

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Acton resident	Al Caruso	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Projects such as the ARRT and the BFRT are hugely important to the community and need to be completed. These trails provide safe corridors for recreation and commuting, and take cars off the road.
AdventuRides	Alex Woodle	ARRT	Supports	I ride this trail many times and would hope that its construction funding be restored to the 2016 Transportation Improvement Project for the ARRT in Acton and Maynard.
Maynard resident	Alex Thayer	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP.
Maynard residents	Amanda and Mark Price	ARRT	Supports	My family are both enthusiasts and big supporters of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Please vote to continue funding of this incredible local resource. Best, Amanda, Mark, Willem and Finnian Price
	Amanda Lye	ARRT	Supports	I am writing in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. This is very important to our community, and my family. Please do not put this off any longer!
	Amie Hesbach	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. I am a Maynard resident and regularly use the Minuteman Rail Trail BECAUSE our rail trail isn't complete. Please help bring something closer to my home so that my family and I can bike, walk, and skip safely in the beautiful surroundings of our home and nearby towns! Certainly completion of the trail to Acton would alleviate some of the vehicular congestion along the highway towards the So Acton rail station. Please support the completion of this trail and help us pave the way to safe, low impact transportation and recreation.
Maynard resident and taxpayer	Amy Riddle	ARRT	Supports	Please support funding for the 2016 Maynard-Acton rail trail. This project will 1) bring recreational opportunities to our communities 2) will bring business to our local retailers and 3) will provide a car-free link to the commuter rail system our of West Acton. We have waited long enough!
Maynard resident	Ann Gibson	ARRT	Supports	Please restore the funding for the Assabet River Rail Trail to the 2016 TIP. These types of trails are invaluable for recreation and non-motorized transportation. We purchased our home in Maynard partly because we are looking forward to having this trail finished.

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Boxborough resident	Arnold Williams	ARRT	Supports	The trails from the five towns absolutely should be connected to each other. I strongly support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP.
Maynard resident	Ben Clark	ARRT	Supports	There is a huge need for the ARRT trail to go forward. We are an active community and often have to go out of town to meet certain exercise neds. This would boost health and reduce traffic.
McCathy Towne Elementary School	Benjamin Eppling	ARRT	Supports	Hi. My name is Benjamin Cole Eppling and I am 9 years old. Please give money to the acton-maynard portion of the Assabet River Rail Trail so that many people can enjoy the trail. This would be good for the environment and the people. It is good for the children of Acton and Maynard to have a safe place to bike. It is not as safe to bike on the sidewalks or roads. A safe nearby place to bike would also reduce fuel consumption because right now we have to drive a long distance by car to enjoy a rail-trail. Thank you for reading this email. Please make the trail. I will use it all the time with my friends and family.
Acton citizen	Beth Cail	ARRT	Supports	I would like to voice my support of the extension of the rail trail through Acton and Concord. As a road cyclist, I spend most of my time on the road- which requires a high level of patience and skill. The rail trail provides a wonderful resource for those who cannot or should not ride on the road. Our family has used the rail trail for several purposes- biking, running, walking and roller blading. My high school daughter and her friends use it all the time. In these times of increased drug use in the high schools, hyper competitiveness in school sports, and overall increased pressure on our kids, having a resource like this is critical to not only their well being, but ours as a community.
Acton resident	Bettie Noble	ARRT	Supports	I support the ARRT Acton Maynard rail trail. I live nearby and would like to use it before I die. Please restore planned funding.
Acton citizen	Bettina Abe	ARRT	Supports	The Assabet River Rail Trail is ESSENTIAL! Please continue funding and impetus to push this project to completion. It's very important to give people the option of commuting by bike on this rail trail especially since the new South Acton Train Station will have south side access. It makes sense to have both projects moving forward simultaneously.
	Bill Smith	ARRT	Supports	Hi, I live in Acton and I'm in favor of seeing more rail trails built, especially the Assabet River Rail Trail. I would like to see the Acton-Maynard funding get restored to the 2016 TIP. Thanks.

