the beach, shopping and dining in town, or what we are currently seeing on a daily basis.

This is not to include private motor vehicle ownership, this is about the rental business.

Remember when the three wheel vehicles were banned because the accident rate was so high? Do I remember that correctly?

All to be considered and I greatly appreciate your time and thought on this.

It is so important and vital to this community and the future of tourism on Block Island.
Gail

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Sarie Monieson <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:29 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ro.gov
Subject: Support for moped ban!

Hello! My name is Sarie Monieson and I live at 1318 Cooneymus Rd. on Block Island.

I am writing to support the temporary ban on moped rentals. I am distantly related to multiple members of the rescue squad who have devoted their time to rescuing people from traffic violence caused by moped rental monopolies on the island.

Please make the island we love so much a safer place. There is a problem and you have the ability to take action about it.

Block Island strives to better the community, and this is the way to do so. This is the way to prevent tragic deaths that simply should not be happening.

Thank you very much #RespectBI

Best,
Sarie

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Chris Littlefield [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:29 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Ban Mopeds on Block Island

To Whom it May Concern,

I urge the New Shoreham Town Council and Governor Raimondo to ban mopeds on Block Island forever. They are a detriment to the vast majority of visitors and to virtually all of the residents of Block Island. In addition to the accident rates and the recent fatality, which burden our volunteer rescue squad and police, they are noisy, pollute the air, and destroy the tranquility of this special place. They are also spreading Covid as there are large groups gathering at the rental locations without masks every day. Put an end to this insanity.

Chris Littlefield

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From:	Dan [redacted]
Sent:	Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:21 PM
To:	Fiona Fitzpatrick; Ken Lacoste; Andre Boudreau; Sven Risom; Christopher Willi; Martha Ball
Cc:	governor@governor.ri.gov; sen-ruggerio@rilegislature.gov; sen-sosnowski@rilegislature.gov; rep-mattiello@rilegislature.gov; rep-filippi@rilegislature.gov
Subject:	Mopeds and traffic safety- Enact a moratorium

Councilors,
It could not be more clear we have a problem on Block Island today that imperils it's present and it's future. Like many I avoid going out and to
Town as much as possible. Its simply dangerous to do so between June and Labor Day. I would argue it's no community at all if it's residents infrequently leave their homes (pandemic aside).

Many have correctly pointed out the risk to the safety of visitors and our first responders. The situation can only, and surely will, get worse when the day comes it's one of our neighbors or family members involved in the next moped accident - as a driver of a vehicle, a rider on a bike, or a walker on the sidewalk.

The long term solution will take some time to craft. But I urge you to shut it down now, today, and enable the Town to 'live another day' to come up with a plan this winter. If the moped companies take the town to court, I assume we can bring them to the negotiating table. Everything should be on the table - from a buyout (for X years of future revenues), to legislating them out of existence on Block Island, to a change in regulations and stricter enforcement. I'm personally in favor of the more radical part of that spectrum, but the conversation must begin - and a moratorium should be in place until the future is decided upon with intentionality.

I thought Michael Rock's letter to the editor this week was largely on point - what brand do we want to have - and then let's be intentional about getting there. The entire state stands to benefit if we get it right.

Dan Lewis
1335 Cooneymus Road
PO Box 1915
Block Island, RI 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Steve Hester [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:19 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Letter to Town Council

To whom it may concern:
I am in favor of a ban on mopeds for the rest of the year, and a reevaluation of mopeds overall. Unfortunately,they need increased regulation to keep the rest of us safe. Increased age requirements, single riders only, significantly reduced total number in use, are some suggestions.
Also for the Pandemic of 2020, restaurants should be takeout only, nonessential stores should be single customer only.
It's still a pandemic, people.
If the health and safety of the Block Island community is of utmost importance to the Town Council, you must make Block Island healthy and safe for us. There will still be plenty of tourists here, but a smaller and more family oriented crowd.
They'll say, "All there was to do on Block Island during the Pandemic of 2020 was go to the beach, take a walk, ride a bike, get some takeout, have a picnic, spot a bird, play in the water, get some ice cream, window shop, have a barbecue, watch a sunset, stare at the stars, spend some time with our families, and try to not catch the damn virus. It was the best summer we ever had."

Right now they say we are the place where you can still get away with it.

Sincerely,

Steve Hester

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Andrew Collins <[redacted]com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:17 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island moped ban

Andrew Collins
548 Center rd
Block Island RI, 02807

This email is to support the proposed temporary ban of moped rentals on Block Island due to the recent accident and general nuisance and danger imposed by these vehicles on the island.

With thanks
Andrew Collins

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: chris [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:17 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: for tonight

It is clear that our recuse, medical and police forces cannot manage the crowds coming to the island. This island is not safe for visitors or residents.
To try to avoid another death, we need to shut down the fast ferries and rental businesses for the rest of summer.
It is also true that we were beyond our capacity last year. Let's take the next six months to work on lasting changes to prohibit attractive hazards and limit day visitors to only what we are capable of managing with our current resources.
Christine Grele

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From:	Laura Hester <[redacted]
Sent:	Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:16 PM
To:	Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc:	governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject:	August 16, 2020

To the Town Council of New Shoreham and the Block Island Community,

I support the suspension of moped rentals for the remainder of 2020. I would like to clearly state that this is due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting "Covid-19 attitude" that has developed on Block Island this summer. I do not feel that the mopeds are solely responsible for the overall disregard for decency and humanity that has led to two fatalities in one week. I believe that all industries on Block Island remain partially responsible for continuing to push the limits of the letter of the law, rather than participate in the spirit of the law. The Rhode Island state guidelines cater to the tourist industry. They are inadequate, and therefore it is up to the business owners to go above and beyond to protect their patrons as well as their community. It is up to us as a community, both full time and part time, to make the changes we need in order to maintain the welfare of all people. This includes protecting us from the deadly pandemic that is ravaging our country, as well as protecting us from reckless and inexcusable behavior that is endangering our community.

The following is a list of recommendations that I personally believe all Block Island businesses should have already been implementing since the beginning of the season. I continue to love and support our community. I am devastated at what I have seen and been a part of in the place I love more than anywhere on earth.

Sincerely,
Laura Hester

Mopeds
- "No alcohol sales" bracelet
- Age requirement of 25
- One passenger per moped
- No children on mopeds
- Renters must have and submit proof of motor vehicle insurance
- Any ticket or accident shall be reported to renter's motor vehicle insurance
- Limited number of mopeds rented
- Police traffic monitoring

Restaurants
- No outdoor live music
- Bar closure at 11pm
- Restaurant closure at 11pm
- Proper table spacing
- Tables and chairs required, no adirondack seating
- Limited table number to 6
- Mask enforcement upgrade
- Social distancing enforcement upgrade

Boat
- Official oversight of patrons entering boat on Point Judith, Narragansett side
- Employee participation in enforcing mask and social distancing requirements

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Elizabeth McErlean [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:15 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped ban

Dear Town Council,

In light of yesterday's moped fatality I would like to urge you to pass a temporary ban on mopeds effective tonight at 7 pm.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth McErlean Curtis
New Harbor, ME (formerly of Cooneymus Rd, BI)

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Fraser Lang <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:12 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: My island is under assault

Block island's Town Council has an opportunity to make a difference. Two recent tragedies lay bare the fact that for too long the community has looked the other way and anabled, if not encouraged, dangerous behavior that degrades one of "the last great places on earth". Only by taking decisive action can it prevent more loss of life erosion of a sense of well being.

For far too long, Block island has had a reputation as a place where "anything goes." Too many people journey to its shores where they get drunk, high, belligerent and general behave in ways that they would never condone in their own neighborhoods. Let's acknowledge our own responsibility for allowing this to occur.

My family has found a spiritual home on Block Island for more than a century. I am no longer a full time resident but I care deeply about its future.

Many of these problems are systemic and require soul searching. Before we can address those problems I urge the council to develop new standards for the businesses that will insure that no further loss of life occurs.

Fraser Lang
Providence, RI

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Steven Weinberg <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:07 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Please Impose Temporary Ban on Moped Rentals Immediately
Attachments: tc200816 emergency mopeds.docx

To Town Council: I respectfully request that the Town Council impose a temporary ban immediately on moped rentals due to the increased safety and medical issues and the limited ability of the Town's EMS staff and Medical Center to respond.
Steven Weinberg
1326 Peckham Farm Road
Block Island, RI 02807

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Fiona Fitzpatrick** <townclerk@new-shoreham.com>
Date: Sun, Aug 16, 2020 at 3:57 PM
Subject: B.I. Bulletin Board] Town Council Emergency Meeting
To: bibulletin@googlegroups.com <bibulletin@googlegroups.com>

The Town Council will hold an emergency meeting tonight. The agenda is attached. Please use the telephone number, meeting ID and codes on the agenda to dial in to listen. As usual, the meeting will also be broadcast on the New Shoreham Town Council's Youtube channel.

Molly

New Shoreham Town Clerk Fiona Fitzpatrick

Block Island Town Hall

PO Box 220

Block Island, RI 02807

(401) 466-3200

townclerk@new-shoreham.com

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Block Island Bulletin Board"

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Jill Lawrence [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:07 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.com
Subject: Block Island moped moratorium

I believe that a temporary ban on mopeds is long overdue, especially in light of the recent fatality.

I have a house on the corner of Mohegan Trail (1647) and Payne Road, and there are numerous mopeds flying along Payne Road despite the signage that mopeds are not allowed on dirt roads.

Thank you.

Jill O. Lawrence 😊
Sent from my iPad

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Valerie Preler [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:06 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Town council meeting

I am sending this email to our town council as I am disturbed by the atmosphere that has been created on Block Island this summer. Both the ongoing and, what appears to be, increasing incidents with which our emergency services must contend, as well as the general increase in noise and activity both on public roads and throughout town need to be addressed.

Given that the the current problems are taking place during a public health crisis that has already stressed our limited resources, the town council should take immediate action to lessen the risks to both residents and visitors to the island. Taking immediate action to limit the amount of daily visitors and imposing an emergency moratorium on the leasing of mopeds should be imposed. This would allow for time to give more thoughtful consideration of how best to address these matters. If changes are not made immediately, we continue to put everyone on the island at risk.

I would further like to state that I am impressed that our emergency services, law enforcement and medical personnel have been able to manage during these difficult times. Not only do they risk their own personal safety each time they interact with someone on a normal basis, they have continued to attend to their duties during a pandemic that imposed increases in safety control measures without increases in staffing or, as is the case with our EMS, increased infection control measures, with significantly decreased staffing. I implore you to consider the wellbeing of those individuals charged to care for the wellbeing of the Block Island community when making your decisions on how to deal with the current crisis.

Thank you.

Valerie Preler

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: carolyn collins [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:06 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: Governor GR
Subject: Emergency meeting 8/16

Dear Council Members,

I am devastated that we are here!

The rescue implored the town to look at what it anticipated to be an extremely challenging,dangerous summer months ago. All other island businesses faced changes & limitations on their business this summer. The moped businesses did not.

I beg you, as town council members, to halt moped rentals until REAL CHANGE can be implemented protecting us from the horrid effects they have had on our island...it's volunteer rescue, guests & community. (For years)

We need to do better...we all deserve better.

