



Three bike path projects planned in Gaspé

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GASPÉ - Three bicycle path projects are being developed in Gaspé.

The first will connect Haldimand and Douglastown with a footbridge added to the railway bridge and via the already existing paths unofficially on the site.

This project, which was the subject of a public presentation in French on November 9 and in English on November 16, is roughly estimated at \$2.3 million. If all goes as planned, the circuit would be accessible in 2024 and would extend the already existing path that leaves the intermodal station near the city centre, passing through Sandy Beach and ending near the beach in Haldimand.

This project is receiving support from the Ministry of Transport as Quebec has to redo the railway infrastructure in its railway rehabilitation project. Its realization would have advantages, says one of the presenters, Pascal Savard: "It would channel the traffic that takes place all over the dunes. It would provide a durable surface to prevent erosion, among other things."

The second project is also ambitious. It involves creating a loop to connect Penouille, Cap-aux-Os, Cap-des-Rosiers and Anse-au-Griffon. The 70-kilometre path that would emerge over a seven-year period provides for a first phase in 2021 between Penouille and Cap-aux-Os.

"This trail is intended to be a new niche for recreational tourism, a reunification of the three communities around the park and an economic development tool," explains the project manager, Gérald Fafard. The search for funding for the feasibility study is ongoing. Parc Forillon is a collaborator of the project as is the Town of Gaspé.

In addition, a path project valued at \$1.2 million is about to be announced for the Rivière-au-Renard sector. Sector adviser Réginald Cotton wrote via Facebook that the funding is almost complete.

