

Municipal Update



Compassion in Action

**BY HENRY L. HAYES, JR.,
TOWN MANAGER**

What is in the word compassion? Really, what does that word entail? When I asked some of our team members, here are the words I received: caring, understanding, loyalty, friendly, putting others ahead of yourself, empathy, and community. The dictionary and thesaurus would include: concern, solicitude, sensitivity, tenderness, mercy, gentleness, consideration, humanity and more...

Continued on next page.

Inside:

Newsletter Redesign

BFRT Update

Low Cost
Transportation

Ongoing Impact of
the Pandemic

*Shown above: Annual Town Meeting
on Saturday, May 22, 2021.*



Newsletter Redesign

BY LEILA FRANK,
INFORMATION OFFICER

Readers of the Sudbury Town Manager and Select Board Newsletters may notice some changes in this edition. The biggest difference is that we have combined the previously separate publications into one quarterly newsletter. This gives residents the opportunity to get up to speed with the latest municipal happenings in one go.

The newsletter will still feature the great content you're used to: the latest program and initiative info from Town staff, and updates on major topics facing the town from the Select Board. As always, residents can find more details and the latest happenings on the Town website and social media pages.

Thank you for taking the time to stay up to speed on the workings of your local government!

Compassion in Action Continued

How does this apply to us, not just for the professional staff for the Town of Sudbury, but for all of Sudbury? Maybe it boils down to how mindful are we of others? Sudbury is an active and deeply involved community, that is passionate regarding many things. Our Town is a well-known and a coveted place to reside, we are producers of greatness in many respects.

When I think of the responsiveness and engagement of our residents, employees, officials, businesses and visitors, I get excited about the heart and helping spirit of you all. You displayed tremendous compassion by donating a great number of items for the benefit of others this past year. You have epitomized the word compassion in so many ways!

As we draw nearer to the close of the state of emergency related to the Novel Coronavirus-19, some will be a bit more reserved and cautious than others. The extension of grace and compassion is the most appropriate response. Some adults and teens may have been vaccinated and still wearing a mask due to someone in their household or close circle not being able to be vaccinated for whatever reason.

While we are in many ways approaching the end of the pandemic and resulting crisis conditions, there are still many challenges for us to navigate, differing from person to person and family to family. If we as individuals can continue to epitomize compassion - for ourselves and for each other - then we as a community will continue to thrive through the most challenging of circumstances.

TOWN MANAGER OFFICE HOURS

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 2021
11AM – 12PM

Zoom Meeting

JOIN ONLINE

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81443386131>

CALL IN

978-639-3366 or 470-250-9358
Meeting ID: 814 4338 6131



Town Manager Henry L. Hayes, Jr. will be holding virtual open office hours for residents to talk about issues of interest and concern. Please join the Zoom meeting at any time from 11 AM – 12 PM on Saturday, June 12 to say hello, ask questions or discuss town matters.

SUDBURY TOWN OFFICES REOPENING TO PUBLIC

JUNE 14: Town Buildings
Open BY APPOINTMENT
ONLY

JULY 6: Town Buildings
Open to the Public



Injustice
anywhere is a
threat to justice
everywhere.



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

JUNETEENTH
CELEBRATE FREEDOM
J U N E 1 9

In observance of Juneteenth Independence Day, non-emergency Town offices will be closed on **Friday, June 18, 2021.**

Goodnow Library and Park & Recreation/Atkinson Pool will also be closed on Saturday, June 19.

VIRTUAL SELECT BOARD'S OFFICE HOURS



Janie Dretler



Bill Schineller

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2021

12 PM – 1 PM

ZOOM MEETING

JOIN ON-LINE: us02web.zoom.us/j/82788884457

JOIN BY PHONE: 978-639-3366 or 470-250-9358

MEETING ID: 827 8888 4457



Ovenbird



Blue Spotted Salamander



Eastern Box Turtle



Whip-poor-will

Protecting Ground Nesting Birds, Turtles, and Vernal Pool Species

**BY LORI CAPONE,
CONSERVATION COORDINATOR**

The Municipalities of Sudbury and Marlborough, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts have unified with Sudbury Valley Trustees to protect the fragile ecosystems found within the Desert Natural Area. The Hop Brook Marsh Conservation Land (Sudbury), the Desert

Conservation Land (Marlborough), Memorial Forest (Sudbury Valley Trustees), Marlborough-Sudbury State Forest (Department of Conservation and Recreation), and the adjacent property owned by the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts, together, comprise the Desert Natural Area (DNA).

If you have not visited the Desert Natural Area, it is a 900-acre ecologically rare pitch pine-scrub oak barren habitat that is home to rare and endangered species or species in decline, including wild lupine, whip-poor-will, box turtle, and blue-spotted salamander. The City of Marlborough and Sudbury Valley Trustees have worked together to manage and expand this rare habitat through selective tree removal and by reintroducing controlled fires as a management technique, a practice that Native

Americans used in this area. The animal populations are responding favorably.

Eastern Whip-poor-will, named for the song they sing, are often heard but seldom seen. Their numbers have been declining over recent decades. Whip-poor-will nest, and during the day sleep, on the forest floor in shady woods adjacent to open areas. Due to many reasons, including habitat loss, more than 80% of the whip-poor-will range in the US has been lost.

The area is also home to the Ovenbird, who make the “teacher teacher” sound you can hear echoing through the forest. The Ovenbird spend most of their time foraging on the ground and build their dome-shaped nests, called ovens, on the ground.

The abundant sand found throughout the Desert is perfect habitat for the many species of turtles, including the Eastern Box Turtle, to lay their eggs. Box turtles traverse the landscape slowly, are extremely long lived, but are slow to mature and have relatively few offspring per year, which has led to their status as a species of Special Concern. Eggs are typically laid in May and June when rain is frequent. Nest site selection is vital to egg development as the sex of the offspring is dependent on nest temperature. Nests are shallow and highly susceptible to predation.

When you think of deserts, the furthest thing from your mind is water, but the Desert Natural Area is also home to a myriad of vernal pools that are home to the threatened Blue Spotted Salamander. These critical and declining seasonal habitats are the breeding grounds for our salamanders, frogs, and other amphibians. Vernal pool species lay many eggs because many do not survive naturally. Protecting not only the vernal pool but also land adjacent thereto is critical to sustaining our ecologically diverse environment.



The DNA is also home to three locally rare Cold Water Fisheries: Hop Brook, Cranberry Brook and Trout Brook. These streams maintain colder temperatures that provide habitat for the native brook trout, which survive only in the coldest and cleanest waters.