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Assabet River Rail Trail member	C. Leary	ARRT	Supports	I am writing in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. In particular, I view construction of the portion of the trail from the northern part of Maynard to the South Acton train station as critical since it will provide a safe way for Maynard's commuters to get to/from the train station. Currently, cyclists must ride with dangerous rush-hour cars, walking is hazardous, and other forms of transport that can be done on a trail, such as rollerblading, are not possible. Please restore the ARRT trail funding so that Maynard's access to public transport will improve.
	Carolyn Stock	ARRT	Supports	The Assabet river rail trail would be a great asset to our communities2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
	Chris Rodstrom	ARRT	Supports	I strongly support funding the Assabet River Rail Trail. Thank you
Acton resident	Christina Haufler	ARRT	Supports	Our family is in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. We thoroughly enjoy rail trails in other towns and would love one to be close to us! Please consider our request.
Friends of the Bruce Freeman Trail, Acton resident	Christopher Hickey	ARRT	Supports	I am in favor of the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. In this day and age of the obesity crisis, govts at all levels should be encouraging physical activity. This rail trail will link Maynard to the Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line and cannot be put off any longer.
ARRT abutter	Clare Siska	ARRT	Supports	I urge you to support restoring the Acton-Maynard ARRT construction funding to the 2016 TIP. Acton residents voiced strong support of the ARRT by spending over \$1M in 2011 to purchase the Caouette-Simeone farmland, in part to provide direct access to the ARRT and an improved design for the trail terminus. While some details need to be worked out in regards to the land's planned Conservation Restriction, this should be possible as part of the 25% design process. Acton's Town Planner, ARRT.org, abutters, and the conservation restriction committee have a good working relationship and all are eager for this project to move forward. This trail segment will provide direct access to the new South Acton commuter rail station and will be a shining example of smart, eco-friendly transportation. Please allow this project to move forward!

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	Colleen Strahs	ARRT	Supports	I'm a Maynard resident and outdoor enthusiast, and I'm strongly in support of the Assabet River Rail Trail, and of the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. This important project will bring much-needed safe outdoor biking/hiking spaces for families in MetroWest.
Acton resident	Colleen White	ARRT	Supports	I want the ARRT now!
	Dan Cooper	ARRT	Supports	I am very much in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. This is an important and much needed project that has been a long time in the making. I am very much looking forward to the bike paths in Acton-Maynard, as part of the ARRT, being opened to connect my town with Westford, Chelmsford, and Lowell.
Assabet River Rail Trail	David Mark	ARRT	Supports	PLEASE keep the Assabet River Rail Trail in the 2013-16 TIP. I personally have spent hundreds of hours per year making the Acton and Maynard sections walkable: tree cutting, brush clearing, poison ivy killing, drainage ditch clearing and for certain sections spreading truckloads upon truckloads of woodchips between the rails to create a safe surface. I am 61 years old and cannot keep this up forever. Thank you.
Assabet River Rail Trail	David Mark	ARRT	Supports	Please keep the next phase of the Assabet River Rail Trail in the TIP for 2013-2016. A non-road commuter route south from the Acton train station to businesses in Maynard and points farther south is still needed. Bicyclists and pedestrians are at risk when trying to share Routes 27 and 62 with car and truck traffic. Thank you.
Acton resident	Deb Matthews	ARRT	Supports	I strongly support ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP! This project is a relatively low cost way to help people be active and enjoy nature, and is a huge add to our community. It will also help some people commute to work!
AART	Deborah Fink	ARRT	Supports	I am very much in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. My teens (their friends), my husband and I ride bikes for fun and exercise and need a safe place to bike locally. Thank you.
The ARRT project for Acton-Maynard	Denise Shea	ARRT	Supports	Please keep the ARRT in the budget. A rail train through out towns would be an excellent way for families to spend time together outdoors without excessive concerns about traffic dangers.

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Community member of Maynard	Diane Donovan	ARRT	Supports	This portion of the trail has been " in the plans" since my family has moved to Maynard ,14 years ago. It would mean a great deal to our community and the families that are living here. My children are 12 and 15 and for them to see a project that has been promised and worked so hard for by so many come to fruition would show them that effort and promises matter. Please keep it on the TIP!
Acton resident	Diane Krasnick	ARRT	Supports	Please continue to keep funds flowing to the Rail Trail project through Acton and Maynard. With gas prices rising, I would consider biking to my job in Sudbury if this were a possibility. Thank you.
	Ed Beauchemin	ARRT	Supports	I am writing to support restoring funding for the Assabet River Rail Trail Acton-Maynard construction in the 2016 TIP. The ARRT will provide a safe route for commuters between South Acton and Maynard. The present roads are not safe for biking or walking. This trail will benefit many businesses in the area. Thank you for your support.
	Edward Wenzell	ARRT	Supports	I am a weekly user of the Assabet River Rail Trail and want to make sure that ARRT Acton Maynard construction funding is being restored to the 2016 TIP. Thank you for this regional gem.
Legally blind Acton resident and frequent pedestrian	Elizabeth Harvey-Forsythe	ARRT	Supports	Please don't leave the Assabet River Rail Trail out of the budget. Converting these rail lines is the 2nd best thing you can do with them (the best thing is running trains on them).
Acton resident	Elizabeth T. Speers	ARRT	Supports	I am writing to add my support for restoring the funding for the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding to the 2016 TIP. Please help this rail trail become a reality for our community so that we can benefit from safer cycling for children and adults alike. Thank you.
Green Acton - Acton resident	Ellen de Lemos Forte	ARRT	Supports	please KEEP the assabet river trail improvement project in the budget - with all of the toxic chemicals in our environment, climate issues, etc, we need to KEEP projects which promote safe and clean alternative transportation. thank you!
Acton resident	Emily McDowell	ARRT	Supports	Please maintain funding for the Assabet River Rail Trail!!! We are in need of outdoor trails in order to have exercise and to lessen our environmental impact by biking, walking or blading to work /other locales. PLEASE PLEASE! THANK YOU!!!