Thank you
Carolyn Collins
Dodge St.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Paige Gaffett <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:05 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Emergency moped meeting

Dear Councilors,
In regards to yesterday's horrible accident, condolences to the families and friends of those close to these young people. It is such a tragedy adding to what has been a tragic week.
While a temporary ban would be a relief (no incessant beeping and could feel safe driving from one job to the next...) it is unrealistic. Not only will it legally affect the town at some point, it is a family's business. As a business owner I would be upset if I was told that I had to immediately close my businesses without having the chance to adjust. That being said, perhaps some accountability needs to be given towards these moped rental businesses. A direct limit needs to take effect: for each rental moped traffic ticket given, revoke one rental moped from that company. For each accident, revoke 2. For each fatality and/or any time the volunteer rescue and fire is called, take away 5. At least some sort of concept along these lines.
And of course, add breathalyzer testing in. And adjust the age limit to that of a car rental (age 26).
And then these precautions NEED TO BE ENFORCED BY THE POLICE. The officers work for you as town employees so they too need to be held accountable.
Thank you for all you have done this far and let's try our best to make it to Labor Day without any more horror stories.
Thank you for your time,
Paige

Paige Gaffett
--
Paige Gaffett, Spring Street Gallery

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Bogdan Suciu [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:04 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: moped on BI

Good evening ,

We always knew this will happen on Blok Island , a fatal accident caused by a moped .
This rental business should be illegal for so many reasons(lack of helmets , training done in 1 minute for ppl who did not ride ever) , but now there one more . Recent accident with a fatal incident

Please ban mopeds on Block Island immediately

Bogdan Suciu

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Ruby Perry <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:04 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: Governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: #RespectBI

Hello,

My name is Ruby Perry and I live at 235 Dodge street. This summer has been a stressful time full of change and uncertainty. What I am certain about is the increase of terrifying moped behavior that has been see around this Island. I have seen young children no older than three hanging onto mopeds, mopeds speeding on side walks, driving on the grass at the local park, standing with helmets unbuckled, swerving over the lines. Yesterday a person my age, 23, was KILLED while riding a moped. While that was a terrifying accident to digest, the fact that there are risks of this kind of death happing all over the island every time a moped is not being safe. I ask for council members to suspend moped rentals until there is a published, clear, and safe plan for regulating these mopeds.

- Ruby Perry

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Jane Cremisi [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:02 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block island: Moped ban

I visited Block Island last week as I've done at least once a year for decades. It is my favorite place.

I can almost taste The Beachead Bloody Mary's as the ferry enters port. And always look forward to a great meal at The Oar.

In most recent years and particularly this last visit, my family and I noted how hazardous the mopeds have become. To the point we no longer ride bikes during our summer visit. Which is something we love doing on B.I. A great disappointment.

Please consider banning mopeds on your magnificent and magical island. The noise, pollution and risk don't mesh with all the beauty and nature Block Island has to offer.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jane Cremisi
Richmond, RI and Newton, MA.

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Lisa Schaller [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:01 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Response to mopeds

My name is Lisa Robb and I have lived the past 44 years on Block Island. I remember when the first mopeds were introduced to the island with much backlash and since that introduction, mopeds have brought no benefits to the well being of this community. In fact, mopeds have been continually the cause of the majority of traffic related accidents, overwhelming our volunteer rescue team and have been the focus of yearly frustration among locals. Mopeds continually add to the overcrowded roads at speeds that untrained (sorry, a four minute lesson is not training) riders can not maintain control on. They are an endangerment to pedestrians and other travelers as well as themselves. Furthermore, they are an unnecessary danger that every year has plagued this community since they arrived. I understand that the moped companies each insist that they are not responsible for the customers that have caused these accidents and that they are doing everything to properly train their renters, but clearly their actions are not enough. If the council cannot ban the mopeds entirely, even if it's just for the remainder of the season, then I implore that they create and enforce much stronger restrictions. For example: no under 25 shall rent a moped, no double riders, no open toed shoes, helmets on AND strapped tightly, no additional rentals following an accident occurring, and perhaps a penalty "donation" paid by the rental company to Rescue Squad following each accident. With this, no moped may be removed from an accident until after the scene has been photographed and documented by the state or local police. I beg of you to consider these options or others that are stronger. I think about the definition of insanity, doing the same thing over and over expecting different results. Well, it's time for the insanity to stop.
Thank you,
Lisa Robb
Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Madeline Torke [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:52 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov; Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: My father had to declare Jackson Panus dead.

Dear Governor and town board,

As a first-hand witness to one of these accidents, and as the daughter of a physician who had to step in and declare a 16-year-old boy dead on his vacation because the medical office was not equipped to handle this, you need to do some thing. This is no longer a joke, these are children's lives. These toys are ruining lives, and as you sit in your office today please remember the multiple families who now can never talk to their child again. Please remember the countless first responders who will never unsee these tragedies. Please remember that the greed of a few inevitably ruins this community.

Do not be scared to shut this down. I am BEGGING you from the bottom of my heart. WE CANNOT DO THIS ANY LONGER.

Madeline Torke
Ridgefield, CT and Block Island, RI

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From:	Libby Nevins [redacted]
Sent:	Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:47 PM
To:	Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc:	governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject:	Mopeds on Block Island

Dear Town Council of Block Island:

My family has been visiting Block Island since I was young and we recently bought a house on the island. I was excited to spend the entire summer here and work a part-time job. I noticed that there were a lot of careless moped drivers this year. It made me nervous as I was driving around the island - a lot of the drivers didn't seem to know how to drive the mopeds and many drove erratically. I was worried about accidents. The people who rent mopeds didn't even try to teach safety or explain how to operate a moped - which I learned when some friends tried to rent a moped. I think mopeds can be fun if the driver is taught about safety, so it would be good for the town to develop better guidance and rules for the moped businesses and renters. Otherwise there will be more accidents on Block Island.

Sincerely,
Libby Nevins
1312 Cooneymus Rd

--
Libby Nevins

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: David Lewis <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:43 PM
To: Ken Lacoste; Andre Boudreau; Sven Risom; Martha Ball; Christopher Willi; Fiona Fitzpatrick; Jim Kern
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Action on BI

Simply stated: The wording of your agenda clearly lays out the four impacts of not taking action. Please take control of the situation. Act decisely. Do not rely on Moped Operators to self-police. That has been tried and failed in various ways in 2020 and past years.

Thank you.
David Lewis
1335 Cooneymus Rd
Block Island, RI
PO Box 1915

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Michael Connelly [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds

There have been too many accidents and bad behavior this year. Please ban rental mopeds for the rest of the year.

Thank you,
Mick Connelly
790 Snake Hole Road
Block Island

Sent from my iPad

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: kevin hassey <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:38 PM
To: kevin hassey
Cc: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.gov; Roseann Hassey
Subject: Immediate Block Island Moped Ban

The Honorable Governor Gina Raimondo and Town Councilors, Town of New Shoreham:

As a concerned long-time Block Island homeowner, we urge you to take all necessary actions immediately to ban moped rentals on Block Island.

Reckless moped driving has resulted in numerous injuries and now a fatality. Every day that moped riding continues is a day when riders will likely have more serious accidents and pedestrians, those in cars and bikers are at risk of being injured as well.

Please make the right decision and make it now...before more loss of life and serious injuries occur.

Sincerely,

Kevin and Roseann Hassey
683 Corn Neck Road
Block Island, Rhode Island

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Kimberly Koelle <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:35 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Fwd: Block Island Ban on MOPEDS!

Kim Koelle

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kimberly Koelle <krkoelle@comcast.net>
Subject: Block Island Ban on MOPEDS!
Date: August 16, 2020 at 3:00:14 PM EDT
To: governor@governor.ri.gov

Please put a ban on all MOPED rentals asap in light of the danger they have and will continue to cause. I've grown up spending my summers on the island, and now my children are too. I cannot have them walk or bike anywhere due to the dangerous environment mopeds cause. We have started to look elsewhere to spend our summers which is unfortunate since the island has always worked hard to protect the island's heritage. Decisions made to allow what happened at Ballards on a daily basis, as well as the effects of moped on the island are an insult to all the island has done to try and preserve the community.

I beg the town and Governor to start making decisions based on the health of the island, community and visitors.

Thank you!

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: ALICIA Hammarskjold <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:25 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: govenor@govenor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island Recklessness

I am a summer resident (47 summers) who is devoted to the community and nature of Block Island. Each summer we welcome thousands to the island, many of whom respect the unique assets and wonderful people of this Island. However, we are at a breaking point.

The magnitude of visitors this summer has been challenging but above all the recklessness of a portion of these visitors threatens the fabric of the community and its limited resources.

Our local and state governments have sided with businesses who threatened that there will be further hardship if restrictions are placed on drinking and mopeds. We are paying the price now for the shortsighted decision to bow to these self-motivated interests.

Please restrict moped use and let us rethink how we promote this island - we can no longer afford to allow alcohol and drinking be the primary reasons people come to Block Island.

Thank you, Alicia Hammarskjold

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Merry Bergan [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:24 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Emergency Moped Ban

To whom it may concern:

As a concerned resident, I'm writing to urge you to place a ban on moped rentals on the island. The mopeds have become menaces on the roads. The drivers of mopeds ignore normal road rules, drive on dangerous dirt roads, and create unnecessary congestion on the roads. If this summer has taught us anything - they must go.

Sincerely,
Meredith Bergan
West Beach Road

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Jim Hinthorn <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:21 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Re: B.I. Bulletin Board] Town Council Emergency Meeting

Hi Molly,

Commend the Town Council on their majority decision to pull outside entertainment licenses, unfortunate that they couldn't just pull the licenses on the real abusers but I understand the need for consistency. Now, I hope they have the resolve and courage to effectively address the long standing moped crisis destroying our community for the financial benefit of a few.

Appreciate you conveying our comments to the Town Council.

Regards,
Jim & Pam Hinthorn

Sent from Jim's iPhone

On Aug 16, 2020, at 3:57 PM, Fiona Fitzpatrick <townclerk@new-shoreham.com> wrote:

The Town Council will hold an emergency meeting tonight. The agenda is attached. Please use the telephone number, meeting ID and codes on the agenda to dial in to listen. As usual, the meeting will also be broadcast on the New Shoreham Town Council's Youtube channel.

Molly

New Shoreham Town Clerk Fiona Fitzpatrick
Block Island Town Hall
PO Box 220
Block Island, RI 02807
(401) 466-3200
townclerk@new-shoreham.com

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Block Island Bulletin Board" group.
To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to bibulletin+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.
To view this discussion on the web visit https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/bibulletin/BL0PR0901MB4211E7C82F8ABD8C9EFCD296925E0%40BL0PR0901MB4211.namprd09.prod.outlook.com.
<tc200816 emergency mopeds.docx>

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Margaret Comings [redacted]t>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:19 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds on Block island

To the Block Island Town Council:
Urgent that you act decisively tonight regarding the moped crisis. Hopefully, you will revoke the moped licenses for the rest of the summer while putting in place more stringent regulations.
Failing that, you should reduce the number of mopeds by 50 percent in line with the Covid-19 crisis, increase minimum age to 25 and allow only one person per moped.
Sincerely,
Margie and Bill Comings
Pilot Hill Road

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Heather <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:18 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Mopeds

To The Town Council,
In light of the higher than usual moped accidents and one fatality and the stress on our EMT's, who are already running on lower than usual volunteers due to Covid-19 concerns, I urge you to remove the moped operators licenses. At the beginning of Summer the BIHS and the Volunteer Rescue Department requested to have the moped licenses held back. Unfortunately you did not heed their request. You have the opportunity to give them some relief for the last few weeks of summer. I strongly urge you to listen to the majority of your constituents over the few who choose to profit from these dangerous vehicles.
Sincerely,
Heather Hatfield

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Carolyn Booth <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:17 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Rental Ban on Block Island

My name is Carolyn Booth
1236 Corn Neck Road
PO Box 1013
BI, RI 02807

I am strongly in favor of the ban on rental mopeds ASAP. This is a problem that is long overdue to be solved. Please listen to the island community crying out for change.