You may have seen new signs recently at entrances to this space requiring dogs to be on leash, but why? Everyone loves dogs and we want them to continue to enjoy the great outdoors, but their natural curiosity can inadvertently impact the environment and its inhabitants in a number of ways. Everyone understands the need to pick up dog waste, but that is just one way that dogs impact the environment. We are asking that dogs be kept on leash to keep them on the trails. Dogs naturally scent their territory resulting in reducing the area that wildlife will use to live and breed to protect their young. Their playful nature compels them to jump in vernal pools, dislodging and ultimately killing egg masses that are contained within. They also like to run up and down the steep sandy slopes to the Hop Brook which causes siltation within this wetland system, impacting its water quality and thusly its ability to support cold water species. Their curiosity leads them to find and dig up turtle mounds and chase ground nesting birds. Dogs rarely catch the birds, nor knowingly disturb their nests, but their presence leads the parents to fledge their nests, for up to 30-45 minutes, leaving the eggs or hatchlings susceptible to predation by other species. Simply keeping dogs on trails prevents any of this from occurring.

To allow all species to thrive in this rare and unique mosaic of habitat types, the Town of Sudbury, Department of Conservation and Recreation, and General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts have joined the City of Marlborough and Sudbury Valley Trustees to enact this dog leash policy. We want your dogs to continue to enjoy this area in a responsible manner and we appreciate your cooperation in this effort. The Desert Natural Area is a special place that we want all species to be able to enjoy for generations.

The mission of the Conservation Commission is to protect the communities' natural resources. Sudbury's natural spaces have been a large part of sustaining our mental health in the time of COVID. The Commission works to ensure the wildlife, plant life, and ecological services these conservation spaces provide help allow species to thrive and continue to exist for the good of, not only Sudbury, but the ecological community as a whole.

MEMORIAL FOREST, SUDBURY

ALL DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH

WHY IS THIS REQUIRED?

- 1. To Protect Our Wildlife**
Unleashed dogs can cause life-threatening issues for wildlife. Others may not enjoy and may even fear dogs, especially one that is off leash, or that may run and jump on them. In an uncontrolled situation, dogs may bite people or other dogs.
- 2. To Respect Other Visitors**
Dog walkers are more likely to pick up their dog's waste when their dog is near them. **Please dispose of dog waste properly.**
- 3. To Keep Our Trails Clean**

Legend:

- Parking
- Trail
- Water Body
- SVT
- Marlborough: Desert Conservation Land
- GFWCM
- Bridge
- Road
- Wetland
- Sudbury: Hop Brook Marsh
- DCR: Marlboro-Sudbury State Forest
- ARNWR

Love open spaces! Support SVT!
Sudbury Valley Trustees is a nonprofit conservation organization that protects land for the benefit of people and wildlife. Help us keep these trails open for all to enjoy.
Join or Donate today! www.svtweb.org

Map produced by Sudbury Valley Trustees. Data Provided by Office of Geographic and Environmental Information (MassGIS), Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. This Map should be used for reference only. Boundary lines are approximate.

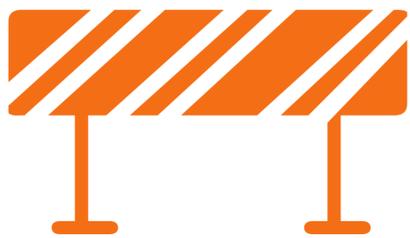
Sudbury Selected as a 2020 Stormy Award Winner



The New England Stormwater Collaborative received excellent submissions for the 2020 Stormy Award. Each year, the Collaborative and its parent organizations (NEWWA, NEWEA, and NEAPWA) award the top three "best stormwater ideas."

The 2020 New England Stormy Award winners are:

- Narragansett Bay Commission - "Macomber Stadium Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Project"
- Town of Colchester, VT - "Financial Rebates for Residential Stormwater Improvements"
- **Town of Sudbury, MA** - "Using Mini Weather Stations to Improve Winter Operations, Reduce Chloride Impacts, and Meet Stormwater Permit Requirements"



ROAD WORK SCHEDULE

*Thank you for your patience
while we improve Sudbury's roadways.*

2021 Town-Wide Roadway Resurfacing Schedule

The 2021 Pavement Management Program is underway. The program will use industry-leading methods to assure the work is completed as efficiently as possible and that the road surface improvements last for many years. During the process, we aim to produce the least disruption possible to drivers and residents.

Timeframe: May 19 through summer of 2021

Morning Work: Starts at 7:00AM

Night Work: 8:00PM - 3:00AM

Driveway Access: May be restricted until road work passes.

Emergency Notifications: Sign up at
<https://sudbury.ma.us/R911>

Schedules are subject to change due to unforeseen conditions. Thank you for your patience during this process.

CLICK HERE FOR [2021 ROAD WORK SCHEDULE](#).

Goodnow Library Reopening

BY ESME GREEN,
GOODNOW LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Hello Goodnow Library Users! As of June first, the library has returned to its pre-pandemic hours of service. In addition, we have opened up access to the second floor where you can browse our Teen, audiovisual and non-fiction collections. You will also be able to use the public computers, print, or find a quiet place to work or study! You can also come in and pick up your holds without an appointment. We do ask that you continue to wear a mask, as there are still several populations unable to obtain the vaccine, including those under 12 and certain people with health conditions. We appreciate your observance of this request to keep all our visitors safe!

We are working hard to bring back museum passes as they become available. We are also preparing to relaunch the Passport Application Program. Once all of our agents are recertified, look for an announcement on our webpage, newsletter and social media.

Services that won't be available until September include booking meeting rooms, in-library programming, or bulletin boards.

Welcome Back to the Library!



*He built a small house,
called a cocoon, around
himself. He stayed inside
for more than two weeks.
Then he nibbled a hole in
the cocoon, pushed his way
out and... he was a
beautiful butterfly!*

— ERIC CARLE,
THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

Summer Reading

FOR TEENS

"Collect" 8 mythical beasts to complete the teen 'Tails and Tales' summer reading challenge. Using the bestiary included in the summer reading welcome bag, learn more about each creature to find out what types of books they "hide" in. Once you've read 8 books (following the creatures' theme or not) you will become a Goodnow Library Beast Master.

