



Town of Sudbury

Community Preservation Committee

DRAFT

<http://www.sudbury.ma.us>
email: cpc@sudbury.ma.us

PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM

Submitter: Town Manager

Submission Date: Oct. 30, 2015

Group or Committee Affiliation (if any): Board of Selectmen

Submitter's address and phone number:

Purpose (please select all that apply):

278 Old Sudbury Road
Sudbury, MA 01776

- Open Space
- Community Housing
- Historic
- Recreation

Submitter's email address:

Project Name: Funds for Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Design (Partial 75% Design)

Project Description: Request is for funds to continue the design plan for the full 4.4 mile rail trail in Sudbury to MA DOT standards.

Costs:

Fiscal Year	Total Project Cost	CPC Funds Requested	Other Funding Sources (amount and source)
2015	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$150,000 previously appropriated in 2014
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			
Total	\$100,000	\$100,000	

How does this project meet the General Criteria and Category Specific Criteria for CPC projects (see attached)?
Design of the rail trail is an eligible CPA expense. See below response from the Community Preservation Coalition website (www.communitypreservation.org).

Incidental Project Costs. CPA funds may be used for site surveys, environmental assessments, historic or housing consultants, architectural and engineering fees, permit processing fees, construction consultants, financing consultants, legal and accounting fees, and similar costs associated with and incidental to the development of a CPA project. Such expenditures should be made from the appropriation for the particular project and, as project costs, they do not constitute operation or administration expenses of the committee subject to the 5% limitation.

Does this project fall within the jurisdiction or interest of other Town Boards, Committees or Departments? If so, please list the boards, committees or departments, whether applications and/or presentations have been made, and what input or recommendations have been given.

The Board of Selectmen is sponsoring this project. The Conservation Commission and Park & Recreation Commission will ultimately have input into any final design of a rail trail. Creation of a rail trail is consistent with the recommendations in the Master Plan.

Project Description:

This proposal is a request to fund \$100,000 to continue the design phase of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. Funds previously appropriated allow for the completion of the 25% design in the winter of 2016. The next phase would typically be the 75% design phase, which will cost approximately the same as the 25% design cost (\$250,000 estimated). However the timing of the completion of the 25% design phase leaves approximately 6 months of time without funds. This funding request will fill that gap, with the intention of requesting the remaining funds for the 75% design phase at the 2017 Annual Town Meeting. Approval of these interim funds in FY17 will allow for continuity in the project without a lag in the process.

Utilizing the MassDOT process for rail trail construction, it is the Town's responsibility to design the trail, with construction funding provided by the state. These funds will allow the project to proceed without interruption due to the annual funding cycle. The additional request for Town funds for the 75% design plan is anticipated in FY18.

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).

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.

The Town has been supportive of creating a rail trail within this corridor. Over \$320,000 has been appropriated since 2005 for this project, including surveying the right of way, title examination, wetland mapping, wildlife survey and preliminary design. Non-binding resolutions at both the 2012 Annual Town Meeting and the 2012 Town Election indicated strong support for completion of this project.

The following **CPC general** criteria apply to this project:

- Are eligible for Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding according to the requirements described in the CPA legislation;
- Are consistent with the town's Master Plan, Open Space and Recreation Plan, Land Use Priorities Committee Report, Town-wide Comprehensive Facility Study, Community Housing Plan, and other planning documents that have received wide scrutiny and input and have been adopted by the town;
- Receive endorsement by other municipal boards or departments.
- Preserve the essential character of the town as described in the Master Plan;
- Leverage additional public and/or private funds.

The following **Open space** criteria are applicable to this project:

- Provide opportunities for passive recreation and environmental education;
- Provide connections with existing trails or potential trail linkages;
- Preserve (or develop for recreation) a parcel identified in the 2009-2013 Open Space and Recreation Plan.

The following **Recreation** criteria are applicable to this project:

- Support multiple recreation uses;
- Serve a significant number of residents;
- Expand the range of recreational opportunities available to Sudbury residents of all ages;
- Jointly benefit Conservation Commission and Park and Recreation Commission initiatives by promoting passive recreation, such as hiking, biking, and cross-country skiing, on town owned property;
- Promote the creative use of railway and other corridors to create safe and healthful non-motorized transportation opportunities.