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Maynard resident	Eric Josephson	ARRT	Supports	I support the Assabet River rail trail in Maynard. This would allow me to bike to the S Acton train station to catch the commuter rail to Cambridge
	Eve Donahue	ARRT	Supports	Please support the construction funding for the Acton-Maynard portion of the Assabet River Rail Trail. Please restore it to the 2016 TIP. I live in Stow and we are working on the ARRT too. Our Town Meeting voted for it, and people from all ages got up to speak in support. This is important!
none	Geoff Mamlet	ARRT	Supports	Please restore funding for the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction to the 2016 TIP. We need to create more places where people can experience the joys of biking, of being outside and getting good exercise. The rail trails that we have, such as in Lexington, get lots of use and bring economic benefits to the towns they pass through. Along the Ayer trail, you can already see businesses adapting to serve the business the rail trail brings. The ARRT Acton-Maynard construction would serve important goals for our area.
	Gregory Catalano	ARRT	Supports	I am strongly in favor of funding for the Acton-Maynard- Stow rail trail. This trail would offer a wonderful opportunity for safe recreational and fitness activities for a broad portion of the population in these communities. Please make every consideration for funding this project. Thank you.
Acton resident	Gregory Flemming	ARRT	Supports	As a long-time Acton resident, I strongly support the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. This would have a hugely-beneficial impact on the communities of Acton and Maynard.
Acton resident/ARRT supporter	Heather Stouch	ARRT	Supports	I just wanted to write urging you to support the continued work on the Assabet River Rail Trail. More specifically completion of the Acton/Maynard portion of the trail. The ARRT provides the community an excellent safe recreation space for all ages. Personally, the addition of the Acton/Maynard portion would mean a safe running location for myself and a spot where myself and four children can safely ride our bikes as a family. thank you
Acton resident	Ilya Rushkin	ARRT	Supports	Acton-Maynard bike trail will greatly enhance quality of life in Acon. I bike almost every week Chelmsford-Westfield bike trail and enjoy it very much. Town of Acton deserves bike trail as well. I am in full support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP
Acton resident	Irina Mogileva	ARRT	Supports	I am writing in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP.

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Adventurides	Jane Anderson	ARRT	Supports	The Assabet River Rail Trail is one our our favorite bike rides. It is important that we encourage safe biking for all - for our health, and for the environment. The rail trail is a neighborhood asset to all who live in the area.
Stow Conservation Trust	Janet Kresl Moffat	ARRT	Supports	Please fund the Assabet River Rail Trail between Acton and Maynard for the 2016 budget. It will be a huge benefit to these communities.
Friends of Assabet River NWR	Janice Wright	ARRT	Supports	Biking is not my recreation, but walking is, and having access to the ARRT and being able tp walk in a continuous and safe environment (lack of motorized vehicles) is extremely rewarding for ones health and peace of mind. I see folks out there enjoying themselves. Find funding for this project as it needs to be completed. It has been too long on the "drawing board".
Acton resident	Jason White	ARRT	Supports	Please do not delay construction of the Assabet River Rail Trail. Build the trail ASAP.
South Acton resident	Jeff Barry	ARRT	Supports	The rail trail from South Acton to Maynard is needed. First of all there is a monstrous train station being planned for South Acton right the north end of the trail, and the rail line is being double-tracked which will undoubtedly lead to more commuter trains. As the parking space at the train station is limited you want to have alternative ways for people to get to the station. Second, all pedestrian / bike traffic between the South Acton / Kelly's Corner area and Maynard is currently forced onto Route 27, a major local road, with the attendant risk of mixing such traffic with auto traffic. Having ridden my bicycle to Maynard on many occasions I can tell you Rt 27 is a bad road for pedestrians. Having that rail trail in place would, in the fullness of time, save lives, and it would begin saving gasoline much sooner than that.
Rail Trail enthusiast	Jeff Dearman	ARRT	Supports	The Assabet River Rail trail must be included in the next TIP. It is an important connection to the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and important ecological areas such as Assabet Wildlife Refuge, it also will connect communities and bring the region together. The time to get this done is now. Thank you
	Jennifer Brown	ARRT	Supports	I am an Acton resident who bikes for both transportation and recreation. I strongly support increased infrastructure for biking via rail trails, bike sharing, bike racks, etc.  I am in full support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Once constructed, the ARRT will help reduce road congestion and carbon emissions and help improve public health though increased personal fitness.

