



TOWN OF CONCORD

Department of Planning and Land Management

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MEMORANDUM

To: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee
From: Marcia Rasmussen, Director DPLM
Re: **Update of Phases 2A, 2B and 2C**
Date: September 6, 2017

1. **Phase 2A Update:** No update on Acton or MassDOT websites since the last Advisory Committee meeting. The MassDOT Project information site (<http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/highway/ProjectInfo.aspx>) indicates that construction of Phase 2A is still at 62% complete. Anticipated construction completion is spring 2018.

2. **Phase 2B Update:** GPI has received all of the 25% design files from AECOM and are moving forward with the 75% Design Submission, including responses to comments received during the review process.

Contractually with MassDOT, GPI has submitted and MassDOT has confirmed FAR (an annual review process) is complete. The review is expected to be complete by the end of next week. Once that review has been completed, MassDOT will enter into an agreement with the Town of Concord regarding the 100% design.

On the bridges, GPI is finalizing its memo to DOT regarding some design modifications to consider more economically feasible solutions to the bridge abutments that do not compromise the aesthetic design of the bridges. That memo is expected to be submitted by mid- to late-September.

A Public Information meeting is planned for some time after the 75% comments and before the 100% design submittal (tentatively January/February 2019). The current Advertisement Date goal is June 8, 2019 or earlier.

3. **Phase 2C Updates:**

- a. Powder Mill Road culvert was replaced and the road re-opened in time for the start of the new school year! See attached photos of Powder Mill Road. MassDOT and the Contractor, D.W. White have suggested that in addition to hydro-seeding this area this fall, they would be willing to consider planting trees/shrubs if the Town could prepare a planting plan using materials already identified in the contract.
- b. MassDOT has recommended, and the Town agrees, that a fence should be added to the top of the culvert walls to prevent access. GPI has been contacted to design the fence, with input from Town staff.

- c. Base course pavement (binder) has been installed from Powder Mill Road to Williams Road (see attached photos); Williams Road to Old Marlboro Road; Old Marlboro Road to the Assabet River and the parking lot on Commonwealth Ave. Paving of the new MCI-Concord driveway is being scheduled for September.
 - d. Contractor D. W. White anticipates the Assabet River Bridge steel will be delivered in late September; and will coordinate with the Concord Police on the best time to orchestrate delivery and installation at the Main Street/Commonwealth Ave. intersection. The public will not be allowed access to the site during installation of the steel due to safety concerns.
 - e. **Right-of-way (ROW) Process** update:
 - (1) The ANR plan required to transfer former MassDOC land to the Town of Concord has been endorsed. The closing with DCAMM has not yet been scheduled.
 - (2) Town Meeting approved the easement of town land to the MBTA near the West Concord Depot. Issues of MBTA access over MassDOT land are being reviewed now. We are still waiting for the MBTA to approve the final easement language before the document can be signed and recorded.
4. **Phase 2D Sudbury:** No further update available from Sudbury since last memo. As reported last month, the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) voted to include the BFRT Phase 2D (Sudbury section) on the final Boston Region Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in 2022 for \$8,004,000.

From the MassDOT Project Information pages I found the following: The proposed project involves construction of a 4.6 mile trail in Sudbury, from the Concord Town line to Station Road (note that this does not include the funding for that portion of the trail from Powder Mill Road to the Concord Town line). The proposed work includes improvements to two structures, as well as upgrades to several at-grade crossings including Route 117 (North Road), Pantry Road, and Route 27 (Hudson Road). Related work includes pavement markings, installation of guardrail and landscaping. The funding listed on this page is estimated total federal participating construction cost at \$6,900,000.