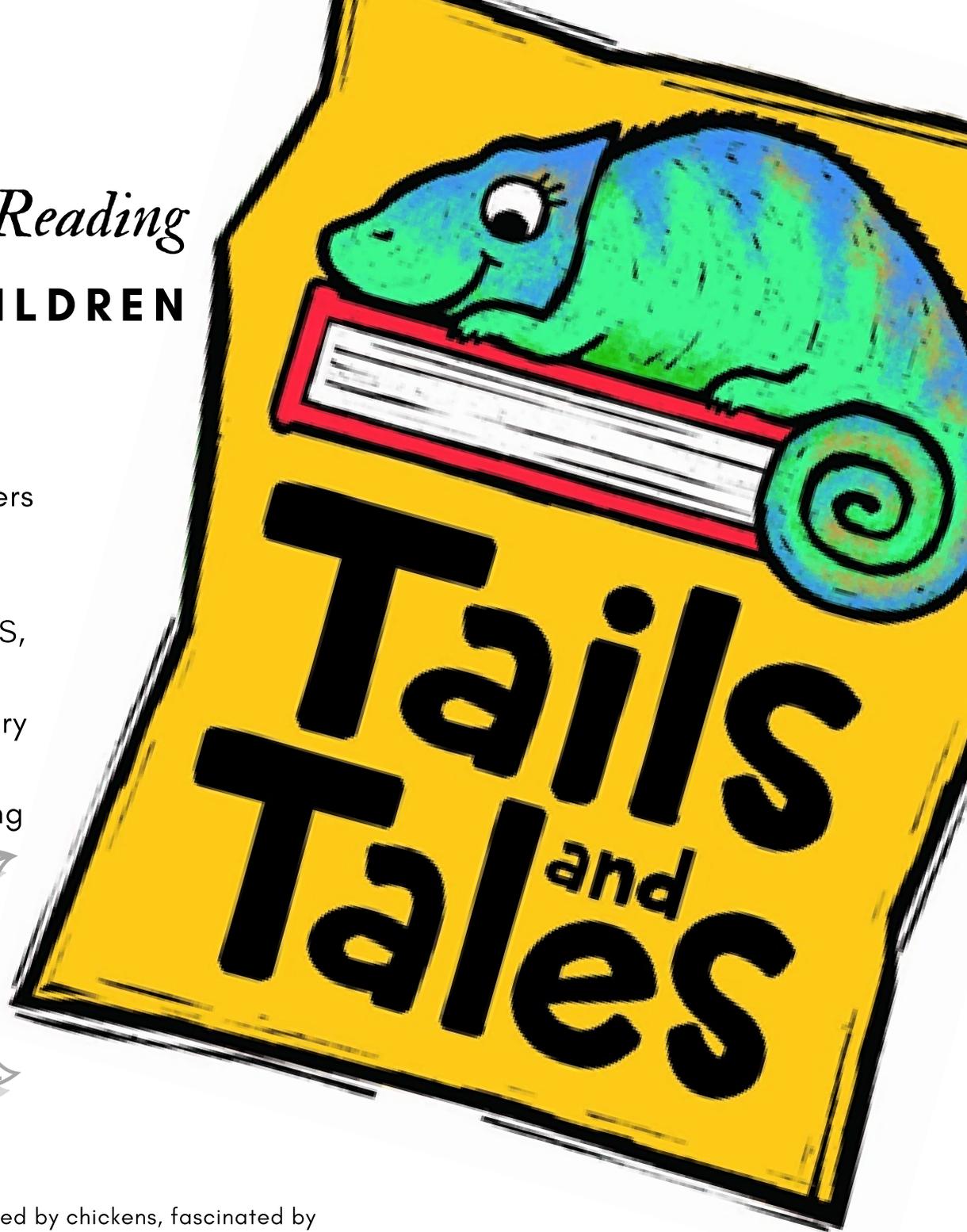
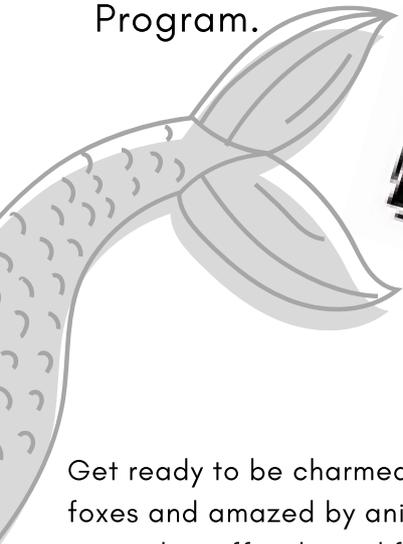
Here's how it works:

- Reserve a Bag: Visit goodnowlibrary.org/calendar to reserve a Summer Reading welcome bag for a bestiary and extra goodies starting 6/16
- Register Online: Sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge at goodnowlibrary.beanstack.org. Want to use your phone or tablet? Download the free Beanstack app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store
- Track Reading, Earn Badges, & Win Prizes: Log reading minutes at least once a week to be entered into the weekly raffle of a \$10 Erickson's gift card and read 8 books to be entered in the grand prize raffle of a \$50 Visa gift card



Summer Reading **FOR CHILDREN**

Children from birth through rising 5th graders are invited to participate in TAILS and TALES, the 2021 Goodnow Library Children's Summer Reading Program.



Get ready to be charmed by chickens, fascinated by foxes and amazed by animals of all kinds! We are excited to offer three different ways to enjoy summer reading programs this year. Join us live on the lawn at the Wayside Inn for outdoor programming, tune-in to Facebook each week for a virtual field trip to Drumlin Farm, enjoy family trivia nights and book clubs on Zoom, and enjoy our popular weekly Take and Make activity kits.

Kids can track their reading all summer long with our paper reading logs, online Beanstack program and fun read and bead necklace kits. They will have a chance to win prizes and help us reach our community reading goal to collectively read 5200 hours! For every hour that children read, the Goodnow Library Foundation will donate 25 cents to Drumlin Farm to sponsor care for their amazing animals.

© CLIP 2017



Tails & TALES



Adult Summer Reading 2021

Summer Reading

FOR ADULTS

Welcome to Adult Summer Reading 2021 at Goodnow! Read 8 books this summer to complete the Tails & Tales Adult Summer Reading challenge. Track your reading to earn badges and prizes. Log books at least once a week to be entered into a weekly drawing of a \$10 gift card to local businesses and read 8 books to be entered for the grand prize drawing of a \$100 gift card!

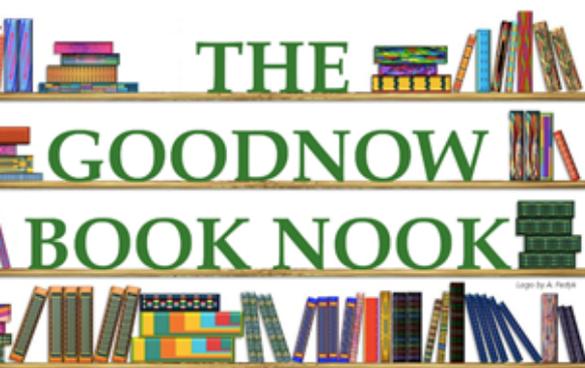
Pre-registration begins Monday, June 14th. You can register and participate on Beanstack, our new online reading platform!

This summer, instead of in-person programming, the Goodnow Library will offer virtual activities and programs for adults. Check out the [Goodnow Library Calendar](#) for upcoming summer events on Zoom. Events include presentations on animals and wildlife, craft workshops for adults, a book talk by the City Archaeologist of Boston, and more!

In addition, there will be a live, in-person concert by the Retro Polatin Duo to kick off Summer Reading! The concert will be held outdoors at the Wayside Inn. Be sure to join us for some fun and musical entertainment for the whole family!

Summer Reading starts on Monday, June 21.

Introducing Online Book Sales



The Goodnow Library Foundation is thrilled to announce the opening of The Book Nook, a virtual book sale in support of Goodnow Library. Click [HERE](#) to check out the hundreds of gently used books that were generously donated by Library supporters!

This fundraiser pays for programming, arts, crafts, and more. Check it out today - and please keep coming back as new books are added each week. Contactless book pickup will be at the Library. Questions? Email GLFbooksale@gmail.com.



