

Simonsen Calls for No Passing, Slower Speed Limit

COLD SPRING- Lower Township Third Ward Councilman Erik Simonsen is calling for changes to Seashore Road to make bicycling safer from the bridge over the Cape May Canal south to the Masonic Lodge.

Simonsen knows of what he speaks. He rides an average of 20 miles per day on his bike, 100 miles per week.

“From the bridge to St. Mary’s Cemetery passing is still allowed,” he said, noting the broken center line on Seashore Road.

That stretch of road has been one of the most traveled bike lanes in the township, said Simonsen. He said he wants the road designated as a no-passing zone.

Prior to the last election, Simonsen said he talked with many residents that expressed a concern about speeding cars on Seashore Road, south of the Cape May Canal. Southbound drivers also experience a deep downward slope from the bridge that can aid speeding.

Simonsen said the road experiences heavy bike traffic during summer months, often entire families riding on their two-wheelers.

Along with making the road a no-passing zone, Simonsen said he would like to see a reduction in the 40 miles-per-hour speed limit. The road is owned by the county which would require their cooperation. Seashore Road’s bike lanes are clearly marked, he said.

Simonsen is also suggesting a speed limit sign be posted along the entrance road to David Douglass Park, off Lincoln Boulevard. Currently no speed limit is posted, he said.

“People fly along there,” said Simonsen.

He said he also has concerns for the safety of bicyclists along Ocean Drive, in particular since the Upper Thorofare and Ocean Drive bridges have no shoulder. Simonsen suggests a “reduce speed” or “no shoulder” sign.

“These are simple fixes and would not cost much money,” he said.