Boston Harbor and the Neponset Greenway: From Castle Island to Paul's Bridge & back A MassBike Spins - Boston Ride

Saturday, March 20, 2010

10:00 am at the Castle Island parking lot in South Boston

This ride follows Boston Harbor south to the mouth of the Neponset River, where we pick up the Neponset Trail which will eventually go all of the way to the Blue Hills. We'll be especially interested in checking out the new bikepath along Truman Parkway in Hyde Park. The ride is co-sponsored by the Boston Natural Areas Network and its community-based Neponset River Greenway Council, which have been working with the DCR to connect parklands along the river since 1990.

Miles Action

- 0.0 Start at Castle Island snack stand
- Turn around and head back down Day Blvd.
- 0.8 Right on beach-side sidewalk along Day Blvd.
- 1.4 Pass L Street Bathhouse
- 2.4 Bear Left on sidewalk along Carson Beach
- 2.7 Mother's Rest, a stone gazebo from Olmsted's time Start of Columbia Point bikepaths
- 3.2 Gazebo past Harbor Point Apartments
- 3.3 Left on gravel path across Boston Water and Sewer property
- 3.4 Dirt path for 100 feet
- 3.5 Pass Kennedy Library
- 4.3 Pass UMass Boston
- 4.6 Left on sidewalk on Harbor side of Morrissey Blvd.
- 4.9 Cross at light to Malibu Beach
- 5.1 Get back on Morrissey Blvd to cross drawbridge
- 5.5 Left on Freeport St.
- 5.8 Left on Victory Rd. to check out future bikepath connections Turn around
- 5.9 Left on Freeport St.
- 6.3 Left on Conley St.
- 6.4 Left on Neponset Trail at Tenean Beach
- 6.6 Left on Tenean St.
- 6.7 Bear left on Water St.
- 6.8 Right on Taylor St.
- 7.0 Enter Neponset Trail past gate at kiosk
- 7.1 Stop on monument to native fish
- 7.2 Pope John Paul II Park
- 7.4 Pass bicycle mural at I-93 underpass
- 7.6 Pass bird mural on Hallet St. under I-93 to left
- 7.9 Go through Neponset II Park opening this spring
- 8.0 Cross Granite Ave. at light installed in 2006
- 8.1 Water-permeable stabilized stone dust path
- 8.4 Go under Ashmont-Mattapan trolley, "High Speed Line"
- 8.7 Pass insect mural on path retaining wall
- 8.8 Cross Neponset River to Milton
- 9.1 Pass plant mural on trolley retaining wall
- 9.2 End of Neponset Trail at Central Ave.
- Right on Central Ave. across Neponset River to Boston Beginning of 2006 Masterplan area
- 9.3 Left on River St. at light
- 9.4 Left on Blue Hill Ave. at Mattapan Square Cross Neponset River to Milton Beginning of proposed bike lanes
- 9.5 Bear right on Brush Hill Rd.
- 10.2 Bear right on Truman Parkway
- 12.2 Cross Fairmount Ave. at light
- 12.5 Right on Dana Ave.
- 12.6 Stop on bridge to observe Mother Brook confluence Turn around

Miles Action

- 12.8 Left on Truman Parkway
- 13.1 Pass Martini Shell with wildlife mural
- 13.6 Left on Neponset Valley Parkway End of proposed bike lanes
- 14.0 Stop at Paul's bridge over the Neponset River Turn around
- 14.1 Straight across the end of the Truman Parkway
- 14.5 Stop at Wolcott Square for snacks Wolcott General Store and Dunkin Donuts Turn around and head east on Neponset Valley Parkway
- 14.9 Left on Truman Parkway, start proposed bike lanes
- 17.4 Straight on Brush Hill Rd.
- 17.7 Right on Brook Rd.
- 17.9 Left on Blue Hills Parkway
- 18.1 Right on Eliot St.
- 19.2 Cross Central Ave.
- 19.4 View over Neponset Trail
- 19.5 Left on Adams St. at light
- 19.7 Cross River St.
- 19.9 Right into Dorchester Park (designed by Olmsted)
- 20.3 Left on Adams St.
- 20.6 Right on Milton St.
- 21.1 Right on Hallet St.
- 21.2 Left on Neponset Trail
- 21.9 Right on Taylor St. at end of trail
- 22.0 Left on Water St.
- 22.1 Right on Walnut St.
- 22.2 Left on Ericsson St.
- 22.3 Left on Lawley St.
- 22.5 Right on Water St.
- 22.6 Right on path along Tenean Beach
- 22.8 Follow sidewalk under Southeast Expressway
- 22.9 Right on Tenean St.
- 23.0 Straight on Freeport St. along Morrissey Blvd.
- 23.5 Bear right on Morrissey Blvd. at light
- 24.4 Cross U.Mass entrance
- 25.0 Bear right on Day Blvd.
- 25.3 Get on sidewalk at Carson Beach if not too busy
- 26.9 Left at Pleasure Bay (right on causeway if not busy)
- 27.7 End at Castle Island snack stand

