



# 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: February 2, 2017

1. **Phase 2A Update:** The Town of Acton has posted a blog about construction activity along Phase 2A at <http://www.acton-ma.gov/Blog.aspx?CID=10>. There has been no update posted since April 27, 2016, but construction activity can be viewed by driving on Route 27 and 119 in Acton. The MassDOT project information page indicates that construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (Phase IIA) including 6 bridge replacements and new bridge construction Br. No. A-02-014 (Steel) over Route 2A/119 (Great Road) is now 55% complete.
2. **Phase 2B Update:** The letter signed by Concord and Acton Select Board members and directed to MassDOT Highway Administrator Tom Tinlin was mailed, with copies sent to both Town's legislative delegation. Senator Jamie Eldridge prepared a letter of support for the additional design funds (dated December 21, 2016) which was co-signed by Senator Mike Barrett and Representatives Cory Atkins and Jennifer Benson. We are seeking an additional \$350,000 of design funds to complete the Phase 2B design.

Barbara Pike, with the Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, informed me that the Friends will be kicking off a fund-raising effort to raise additional funds (up to \$50,000) toward the design funding.

I have begun work on the Request for Proposals for the Phase 2B 75% to 100% design/engineering work and expect to have the RFP completed by week of February 6<sup>th</sup>.

I talked with Jim Moran on January 18<sup>th</sup> regarding his interest in a plaque or other display noting the history of the families that lived on Commonwealth Ave. near the railroad. He was going to continue searching for information to provide and I was to send the proposed displays for the Phase 2C section. I also talked with Nancy Crowley (Concord resident who grew up on Commonwealth Ave. and knew the Moran's) about stories from West Concord residents that could provide more info about growing up in the area in the 1900's.

3. **Phase 2C Updates:**
  - a. The Construction bid package for the BFRT Phase 2C project was advertised; bids were opened on Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. The low bidder was D.W. White at \$6,709,393.74 which was about 5% below the office estimate. The MassDOT Highway Construction Division has determined to award the project to D.W. White and the contract has been awarded. District 4 Engineers will

be responsible for project oversight – they are waiting for the ‘Notice to Proceed’ to be issued and hope to conduct a preconstruction conference sometime in February. More information on the project schedule will be provided at that time.

**b. Right-of-way (ROW) Process** – Update on ROW-related items that required follow up from this past summer:

- (1) The State Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance has solicited bids for conducting an appraisal of the 0.67 acres parcel to be transferred to the Town; said bids are expected to be submitted on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Comments on the draft ANR plan have been returned to me from Warren Madden at DCAMM and forwarded to Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.; additional information and research on the title for this land is being done by the surveyor. The Town is responsible for costs associated with both the plan and the appraisal
- (2) The final easement agreement for the trail over MBTA land in West Concord resulted in the loss of six parking spaces adjacent to the West Concord Depot. The next step is preparation of a memorandum of agreement with the MBTA to confirm use of 6 parking spaces on town-owned land in the West Concord Commuter Parking Lot by the tenant of the West Concord Depot. There is an article on the 2017 Annual Town Meeting Warrant to authorize the lease/license of six parking spaces on Town land for exclusive use by the MBTA tenant in the West Concord Depot.

**4. Phase 2D Sudbury:** No additional or new information was available on the Town of Sudbury website. I spoke with the Sudbury staff person (Beth Sudameyer – spelling?) who will be working with the Sudbury Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Design Task Force (I understand that the first meeting was January 17<sup>th</sup>).