



## Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail

P.O. Box 1192  
Concord, MA 01742  
[www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org](http://www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org)

June 29, 2011

Board of Selectmen  
Town of Sudbury  
Flynn Building  
278 Old Sudbury Road  
Sudbury, MA 01776  
[Selectmen@sudbury.ma.us](mailto:Selectmen@sudbury.ma.us)

RE: BRING THE TRAIL TO SUDBURY

Dear Board of Selectmen:

The Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (FBFRT, [www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org](http://www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org)) propose to jumpstart the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) project in Sudbury with no financial support required by the Town.

The Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail plan to initiate a fund raising campaign (*Bring the Trail to Sudbury*) for the initial (25%) design of the Trail from the Concord/Sudbury town line south to and across Route 117 (North Road). This 0.5 mile section will bring the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail to the sidewalk along the south side of North Road, thus allowing safe off-road access to the Trail by bicycle and foot for a great many Sudbury residents. The design also will include a crossing signal at North Road. When this section of the rail trail is completed, Sudbury residents will be able to safely travel all the way to Lowell (~17 miles) on the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail.

As you know, final (100%) design funding of the BFRT has been secured in Acton and Concord and construction funding has been programmed from Route 225 in Westford, south through Carlisle, Acton and Concord, into Sudbury (i.e., BFRT Phase 2).

However, until such time that the Town of Sudbury moves forward with construction of the Rail Trail, the Town of Concord will construct the trail only to Powder Mill Road in Concord. The reason for stopping short of the Concord/Sudbury border is that there will be no access and parking at the border. Also, there will be no parking available at Powder Mill Road, so Sudbury residents who want to use the trail will have to drive to West Concord or cycle up hilly curvy Dakin Road to reach the trail entrance at Powder Mill Road. Conversely, construction of the 0.5 mile section into Sudbury will allow Concord to complete construction of the trail to Sudbury / Concord border.

Greenman Pedersen Inc. (GPI) is currently under contract to perform the final design of the BFRT in Westford, Carlisle, Acton and Concord. GPI has estimated that the 25% design of the



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0.5-mile extension of the Rail Trail into Sudbury will cost \$50,000<sup>1</sup>. The goal of the Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail is to raise the full \$50,000 and turn the funds over to the Town of Sudbury to manage the 25% design project.

We look forward to working with you, the Town Staff and Town Committees, and the entire Sudbury community on this proposal. We would be delighted to attend a Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss our offer in more detail, and answer any questions you might have. If possible we would welcome being placed on the agenda for the July 5<sup>th</sup> Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss. Feel free to contact me or Sudbury FBFRT Board Members Dick Williamson or Bob Hall if you have any questions or concerns prior to a formal presentation.

Sincerely,

Tom Michelman – President Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, Inc.

[tmichelman@comcast.net](mailto:tmichelman@comcast.net)

[www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org](http://www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org)

6 Magnolia Drive

Acton, MA 01720

cc:

### Sudbury

- Maureen Valente, Town Manager
- “Concept Committee” Members:
  - Bill Place, Department of Public Works Director
  - Jody Kablack, Planning & Community Development Director
  - Debbie Dineen, Conservation Coordinator
- Pat Brown Chair, Rail Trail Conversion Advisory Committee

### Concord

- Board of Selectmen
- Christopher Whelan, Town Manager
- Marcia Rasmussen, Town Planner
- Delia Kaye, Director of Natural Resources
- Judy LaRocca, Chair Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee

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<sup>1</sup> This includes assistance in filling out and submitting a MassDOT Project Need Form and Project Initiation Form generally considered a pre-design task.



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- Jim Lyon, Chair White Pond Advisory Committee

### Acton

- Roland Bartl, Town Planner

### MassDOT

- David Shedd, BFRT Phase 2 Project Manager

### Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail

- Board of Directors