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Acton resident	Jill Buonomo	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP.
resident	Jill Defoe	ARRT	Supports	Please continue to fund the ARRT project for Acton/Maynard in the 2016 TIP budget. It is of hugh benefit to the community.
AdventuRides	Joe Bongiardina	ARRT	Supports	This is to communicate my support for continued funding of the development of rail trails for the purpose of biking, hiking, riding and other recreational uses. In particular, I support the Acton-Maynard-Stow construction projects.
None	Joe Martineau	ARRT	Supports	My family has lived adjacent to the proposed Assabet River Rail Trail in Acton for 12 years, and have been advocates of it since day 1. The Rail Trail will be a true asset to the communities it runs through as well as avid bike riders from all over. Please use this comment as my backing for the MPO to make funding of this trail available as early as possible.
	Joelle Spear	ARRT	Supports	Please restore the Acton/Maynard construction funding. We spend a lot of time going to the Hudson trail. Families need more activities for enjoying the outdoors with their children. Help support healthy lifestyles and enjoyment of the Assabet Valley by moving ahead with construction.
Maynard resident, ARRT member	John E. McNamara	ARRT	Supports	I have been looking forward to completion of the Maynard-Acton section of the Assabet River Rail Trail for as long as I can remember. It would provide easy car-free access to the South Acton train station and an opportunity for healthful exercise (which I could certainly use). Please retain the necessary funding for completion of this link so that it can be done as quickly as possible.
	John MacNeill	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Bike trails are an important way to tie together communities, cut down on road traffic and help promote healthy lifestyles. This is particularly important in Acton where I live due to the lack of sidewalks. Thank you.
Acton citizen	John Sonner	ARRT	Supports	I have ridden the ARRT trail several times, both commuting to work and for fun. I would love to see the rest of the trail completed (into Acton) and think it will get a lot of use for all types of riders. Thanks
	Jon Larkin	ARRT	Supports	I am a strong supporter of the AART Acton Maynard project and would like to see the funding restored to 2016 TIP. Thank you for your consideration of this worthwhile project.

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Joseph Holmes	ARRT	Supports	I live in South Acton, and have been eagerly awaiting the Assabet River Rail Trail section between Acton and Maynard. This project appears always delayed. Please do everything you can to make sure this project gets funded as soon as possible.
Acton resident	Joseph Robb	ARRT	Supports	I am strongly in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. More travel by bicycle and less by automobile would lead to healthier lives for all of us. Make this a reality by funding the Acton-Maynard ARRT construction.
	Julie Sullivan	ARRT	Supports	I support the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Please do not delay this important project! With the economy the way it is, families need these trails for free family fun and exercise!
	Karen Wiss	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of the Acton-Maynard portion of the 2016 TIP. This is an important project that will greatly enhance these communities.
Acton citizen	Kate Crosby	ARRT	Supports	Please make sure that funding for construction of the Acton-Maynard portion of the Acton River Rail Trail is restored to the 2016 TIP! This important trail will provide a valuable linkage to the commuter rail line, and will create low-carbon options for getting around the region and in & out of Boston.
Acton citizen and voter	Katherine Reiner	ARRT	Supports	Please don't drop the Assabet River Rail Trail from the 2016 budget.
	Kathie Larsen	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of the 2016 TIP construction award for the Maynard-Acton construction of ARRT.
town member	Kathleen Shirley	ARRT	Supports	PLEASE continue the ARRT into Acton. It is much needed and would be much used! Thank you.
Maynard resident	kelly nadeau	ARRT	Supports	I look forward to the maynard to south acton rail trail moving forward. I bike along 27 to south acton. This is rather dangerous. A rail trail would alleviate this issue and promote public transportation.
Acton resident	Kerry flatley	ARRT	Supports	Please support the assabet river rail trail and keep it on course for work to be done in 2016. Thanks.
	Kevin Clairmont	ARRT	Supports	I am writing to voice my support for restoration of funding for ARRT Acton-Maynard construction to the 2016 TIP.
Maynard resident	Kevin MacNeill	ARRT	Supports	I strongly support funding for the Assabet River Rail Trail. It will provide a valuable recreation amenity and a safe alternative mode of transportation for area residents, as well as needed linkage between surrounding communities.