Sent from Outlook

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Amy Hickey <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:06 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Problem

Town Council,
I have been coming to Block Island for summers, and now during much of the off-season, for 52 years. I have family members who live here year round and who volunteer for the rescue squad and fire departments. These moped accidents and near misses have taken a toll on all of us. Never mind those accidents that cause fatalities and serious harm but the fear they put in a driver as we navigate narrow winding and congested roads watching inexperienced and unsteady, often first-time moped operators, wreaking havoc all over the Island. I have assisted many moped accident victims over the years as a good samaritan. Many go unreported. Our rescue squad and fire department do an incredible job but they are the same, I'm estimating, 20 people called on again and again to serious accidents on a regular basis, day and night, in the summer months. They have many other important medical emergencies they must tend to so it's too much on our first responders volunteering or otherwise.

This summer in particular I have seen more reckless drivers. People with THREE adults on one moped. I have seen the usual no helmet wearing drivers, seemingly impaired drivers, operators driving erratically crossing the mid-line and swerving, people driving on the dirt roads and going through stop signs as one big group. Many of the visitors on mopeds are not sightseeing but treating these mopeds like they are amusement park rides. Then you have those drivers trying to abide by the rules but they just aren't experienced on the moped and they mistakenly hit the accelerator instead of the break and slam into a guard rail. I saw two moped drivers recently hit stone walls and somehow only had a some scrapes and bruises after being thrown from the bike.

I don't understand how moped rental companies can commandeer a public road to do "training". I'm afraid to drive down Weldon's Way as "instructors" ignore the cross walk and walk right in front of cars, and allow new moped drivers to weave along this busy narrow road just missing pedestrians, cars and other obstacles, driving through. Who are these people certifying that the renters are "qualified" to drive these VERY dangerous vehicles? Why are non-motorcycle licensed drivers allowed to carry/endanger a passenger?

I believe we can start by trying again to enforce some of the rules already in place and definitely require a motorcycle license for those drivers with a passenger. Personally I wouldn't mind seeing mopeds banned from Block Island but I understand they provide a service. That said, there are much safer, lower speed, easier to maneuver vehicles that would be safer alternatives.

I do not think the customer is at all informed of the dangers and possibility of serious injury or death. I do think that stricter regulations with particular regard for safety and conduct with enforcement of rules would make things a lot better.

It is irresponsible to ignore this. We need to take action.

Thank you for your time,

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Block Island Linen Rental [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:03 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: bibulletin@googlegroups.com
Subject: Re: B.I. Bulletin Board] Town Council Emergency Meeting

Is this a agenda to keep kicking the can down the road?

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 16, 2020, at 3:57 PM, Fiona Fitzpatrick <townclerk@new-shoreham.com> wrote:

The Town Council will hold an emergency meeting tonight. The agenda is attached. Please use the telephone number, meeting ID and codes on the agenda to dial in to listen. As usual, the meeting will also be broadcast on the New Shoreham Town Council's Youtube channel.

Molly

New Shoreham Town Clerk Fiona Fitzpatrick
Block Island Town Hall
PO Box 220
Block Island, RI 02807
(401) 466-3200
townclerk@new-shoreham.com

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Block Island Bulletin Board" group.
To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to bibulletin+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.
To view this discussion on the web visit https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/bibulletin/BL0PR0901MB4211E7C82F8ABD8C9EFCD296925E0%40BL0PR0901MB4211.namprd09.prod.outlook.com.
<tc200816 emergency mopeds.docx>

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Edward Lloyd <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 4:00 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block island moped ban

Hello,

I'm writing in support of the temporary ban on mopeds on Block Island. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Best,
Edward Lloyd

P.O. Box 891
BI, RI 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Brigitte S <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:59 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov; Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Emergency Moped Ban

Dear Governor & Wardens,

I strongly support an immediate temporary ban on moped rentals. I am not sure at what point in the history of the island the power of a few businesses and tourists came to outweigh the enjoyment and safety of a community - but it is clear that has been the case of this summer. So far **this week** I have seen :

Mopeds driving on the wrong side of the road
Mopeds driving on dirt roads
Groups of 10+ mopeds beeping and blocking all traffic
People on the side of the road from wiped out mopeds
A helmet go flying off a moped driver while underway

The war against mopeds has been ongoing for decades on Block Island, as a quick google search will bring up articles dating back to 1984 regarding the "Nopeds" movement. Mopeds have now gone from a nuisance to a danger. I'm not alone when I say I avoid town during the summer months, but mopeds have now swarmed the dirt roads in droves with the obnoxious beeping echoing in all directions. The island is overwhelmed this summer and if the recent motor vehicle fatalities haven't illustrated something needs to change, I do not know what will. The moped companies have no motivation to change their policies if there are no penalties for their continued endangerment of the community. Please do something before more lives are lost or permanently altered.

Thank you,
Brigitte Spillane
966 Dories Cove Rd.

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Stephen Hilger <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:55 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: No more senseless fatalities on the roads of Block Island

Dear Town Council,

I am writing in support of the temporary ban on mopeds on Block Island. I also urge that the potential long term ban or institution ofmajor changes of moped rental and enforcement is taken up. On a daily basis, I see reckless behavior my those on mopeds and it poses a threat to others.

Sincerely,
Stephen Hilger
984 Lewis Farm Road, Block Island

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: chris blansfield <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:55 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Mopeds

The time has come to solve this problem; how many accidents, rescue calls, injuries, lifeflights, and deaths should a community tolerate? Not to mention weldons way used as a training ground, horns being honked indiscriminately everywhere, packs of incompetent drivers careening down both paved and dirt roads dispite signage. This is one of the most vexing and annoying problems BI has faced in many years, we as a community deserve better

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Anne Salinas <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:55 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Need for immediate moratorium on BI moped rentals

Dear Town Council,

I am writing to you as a long time island home owner (since 1995) and lifetime summer resident. I have been disturbed by the quantity, and dangerous behavior, of moped renters this season and was shocked and saddened by news of a moped fatality on the island yesterday. Public safety should be the Town Council's priority and, given that the moped situation seems out of control, I hope that you will put a moratorium on moped rentals in place for the remainder of 2020 and have a task force appointed to examine the issues around moped rentals to see if the benefits to the residents and visitors to this Island (and not just to the moped rental companies) outweigh the negative impacts.

Thank you,

Anne O'Toole Salinas
620 Corn Neck Rd.
Block Island, RI 02807

[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From:	Ariel Steinberg [redacted]
Sent:	Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:54 PM
To:	Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc:	governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject:	Request to block Mopeds on Block Island (1302 cooneymus Rd, Ariel Steinberg)

Dear Town Clerk of New Shoreham, RI and Governor Raimondo,

I'm writing in support of the movement to temporarily ban moped rentals until a safe, economical, and environmentally sound solution is agreed upon.

I also please ask that you consider the suggested solutions below:
*trade in mopeds for electric bikes placing inconspicuous charging stations around island.
*if going without mopeds entirely is out of the question, then do the above, but keep some. Have fewer mopeds for rent at an increased rate.
*provide more signage around island with warnings
*Insist on more thorough training
*Demand accountability among moped rental company owners.
*Mandate wristbands be given to both drivers and riders upon payment of deposit and not returned until bike is back safely and no police reports have been filed.
*Ban alcohol beverage sales to those wearing wristbands.
*Reduce rates of taxi services
*Provide free DD services

Doing all of the above or some combo will likely increase income, reduce accident rates, eliminate or greatly reduce the fatality rate, free up police and medical rescue teams, and be better for the environment and the lives of all who live and visit this wonderful island.

All the best,

Ariel Steinberg
1302 cooneymus Rd

--
Sent from Gmail Mobile

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Katherine Wolkoff <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:54 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: govenor@govenor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island Mopeds

Dear Town Clerk,
I think mopeds are far too dangerous to allow on this island. Doesn't the recent death and myriad accidents prove this point?
We need to take back our island and return it to its tranquil state. PLEASE vote them off the island. Thank you.
Sincerely,
Katherine Wolkoff
489 Lewis Farm Rd.

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Amanda Banks <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:52 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Block Island Moped Ban

I am writing as a Block Island property owner and physician, out of deep concern for the public health threat posed by mopeds, to express my strong support for a moped ban whilst proper research can be conducted and a thoughtful strategy devised.

In addition to personally taking care of several victims of moped accidents roadside over the years, including resuscitating and stabilizing a moped driver pending EMT arrival several years ago on Spring Street, I live on Whale Swamp Rd, the location of yesterday's moped-related fatality.

There is no doubt this island is facing a public health and resourcing crisis of its own making.

This is quite obviously compounded by the impact of the COVID pandemic.

A temporary ban that can allow a full investigation into the facts, trends and possible approaches going forward is the responsible and ethical thing for this town council to do.

We cannot continue to value revenue over human lives and expect to thrive as a community.

Sincerely,

Amanda Banks Christini, MD
324 Whale Swamp Rd
[redacted]

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Elizabeth <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:53 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Cut the number of mopeds by at least half now

Dear Town Council,
The time has come to take action to significantly reduce the number of mopeds on Block Island- permanently. The enormous costs of having far too many mopeds on Block Island are borne by the entire island and it's visitors and yet the benefits accrue to a handful of operators.

Other islands are far ahead of Block Island in ensuring a modest number of mopeds and regulating their use. We can learn from them, stiffen our spine and make changes to improve life on this island for all.

It's time to take action to put the interests of the many people who want to peacefully and safely be on block island ahead of the few who profits from the mopeds.

Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth Littlefield
Graces Cove Rd. Fire # 1265

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Susan Coolidge [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:51 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: govenor@govenor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds

Hi, I think mopeds are far to dangerous to allow on this island. Doesn't the recent death and myriad accidents prove this point? We need to take back our island and return it to its tranquil state. PLEASE vote them off the island. Thank you.
Susan Coolidge
489 Lewis Farm Rd.

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Lili Sill Morrison [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:47 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Call To Action

David Morrison (EMT, resident and business owner)
and Lucinda Morrison (resident and business owner)
P.O. Box 1762
168 Old Town Road
Block Island, RI 02807

We request a temporary moped ban at least through the end of this year, while we all address how the future will be handled. Too many lives are in danger and this must change.

Sincerely,
Lucinda and David Morrison

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Carol Goodenough <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:47 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Ban on Mopeds on BI

To whom it may concern,

I am a home owner on Old Mill Road. This has been a difficult summer in so many way on Block Island. The continuous concerns about the ferry through out the season has been one issue, as I need to go back and forth to the main land quite often due to recent surgery.

Not unrelated though, is the dangerous ways the mopeds seem to be being driven this year, on our island. Just last weekend, I saw two young men (in a big group of mopeds that were stoping at the end of Cooneymus Road) riding backwards as passengers, and getting cheered on by others in their group. I have also witnessed at least two mopeds going down as they have taken corners too fast, this summer.

Somehow, people seem to feel they can come out here and go a bit crazy. As if the rules didn't apply here. (a similar issue with those who refuse to wear a mask on the ferry). It has been good to see the police, both local and state presence, and more mopeds being pulled over in the last few weeks. But I do not feel the police can be the only answer here. I would fully support a temporary ban on mopeds in light of the fatality yesterday. A review of what mopeds add to the island (other than cash in the pocket of the owner) I believe is also needed.