COVID-19
VACCINE

Keeping Informed and Safe as the State Reopens

**BY PATTY MORAN,
BOARD OF HEALTH NURSE**



The first cases of COVID-19 appeared in Sudbury in March of 2020. Now, 14 months later, we will be seeing the lifting of many of the restrictions placed on our daily lives during the pandemic. While this can, and should, be viewed as a celebration of all the things we have done correctly to get to this point, it is also a moment of reflection on losses endured and all we have gone through during this time.

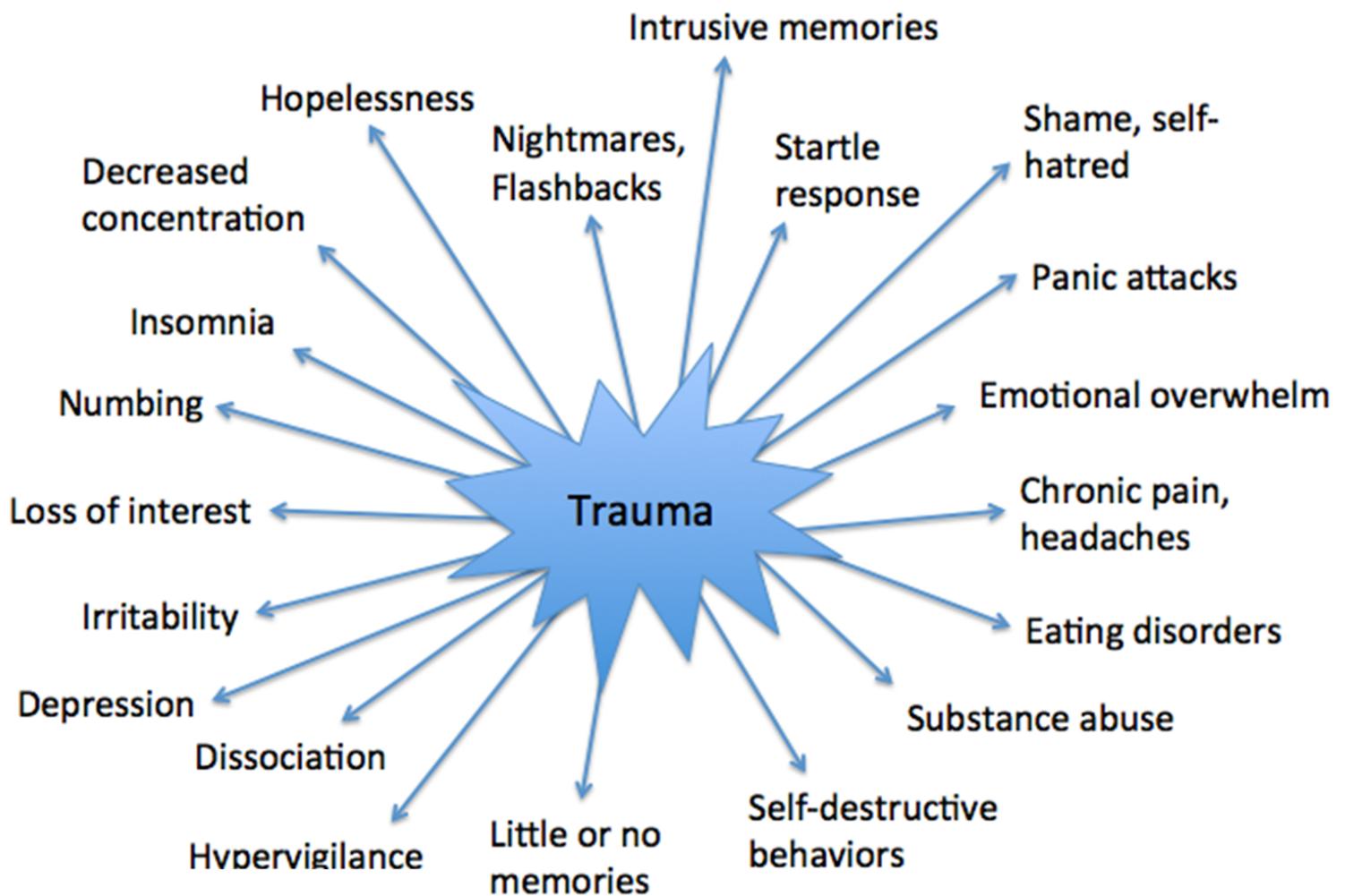


I am sure that as the weeks go on, we will all face challenges of reopening with the same patience and desire to get it right for our families, students, co-workers and community. Please check in frequently for changes as we move forward, and remember COVID-19 still exists. Vaccination, mask wearing, handwashing, social distancing, quarantine and isolation are the tools we used to get to this point. We have learned their value in keeping us all safe. For the most up-to-date information, visit Mass.gov's [Continue to Stop the Spread](#) website.

Congratulations to Health Director Bill Murphy, MS, RS, CHO

Sudbury Health Director Bill Murphy has been awarded the Massachusetts Environmental Health Association's President's Award! The award recognizes individuals who demonstrate dedication to their colleagues and to the fields of environmental and public health.





Understanding the Ongoing Impact of the Pandemic As the State Reopens

**BY BETHANY HADVAB,
BOARD OF HEALTH SOCIAL
WORKER**

The needs in town during the pandemic have increased exponentially. Housing and food insecurity, lack of access to basic needs, job loss, financial concerns, and domestic violence are among the most frequently addressed concerns in the Board of Health Social Work Office.

Understandably, this is impacting residents' emotional wellbeing. Additionally, the pandemic has been characterized as a global trauma and has also resulted in a significant impact on mental health. According to a study conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics, the proportion of adults with anxiety and depression symptoms has quadrupled in comparison the pre-pandemic rates. According to a study conducted at the end of 2020 by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, one out of three adults in the Commonwealth reported experiencing fifteen or more days of poor mental health in a single month, and three or more symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

This is further exacerbated by inadequate counseling and psychiatry resources to meet demand, resulting in waitlists that can be months long. What follows is a list of resources offering both immediate and long-term support to meet residents' mental health and wellbeing needs.

RESOURCES

- **William James INTERFACE Referral Service:**
Support finding therapists and psychiatrists who are accepting new patients. Most providers have waitlists at this time.
- **Hand Hold:** Helps parents and caregivers to understand their children's mental and behavioral health symptoms during the pandemic, and provides guidance and resources.
- **Call2Talk:** A mental health, emotional support, and suicide prevention program run by Mass211. It operates 24/7 and provides confidential, compassionate listening to assist people – including those who may be despondent or considering suicide – during stressful times

- **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI):**
Information and resources, including support groups, for people living with mental illness and their loved ones.
- **Domestic Violence Services Network (DVSN):**
A confidential hotline to provide resources and safety planning. They strive to empower and educate all people in ways that respect their dignity and choices.
- Visit the Social Work Office's **COVID-19 Resource Guide** for many more resources related to social emotional, housing, financial, mental health, medical, and basic needs.

