TOWN OF SUDBURY, MASSACHUSETTS BRUCE FREEMAN RAIL TRAIL

ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING ASSESSMENT

Public "Kick-Off" Meeting June 15, 2006, Town Hall

John Drobinski, Sudbury Board of Selectman
I. William Place, Sudbury Director of Public Works/Town Engineer
Jody Kablack, Sudbury Town Planner
John Hendrickson, Fay, Spofford & Thorndike
Jen Shemowat, Fay, Spofford & Thorndike

What is the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail?

The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) is a proposed multi-use path (rail trail, multi-use trail or bike trail) along the former Lowell Secondary Track right of way of the Old Colony Rail Road, now owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The unused north-south railroad right of way travels through Lowell, Chelmsford, Westford, Carlisle, Acton, Concord, Sudbury and Framingham. The BFRT is at various stages of project development (study, design, or construction) in each Town. Sudbury is currently considering the conversion of the 4.4-mile segment of State-owned railroad right of way into a multi-use path. This path is named in remembrance of Bruce N. Freeman, a state representative from Chelmsford who had the vision of turning this rail line into a trail for non-motorized transportation and recreational use.

What is the goal of this meeting?

This meeting is a public kick-off meeting to the BFRT Environmental & Engineering Assessment project. The consulting firm of Fay, Spofford & Thorndike Engineers (FST) was selected by the Town to prepare this Assessment. The goal of this meeting is to prioritize the issues most important to residents in *advance* of preparing the Assessment. The ideas, comments and concerns raised at this meeting will help guide this study effort.

What type of information will be studied as part of the Environmental & Engineering Assessment?

The Assessment report will address the key design and constructability issues related to the potential conversion of the unused railroad corridor into a multi-use path. The Consultant team will evaluate and document the potential project impacts, required environmental clearances, right of way related issues and construction costs.

How is this Assessment being funded?

The funds for the Assessment were approved at the 2005 Town Meeting under the Community Preservation Act (CPA).

What is the project schedule?

Over the summer months, the consultant team will collect data, prepare maps and evaluate key design issues. FST will present the results of the Assessment report at a public information meeting in November. The final report will be submitted to the Town in December 2006.

Where I can I send my comments in follow-up to this meeting?

Comments can be either emailed to <u>BFRT@town.sudbury.ma.us</u> or mailed to:

I. William Place, Director of Public Works/Town Engineer BFRT Comments 275 Old Lancaster Road Sudbury, MA 01776

All electronic and written correspondence received will be on file in the Town's offices. Please include your full name and mailing address with correspondence.