Thank you for your consideration.

All the best,
Carol Goodenough
590 Old Mill Road

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Chris Bergan <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:46 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Ban on Block Island

To whom it may concern,

My name is Chris Bergan and live with my family on Block Island, 1767 West Beach road. It's come to my attention that there is an upcoming emergency vote on placing a temporary ban on moped rentals. As a resident, I support a ban on moped rentals for a variety of reasons but mainly because of how unsafe they have made the island this summer. People are treating the island like it's a magical vacation land far from any global pandemic where the rules don't matter. So often this summer I have been walking on corn neck road and had to jump onto the grass shoulder to avoid a dangerously swerving moped or groups of mopeds. Driving on Corn Neck and other roads, especially through town, has been especially stressful trying to avoid the large groups of moped renters spread out across the road. The rental places seem willing to rent to anyone regardless of their level of sobriety and place no emphasis at all on safety procedures.

Block Island shouldn't be a place where people are dying in accidents every weekend, but this August has proven to be an alarming period. I implore the town of new Shoreham to vote to ban the rental of mopeds though the end of the tourist season. And if the town can't do that then Governor Raimondo needs to step in, because again, people are dying.

Best,
Chris Bergan
([redacted]
1767 West Beach Road

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Leslie Anne <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:46 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gove
Subject: Temporary ban on mopeds on Block Island

I agree wholeheartedly that there should be a ban on mopeds on Block Island. Accidents and fatalities are happening with greater frequency and it is important for the safety of everyone and for the well being of the rescue squad, during Covid-19, that the island to at the very least put in place a temporary ban.

Leslie Steinberg -1302 Cooneymus, Block Island, R.I.

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: James Deskin [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:36 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped rescind liscence

James Deskin
P O Box 1348. B. I
Stop this carnage !
When is enough. ENOUGH

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Michael Brownell [redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:34 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Rental Mopeds

Please stop the madness. Do Something!!!

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: gillian lang <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:32 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov; Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Block Island moped ban

I am writing in support of a temporary ban on mopeds on block island.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gillian Lang
Lewis Farm, Cooneymus Road
PO Box 1233
Block Island, RI
02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Emily Dowling, '17 [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:32 PM
Cc: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Re: Emergency moped ban

To the Governor and the Wardens,

I'm writing on behalf of the entire Block Island community to urge you to ban the moped businesses. This summer has been a threat to everyone's safety as children and drunks recklessly drive mopeds around our island: down dirt roads, middle of the street, wrong side of the street endangering everyone in their path. I've never felt as unsafe as a driver, walker, and biker as I have this summer. Please help us return our island to safety and make the roads of Block Island safe for those who should be on them. It saddens me to hear of tragedies on the streets of Block Island happening as frequently as they are.

A few weeks ago, I took a concussed friend to the medical center that was at max capacity due to the moped accident and could not tend to her brain injury. Our rescue squad has never worked harder to get to each and every moped crash this summer. Our island doesn't have the resources or the capacity to tend to the moped casualties, as well as all the day to day needs (more so now than ever in a pandemic). I urge you to make a change- get rid of the mopeds, raise the rental age to 25, or hire medical/rescue staff exclusively for the mopeds. Something needs to change.

Best,
Emily Dowling
770 Lakeside

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Rebecca Ballard <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:31 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Stop mopeds on Block Island

As a resident of Block Island, Rhode Island, I strongly request that all MOPED operations on Block Island be BANNED IMMEDIATELY.
Rebecca Ballard
West Side Road

Sent from my iPad

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Rob Grant [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:30 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Block Island Moped Ban

Town clerk,

As a home owner on Block Island, we urge you to consider the temporary moped ban. How many irresponsible tourists have to die before we ban these noisy, dangerous machines!?

Thank you for your consideration.

Rob Grant
[redacted]m
[redacted]

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Karen Mitchell <[redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:27 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.com
Subject: MOPED BAN

To whom it may concern...

My husband and I feel blessed and lucky to own two homes on Block island -
612 corn neck road
1765 corn neck road
(Both very close to scotch beach)

We have grown increasingly
concerned for the safety of our family, friends and visitors due to the chaos created by allowing so many rental mopeds on the island during the busy summer months. I have been personally witness to many "near misses" as I ride my bicycle around the island even early in the morning. It is of utmost importance for the island and its residents to take back control of the moped rentals and work with the business owners to find a solution to create a safer, quieter and calmer block island that we all love.
Respectfully
Karen and Bob Mitchell

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Michael Ballard <[redacted]om>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:26 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds on BI

As a resident, I requested that all moped operations on Block Island be banned ASAP.

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Charlotte B Herring <[redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:21 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Temporary Ban on Moped Rentals on Block Island

I understand the Town Council is holding an emergency meeting tonight regarding mopeds on Block Island. Given yesterday's death and all the serious accidents that have occurred, I want to convey my strong support to temporarily ban moped rentals for the remainder of the summer seasons.

Thank you for your consideration,
Charlotte Herring
1158 Ocean Ave
Block Island, RI. 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:20 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov; Perfido, Leonard
Subject: Emergency BI Council Meeting

Block Island Town Council is holding an emergency meeting to discuss a ban on mopeds given the untimely death of a young man yesterday and the escalating dangerous behavior by moped riders. Please be advised that my husband Leonard and I support this ban and recommend that it be approved and not lifted unless and until responsible and comprehensive provisions are drafted and approved by the necessary governing bodies.

Ruth and Leonard Perfido

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: The Sea Breeze <info@seabreezeblockisland.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:19 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick; governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds

To the Town Council,

Please enact a temporary ban on moped rentals until this issue can be addressed, for the health and safety of Block Island.

Thank you,
Andrea Newhouse

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From:	Josh Maldonado [redacted]m>
Sent:	Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:16 PM
To:	Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc:	governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject:	Block Island Moped Rental Ban

To Whom It May Concern,

As a year-round Block Island resident and small business owner, I feel the need to write in support of the ban on moped vehicles for the remainder of the season.

I do not hold a grudge against moped rental workers and managers who work tirelessly to fulfill the needs of their customers. I'm also aware there are well-meaning travelers who rent mopeds and drive them safely around the island without issue. Unfortunately, both groups are overwhelmed by individuals who purposely act out of line in search of a lost weekend. They don't care about the results of their actions unless it affects them personally.

The freedom to spend time safely on Block Island far outweighs the freedom to joyride around for a few hours, drunk off alcohol and/or entitlement, endangering the lives of anyone within reach of their reckless movements.

As long as we put pressure on rental businesses to make capital above all else, to the point of self-sabotage, I cannot see any alternative than to temporarily ban moped rentals for the safety of our community and travelers alike.

Sincerely,
Joshua Maldonado
39 Beach Ave. #1137
Block Island, RI 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Bob Krusewski <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:07 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Ban on mopeds

Hi Molly and Governor
I am totally in favor of banning mopeds from the island as they are Totally unnecessary and a menace to their drivers, passengers, pedestrians, and motor vehicles. We live at 1153 Spring Street And had visual ability to observe the terrible tragedy surrounding yesterday's fatal Accident ...involving the local and state police, a motor vehicle, first responders, ambulance personnel and not to be forgotten An innocent young family of five walking up the hill to the lighthouse who were Unfortunately eye witness to the horror unfolding before their eyes. Let's offer these mostly young people some safe alternatives when They come to visit our beautiful island. Sending them home in " body Bags" is NOT an acceptable choice for our town or state. Please help Block Island return to the very reason most of us are here... quiet beauty to be enjoyed by all ages. Thank you

Robert V Krusewski

Sent from my iPad

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Mackenzie Hudson [redacted].com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:51 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: ban rental mopeds on Block Island

Hello,

Due to the constant moped accidents, injuries, and deaths, especially the most recent on Block Island, RI, in combination with the decreased capacity of medical personnel currently on the island due to Coding-19, I request a ban of rental mopeds on block island.

Mackenzie Hudson

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: taryn macgregor[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:02 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Necessary action- call to temporarily ban mopeds

Dear Town Clerk of BI,
This community is boundlessly magical in all it's many quirks and endeavors. The support for our businesses out here has grown exponentially over the years which is wonderful for the livelihoods of this community. However, with excessive growth comes need for adjusted policies and order to this ever expanding.
The horrendous accident that happened on the 15th is the tip of the iceberg to the egregious mismanagement of the Block Island moped rentals, and the rescue squad ABSOLUTELY deserves to be supported by this community the same way we support our businesses out here.
Myself and so many others urge the town council to implicate a temporary ban on the renting of mopeds immediately. At the very least, make bracelets mandatory to be worn for renters of mopeds which prevent them from being served ANY alcohol ANYWHERE.
Please make a necessary change to this madness and help us continue to support the people who love to live here and volunteer their good time to saving lives and responding to horrifically traumatic situations..
Take care of your community first, so they can continue to take care of you.
Best regards,
Taryn MacGregor
Andrei Cerbu
1151 beacon hill road BI, RI 02807.

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Hope Reeves [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:04 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: ban mopeds--and remake our island image!

This Is Not Just Mopeds—This Is An Existential Crisis

Dear Town Counselors,

A couple of years ago I saw a Block Island t-shirt that stopped me in my tracks. It was featured, front and center, in the window of shop on Water Street. I stood staring at it for a full minute as a combination of sadness and fury washed over me. I realized that its message had come to epitomize our island, or at least what so many seem to come here to "enjoy." ***Bad Choices Make Good Stories.*** That is what the t-shirt said and that is what we are selling, not just in our island boutiques, but as the identity of our island community. ***Come here, do really stupid stuff (you would never do anywhere else) and go home to brag about it.***

Today, more than ever, that is the attitude that seems to pervade Block Island in the summer. And it's not just an unintended byproduct, a fun item of clothing with a cute message in a jaunty font. It is a brand many are selling and making money from. Block Island is where you come to get wasted and engage in risky behavior with no consequences. But as two fatal crashes in one week has made abundantly clear, there are consequences. I'm amazed it took this long (see my 2016 letter to the editor below) for people to take this seriously. Deadly behavior causes death, if not every time, enough times to make it absolutely unacceptable. It is an unavoidable law of the universe, and no amount of beautiful beaches, windswept cliffs and adorable seafood restaurants will change that.

To those for whom profit trumps everything, for those who don't really mind the loss of lives and the selling of souls as long as it equals money, please consider this: Because of our turn-the-other-cheek behavior, Block Island has become a place many families no longer want to visit, and even longtime summer residents are finding themselves rethinking their choices. If you can't leave your home without risking your family's safety, is Block Island really where you want to be? This is not a threat or a theoretical concept, it is a fact. Block Island has become an island that many see as not safe, not fun and not inviting for anyone other than heavy-drinking day-trippers. If the tragedies of the past week have not moved you, let the might of the collective wallet be your motivation. Block Island tourism will fail if families do not feel safe here.

Block Island does not just have a moped problem, as so many want to frame this, we have an identity problem. Do we want this to be an island where families come to relax, spend time together and enjoy the abundant beauty and peace Block Island has to offer? Or do we want this to be an island where young people come to get drunk, act disgracefully and do incredibly unsafe things, endangering themselves and everyone else?

I would say what we're suffering is not just an identity problem—it is an existential crisis. People are dying and lives are being destroyed as we sit by, wringing our hands but doing nothing concrete to solve the problem. Let's not be complicit in this any longer. Let's stop the madness and remake Block Island into a safe place for everyone, young and old and in between.

Bad Choices Make Tragic Stories. Please, let's rewrite our story while we still can.