The Sudbury Social Work Office is committed to connecting residents with resources and referrals, and can be reached at 978-440-5476 or socialworker@sudbury.ma.us.

Sudbury Awarded Shared Services Grant

BY BILL MURPHY, HEALTH DIRECTOR

Sudbury was notified they were the recipient of one of 29 Public Health Excellence for Shared Services Grants from the Department of Public Health in an annualized amount of \$300,000.

The Sudbury shared service grant will focus on meeting three primary public health and environmental health objectives. The participating towns of Bedford, Concord, Carlisle, Lincoln, Sudbury, and Wayland face similar challenges meeting mandated inspectional requirements, addressing gaps in public health nursing services, and ability to provide consistent health messaging throughout the communities.



This collaborative, led by health directors, will bring stakeholders together to address community needs. Health inspectors, nurses, and public relations personnel are expected to be hired. Achieving health equity and eliminating health disparities will be a significant component of this effort.



Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Design Project Achieves 75% Design Benchmark

**BY BETH SUEDMEYER,
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER**

The 75% Design package for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) was submitted to MassDOT on May 12, 2021. This submission includes updated and more finely detailed path plans, advanced bridge plans, MassDOT design checklists, draft environmental permits, and other items. The project is on track for environmental permitting in late 2021 and final design in spring of 2022.

A railroad whistle post located near Hop Brook will be retained/restored and interpreted along the BFRT, helping trail users better appreciate and understand the corridor's railroad history.

The Project design has been funded by the Town of Sudbury through Town Meeting appropriations over the last several years. The refined design was prepared by the Town's consultant, Fuss & O'Neill with review by Town Staff and the BFRT Advisory Task Force. The project is on the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for construction funding and initiation planned in federal fiscal year 2022. This month, the revised construction funding amount in the draft TIP presented by the MPO was \$12,886,676. The current construction cost estimate is comfortably below this funded amount.

The project is Phase 2D of an envisioned 25-mile BFRT shared-use recreational rail trail between Lowell and Framingham along the former Lowell Secondary Track right-of-way of Old Colony Rail Road.

At present, approximately 12 miles of The BFRT has been constructed in the municipalities of Lowell, Chelmsford, Westford, Carlisle, Acton, and Concord.

Phase 2D of the BFRT proposes to construct a 4.5-mile multi-use recreational trail that will begin at the Sudbury/Concord Town Line and travel south to the MBTA right-of-way of the proposed Massachusetts Central Rail Trail near Station Road, where the two trails would intersect. The construction project will also include a half mile segment of the BFRT in Concord south of Powder Mill Road.

The 75% Design expands on the 25% Design submitted to MassDOT in 2017 and the preliminary bridge plans submitted in 2019, both of which were approved by MassDOT last year. The BFRT Advisory Task Force met frequently throughout the spring.

Proposed Project Design Highlights:

- 10 foot wide paved trail surface with crushed gravel shoulders
- Trailside rest areas (bench seating, bicycle racks, hydration stations and more)
- Connections to existing town properties Parkinson (Ti Sales) Field, Broadacres Farm and Davis Field
- Repair and improvement of bridges, culverts and drainage
- Landscaping features including native tree and vegetative plantings as well as cedar rail fencing to screen sensitive adjacent properties have been proposed
- Signage such as kiosks with maps and trail information, interpretive signage describing historic and natural resources, wayfinding signage and granite mile-marker posts
- Roadway Crossing enhancements including wheelchair ramps and signals for enhanced pedestrian crossing safety

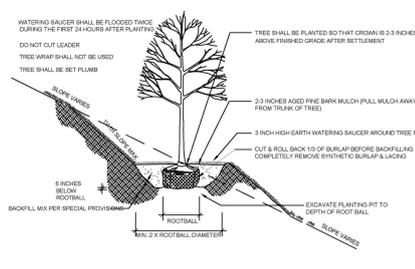
- Environmental Impact Mitigation measures designed to reduce impacts to wetlands, meet stream crossing standards to the extent possible and protect sensitive environmental areas off-trail

The proposed design is subject to MassDOT review and will be further refined in the 100% design submission. MassDOT's review of the 75% design could take up to 60 days. Public hearings, like the one MassDOT hosted virtually following the 25% design milestone in 2020, are not held when there are no major changes in the project design. Primarily, the 75% design is a plan building off the 25% design submittal with much greater detail.

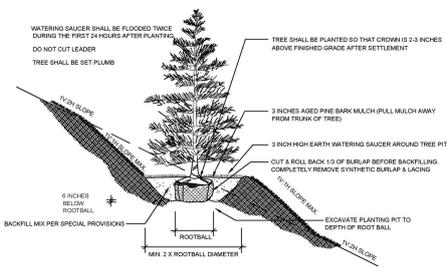
More information on the project and the 75% design plans may be found at the [BFRT project webpage](#). Public comments are always welcome and may be submitted to Beth Suedmeyer at suedmeyerb@sudbury.ma.us.

BFRT 75% Design Submission - page 81

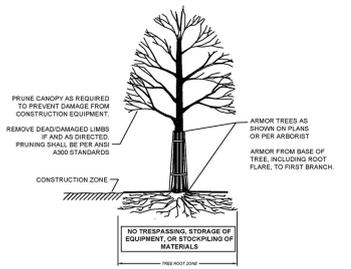
| SUDBURY BRUCE FREEMAN RAIL TRAIL | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------|----------------------|
| DATE | REVISED DATE | NO. | TITLE |
| 04/2020 | 04/2020 | 001 | CONSTRUCTION DETAILS |
| MA | 0000000000 | 200 | 200 |
| PROJECT FILE NO. | | 808464 | |



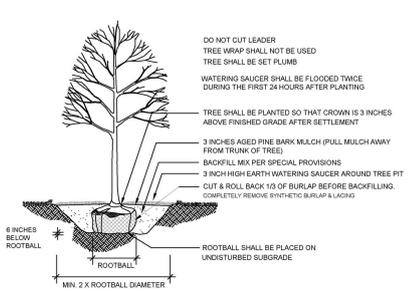
1 DECIDUOUS TREE PLANTING (SLOPE)
SCALE: N.T.S.



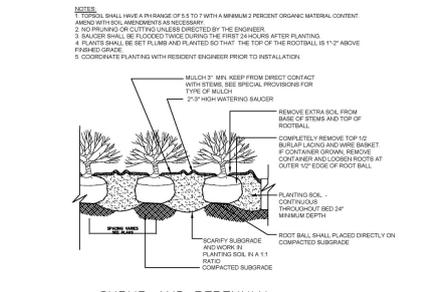
2 EVERGREEN TREE PLANTING (SLOPE)
SCALE: N.T.S.



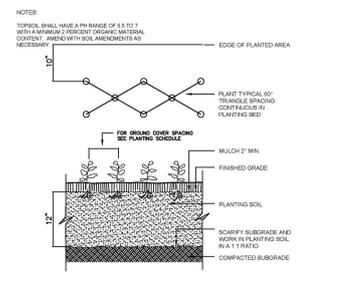
3 INDIVIDUAL TREE PROTECTION
SCALE: N.T.S.