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citizen	Kimberlee Coleman	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. The time has come to move this important project closer to reality. It would be greatly enhance the quality of life in the town of Acton, leading many to bike/rollerblade etc. when they might othersise drive. Please consider funding this wonderful project that many have worked so hard on.
Maynard resident	Krista Ferrante	ARRT	Supports	I am writing in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. As a home owner in Maynard I believe having a rail trail connecting Maynard to other towns can only benefit the region. Here are the top 3 reasons I am in support of the ARRT. 1. As a mother of small children, the rail trail offers a safe place to be active. 2. As a commuter rail customer, I currently ride my bike to the South Acton station and need a safer way to ride. 3. Maynard is a great rail trail destination with a bike shop, restaurants and theaters.
Assabet River Rail Trail	Kristin Burati	ARRT	Supports	I am writing to encourage you to restore construction funding for the ARRT (Assabet River Rail Trail) Acton-Maynard to the 2016 TIP. This trail is a much needed recreation improvement to our area and an important community building project.
Stow citizen	Kristina Wile	ARRT	Supports	I strongly urge you to keep the Acton-Maynard Assabet Rail Trail construction funding in the TIP plan for 2013-2016. We need access to safe places for physical activity and the ARRT will be an easy way to provide it. Building a trail that can be used by people of all ages, with many different active modes of transportation is precisely why the TIP is for. It provides an alternative route for active commuters to help alleviate traffic congestion, so helping our current roadway capacity to meet our needs further into the future.
Acton resident	Laura A Robb	ARRT	Supports	I am writing to let you know I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. The town of Acton will greatly benefit from having the AART work completed as soon as possible. The surrounding towns have completed their section of this and the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, so it is very frustrating to have to wait again to see ours completed. Thanks, Laura Robb
	Laurie Taylor-Teran	ARRT	Supports	I have lived in South Acton since 1998, and I would like to see the Assabet River Rail Trail become a reality. I am in support of the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Thank you!

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	Lena Saetre-Grant	ARRT	Supports	I would like to express my support of ARRT Acton-Maynard-Stow construction funding. Using the old rail system to create safe biking areas for residents in this area is very important to me. It provides a way to ensure children learn to use and love the outdoors and of course, biking. Thanks so much for your consideration.
CRW, AYH, Adventurider and general cycling enthusiast	Lindy King	ARRT	Supports	We need to create and preserve recreational cycling routes for our communities and future generations of cyclists, walkers and joggers. I for one appreciate and enjoy the natural beauty surrounding the Assabet River and am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP.
	Lisa Benati	ARRT	Supports	I support the restoration of the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding to the 2016 TIP. Please do not take the Acton portion of the rail trail off of the funding list for the 2013 to 2016 projects!
Acton resident	Liz Field	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. We need the bike trails.
Maynard resident	Lynda Thayer	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Since the early 1990's, residents of Marlborough, Hudson, Stow, Maynard and Acton have expressed their support in this worthwhile project. Please continue to move the Assabet River Rail Trail forward and enhance the quality of life in our communities. Thank you!
	Lynne Densen	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Will be great for the kids, and the community.
	Magdaline Caradimitropoulo	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. These rail trails are excellent resources for getting people off the roads and getting people to exercise in safety.