Sincerely,

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Annie Dunleavy <[redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:09 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.com
Subject: Emergency Meeting

To whom it may concern:

My name is Annie Dunleavy. I am a summer resident of 227 Water Street. I live and work at Star Department Store, so I unfortunately have a front row seat to the terror mopeds wreak across Block Island each summer. This summer has been particularly scary, and I trust that everyone involved in this decision has public safety at the forefront of the agenda.

Please, do something to allow Block Island a fair chance at a peaceful remainder of the summer.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Annie Dunleavy

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Molly Friedrich [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:11 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Ban on Mopeds

Please add my name, Molly Friedrich, to those seeking a ban on Mopeds on Block Island. It's no longer even possible to walk, there are so many untrained Moped renters, it's incredibly dangerous and the number of accidents is unacceptable.

Thank you, Molly Friedrich, 1309 Peckam Farm Road, Block Island

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Mitchell Driesman [redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:13 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped rentals

To Town of New Shoreham
In view of the recent fatalities but more importantly related to the overall miss use of mopeds on the island, I think moped rental needs to be reevaluated. Clearly we need a strong emphasis on safety. The minimal teaching on Chapel Street is both dangerous and inadequate.
It is our belief, the town needs to address these issues. The real benefit for a few vendors needs to be balanced by overall Island safety and overuse of EMT and Med Center facilities

Mitch and Shelley Driesman, MDs

1755 Corn Neck Rd

Sent from my iPad

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Darius <dariusblockisland@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:32 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds

Dear B.I. Town Council,

I believe that the island is out of control and that banning moped rentals may be a way to put out some of the fires that are currently raging.

It upsets me to write this because I do believe if general laws were enforced relating to traffic and open containers we might not be in a position where such extreme regulation is necessary.

However in this case it does seem that a portion of visitors to the island are not capable of making good choices on their own and that they are not being held accountable for their bad behavior. As our reputation as a lawless land is growing, we are endangering our community and straining our resources during a pandemic. With a heavy heart, and only until we are able to create a better solution, I support a TEMPORARY ban on moped rentals.

Thank You for your hard and thankless work, Christy Zendt
62 Dodge Street

THE DARIUS INN
P. O. Box 1387
Block Island, RI 02807
401-466-2722
dariusblockisland.com

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Carla E. Meyer <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:37 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Crisis

To Whom It May Concern,

In light of the many serious moped accidents this season, we are writing to support a temporary ban of moped rentals on Block Island. In additional, the state should rescind the previous ruling and allow the town to make its own decisions regarding public safety in the matter of moped rentals.

With health concerns from the pandemic, each accident puts our rescue squad and firefighters in danger, and the cumulative affect is wearing down our health infrastructure.

For the many guests who come to the island as an escape from mainland troubles, rental of a moped seems to be an innocent way to see the island. Unfortunately the necessary skill set is not present and it is too often a terrible end to a light hearted trip to our beautiful island.

It not good for islanders and for too many visitors it is not good for them either.

Sincerely,

Carla Meyer and Vin Ryan

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Elizabeth Holmes [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:38 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Mopeds/Tonight's meeting

Hi all,

I am writing this from a wedding, so this is only 2-3 minutes of my thoughts on this issue, and I am also taking a break from a wedding where I am paid to be the photographer to do this. It's important as hell to me.

I'm a former EMT, specifically of Block Island Rescue. This conversation is one I've been having with MoMo for years.

Please, please ban mopeds for the duration of the season.

As an individual who has driven multiple ambulances in different parts of the Northeast, averages 2,000 miles/week driving for work, I have never been afraid to drive any vehicle, any where.

Until I got off the boat just 2-3 weeks ago.

Driving in my own personal vehicle, I was honestly terrified as I made it to the West side (took over 45 minutes).

Between mopeders who did not have control of their moped, and pedestrians, the roads were practically impassable at a speed of greater than 10 miles per hour.

And to be honest, I was terrified I would accidentally kill someone with my vehicle as I drove — because of how irresponsible others were behaving on mopeds.

Yes, they're fun, they generate income, but they cannot be on island anymore this season. The island's only rescue squad, only EMTs, do not need to face another traumatic call this season. The department has faced a career ending call already, they don't need more this season.

E

eli holmes
they/them/their
photographer
508-654-6437
seasmtns.co
sistercityphotography.com

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Anna Novak <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:38 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Ban

To Whom it may Concern -
I am writing in regard to the proposed temporary Moped Ban. I am all in favor. Moped users are out of control and flaunting all rules and respect for the road. I will allow that I am not a business owner and can only imagine how difficult it must be to operate in the current climate, however something must change.
I live across the street from Weldons Way and have a clear view of 'training'. This starts early in the morning and continues all day. Tourists are grouped together on their mopeds while basic operational instructions are shouted at them by one man. They are told how to accelerate, stop, and brake as a group. They then are sent on a test run down Weldons Way and if they can balance they 'pass' and are sent on their merry way. Often it is a young kid overseeing the test runs. This whole process takes maybe 15 minutes maximum. Selling as many mopeds as quickly as possible is clearly the aim here. A group process may be efficient but does not allow for attention to detail or safety. I have watched many a nervous or rickety rider pass.
The safety monitors are simply not enough. They can not be everywhere all the time. Even though there is a sign posted stating mopeds can not turn on to High street I watch moped users ignore it and turn up anyways. I have seen mopeds on dirt roads where they are not allowed. The four corners is also a nightmare. Cars have to jam on their brakes and stop suddenly when moped operators and bikes cruise through without stopping. The amount of noise pollution generated by these mopeds is another issue. The incessant beeping needs to stop. If one is dowtown it can be heard at all hours of the day and night.
To echo the sentiments read in the Block Island Times- why are a few businesses allowed to degrade the character, safety, and resources of the island in order to make a buck? What are they giving back to the community? Why are lives being lost? It is tragic and unacceptable. I believe the purpose of government is to protect and serve the people. Something must change. Please enforce a temporary moped ban and in the future change the way these businesses are allowed to operate.

Anna Novak
460 Chapel Street

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Alexa Lawrence [redacted]il.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:40 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.com; Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Mopeds on Block Island

To the governor of Rhode Island and the New Shoreham town clerk,

My family and I are deeply saddened by the fatal moped accident that occurred on Block Island yesterday. However, I cannot say we are surprised. Over the years, we have witnessed numerous moped accidents, and as island road traffic has increased it seemed only inevitable that accidents would become more frequent and more serious.

Now is the time to take action to avoid such senseless loss of life. I urge you to ban mopeds on the island. They have been a safety and environmental concern for decades.

At the very, very least, the requisite training must be seriously reviewed (the training process — which appears to take place on town land — is so insufficient it would be laughable were it not so horribly dangerous), the speeds of the vehicles should be regulated, the numbers of mopeds diminished and/or the cost of rental increased, and a switch to electric models made mandatory.

I sincerely hope you will commit to taking steps to save lives on our island.

Thank you for your time.

Alexa Lawrence

House 796
Mohegan Trail

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:14 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds on Block Island

I'm writing to share thoughts and examples to the discussion about safety and other problems with mopeds on Block Island. I've been visiting for years, and was on the island last week, and saw many examples of moped riders cruising fast and care-free along the roads – often with riders in sandles or barefoot stretching legs and feet close to the road, and zipping past walkers. It can be fun for moped riders, and can seem a great way to zip around the island, but makes those walking on roads jump aside, and forces cars to either wait behind the zig-zags and horn-beeps, or try to find a time and place to move past this.

Among cars, mopeds, bicycles, and walkers – the mopeds are the least aware and least concerned about others, and it'd improve safety and quality of life on the island if the mopeds were better limited or controlled or removed.

Todd Macalister

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Amanda Lumley [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:15 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: Govenor@govenor.ri.gov
Subject: RE: Temporary Ban on Mopeds

Amanda Lumley
Star Department Store
227 Water Street
New Shoreham, RI 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Mary Najmy <[redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:16 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov; Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: Elisabeth N Najmy; Gabriella NAJMY; Joe Najmy; Justin Najmy; Nicole Fulbright
Subject: Fwd: MOPED BAN on BLOCK ISLAND

To Town Council members ,
We are 25 year summer residents of Block Island , and are deeply disturbed by the events that have been occurring on the island involving mopeds this summer , including the fatality of a young man yesterday.
We are requesting a temporary moped ban on Block Island be put in place immediately by our local officials .
Please listen to your local residents and take action now to protect your local residents and the island .
Sincerely
Mary & Joe Najmy

Email
Websterdog4@gmail.com
Corn Neck Rd
Block Island , RI

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Mitchell Driesman [redacted]n>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:16 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped rentals

To Town of New Shoreham
In view of the recent fatalities but more importantly related to the overall miss use of mopeds on the island, I think moped rental needs to be reevaluated. Clearly we need a strong emphasis on safety. The minimal teaching on Chapel Street is both dangerous and inadequate.
It is our belief, the town needs to address these issues. The real benefit for a few vendors needs to be balanced by overall Island safety and overuse of EMT and Med Center facilities

Mitch and Shelley Driesman, MDs

Sent from my iPad

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Anna Pearce[redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:18 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Moped Ban for rest of summer

Dear town council,

I consider Block Island to be the most special place on earth, and it will always be my home. The behavior I have seen this summer from visitors, especially moped riders, has been off the charts in terms of lack of respect and carelessness.

I know it may not be the perfect long term solution, but something has to be done now to stop more accidents and running our already exhausted volunteer rescue squad further into the ground, so I implore you to ban Moped rentals for the rest of the summer.

With best regards,
Anna Pearce

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Meghan Royster[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:18 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Block Island Moped Concern

Hello,

We heard there was an emergency meeting called following the horrific accident that occured this weekend involving a moped and two young adults.

After many years on the island, our family has witnessed numerous serious issues regarding the mopeds and we would like to express a sincere plea to remove them from the island or to, at the very least, implimate new and stringent regulations.

Our frustration and concern for these vehicles stem from observing the following precarious behaviors involving the mopeds:

- The speed at which mopeds are driven in congested areas and around dangerous curves.
- Drivers and riders smoking marijuana before returning to operate the vehicle under the influence.
- Drivers and riders appearing intoxicated while operating the vehicle.
- The distracted nature of the drivers when multiple vehicles are rented and are riding together in a group.
- The several near accidents we have had with moped drivers while driving in a car, biking, or walking, from the driver not checking his or her surroundings when making a turn.
- The complete disruption of the island's natural environment when drivers incessantly beep their horns.

Thank you for hearing our concerns and we wish you the best at tonight's meeting.

Sincerely,
Meghan Royster

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Gwen Pritchard [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:21 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Banning mopeds on Block Island

To: Molly Fitzpatrick

It just came to my attention that there will an Emergency Meeting of the Town Council to address the growing problem associated with continuing to rent mopeds on Block Island. While I am not a resident of the Island, I have been a regular visitor for more than 30 years. Over the years it would have been hard to miss the growing danger and inconvenience caused by these barely regulated vehicles operated by inexperienced drivers. My visit this summer proved to me the problem is getting worse and the chances for accidents and injury are increasing. I am asking you and your colleagues to seriously consider a ban on using mopeds on the Island for everyone's safety and to maintain the environment of this amazing place.
Best wishes,
Gwen Pritchard
Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Maggie delia [redacted]n>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:25 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: BAN THE MOPEDS. ITS TIME TO CARE MORE ABOUT LIVES THAN MONEY

Dear Town Council,

As a long time home owner on Block Island, I have watched as the mopeds have designed the present and the future of the Island—and not for the better.

