



# 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: April 27, 2023

- 1. Phase 2A – 2D Update:** Haven't heard yet about the signs to be provided by the Friends.
- 2. Bruce Freeman Rail Trail 2B bridge:** During a project update meeting earlier this month, the contractor (MIG) believes that work on the bridge can be completed by Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. An anti-graffiti coating was applied to the cedar fence at the beginning of April, landscaping is expected to be installed in late April (including additional chain link fence and a gate to access a stormwater retention pond), and, paving is scheduled for Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> – weather permitting. There will be a final site walk after the asphalt has been installed and a punch list prepared of any final items to be repaired or completed. When asked, the resident engineer for MDOT thought an opening event might be scheduled for some time in June. Contact information for the MDOT District #4 District Highway Director Paul Stedman was provided to BFRTAC member Richard Fahlander.
- 3. Phase 2C Updates:** The order for planters was delayed due to the size of the planters identified and concerns that they were too short. Subsequent quotes have been received and 7 planters will be ordered.

Annual Town Meeting begins Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. with no new business to be taken up after 5:30 p.m. Article 26 is the Community Preservation Committee recommendation for CPA grant funds, which includes the request of \$50,000 for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail improvements/enhancements.

No proposals were received by the due date of April 6<sup>th</sup> in response to the RFP for Engineering and Design Services to design a contemplative space adjacent to the BFRT and near the Concord Prison Cemetery. Follow up is needed.

Also, after walking the trail and observing the dead evergreen trees (14 total) located near the Williams Road intersection and former CMLP site, I reached out to Public Works Highway and Grounds Superintendent Aaron Miklosko to schedule tree replacement (an alternative shade-tolerant species is recommended for this location) and maintenance. I had hoped to do this prior to the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, however, CPW staff have been focused on preparations for April 19<sup>th</sup> events, Annual Town Meeting and preparing fields for spring sports.

Natural Resources Division Land Manager Will Holden is working with others to plan and organize the Willard 5<sup>th</sup> grade service day on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The area near the serpentine path at Powder Mill Road will again be the location for additional invasive species removal, planting of pollinator species, and general clean-up along the trail.

4. **The last ½ mile of Phase 2C and Phase 2D in Sudbury:** Progress continues with the work for Phase 2D via an update from the Fuss & O'Neill 4/19/2023 Inspection Report: F&O conducted a site visit with A.A. Will Corporation and Stanley Tree Service, walking the length of the project. General Notes 1. Rail has been removed from the entire length of the project. 2. All stacks of rail have been removed from the site. 3. Sediment control barriers have been installed from the Project Start to Station 142+74 (Old Lancaster Road). 4. Railroad ties have been removed from the Project Start to Station 142+74 (Old Lancaster Road).