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	Mark Genest	ARRT	Supports	<p>The section of Assabet River Rail Trail to be build between downtown Maynard and the Action MBTA station should be given high priority in the draft budget under consideration for 2013-16.</p> <p>This is a short section of Rail Trail, less than two miles, with minimal infrastructure impediments (only one bridge, approx. 30ft). However, the trail would provide an important transportation connection to the MBTA station for Maynard community.</p> <p>Most of the 10,000 people in Maynard live with a mile of the Rail Trail. And Maynard is a very bike-friendly town. Unfortunately, getting from Maynard to South Acton by bicycle now means riding down Rt. 27, which is a narrow road, with no bike lane or sidewalk, and auto speeds typically exceeding 45mph.</p> <p>Also, please consider that the section of ARRT from the East end of Hudson center all the way through Marlborough center and beyond has been fully completed for some time. And that involved some serious and complex bridge work. We are asking for much less than it took to complete that section.</p> <p>As part of the ARRT, Maynard and Acton have been part of the planning process for the same length of time as the other sections of the trail. Over 20 years! And yet, there is consideration of removing funding for our section of the Rail Trail from the budget, which will push construction work to beyond 2016. No progress whatsoever for another four years? This makes no sense, and is just plain unfair.</p> <p>Please keep funding for the Maynard/Action section of the ARRT in the draft budget.</p>
Supporter	Mark Grundstrom	ARRT	Supports	<p>I am writing to pass along my support for the Assabet River Rail Trail project, effecting the towns of Marlborough, Hudson, Stow, Maynard &amp; Acton. Our family has used the existing portoins of the trail frequently and love what it provides. My home abutts the trail in Maynard. It would be a shame for the trail to cease construction, the service it will provide all the affected communities is immense. P{lease continue to financially support ARRT.</p>
	Maro Hogan	ARRT	Supports	<p>Please keep the ARRT project for Acton-Maynard on the 2016 construction budget.</p>

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Acton resident	Martha Rounds	ARRT	Supports	I earnestly request that you restore ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding to the 2016 TIP. As an Acton resident and avid cyclist, I and my family are impatiently waiting for this trail. It will provide opportunities not just for recreation but also for commuting. Many residents have made clear that we will use this trail in great numbers; please keep funding the phases of its construction. Thank you Martha Rounds
	Maryanne Allard	ARRT	Supports	I support ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP.
South Acton resident	Melissa Chaffee	ARRT	Supports	Please restore funding to the ARRT in Acton and Maynard! These are two active communities that can prosper with a rail-trail linking them! The new South Acton train station can serve as a terminus for commuters (who park their bikes at the station), or as a mid-point to active city families wanting a safe trail to ride on (as opposed to the narrow roads). Please restore funding to the ARRT!
	Michael B Duclos	ARRT	Supports	Hi, I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Acton-Maynard section of the Assabet River Rail Trail specifically construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. I've been a resident of Stow for over 20 years, ride a bicycle for both transportation and exercise, and rode the ARRT from Hudson to Marlboro yesterday, test riding a folding bike sold by the Assabet Valley Bike store in Hudson, about 200 yards from the trail. Promoting human powered transportation also provides an local economic multiplier, in addition to facilitating closer personal ties among those who live here. Please be sure this important funding is in the budget !
Assabet River Rail Trail	Michael Persons	ARRT	Supports	I support the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. The ARRT is a great central Mass trail and could be so much better when it is extended! Thanks. :)
Iron Work Farm in Acton, Inc.	Michaela Moran	ARRT	Supports	I strongly support the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP for many reasons: 1. Our organization owns two historic house museums which are located within a few hundred yards of the Acton end of the ARRT. We have planned certain features of our 6 acre grounds to attract those cyclists using the trail. 2. The automobile traffic in the community will be improved when commuters have the option to bike to the train.
ARRT family biking enthusiast	Monica Burke	ARRT	Supports	My family is in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Enjoying the rail trail together as a family on weekends is a family tradition which we consider priceless.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Nancy Kerr	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding proposed for the 2016 TIP. Please help keep Americans from lapsing into obesity! Having a rail trail for exercise is the safest and least expensive way to stay fit. Whatever the expense is now, spread the cost over the thousands of people who will benefit and you will see it is cost-effective to build the Assabet-Maynard Trail NOW. Thank you.
Acton resident	Neeza Thandi	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of having the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. I am a long time resident of Acton who has been living in San Francisco for the past year (returning to Acton this summer). I have so many more opportunities to go bike riding with my family here in SF than in Acton. There are no bike lanes in Acton, and it makes it unsafe to bike with young children. The Assabet River Trail will go such a long way to promote outdoor activities for families and is a worthy project in the public interest. I hope the proposed funding will be restored. Thank you.
Acton resident	Norm Strahle	ARRT	Supports	Please restore the funding for the Assabet River Rail Trail for the 2016 budget. I commute to work 1-2 times per week by bicycle and am a huge supporter of rail trails. Currently part of my trip is on the Bruce Freeman Trail. I see several others doing the same commute. The Assabet River Rail Trail would help alleviate traffic to the train station as well as parking. Please include this in the budget. Thank you.
Acton resident	Pam Curran	ARRT	Supports	Please continue to plan construction of and support the Assabet River Rail Trail!!
	Priscilla Bolte	ARRT	Supports	Please restore funding to finish the Acton portion of the Assabet River Rail Trail. There is no safe way to bike from Acton to Maynard. This section is a priority as we are a green community and want to promote this as a form of transportation and recreation. This has been very long coming but I think is a priority over the Maynard section that already at least has a dirt road to ride on. Although its important to have the entire project funded. Thank you.
Maynard resident and cyclist	Priscilla Cotter	ARRT	Supports	I urge you to continue to fund the construction of the ARRT and keep it on the construction budget for 2016. This is a valuable project for the Commonwealth and will be a boon to local communities.
	Pushpa Baskaran	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. This is a wonderful project which will encourage Acton residents to exercise in a green way as well as improve socialization and connect people.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Acton resident	Rebecca Niles	ARRT	Supports	As an Acton resident, we have been anticipating the completion of the ARRT for many years. We have two small children and find that Acton, in particular, is in great need of safe bikeways. With Route 2 and Route 27 bifurcating it in both directions, it is particularly unsafe to bike in the area. The ARRT would go a long way in providing safe bike routes that would get a great deal of use in the area. We request that you support restoration of the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding to the 2016 TIP.
Adventurides	Richard Mansfield	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. I ride this rail trail and would like to see it maintained and extended
Acton residents	Robert and Rachel Lucas	ARRT	Supports	We are in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Please consider funding and moving forward with this project. The bike trail will reduce road traffic, benefit the environment, and promote wellness and good health. Thank you.
	Robert Mackin	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. I make use of the trail in Hudson into Marlborough in my work commute, but I have to ride on busy roads from Acton to the trail start on RT62 today. My children also can't make much use of the trail because the nearest trail section in North Acton requires riding on very busy roads, or my dropping them off
Acton resident	Robin Herr	ARRT	Supports	I'm writing to express my sincere hope that this important project receives the funding it deserves.
Acton Resident	Roger Larsen	ARRT	Supports	Please consider restoring and maintaining funding for the Acton to Maynard bike trail (ARRT). We anticipate that general usage of the ARRT would help alleviate motor traffic especially in mild weather and at peak commuter hours. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.
	Roland Ouellette	ARRT	Supports	I support ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP.
Assabet River Rail Trail	Ron Labbe	ARRT	Supports	Please support the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP! The cost is relatively minor in relation to the years of use this walk/bike way will get-there are very few sidewalks in this neck of the woods... pedestrians often have to walk in the street which is dangerous, and certainly not pleasurable or healthy. THANKS!
	Samuel Peretz	ARRT	Supports	Please restore funding for construction of the Acton-Maynard segment of the Assabet River Rail Trail to the 2016 budget!!! This kind of development is incredibly important!!