People who have no idea how to drive them AND with passengers on back wobbling down the road with grave uncertainty, or speeding by honking their horns non stop, or driving down dirt roads that are illegal for them to drive on.

I've seen my share of accidents from mopeds, luckily not the horrendous ones—but it's clear they were over their heads being on a moped to begin with! I felt bad for them.

I have never understood why, but clearly a lot of vacationers to Block Island think they are invincible while there and their common sense seems to be weakened by being on our idyllic island.

It is our job to safeguard our visitors and to stop making these dangerous vehicles available.

It's time to care more about the people and their families than the threat of lawsuits. How many more people have to die or be injured?

Please bring your leadership to this urgent problem!

Ban the mopeds.

Thank you,

Maggie & Michael Delia
1635 Whale Swamp Road
Block Island R.I. 02807

Get Outlook for iOS

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Michael Foster [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:31 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Restriction

As homeowners and concerned citizens on Block Island (Michael and Elizabeth Foster 1679 Beacon Hill Rd), we wish to voice our concern about the current state of moped activity on Block Island. We believe that this situation warrants immediate attention and investigation. While we do not believe that there needs to be a total ban on mopeds, we do believe that there needs to be more regulation and control over the number of mopeds and how they are utilized on the island. We have seen too many young people abusing normal traffic regulations and riding mopeds as if there were no other vehicles on our roads. We believe that limitations need to be set on the number of mopeds, more training and information on appropriate operation, adding breathalyzer testing to start, and raising the minimum age of rental to at least 25 years of age. Moped rentals should be limited until an appropriate investigation is completed and adequate regulation is instituted.
In addition, we believe it is irresponsible for the town to allow the current use of mopeds without significantly increasing the availability of appropriate emergency medical treatment, including the addition of paramedics and emergency room services on the island.
Michael and Elizabeth Foster

--

Michael J. Foster
Managing Director
RFE Investment Partners
36 Grove Street
New Canaan CT 06840
203 966-2800
203 966-3109 (fax)
mfoster@rfeip.com

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Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Jane Schutte[redacted]om>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:32 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Fwd: In support of banning mopeds on Block Island

I reciprocate the forwarded email and would also like to express my support for the moped ban. Please support this important public safety cause.

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Drew Schutte** <s[redacted]
Date: Sun, Aug 16, 2020 at 1:48 PM
Subject: In support of banning mopeds on Block Island
To: <townclerk@new-shoreham.com>, <governor@governor.ri.gov>

Dear Block Island Town Council and honorable Governor of RI,
I support banning mopeds on Block Island, for the safety of residents and visitors alike.
I am a fan of Block Island's relaxed culture, but every once in a while there is a greater good reason to create a new law for public safety. This I believe is one of those moments.
I hope you will support this ban.
Sincerely,

Andrew Schutte
1148 Payne Road, Block Island

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Elizabeth Doherty <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:32 PM
To: governor@governor.ri.gov; Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Block Island Emergency Town Meeting 8/16- Mopeds

Dear Council Members, Town Manager, and Governor,

I am writing this email to convey my support to revoke the moped rental licenses on Block Island for the remainder of the 2020 season until a reasonable, and responsible action plan is reached to curb accidents, bad behavior, and to address the general negligence of the moped businesses to operate safely in this community and the lack of law enforcement to go after the operators of mopeds who disregard the rules of the road.

As a resident and owner of a business on Block Island, I am beyond concerned about the moped issue. Aside from the serious injuries, and more recently fatalities, the moped accidents are taxing our VOLUNTEER EMT services and our small medical staff. I think it is unfair that these businesses are putting our already limited resources at risk, especially during a pandemic.

All too often in front of my shop I see, for lack of a better word, gangs, of mopeds going through the nearby four way intersection, swerving around cars, or moving as one through the intersection, cutting off pedestrians and other cars, taking selfies while driving, and parents letting their children sit in front and 'drive' the moped. On more than on occasion, mopeds have crashed on the lawn between my shop and the neighboring shop or have crashed across the street. It's so clear that these people have not had proper training obeying basic traffic laws and have an inability to take an incline on the road at a reasonable pace.

I am all in for promoting business on Block Island but will never recommend sending any of my customers to rent a moped because the risks, for now, greatly outweigh the benefits of touring our beautiful island.

Thank you for time and I hope that this resolves peacefully and in a way that makes our community and tourists feel safe and holds the moped businesses accountable.

Best,
Elizabeth Doherty
Traveling Seamstress

Traveling Seamstress // Elizabeth Doherty
442 Dodge Street // PO BOX 1988
Block Island, RI 02807
[redacted]

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Alicia Miro [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:37 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Emergency meeting

Dear members of the New Shoreham Town Council,

We have both lived and grown up on Block Island and now both raise children that both attend the Block Island School. As a business owner (myself - Alicia) And Hillary working for the Town of New Shoreham - we know we are a tourist driven industry. We rely on tourism - it's how we provide for our families.

This year is different. We both have seen our share of moped accidents over the past 30 years - some leave an accident scene with a bandage or two - some are hauled off the scene by an entire VOLUNTEER Rescue and Fire Department - to be transported to the Block Island Medical Center or even worse a Lifeflight.

We have a public health crisis - like the rest of the country - but we have a bigger issue with accidents and minimal amount of Rescue personnel to respond to said accidents due to Covid.

The strain on the Rescue and Fire Department is something we cannot ignore. This has nothing to do with island businesses but the well being of our own island community. This is where we live, where we raise our children and where we work and thrive and something needs to change - NOW.

The moped issue is nothing new - it's been a constant strain on the volunteers for over 30 years. We implore the Town Council to make an appropriate change to alleviate the strain and stress on the Block Island VOLUNTEER Rescue & Fire Dept.

Alicia Miro and Hillary Stewart

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Gail Hall <[redacted]com>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:39 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: Governor (GOV)
Subject: Moped discussion, Block Island

Hi Molly,
Could you please forward this email to the council for tonight's meeting? I am sorry so last minute but I understand that the meeting was called last minute as well.

I would like to strongly suggest that the Town Council ban mopeds through Labor Day weekend. This can be a time to relieve our volunteer rescue squad, which is limited in numbers this year due to Covid 19, and allow them to provide standard medical care emergencies.

I understand there is a former court order in place, back when the moped licenses were debated for the same reason they are being debated today, volume of accidents and loss of life. A number of vehicles & licenses were restricted. Block Island is a much busier place than it was in 1984, and the needs of the community (including our tourist community), should be met, not overwhelmed by the volume of accidents surrounded by mopeds.

I was told that the moped dealers are now categorized as retailers, and therefore licenses cannot be revoked? This is not something I completely understand, it certainly is not logical, and should be up for debate as well.

I also have taken videos this summer of the moped training taking place on a two lane road, known as Weldon's Way. You can always tell who may be the next accident. People drive away wobbling and nervous, and the moped businesses let them go on their way.

Lastly, the peace and quiet on the roads, intersections and town in May, when the licenses were restricted was clearly evident, we all noted what a difference there was without the mopeds. Certainly not a reason to ban them, but something to consider as we reevaluate what we truly want to offer as a tourist destination. Families with children hiking trails, going to the beach, shopping and dining in town, or what we are currently seeing on a daily basis.

This is not to include private motor vehicle ownership, this is about the rental business.

Remember when the three wheel vehicles were banned because the accident rate was so high? Do I remember that correctly?

All to be considered and I greatly appreciate your time and thought on this.

It is so important and vital to this community and the future of tourism on Block Island.
Gail

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Catherine Wohlberg [redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:42 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: govenor@govenor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped ban on Block Island

Block Island has seen not one but two vehicular fatalities in less than one week. A record we cannot be allowed to break or even match.

One was a single car accident involving a drunk, 16 year old driver. The other a 22 year old moped driver, with a passenger, ran head on into an SUV. That young man died at the scene.

There have been a record number of moped accidents this summer: many weekends, double what is normally seen.

I live on a dirt road on Block Island; Payne Road. Theoretically, mopeds are not allowed on dirt roads. There is a very good reason for this - it's is extremely dangerous. Mopeds are unstable vehicles, especially on dirt and sand. They are being driven too fast and the operators are driving two and three abreast.

When an individual rents a moped, they are supposed to be instructed in not only how to operate the vehicle but also that it is not to be driven on dirt roads. The driver of almost every single moped that I have stopped on Payne Road, and I have stopped many of them, has expressed surprise of or ignorance of this ordinance.

Last week, after watching 6 mopeds proceed up Pilot Hill Road onto the dirt road, I went to Weldon's Way and, in front of a moped instructor with 4 people renting the vehicles, asked if he would please tell their customers that they were not allowed to drive on dirt roads. He said: "We tell every customer that." The looks on the faces of the customers said otherwise.

It is time to reclaim the island. It is time to let walkers, joggers, neighbors, runners and children enjoy the safety and pleasure of a walk along a beautiful dirt road.

It is time to stop stretching the resources, in an already overwhelming season, of the rescue squad and the medical center. If we lose members of the rescue squad and/or the medical center due to burnout, who can island residents depend upon when they find themselves in need.

How would you feel if you were the driver of the SUV that the moped collided with resulting in a fatality? Not that person's fault? No, but it is not their fault that it will haunt them for the rest of their lives. It could have been you.

I respectfully request that a temporary ban be placed on moped rentals. Let's get some perspective, clear our minds, get information and reevaluate what this island needs to do going forward.

Catherine Wohlberg
806 Payne Road
Block Island, RI

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: P MacGill <[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:49 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: govenor@govenoe.ri.gov
Subject: Mopeds

My concern regarding the mopeds and Block Island is twofold:

1) There is an absolute disregard for safety - - the safety of those who rent the mopeds and drive them and the safety of those who share the road with the mopeds. There is a speed limit on Block Island which seems to be the base speed at which the Moped renters, who appear to be totally incapable of operating motor vehicles such as mopeds, use as a baseline to navigate our narrow roads.

2) The flood of mopeds on this island seems to be at diametrically opposed to the fact that Block Island is a community which loves, embraces and observes nature. It is a haven for those who live here and embrace it and a haven for those who come here to observe and learn about it. Hundreds of people on Block Island have given up their land or their rights to it to preserve nature. Block Island is a gift to mankind.

Sincerely,

Peter MacGill
Lewis Farm Road

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Dorrie and Jim Fiorato [redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:49 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: Jim Fiorato
Subject: Letter to town council regarding Mopeds

Without criticism directed anywhere specifically but based on the very apparent unwillingness Or inability to implement changes in moped client behavior or enforcement of the laws and ordinances relating to actual infractions by the moped users it seems clear we must shut tbode licenses down until a real action plan can be developed to address the issues. Those issues include but are not limited to Speeding or erratic driving, noise making, driving over private property, use of the dirt roads despite the signs and residents telling the moped riders about the infractions and receiving real abuse in return.
This has all been building for years but has now reached new highs (or lows) Thanks for listening.
Jim Fiorato and Dorrie Napoleone

Sent from my iPhone

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: William Gasner [redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:53 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: In Regards To New Shoreham Town Council Meeting 8/16

Hi New Shoreham Town Council,

I have been informed there will be an emergency meeting today regarding a potential ban of rental mopeds after yet another fatality yesterday.

After personally seeing many moped crashes myself over the years, knowing about the lack of thorough vetting by the rental establishments, and hearing about the horrible casualties due to intoxication and/or inexperience of moped renters, it is time for the town to take this matter seriously and implement actionable measures to resolve this situation which has plagued New Shoreham for years. Especially in a time when a global pandemic is upon us and our EMT rescue squad is more vulnerable than ever.