4 DECIDUOUS TREE PLANTING
SCALE: N.T.S.



5 SHRUB AND PERENNIAL PLANTING
SCALE: N.T.S.



6 GROUND COVER PLANTING
SCALE: N.T.S.

Low Cost Transportation Options for Sudbury

**BY ADAM DUCHESNEAU,
PLANNING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

As of May 10, 2021, we are pleased to provide three low cost transportation options to Sudbury residents:

1) SUDBURY CONNECTION VAN SERVICE

The Sudbury Connection Wheelchair Accessible Van Service, offered in conjunction with the Metro West Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA), will be running five (5) days a week (excluding holidays). Please [CLICK HERE](#) for additional information and to see the ride schedule.

If you would like to register, please contact the Senior Center (or MWRTA) for an application or [CLICK HERE](#) to access the application form directly. When your application is approved you will set up a debit account for van fees. Van fees are \$1.00 in town; \$2.00 for out of town for a one-way ride. If you need additional information, please contact Ana Cristina Oliveira, Outreach Specialist, at OliveiraA@sudbury.ma.us or 978-639-3268.

2) GO SUDBURY! UBER RIDES PROGRAM

The Go Sudbury! Uber Rides Program is a grant-funded, temporary transportation program provided via Uber and partially subsidized by the Town of Sudbury, for rides to non-urgent healthcare and vaccination appointments, work, shopping, and accessing community resources. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for additional information.



The program is for Sudbury residents who meet one (1) of the following qualifications:

- 50 Years of age or older
- 18 years of age or older with a disability that limits driving
- Active duty military or veteran of the armed forces
- Resident with financial need
- Essential worker requiring transportation for work

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for this program.

There are three geographic areas in which transportation can be provided, each with a nominal copay per one-way ride:

1. Within Sudbury (\$1 per ride)
2. To/From towns contiguous to Sudbury (\$2 per ride)
3. To/From destinations up to 25 miles outside of Sudbury (\$10 per ride)

The ride service area is within Sudbury and up to 25 miles outside of Sudbury. All rides must begin or end in Sudbury. Service is provided to the Logan Express Shuttle in Framingham, but not to Logan Airport. You must have a private account with Uber on your smartphone for this service. An Uber Clinic Technology Support volunteer will assist participants with issues relating to downloading and using the Uber application on your smartphone for this program.

For more information please contact Ana Cristina Oliveira, Outreach Specialist, Sudbury Senior Center, at OliveiraA@sudbury.ma.us or 978-639-3268.

3) GO SUDBURY! TAXI RIDES PROGRAM

We are excited to share that the Metropolitan Area Planning Council is extending its emergency taxi grant funding, likely through December 2021. Sudbury, along with the Towns of Maynard, Stow, and Concord, has received sufficient funding to provide several rides per week (including wheelchair accessible vehicles). Both Tommy's Taxi (Framingham) and JFK Transportation (Natick) will be used to provide these services. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for additional information.

The Town has restarted this fully subsidized Taxi Rides Program to service the following trips:

- Non-COVID related Healthcare Appointments
- COVID Vaccination Appointments

Residents must meet one (1) of the following qualifications:

- 50 Years of age or older
- 18 years of age or older with a disability that limits driving
- Active duty military or veteran of the armed forces
- Resident with financial need
- Essential worker requiring transportation for work

[CLICK HERE](#) register for this program.

The ride service area is within Sudbury and up to 25 miles outside of Sudbury. All rides must begin or end in Sudbury. Service is provided to the Logan Express Shuttle in Framingham, but not to Logan Airport. We are also pleased to introduce the CrossTown Connect Dispatch Call Center for the Taxi Rides Program.

Dispatching hours are Monday to Friday 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM. Rides must be booked with dispatch at least 24 hours in advance.

Phone Number: 978-844-6809

For more information please contact Ana Cristina Oliveira, Outreach Specialist, Sudbury Senior Center, at OliveiraA@sudbury.ma.us or 978-639-3268.



Fertilizer Pollution

A GROWING PROBLEM

How could a green, flourishing lawn pose a threat to the environment? **The fertilizers you apply to your lawn are potential pollutants.** If applied improperly or in excess, fertilizer can be washed off your yard and end up in lakes and streams. This causes algae to grow, which uses up oxygen that fish need to survive.

FERTILIZER CHECKLIST

*How to fertilize your yard
without polluting our waters.*

- ☑ **Use Sparingly:** Many plants don't need it as much or as often as you may think.
- ☑ **Don't Fertilize Before a Rain Storm:** It will just wash away, not helping your yard and hurting the environment.
- ☑ **Use Organic:** They release nutrients more slowly.
- ☑ **Test Your Soil:** Have your soil tested before applying fertilizers to your lawn and gardens. You may find you don't need to add fertilizer at all. Learn more at soiltest.umass.edu
- ☑ **Dispose of Yard Waste:** Lawn clippings are stormwater pollutants too. Please dispose of them properly.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH FERTILIZERS?

Fertilizer can become a problem for lakes, rivers, and streams, if it's not used carefully. If you use too much fertilizer or apply it at the wrong time, it can easily wash off your lawn or garden into storm drains and then flow into lakes or streams. Just like in your garden, fertilizer in lakes and streams makes plants grow, leading to **algal growth in water bodies and problems for aquatic animals.**

WHAT CAN I DO?

In recent years, as water pollution from factories has been greatly reduced, **more than 60% of water pollution comes from stormwater runoff**, which picks up pollutants like leaking oil from cars, fertilizers from farms, lawns and gardens, and failing septic tanks. All these sources add up to a big pollution problem. But each of us can do small things to help clean up our water - careful application of fertilizer is a great start!





Town Manager Henry L. Hayes, Jr.

BY DAN CARTY, SELECT BOARD

Back in March of 2020, I wrote a newsletter article introducing Henry Hayes, our incoming Town Manager. A little over a year has passed, and I thought it would be helpful to the public to check back in with Mr. Hayes to get his impression of his first year on the job.

Thanks for the time Henry. Here we are, a little more than one year in. What has surprised you about the role of Town Manager here in Sudbury? I think the biggest surprise I have had is the way I was able to adapt with regards to the budget. If you recall I used the term “steep climb” with what was ahead of me in this regard, but as I got into it, I realized my previous budgeting experience was much more applicable than I expected. In my past I did not own the budget, but I worked closely with my boss and was a senior advisor to budgetary matters. Now I am in charge, but have very good people working with me. So, it is much more similar than I expected. But I do want to note that this would be a much different story if I did not have the caliber of people on my team that I have.

Let’s talk about your team. We often think about town management in terms of issues and tasks. But we know that in order to accomplish those, we need good people. How have you found the people management side of this job so far?

Well, for starters, the HR rules are different, but in my previous career I was used to structure and regulation. I had to come up to speed on these ground rules, but I had great support from Maryanne Bilodeau and the rest of the Senior Staff. And again, my team is fantastic. Together we have established an environment that fosters great dialogue and trust.

