



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: February 10, 2022

- 1. Phase 2A Update:** This phase of the trail has been completed and is open for all to enjoy!
- 2. Phase 2B Update:** The project will be shut down for the winter. The design consultant GPI is reaching out to Town staff to resolve the bio-retention basin issue over the winter so work can proceed in the spring. Spring start-up is weather/temperature dependent.
- 3. Phase 2C Updates:** The BFRTAC Subcommittee met four times to begin planning for the public forum scheduled for February 16th to address concerns regarding Junction Park. A survey was created and disseminated through a wide variety of venues, resulting in over 500 responses in 2-1/2 weeks. From the survey results, a preliminary PowerPoint has been prepared for the public forum, along with two plans that can be used for sketching out ideas for how to address the concerns.
- 4. The last ½ mile of Phase 2C:** I attended the January 26th White Pond Advisory Committee meeting at the request of the Chair to share the letter from MassDOT regarding its' 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. Both items are not eligible to be included in the final construction documents. I also shared the design of the 3-rail wood fence and the proposed location for the fence that is intended to improve safety of those using the trail as they pass by the steep slope adjacent to White Pond. Members of the WPAC expressed their concerns with this decision and the potential impacts to White Pond and asked who they could contact. I was not prepared for their response and their questions, so was not able to provide answers.

However, based on that meeting with WPAC, I have since reached out to MDOT to suggest an additional 200 feet of 3-rail wood fence along White Pond and extending southerly toward the town line that the Town could fund. A preliminary plan has been prepared for MDOT's consideration.

- 5. Phase 2D Sudbury - From the Town of Sudbury website (more information is available here: (<https://sudbury.ma.us/pcd/2020/11/24/bruce-freeman-rail-trail-update-info/>))**

“The following milestones have been recently achieved and the project is on track for design completion in June of 2022 and construction contract advertising later in 2022.

- The [100% design](#) plans and associated materials were submitted to MassDOT on January 18, 2022.
 - The NOI was submitted to the Conservation Commission and the hearing opened on [December 10, 2021](#) and will be continued on February 7, 2022. The application documents may be found on the associated Conservation Commission Meeting Pages, in Supporting Materials.
 - The Comment Period for the Section 4(f) review was announced. This process involves the review of proposed uses of Town-owned property for associated BFRT purposes, since construction of the project is funded by FHWA and MassDOT.
6. **Community Connections Grant follow up:** The extension of time request was approved by the State and Federal Highway. A contract amendment has been signed. The work will be scheduled for the spring, with installation prior to May 31, 2022.
7. **Concord Prison Cemetery:** No progress on this item this past month.