My name is William Gasner, my address is 108 Corn Neck Road, New Shoreham, RI and I am in full support of the ban of rental mopeds on the Island. I hope the town council makes a conscious decision regarding this critical issue.

Best,
William Gasner

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Grace Anderson [redacted]m>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:53 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: BI Moped Ban

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of a temporary moped ban on Block Island as someone who has grown up coming to the Island during summers and whose family has owned property on the island for almost 80 years.

Not only have I, as many others, noticed the reckless actions of moped drivers on a daily basis on the island, but I have also witnessed a number of accidents right outside my house. I have personally had to call 911 when I was 20 years old in response to a serious accident that I witnessed which I will remember for the rest of my life.

This summer in particular I have noticed an unusually large number of disturbing behaviors of moped drivers ranging from swerving; sticking arms and legs outside of the moped; crossing double orange lines; and having extremely young children as passengers on mopeds. These actions have made me concerned not only for the drivers themselves but also members of my community who bravely respond when accidents occur.

There are a number of other ways to see the island that are safe and fun including biking, renting a Smart Car, or taking a taxi tour. All of these modes of transportation will continue to help support the local economy and keep tourists coming back to the island.

A moped ban is necessary to make this island safe for visitors and locals alike. I ask you to please pass this ban and #RespectBI

Sincerely,
Grace Anderson
883 Cooneymus Road, Block Island, RI

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Barbara Macmullan [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:54 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Comment for 8-16-2020 TC Meeting

Dear Councillors:
I strongly support suspending moped rentals until better safety regulation and enforcement can be put in place. This is in the best interests of the health and safety of our community, our first responders, and our visitors.
Sincerely,
Barbara MacMullan
1163 Beacon Hill Rd
Block Island, RI 02807

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:57 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Mopeds

I am an bi-,annual visitor to the Island, once in the summer and once in the fall. In the summer I will not ride a bike because the moped users are out of control and a hazard. You should prohibit their use for the safety of the would be renters and the rest of us.

Daniel M. Lewis
37 Newbrook Circle
Newton, MA 02467
617-513-3339

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Remy Black [redacted]n>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:58 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped Ban ASAP

To Whom it May Concern:

I've been coming to Block Island my entire life and what I saw on this island the past two weeks was an absolute shit show. It was the first time I ever felt truly unsafe on the island. I recently took up running and was so excited to come to the island and get some runs in, only to be met with complete and utter chaos on the roads amongst runners, bikers, cars and mopeds. I was scared. There were several times I had to jump into the brush to avoid being hit. The mopeds are completely reckless. How anyone sleeps at night knowing they let a 16 year old who has no idea what they are doing get on one of those things amazes me. It is just unsafe for everyone. These accidents can be prevented! Not to mention Weldon's Way - what the acutal fuck. It's a total nightmare and couldn't be more dangerous - how that is legal is unbelievable. You have people giving moped lessons in the middle of the street and having them pull in, while cars are driving and kids are walking around - my mind was blown when I saw what was going on down there. I don't know what it is going to take for someone to do something about the mopeds because it's out of control!

Most of my favorite memories are from Block Island and I left the island yesterday with a very heavy heart. To see what was happening was so upsetting not just for myself but for all the islanders who have lived there their whole lives. You need to do something about this ASAP!

Also - you shutdown outdoor entertainment (music for gods sake) in a blink of an eye but yet you turn a blind eye to something that is ACTUALLY and LITERALLY killing people that can so clearly be avoided. Makes zero sense - please get it together before someone else dies. It's not worth it.

Do the right thing,
Remy Black

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Katie Rohn [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:59 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@govern.ri.com
Subject: Requesting Temporary Moped Ban

Hello,

I am writing to request a temporary moped ban in wake of the recent events this summer on Block Island. I am concerned about the safety of both our residents and visitors and feel that there is re-evaluation and reform necessary at this time.

Thank you,
Katie Rohn

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Samuel Barrett-Cotter[redacted]>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 7:08 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Moped ban urgently needed

The moped ban is essential to the health of block island. Please please please ban them from block island. Thank you.

Sam Barrett-Cotter

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Mike Nolan [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 2:06 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Today

Hi All
Today driving on high street. 2 mopeds. The moped owners have no one directing the individuals where to go. The moped owners know they have no risk so they do not bother.
My family business has made children's gloves and hats for 100 years. After selling tens of millions of product no child was ever harmed by any of our products. We had protocols in place that went far beyond regulatory requirements. We did this because we cared about people and our reputation.

Obviously my point is the owners do not care and money drives them to rent to 18 yr old kids with 2 on a moped. If they cared they would limit to 25 and over with one person on a vehicle.

You may have the power to change their behavior. If so I hope you have the courage.

Mike Nolan
775 lakeside dr
Block island.
[redacted]
--
Mike Nolan
Whitegate Cottage 412165
[redacted]

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Brendan McCollam [redacted]y.com>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 5:23 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: Emergency Dec / Recent Events
Attachments: Brendan P_ McCollam.vcf

Hi Again Folks –

It's unfortunate you are in the spot that you are but the time for real action on a number of levels has to take place and the opportunity for you to act has never been more prevalent. This is the 3rd communication I have sent as a non-resident homeowner and taxpayer since April. We all judge what we see and hear or gather from social media but no one knows the challenges better than those sitting in the seats at Town Council, The Rescue Squad and Fire Department as well as the Police Department. I ask you to please address the issues with the following suggestions and then go further after the season ends to truly institute change on the Island. It needs to be a joint effort with buy in from the respective business community as well as the medical volunteers, police and politicians!

Your true lifeblood of Block Island is not your day trippers but rather your nonresident tax base families who support the Island in the shoulder seasons and beyond and those additional families that frequent Block Island in the summer via rentals. Many like ourselves enjoyed some time there this summer but actually avoided town and the merchants we love due to the lack of crowd control and general chaos of town. Our avoidance directly impacts your economy much more so than the day tripper that normally brings most of what they desire with them. It's time that folks recognize that fact and proportionally charge those drawing on the services.

Some ideas you might be able to implement immediately and others will take a longer discussion and cooperation from all parties to be successful. For the mopeds, certainly asking the owner / operators to limit one rider to one machine is a start. Also renting to 25 years and older (Like most rental car companies), Riders should be told that proper footware (not sandals, barefeet, or flipflops) must be worn, helmets must be worn and strapped properly at all times while riding, NO training should be occurring on town owned roadways or property...all of these are simple and a start to alleviate the larger problem. The idea of color coding the different operations will also aid you in the metrics to see who is offering proper training and who is not. It will also identify those that aren't following town set protocol or their own protocol. Ask the State to revisit the requirement of a motorcycle license to operate a moped and ask the moped operators to add restrictors to limit the speed to 15 to 20mph tops and also look into moving to electric "Helper" bikes that assist in climbing hills. This would be a substantial change for the better on noise pollution and potential accidents.

Further down the road the Town should consider substantially surcharging these businesses for the draw on the volunteer services and those needing to leave their jobs to respond to calls. The town issued the licenses originally and certainly can amend the language or revoke a license for non-compliance! Perhaps language can be added to rental contracts that states that any and all rescue services will be charged back to the operator if needed. The town should write the specific training that needs to be completed for the rental to occur and make the owner / operator and renter sign off accordingly.

Beyond that the crowds flocking to the Island are a multi-tiered problem in my opinion. A product of your Governor's Office limiting the mainland parking and beaches and not helping to enforce the regulations set up to limit Covid. The Covid crisis has perpetuated the additional crowds on the Island this year as many out of work folks have additional funds to spend with the $600 stimulus money that has been coming weekly before summer began. Additionally the many businesses advertising, where they are advertising and the messages coming thru that advertising channel and who they are targeting. These factors among others are certainly adding to the problem. In the spring the message to the nonresident was don't come we don't have the resources and need to protect our elderly but the minute the

Summer season arrived it was though the flood gates opened and all concern turned to revenue. It's amazing to me that when all Town events have been postponed such as the annual Mary D Ball that an establishment can hold a free Reggae Fest with unregulated crowd control from the Town or State side. I am curious as to the boundaries of the property and how much of the beach is [redacted] you should be as well.

I would implore you to work with Interstate and the sister carriers to have them sell roundtrip specific time boat tickets immediately (If you can do it with cars you can do it with people)! All the ferries need to do this. By doing so you will remove the glut of people waiting to return to the mainland from 5pm on. Furthermore for next season increase the day tripper landing fee substantially! Add another $10, 15 or 20 dollars to each roundtrip day ticket and use the additional revenue for your Rescue Squad, PD, FD and refuse removal in town and on beaches. Ask the ferry operators to start a "no outside alcohol to be consumed on the boats" policy. If folks want a drink make them purchase it after leaving the dock from the snack bar! Making folks leave bags on the car deck will also aid in managing this and perhaps those day trippers will spend more at a local restaurant in addition the ferry companies will offset any decline in ridership. In town you need more of a police presence. Instead of ticketing cars for parking to long in limited spaces target the constant "J"walking. Give warnings and tickets for open containers, limit Water Street to no bike riding, no skateboarding, no mopeds between 8am and 8pm or something similar. You cannot limit cars in town due to exposure to the ferries and freight. Further Police exposure and enforcement of these and existing rules and regulations will be a deterrent moving forward.

IMO Block Island has a branding problem and needs to return to what made it so special. A family destination with good clean fun and many summertime memories. Great locals and establishments offering wonderful conversation and experiences like hiking, sailing, kayaks, fishing, clamming and more. The simple pleasures of life like a great local fare dinner or spectacular sunrise or sunset. I think you understand my point...you are allowing or ignoring a select few businesses leeway that are costing the Island and it's residents and nonresident taxpayers dearly. Perhaps not so much in the wallet but more so in the environment that they are creating. It is time for change. Lastly, the perception created by the conflicts of interest by several TC members and your State Representative don't help the cause. Many understand that conflicts of interest sometimes cannot be avoided as volunteers are certainly entitled to their livelihood but might be better served taking a less public role if the major issues on the Island are part of their business equation. As you all know, perception is everything in the eyes of the public.

Thanks for allowing me to offer my two cents and for all you do.

Respectfully,

Brendan McCollam
Ministers Lot and Lakeside Drive

Brendan P. McCollam
McCollam Insurance Agency

(203) 748-4233 Work
brendan@mccollamagency.com

219 Greenwood Ave
Bethel, CT. 06801
http://www.mccollamagency.com

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Elizabeth Dyer <[redacted]n>
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: concern

Dear Town Council,

I have been witness now to two consecutive weeks of fatalities, they were both beyond your wildest imagination and involved the family and friends present who were secondary victims of emotional trauma. Sadly that is now past,, but I am concerned about the future and the actions of the town council. Listening last night I felt that both Mr. Boudrea and Ms Ball were passionate and were speaking the words of the people loud and clear and I hope others heard their voices and concerns. But at this juncture many of us have no confidence in the ability of all of you to come together to do what is right.

I and many others I have spoken to have serious worry that the current complement of New Shoreham Town Council, which as of last night is in fact, four voting members. We have had two very significant issues presented before you, and yet our full town council essentially lacks one member. This to me would hold the potential that any given issue that presents a conflict will now be met with 4 members resulting in a deadlock.

This is not the plastic bag, paper straw issue...this is a big deal.

I stood and prayed over Corey with Pastor Pete. . . nothing could be done for him but maybe something can be done to help prevent further tragedy. A small measure of change I am sure would be well received. By virtue of your position you have been tasked with the hard work of making a real difference in this community.

