



# 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, 2C, the last ½ mile of 2C, and 2D**  
Date: January 6, 2021

- 1. Phase 2A Update:** This phase of the trail has been completed and is open for all to enjoy!
- 2. Phase 2B Update:** No update available here.
- 3. Phase 2C Updates :** In follow up to questions and concerns raised about Junction Park in West Concord, I contacted MassDOT staff at the Central Transportation Planning Staff offices to discuss their protocols for counting people using trails (both cyclists and pedestrians) as well as requesting assistance in evaluating park usage relative to the concerns raised about potential conflicts between pedestrians and people on bikes, skateboards, and rollerblades. A meeting is scheduled for next week.

I've also scheduled a meeting with Concord town staff next week to identify the supplemental work needed to be done near 38 - 42 Williams Road (additional fencing, fence removal, wood signs and landscaping) so work may be scheduled this spring, pending availability of funds.

- 4. The last ½ mile of Phase 2C:** Information has been received from the White Pond Advisory Committee regarding extending the fencing along the eastern side of the trail from the culvert south, and from Stone Root Lane abutters regarding the type of fencing desired on the west side of the trail from the Powder Mill Road culvert south. I will be talking with the Design consultant next week to incorporate this information into the bid package.

Additionally, the Design Consultant is working on the Notice of Intent under the Wetlands Protection Act application for submittal to the Natural Resources Commission.

5. **Phase 2D Sudbury** : According to Environmental Planner Beth Suedmeyer, Sudbury Design consultant Fuss & O'Neill is making good progress with **preparations for 75% design**. They have completed survey and wetlands delineation to fill gaps, are updating path and bridge plans, coordinating with MassDOT, etc. There will be a coordination meeting this week between F&O, GPI (for the Concord section), and MassDOT on the development of submissions of plans to MassDOT between the two firms.
  
6. **Community Connections Grant follow up** : On December 28, 2020, the Town of Concord was informed that the contract and documents required for the Community Connections grant (the Town's application for a \$100,000 grant to install bicycle shelters and racks in West Concord near the commuter train station that was submitted in December 2019) were now available and the Town can proceed to review and finalize the documents. The program is an 80:20 match and uses federal funds for the purchase of the equipment through MAPC's (Concord's regional planning agency - Metropolitan Area Planning Council) collective purchasing program with the Town responsible for the cost of shipping and installation of the equipment. I will be coordinating with Concord Public Works as to whether Town staff can install the equipment or if an outside contractor is needed.

In reviewing MAPC's program, I realized that the shelter I had hoped to use in West Concord was not included in the program and have sent a request to MAPC asking if it can be added. Additionally, if I am not able to use the shelter envisioned, there may be some cost savings that would allow for additional bicycle storage facilities (see the photo of the South Acton train station's bicycle parking and storage facility). I would welcome input from the Advisory Committee on whether to pursue the bike storage lockers.

