



# TOWN OF CONCORD

## Department of Planning and Land Management

141 Keyes Road - Concord, MA - 01742

Phone: 978-318-3290

### 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, plus**  
Date: December 2, 2021

- 1. Phase 2A Update:** This phase of the trail has been completed and is open for all to enjoy!
- 2. Phase 2B Update:** The final bridge rails have been installed and the overhang brackets are being removed; the project will be shut down for the winter by the end of next week. There will be chain link panels established at both sides of the bridge to prevent unauthorized use of the bridge over the winter. The bio-retention basin issue needs to be resolved over the winter so work can proceed in the spring. Spring start-up is weather/temperature dependent.
- 3. Phase 2C Updates:** The BFRTAC conducted a site visit around Junction Park on November 16<sup>th</sup>, which was videotaped. The videographer will be posting the video later today for viewing. I have also established a generic email address for the committee's use through the Junction Park/BFRT discussions, which is: [bfrtac@concordma.gov](mailto:bfrtac@concordma.gov). At this time only four members of the committee have been set up to receive emails (Nat, Richard, Adrienne and Deborah) and I can add other BFRTAC members if they want to be added.
- 4. The last ½ mile of Phase 2C:** MassDOT Project Manager Eamon Kernan indicated that a draft response has been prepared and is being reviewed regarding the MDOT position on the proposed 2-rail fence along the westerly side of the trail (Stone Root Lane abutters) and the decorative metal fence along the easterly side of the trail near White Pond.

I presented the BFRT additional funding request to the Community Preservation Committee on November 9<sup>th</sup> and attended the November 30<sup>th</sup> public hearing. The CPC has asked me to 'sharpen my pencil' on this year's requests made by DPLM (six of twelve projects total). It may be necessary to reduce the request for the BFRT this year, given the competing projects. The current ½ mile of 2-rail fence is estimated to be \$190,000. Since the 2-rail fence is expected to be included in the final construction package, this year's request for funding the 2-rail fence could be delayed a year with a new request in 2022 to the CPC (funding would then be available in July 2023, when construction is underway on Phase 2D), which would allow a change-order to the construction contract.

- 5. Phase 2D Sudbury:** I received notification from the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act office about an upcoming Remote Site Visit- EEA 16482 Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, Sudbury.

This remote site visit/video conference will be held to discuss the project and its environmental impacts and mitigation measures. The public is welcome to participate. The remote site visit/video conference is scheduled for Tuesday December 7 at 10:00 AM. Please RSVP to [alexander.strysky@mass.gov](mailto:alexander.strysky@mass.gov) at least one hour before the meeting for a link and instructions on how to participate in the meeting. Sudbury Environmental Planner Beth Suedmeyer provided a link to the notice from the Town of Sudbury web site: <https://sudbury.ma.us/pcd/2021/11/22/bruce-freeman-rail-trail-environmental-notification-form-filed/>.

MEPA comments due on or before: December 13, 2021

Certificate due: December 22, 2021

Contact for Project Information, including a full copy of the ENF: Bryan Cordeiro, (857) 368-8813, [bryan.cordeiro@state.ma.us](mailto:bryan.cordeiro@state.ma.us)

MEPA Contact: Alex Strysky, (857) 408-6957, [alexander.strysky@mass.gov](mailto:alexander.strysky@mass.gov).

Also, the Sudbury Design Consultant provided a 100% schedule update, noting that the ROW/Section 106/Categorical Exclusion remain critical path and that negotiations on any required three-way lease agreements with 3 major property owners and MassDOT Rail Division begin as soon as possible. They further suggested that the Town focus all its efforts on ROW coordination and to have a meeting with ROW Division/Rail Division in early January to coordinate meeting with the 3 major abutters.

6. **Community Connections Grant follow up:** CPW Highway and Grounds Superintendent Aaron Miklosko is aware of the December 31 deadline for installation of the bike shelters and storage racks but has not provided me with the scheduled installation date.
7. **Concord Prison Cemetery:** I had an initial discussion with a representative from Greenman-Pedersen Inc. regarding a design for the access and reflection/sitting area to view the prison cemetery last week and am waiting for a proposal. He had visited the site recently (because he is currently working with the Recreation Department on the Gerow Park project) and agrees with the proposed location near the foot of the cemetery.