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
AART - Maynard resident & supporter	Sara Hartman	ARRT	Supports	For a small but vigorous and active community that unfortunately has minimal public open space, it is especially important that the AART rail trail be supported with any available state and federal funds to see it through its completion. Maynard residents are eager for more opportunities for physical activity, ways to experience nature, and family wellness and recreation in our town. Thank you for considering our request!
	Stephen Banatoski	ARRT	Supports	I am in support Of ARRT Acton Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. It would promote wellness and allow a safe access way to south acton.
Acton Resident	Stephen Leo	ARRT	Supports	Please support the Assabet River Trail. We are a family with 4 children and currently love the Westford - Chelmsford bike trail and use it often. We would love it even more if the trail started in Acton. Please support this bike trail.
	Susan and Bill Bartow	ARRT	Supports	We are in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Please do not strike it from the plan.
	Susan Bumbulucz	ARRT	Supports	I am writing because I am very much looking forward to the bike paths in Acton-Maynard as part of the ARRT being opened. I am very much in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. This is an important and much needed project.
Citizen	Susan Cudmore	ARRT	Supports	Please fund the ARRT Acton-Maynard rail trail into the 2016 TIP. This section of the trail is an important commuter rail access point in addition to its recreational function.
The Learning Center For The Deaf	Susan Eppling	ARRT	Supports	This is my second time writing to encourage you to support funding of the Acton-Maynard portion of the ARRT. This time I am writing as an advocate for people with special needs. As an occupational therapist I have worked with numerous students who have difficulty participating in mainstream recreational activities due to ability and safety. Rail trails have enabled my students who are wheelchair users, blind, and deaf to enjoy the outdoors and exercise. As a mom, I am also writing to advocate for my son, who has Tourette's Syndrome. Due to motor tics that often force my son to turn his head to the left side or to squeeze his eyes shut momentarily, it is not safe for him to bike on the streets. By using rail-trails during times that are not heavily trafficked he is able to participate in an activity that he loves. Please support funding for the Acton-Maynard portion of the ARRT!