So, let’s talk about some differences between this role and your previous ones. I must imagine that citizen involvement is different and something you had to get used to?

Certainly, to a large degree. I interacted with and led various committees in the past, but this is indeed different. Here people are involved because they care! Here there are probably more people involved – in my past it may have been the same 10 or 20 people that I dealt with – but they were still involved. Here it is more people for sure.

How do you find the pace? Ha! The word relentless comes to mind! Seriously, there is always something critical going on. Some things may have an impact lasting for a day while other things we do will impact Sudbury for the next 50 years. But everything we do must be, and is, approached cautiously & accurately.

What would you like the citizens of Sudbury to know now that you have been on the job for a year? I would like them to know that sustaining a safe, secure, serviced, and strong Sudbury is not just a slogan. It is how we think and manage. It starts in house with our staff and works outward to the community.

Are you glad you took the job? Yes!

Well Henry, I am glad you did too. Thank you for your time!

I want to thank Henry for his first year of service to us here in Sudbury. He has admirably managed us through a bona fide crisis and came up to speed very quickly. Congratulations Henry, and here’s to many more years.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Sudbury

BY BILL SCHINELLER,
SELECT BOARD

The killing of Black American George Floyd in St Louis on May 25, 2020 one year ago served as an undeniable impetus across our nation to uncover and address biases present in varying forms in our communities. The Select Board responded last summer with a Community Conversation on Race and Safety on June 25, 2020 and followed up by creating the Town's new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Commission. The Board collaboratively defined the Mission Statement and desired composition of the DEI Commission, incorporating input from citizens over the course of several Board meetings, and voted unanimously to approve on November 17, 2020.

As defined in the DEI Commission Mission Statement, the Commission is composed of fourteen volunteer voting members, appointed by the Select Board from the community at large, plus seven Advisory (non-voting) members: Sudbury Police Department (1), Town Manager (1), Sudbury Public Schools and/or Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School (2), Sudbury Clergy Association (1), and Select Board liaisons (2).

Their one-year mission: First, conduct extensive outreach within Sudbury to gather first-hand experiences of historically disenfranchised populations within our community, and solicit input from Town departments, boards, and committees and related groups in town, to identify where biases and issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion exist here in Sudbury. Second, the Commission will deliver a report with findings and actionable recommendations to address any problems found. Third, The Select Board, in partnership with the Commission, will present findings to the town, and the Select Board will oversee implementation of the recommended actions.

Applications for the Commission were advertised and reviewed in early 2021, and the Select Board interviewed and voted unanimously on April 26, 2021 to appoint fourteen well qualified and sincere



volunteers: Susan Abrams, Yana Bloomstein, Peju Champion, Katina Fontes, Vona Hill, Nancy Kimble, Nalini Luthra, Nuha Muntasser, Stephanie Oliver, Susan Rushfirth, Erica Silverman, Joanna Steffey, Tanisha Tate, Susan Tripi.

On May 17, 2021 the Commission held its very first meeting, electing Co-Chairs Nalini Luthra and Nuha Muntasser, learning Open Meeting Law procedures, and discussing their mission and aggressive

schedule. They will be reporting back to the Select Board on a quarterly basis, and are currently preparing their outreach plan. The Select Board thanks the Commission members for volunteering their time, talents, and perspectives, and looks forward to collaborating to identify and address issues of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Sudbury. My personal hope is that Sudbury be a place where everyone feels as safe, equal, and included as I (a white male) do, and interactions with diverse neighbors is perfectly normal and comfortable.

Fairbank Community Center Project Update

**BY JANIE DRETLE,
SELECT BOARD**

It was at the 2020 Annual Town Meeting that the residents of Sudbury looked to the future and voted to approve the design and build of a new Community Center. The project passed at the November 2020 ballot, strengthening our commitment to being *a place for all to live, work and play*. Since then, Town Manager Henry Hayes, Combined Facilities Director Bill Barletta, and the Permanent Building Committee (PBC) have been very busy getting this project underway. Permanent Building Committee members Jennifer Pincus and Nancy Rubinstein will serve as building project leads.

The PBC selected Compass Project Management, Inc. to be Owner's Project Manager (OPM) for the new Fairbank Community Center Project. Compass previously served as OPM on the Peter Noyes School Accelerated Repair Project. In addition, VERTEX, the parent company of Compass, served as the OPM for the renovation and addition of the Sudbury Water District facilities. Compass and VERTEX have

previously served as OPM on similar projects such as the Walpole Council on Aging, the Franklin Senior Center Renovation, the Scituate Senior and Recreation Center, and the Arlington Senior Center.

PBC awarded Bargmann Hendrie + Archetype, Inc. (BH+A) with the design contract for the project. You may recall that BH+A previously provided a feasibility study for the Fairbank Community Center. BH+A has worked on a variety of projects including the Andover Senior Center, the Scituate Senior & Recreation Center, the Needham Senior Center and the Newton Center for Active Living. Both Compass and BH+A bring considerable experience and expertise to the Fairbank Community Center building project.

Over the past month, Compass and BH+A have held numerous meetings with user groups of the Fairbank Community Center as well as Town staff to get a thorough understanding of the needs of each group. At the most recent PBC meeting, Compass presented a three-month projection which begins with concept and works toward finalizing schematic design.

Some of the concept design considerations include:

- Building approach
- Parking and entrance locations
- Ready access to day camps and drop off areas
- Outdoor spaces
- 1-story vs. a 2-story building
- Future expansion

- The role of landscaping: green space vs. pavement, shading, water management
- Enhanced daylighting
- Planning for solar
- Sustainable design

The OPM and designer have an aggressive schedule to complete the design and estimating process by year-end. Schematic design will continue through July. The OPM will seek authorization to set the overall budget and square footage in early August to begin the permitting process toward the end of the summer. Design development will then follow through the beginning of October. Site plan approval process is targeted to wrap up by late November 2021.

Public review is expected to be held prior to year-end 2021, and construction documents are targeted to be complete by January to go out for bid at end of January 2022.

Town approval to fund for the building and renovation of the new community center was an important milestone for Sudbury. The new community center will be an incredible resource for town residents for many years to come!

Visit the Town website for [Fairbank Community Center updates](#).

You may also follow the project by attending upcoming [Permanent Building Committee meetings](#).

Walking Sudbury's Conservation Land Trails

**BY CHARLIE RUSSO,
SELECT BOARD VICE-CHAIR**

Sudbury is fortunate to have numerous conservation lands, parks, and open spaces that provide a bucolic atmosphere, host places for passive recreation, and add to the quality of life in town.

Access to nature is shown to reduce stress, stimulate creativity, and improve physical and mental health. Beyond these benefits, the value of conservation lands became even more apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic, when trails became havens for home-bound residents as places to escape and find peace. In the past year, many ordinarily-empty conservation land parking lots were often filled to overflow on sunny days.

On a map, Sudbury is bookended by two large federal conservation lands; the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge and the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge. In between are numerous open spaces owned by local, state, federal, and private landowners, including more than



a dozen walkable properties owned by the Town of Sudbury on behalf of its residents.

