



**Town of Sudbury
Capital Improvement Budget Request
FY2018 Form A**

Department/Committee:
Planning and Community Development

Item/Project Name:
Advancing the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) Design

Initial Year of Request: FY18	Estimated Total Project Cost: \$330,000 (for a portion of estimated 75% design cost)	Estimated Future Savings:¹ We anticipate construction costs will be covered by state and federal funds (approximately \$7 million).
Estimated Incremental Costs:² Annual maintenance costs	Staffing Changes:³ N/A	
Justification Code: D, needed but could be postponed	R or NR: NR	Priority: 1
<p>Project Description:</p> <p>The Board of Selectmen is requesting \$330,000 in FY18 to continue to advance the design phase of the BFRT. The Project in design (Phase 2D) is a multi-use path along a former railway corridor from the Station Road near the junction with Mass Central north to the Concord Town line. Funds previously appropriated allow for the completion of the 25% design (anticipated in spring of 2017) and the initiation of the 75% design phase. Approval of the funds for FY18 will allow continuity in the project without a lag in the design process. Completion of the 75% design phase is estimated for December 2018. Additional funds to complete the design to 100% will be requested in a future year (likely FY19).</p> <p>The MassDOT process for rail trail construction relies on the town to design the trail, with construction funding provided by state and federal funding. The requested funds will allow the project to proceed without interruption due to the annual funding cycle. It is anticipated that the Town of Sudbury will benefit from receiving state and federal funds for construction, which are estimated at 90% of the cost of the entire project (design and construction).</p> <p>The Town has been supportive of creating a rail trail within this corridor. Over \$470,000 has been appropriated since 2005 for this project, including surveying the right of way, title examination, wetland mapping, wildlife survey and preliminary design. Town Meeting votes have consistently been supportive of utilizing CPA funds for project design and supporting the design process.</p>		
<p>Justification and Need:</p> <p>Rail trails are excellent public recreational amenities which are highly desired by Sudbury residents, as Bruce Freeman Rail Trail votes at Town Meeting and ballot boxes over the last several years have demonstrated.</p>		

Benefit: Rail trails provide community health and safety benefits by offering year round recreational opportunities on a bicycle and pedestrian facility that is separated from motor vehicle traffic. Continuing the design of the trail will secure its funding priority on the state Transportation Improvement Program. The Town of Sudbury will benefit from receiving state funds for construction, which are estimated at 90% of the cost of the entire project (design and construction).	
Last time this was replaced (i.e., year roof was previously replaced or year vehicle): N/A	Typical Replacement Cycle: N/A
Alternatives Considered/Reasons for Rejecting Alternatives: Not completing the design will result in a waste of taxpayer funds, as over \$470,000 has previously been appropriated for this project.	
Consequences of Not Implementing/Delaying Implementation: Delaying implementation of the rail trail could potentially effect the cost of the design, as wetland resources surveyed in the 25% design phase are only valid for a 3 year period. Delaying the project in general could cause an escalation in the construction estimate for the project, and decrease the project's priority on the state list of transportation projects. The Sudbury portion of this rail trail is closely following projects in Carlisle, Acton and Concord, all of which have been programmed for state funding. Sudbury will be next in line if the trail is designed within the current timeline.	
Other Pertinent Background Information (e.g., Quotes, Brochures, Pictures, etc): Please see the attached presentation.	

¹ Quantify any future savings if project is implemented (e.g., personnel costs, maintenance, repairs, energy conservation, etc.)

² Quantify any incremental costs anticipated if project is implemented (e.g., future personnel costs, maintenance, repairs, etc.)

³ Quantify staffing changes (up or down) anticipated if project is implemented.