Liz Dyer.

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Elizabeth Dyer [redacted]
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Subject: concern

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Liz Dyer.

Fiona Fitzpatrick

From: Sarie Monieson [redacted]n>
Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 5:31 PM
To: Fiona Fitzpatrick
Cc: governor@governor.ri.gov
Subject: Support for moped ban!

Hello! My name is Sarie Monieson and I live at 1318 Cooneymus Rd. on Block Island.

I am writing to support the temporary ban on moped rentals. I am distantly related to multiple members of the rescue squad who have devoted their time to rescuing people from traffic violence caused by moped rental monopolies on the island.

Please make the island we love so much a safer place. There is a problem and you have the ability to take action about it.

Block Island strives to better the community, and this is the way to do so. This is the way to prevent tragic deaths that simply should not be happening.

Thank you very much #RespectBI

Best,
Sarie

Millie McGinnes

From: John <
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 8:02 PM
To: Millie McGinnes
Subject: Fwd: Moped madness please forward to town council.

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **John** < .com>
Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020, 7:25 PM
Subject: Moped madness
To: <townclerk@new-shoreham.com>

The moped operators businesses are endangering the public safety and endangering the welfare of minors. There must be a path for the solicitors to follow that will pressure the operators to stop the madness.

John McDaniel
Sheeps Meadow

Millie McGinnes

From: Mary Cronin < >
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 3:17 PM
To: Millie McGinnes
Subject: Town Council Must Take Immediate Action on Moped Reform Tonight

To Town Council & Interim Manager Kern:

Yet another moped-car accident occurred today. How much bloodshed and widespread risk will it take to change the status quo on moped enforcement? Based on hundreds of conversations with BI residents over the last few days, the community is resoundingly demoralized by Town Council's inaction on moped reform this summer.

Your fiduciary duty is to represent your constituents' priorities, which have been overwhelmingly expressed via direct emails to the Town Clerk, in the BI Times, and on social media. For our community's safety, #RespectBI vehemently urges Town Council to take the following actions tonight:

1. Raise minimum rental age to 25. VFRS data on percentage of accidents with drivers under 25 support this motion.

2. Pull operator licenses ASAP for violating the current town-operator agreement by using two rental properties. This will take at least 34 mopeds off the road immediately.

3. When a moped driver is wearing a green bracelet (currently supplied by all operators) they CANNOT be served or sold alcohol by any town establishment. Establishments shld be fined a large sum if found breaking this rule.

4. Per John Leone's submitted suggestions to the TC: Immediately require helmets for all private moped owners. (Renters get confused and emboldened to remove helmets when they see private drivers without them.)

5. Per John Leone's submitted suggestions to the TC: Cancel moped rental rate specials between 4-6pm immediately.

6. Enforce rule in latest town/moped agreement that ALL rental bikes PROMINENTLY display stickers, on the left and right of handle bars, on

1) Dirt road ban fine 2) Notice of beeping fine. Right now only Island Moped is doing this. Stickers cld be printed and applied before this weekend.

Thank you for listening, and for acting now.

Millie McGinnes

From: Weinstein, Arnold < >
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Millie McGinnes
Subject: Fwd: Need for urgent TC action on Moped use on Block Island

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Weinstein, Arnold** <>
Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 2:18 PM
Subject: Need for urgent TC action on Moped use on Block Island
To: <townclerk@new-shoreham.com>

Dear Town Clerk,

We write, yet again, to urge you to take IMMEDIATE action, as TC, for addressing effectively the Moped horror-story unfurling on Block Island. We endorse all of the steps indicated below. Do your job!!!!!

Arnold and Ann Weinstein
1098 West Side Rd
Block Island, R.I. 02807

SUBJECT: Town Council Must Take Immediate Action on Moped Reform Tonight

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Thank you for listening, and for acting now.

Millie McGinnes

From: Barbara Michel <
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 2:07 PM
To: Millie McGinnes
Subject: Fwd: mopeds

Hi Millie,
Just saw that Molly was out. Doug

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Barbara Michel** <
Date: Wed, Aug 19, 2020 at 1:13 PM
Subject: mopeds
To: Molly Fitzpatrick <townclerk@new-shoreham.com>

Hi Molly,
I am sorry this is late- I was not aware of the 12 hour deadline. This pertains to the rash of accidents and taxing of medical services.

To the Town Council,

This discussion regarding accidents is not about providing more medical services. It is not about providing more ambulances, EMTs, doctors, or police. It is about reducing the need for these services by correcting the causes of these injuries, many of which are preventable and avoidable. We don't want people getting hurt in the first place. That has to be the number one goal. There are 8 weeks left till Columbus Day. Action needs to be taken to set the tone for next summer.

Thank you for serving.
Doug and Barby Michel

Millie McGinnes

From: Lisa Beck <
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 1:54 PM
To: Millie McGinnes
Subject: Fwd: B.I. Bulletin Board] Moped comments to Town Council available to the public

Hello,

I had sent the email below to Ms. Fitzpatrick, and just received her out-of-office notice.
Accordingly, I am forwarding the email to you, as I wanted to ensure that the Councilors would receive my comment and that it would be placed in the record.

Can you kindly confirm.

Thank you very much.

Best regards,

Lisa Beck

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Lisa Beck <
> **Date:** August 19, 2020 at 1:34:42 PM EDT
> **To:** townclerk@new-shoreham.com
> **Cc:** governor@governor.ri.gov
> **Subject: Re: B.I. Bulletin Board] Moped comments to Town Council available to the public**
>
> Hello Ms. Fitzpatrick,
>
> Thank you for all the extra and hard work you have been undertaking lately as a result of the Emergency Town Council Meeting on Mopeds.
>
> I was reviewing the email comments attached to the Agenda, and did not see the one I had submitted on Sunday. I received an acknowledgment from Governor Raimondo's office, so I know they received it. As you may not have, I would like to go "on record" with the following statement:
>
> As a Block Island homeowners of 15 years, who has raised four children to love and respect the natural wonders of our island, I feel strongly that action must be taken regarding the rental of Mopeds. The most recent —and fatal— accident has strengthened that view, but also, sadly, added another perspective for me. I think it's fair to say that many island residents (summer and year-round) find the mopeds disruptive and dangerous. We get annoyed and frustrated with the young people who zip around on them, honk, run into our parked cars, clog the roads. But at the end of the day, those young people are actually just victims, as well. For even in the best of cases — if they follow the rules, don't drink, wear a helmet and are "trained," to ride — they may still be inadequate to the challenges of riding

a motorized vehicle on twisting, crowded and sandy roads. Today, instead of thinking about how disruptive mopeds are to the island's peace, tranquility and fragile ecosystem, I'm thinking of the young man — younger than some of my own children— who needlessly lost his life, and left behind a grieving family.

Enough. Our hardworking medical and emergency response teams have been subverted, unfairly, for years to enable the continuance of private profit- making businesses. Perhaps, finally, this summer has shown us dramatically that we must join together to protect the island we love, the volunteers and staff who work to keep us safe and even the horn-beeping moped riders, who are, after all, someone's children.

So, to the members of the town council, please act to ban moped rentals...temporarily, until more effective regulations are imposed...or forever.

Respectfully,

Lisa Beck
(and family)
787 off Snake Hole Road
Block Island, RI

On Aug 19, 2020, at 11:35 AM, Fiona Fitzpatrick <townclerk@new-shoreham.com> wrote:

Thank you to the many people took time to send the Town Council their thoughts and feelings on the moped issue. The comments received for Sunday's emergency meeting are now on Clerkbase, attached to the August 16 agenda. https://clerkshq.com/NewShoreham-RI (then go to Town Council/Agendas/August 16). I am sorry I could not acknowledge you individually, the volume was overwhelming. Please know that your all emails have been read by the Town Council.

Molly

New Shoreham Town Clerk Fiona Fitzpatrick
Block Island Town Hall
PO Box 220
Block Island, RI 02807
(401) 466-3200
townclerk@new-shoreham.com

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Block Island Bulletin Board" group.
To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to bibulletin+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.
To view this discussion on the web visit

RECEIVED
AUG 17 2020
By

August 17, 2020

Dear Members of the Town Council:

I write to you in the spirit of cooperation mutual-respect. My heart breaks from the recent loss of life on Block Island, both from the moped rental and private car accidents. This was the first moped rental fatality ever on Block Island, and we want to do our part to ensure the safety of our community and visitors.

To that end, we hope the Town Council and Police Department will work with us on the following:

- The Moped Operators are willing to fund a private ambulance service on busy weekends and holidays. This is intended to supplement, and be under the control of, the existing fire and rescue operations. We have confirmed with Med Tech Ambulance Services that they are willing and able to start immediately. We believe this will alleviate the strain this summer has placed on our emergency services.
- We will continue to fund, under the direction of the Chief of Police, security guards to stop moped riders from going up High Street, and to patrol and take the keys away from riders that do not follow the rules of the road.
- We have instituted a wrist band system to identify authorized drivers. This will empower law enforcement to stop unauthorized operators, and also, so that bars and restaurants do not serve alcohol to them.
- We have eliminated our 4PM-6PM specials so that our moped rentals are more spread out throughout the day.
- We want to work with the Town to reinstitute the Moped Safety Committee and broaden its charge to include all pedestrian, bicycle and moped traffic issues. We believe that a well thought long-term traffic plan will go a long way to alleviate the congestion we all face in the summer months.
- We would like the town to enact an ordinance requiring helmets for all private bicycles and mopeds.

Please reach out to me at our earliest convenience if you would like to discuss these ideas and suggestions, or any others.

Thank you,

John Leone

Millie McGinnes

From: Dana Mitchell >
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 10:05 PM
To: Millie McGinnes
Subject: Town Council Must Take Immediate Action on Moped Reform Tonight

To Town Council & Interim Manager Kern:

Yet another moped-car accident occurred today. How much bloodshed and widespread risk will it take to change the status quo on moped enforcement? Based on hundreds of conversations with BI residents over the last few days, the community is resoundingly demoralized by Town Council's inaction on moped reform this summer.

Your fiduciary duty is to represent your constituents' priorities, which have been overwhelmingly expressed via direct emails to the Town Clerk, in the BI Times, and on social media. For our community's safety, #RespectBI vehemently urges Town Council to take the following actions tonight:

1. Raise minimum rental age to 25. VFRS data on percentage of accidents with drivers under 25 support this motion.

2. Pull operator licenses ASAP for violating the current town-operator agreement by using two rental properties. This will take at least 34 mopeds off the road immediately.

3. When a moped driver is wearing a green bracelet (currently supplied by all operators) they CANNOT be served or sold alcohol by any town establishment. Establishments shld be fined a large sum if found breaking this rule.

4. Per John Leone's submitted suggestions to the TC: Immediately require helmets for all private moped owners. (Renters get confused and emboldened to remove helmets when they see private drivers without them.)

5. Per John Leone's submitted suggestions to the TC: Cancel moped rental rate specials between 4-6pm immediately.

6. Enforce rule in latest town/moped agreement that ALL rental bikes PROMINENTLY display stickers, on the left and right of handle bars, on

1) Dirt road ban fine 2) Notice of beeping fine. Right now only Island Moped is doing this. Stickers cld be printed and applied before this weekend.

Thank you for listening, and for acting now.

--

Dana Mitchell

3rd Grade Teacher

"Labor for learning, before you grow old. For learning is better than silver or gold. Silver and gold will vanish away, but a good education will never decay"