Among the Town conservation lands, there's something for everyone, whether you're a veteran hiker or a child's chaperone. That could include a hike up the old sledding hill to the overlook at Davis Farm, a stroll beneath the towering trees of Haynes Meadow, or getting lost at Hop Brook Marsh, which is one of six adjoining conservation lands.

Other options includes King Philip Woods, where trails circle a pond and lead to the stone foundations of historic structures; Lincoln Meadows, where pathways wind up a hill above the Community Gardens and the Sudbury River; Nobscot/Tipling Rock, a large conservation property that offers many trails, views of Boston's skyscrapers from its summit, Ford's Folly, and more; Frost Farm, with wide open meadows; and the Piper-Libby property, that offers old stone walls, tall trees, and an escarpment overlooks a small brook. Barton Farm and Poor Farm both offer trails encircling active farm fields.

In the right places, it's easy to hear the slap of a beaver tail against the water, see dead tree snags pecked to swiss cheese by woodpeckers, or imagine the story told by a set of animal tracks crossing a path.

In Sudbury, many conservation properties are also home to historic features, such as abandoned orchards, old stone walls, or rusted out antique jalopies, which all add to the interest and sense of exploration along the trails. Notable historic locations within conservation lands include Ford's Folly - a large, failed dam within the Nobscot Conservation Land originally built at the direction of Henry Ford, which looms over a trickling stream in the middle of the woods at the end of a nice hiking trail - and the remaining foundations of the Tavern of the Damned within King Philip Woods, where the skeletal remains of some unfortunate travelers who were victims of bandits were found long ago.

Some of the newer open spaces in town include the Landham Brook Marsh, where heron nests stick up like wooden lollipops from the marsh; Broadacres Farm, which offers open fields and woodlands laced with old horse trails; and the rolling Sewataro property that offers scenic ponds, hills, and other amenities.

And while many conservation lands are protected in perpetuity, they are not immune to change. The threats of invasive species, climate change, and development pressure continue to loom. Happily, the Conservation Office has a number of initiatives underway to support and expand conservation in town. These include updates to decades-old hand-drawn Town Trail Maps to newer GPS-based versions, plans to form a dedicated Land Stewardship Committee, and more.

Of note, an ongoing project at Davis Farm has removed invasive plants from a hillside without using chemicals and replanted the area with native pollinator plants. This project may serve as a model for similar invasive removal/native replanting projects in the future. And at King Philip Woods, an upcoming project will use CPA funds and volunteer efforts to remove invasive species, unearth the Old Berlin Road, install historical interpretive signs, and better connect the property to the Haynes Garrison House site.

So, whatever outdoor adventure you're looking for - whether that's active hiking, wildlife spotting, or contemplative walking - there's a place for you.

While on the trails, please abide by the latest COVID-19 protocols, watch out for ticks, and follow leash rules.

A list of conservation properties within Sudbury, along with maps, is available here: https://sudbury.ma.us/conservation_lands/.

See you on the trails.

Stay up to date on the latest in Sudbury Town Government.

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[SUDBURY.MA.US/EMAIL-LISTS/MUNICIPAL/](https://sudbury.ma.us/email-lists/municipal/)





Sudbury's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Assessment and Transition Plan

**BY JENNIFER ROBERTS,
SELECT BOARD CHAIR**

As a part of its commitment to making Sudbury a livable community for all residents, the Town recently commissioned an American with Disabilities Act (ADA) study. The purpose was to analyze the current level of ADA compliance in programs, services, and activities in Town-owned facilities. The 1990 American with Disabilities Act provided civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities similar to those afforded to individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, and religion. The Institute for Human Centered Design (IHCD) was selected to conduct the study through surveying Town facilities and properties, soliciting public input, and the writing of a final report/transition plan.

The Assessment

The accessibility survey included all the space where the Town offers programs, services, and activities to members of the public. This includes 5 public schools and 14 public buildings as well as 11 outdoor recreation areas. The ADA requirement outlines that a public entity may not deny the benefits of its programs, services, and activities to individuals with disabilities because its facilities are inaccessible. The ADA does not typically require that every location be made accessible, however when "viewed in its entirety," comparable programs and services should be available at other locations. In addition to physical locations, the Town must communicate effectively with those who have hearing, vision, or speech disabilities, meaning written and spoken word must be understandable to all. This can be accomplished through the use of "auxiliary aid services" such as open and closed captioning,

readers, and electronic formats. Working in collaboration with the Town for access, IHCD spent much of 2020 reviewing Town properties despite setbacks and challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Report

IHCD submitted separate reports for each location that was surveyed, ranking by order of accessibility issue and magnitude of cost. It was found that many key facilities are generable usable by people with disabilities but may not be in full compliance with requirements. Most Town-owned facilities that have been recently built or altered are substantially accessible and meet most architectural requirements. However, many areas for improvement remain. A complete listing of the individual reports can be found [here](#) (scroll to bottom of page). On March 2, 2021, IHCD met in a joint meeting between

the Sudbury Select Board and the Commission on Disability to present an initial overview of the findings of their reports. Town Staff, including the Sudbury Town Manager, ADA Coordinator, and Facilities Director, also participated. This meeting kicked off the beginning of the Community Input period.

The Community Input Period

During the 6-week Community Input period, members of the community were invited to provide their feedback on the accessibility report and the general state of accessibility in Sudbury. Particular outreach was made to groups that may experience accessibility challenges, such as the Senior Center. Other outreach went to schools, the general community, and more, conducted in parallel by the Town and Sudbury Commission on Disability. Despite the Community Input period coming to an end, it was recognized that receiving input by the public is an important ongoing process now and into the future.

The Americans with Disabilities Act makes it possible for everyone with a disability to live a life of freedom and equality.

- ADA NATIONAL NETWORK

The Transition Plan

Upon completion of the Community Input period, ICHD, the Town staff, Select Board, and Commission on Disability came back together to discuss the results and pathway forward (April 27, 2021). The group discussed ICHD's Transition Plan which presented a comprehensive and prioritized list of accessibility issues. The plan lays out each item with a priority score of 1-4; 1 being most critical allowing for program access or a safety challenge. Associated with each is "an estimated cost of barrier removal." This transition plan will serve as a guide for the Town in the future as it seeks to address these areas. At present, ICHD is preparing a final report for the Sudbury. Then needed changes will be assessed in the broader context of the Town's full Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) which identifies future projects, costs, and possible funding sources. While it is broadly recognized that all the changes cannot be made immediately, it is the goal to start to methodically address them in each coming year pursuing outside funding sources wherever possible. I would like to thank the hard work and dedication of ICHD, Town staff, the Commission on Disability, and members to the public who provided their valuable input. This ADA Assessment was a critical step for Sudbury in its pursuit to be an accessible and welcoming community for all. Full information on the project can be found [here](#). Ongoing questions or comments concerning ADA accessibility can be sent to ada@sudbury.ma.us.