



Town of Sudbury

Transportation Committee

Transportation@sudbury.ma.us

Flynn Building
278 Old Sudbury Road
Sudbury, MA 01776
978-639-3387
Fax: 978-639-3314
www.sudbury.ma.us/transportation

July 24, 2020

Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E.
Chief Engineer
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116
Attention Project Management Project File No. 608164

RE: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Project in Sudbury (608164) – Design Public Hearing Comments

Dear Ms. Leavenworth,

The Town of Sudbury's Transportation Committee is pleased to offer this letter of support for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) Project, Phase 2D (608164) and to express our appreciation for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's (MassDOT) continued commitment to advancing this critical project. The Town of Sudbury and its Transportation Committee are pleased the project has reached the critical 25% design milestone.

The Transportation Committee was created to address a key feature of livable communities: transportation. With the exception of specialized transportation provided by the Council on Aging, Sudbury is currently car-dependent, putting a number of residents at risk of isolation, loss of work, inability to access medical care, etc. There is no public transportation within town boundaries; parking space for the Commuter Rail in adjoining towns is limited; and there are few pedestrian friendly routes from residences to likely destinations (e.g., Town buildings, library, houses of worship, etc.).

The BFRT will provide a new alternative safe off-road bicycle and pedestrian route for the residents of Sudbury; it will enhance bicycle and pedestrian movement throughout the community; and provide an alternative travel option for commuters and recreational riders. The BFRT will help link north and south Sudbury without the need for a car, and provide an environmentally friendly transportation option for people to reach restaurants, businesses, and jobs in south Sudbury. Once fully completed, the entire trail will provide a regional connection by joining eight (8) different communities. The Transportation Committee was also excited to see the proposed trail roadway crossings displayed in the public hearing video which will create safe roadway crossings with high quality sight lines for good visibility and safety (for both trail users and vehicle drivers). The Transportation Committee believes that safety and ADA compliance along the trail as well as at road and major driveway crossings are paramount to all

users of the trail. We look forward to seeing these needs addressed as the project advances; we are available to answer any questions as needed.

With Phase 2B of the BFRT, the bridge over Route 2, advancing to construction in 2020, nearly 15 contiguous miles of the BFRT north of Sudbury will be completed. The Transportation Committee looks forward to the construction of the 4.4 miles in Sudbury to advance and extend the regional trail, improve pedestrian facilities, provide bicycle accommodation, and offer healthy alternative transportation options.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Carty
Transportation Committee Chair