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
South Acton resident	Susan Eppling	ARRT	Supports	Please fund the Acton-Maynard portion of the ARRT rail-trail. The trail would link these two communities better and would provide an environmentally friendly way to improve the health of our residents. The nearest rail-trail is currently a 25 minute drive away and our main routes are too narrow to safely support bikers. A bike trail would be greatly appreciated in this area and certainly used often. I am happy to support this effort in any way possible. Please do not pass on this wonderful opportunity to serve the people of Acton and Maynard by funding a much needed rail-trail.
Maynard resident	Suzanne Selig	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. This project is very important for multi-generations. We need to make progress!
acton	Suzi Yarin	ARRT	Supports	Please continue to support the Assabet Rail Trail, and all rail trails! They add so much value to the community--exercise, socializing, envtal awareness--I've used the Minuteman and the Lowell-Westford part of trail. Come & see how well the latter is used!!!
Acton resident	Svetlana Emlyanov	ARRT	Supports	I am a resident from Acton and I would like to highlight the importance of restoring funding for ARRT Acton-Maynard to the 2016 TIP. Not everyone can drive a car. In family we have a person with visual disability who can't drive a car in the future. Bike trails could help people with health problem travel independently and promote a healthy lifestyle.
Acton resident and voter	Tami Gouveia-Vigeant	ARRT	Supports	As a lifelong resident of Massachusetts I have long-enjoyed biking and waking the rail and other trails in Boston, Lowell/Westford, and in Cape Cod. I am writing to request that the funding for the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding be restored to the 2016 TIP. With obesity rates and associated health effects on the rise in our state it is critically important that we continue to fund infrastructures that make the healthy choice the easy choice for residents. With so much existing support and a lot of work already done (planning, partnership development, design work, and other funding) it should be easy to support funding for the ARRT.
Acton resident, member of Reservation of Trustees	Tammie Kaminski	ARRT	Supports	I am writing to you in support of the ARRT Acton-Maynard-Stow construction funding. This is a project that has long been in the works. Acton residents have been very supportive of the effort providing resources and land wherever needed. The trail will provide a fantastic, safer opportunity to enjoy the outdoors while getting exercise. Please help the project continuing to fund it now. Thank you!

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Acton resident	Terry Manning	ARRT	Supports	As an avid cyclist, I fully support the ARRT Acton - Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Frequent user of the Bruce Freeman rail trail as well. We need more opportunities to live a greener lifestyle, and rail trails definitely are money well spent. Thank you.
Acton resident	Thomas Campbell	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of the ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. It is an important addition to our town, and to the entire area. We are building our train station to integrate the ARRT, and once it is all done, it will be a nice cohesive design.
Maynard resident & registered voter	Thomas Hesbach	ARRT	Supports	I am very much in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Reuse of these improved right paths are a great source of transportation and recreation for all. To see this infrastructure go unutilized would be very disappointing. I'm looking forward to riding the rail trail from my home in Maynard to Acton, with my daughter to visit her friends there. Thank you very much for your consideration.
Acton resident	Tim Fatsi	ARRT	Supports	I just wanted to give my feedback on the Assabet River Rail Trail and that I am in support of construction funding for this project. I can't wait for the trail and feel it will be a great thing for the community to have a safe place to bike and walk, etc. Please continue the funding for this project!
	Todd Fahey	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. Thank you.
Assabet River Rail Trail, Inc.	Tom Kelleher	ARRT	Supports	I'm writing to voice my strong support for the Acton-Maynard section of the Assabet River Rail Trail. Specifically construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. I've been a resident of Acton for 25 years and am looking forward to the completion of this project!
none	Tom LaMotte	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP.
	Travis Gebhardt	ARRT	Supports	I am in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP.
	Virginia Barbati	ARRT	Supports	in support of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Clinton greenway conservation trust	William Latimer	ARRT	Supports	Please fund the remaining part of the Assabet River Rail Trail ASAP! The Mass Central line (which goes thru Clinton) is the spine of the state's greenway vision. A connection with the ARRT in Hudson would make South Acton, the current outermost Fitchburg station with decent service, available by bike to many people in this region. Allowing night use of ARRT with lights would make this trail a real alternative transportation draw for many who cannot afford one car per adult or are looking for a greener, healthier option.
	Zhu Xiao	ARRT	Supports	Assabet River Rail Trail - Acton is a very important project for Acton residents. I strongly support the project.
	Sean Hanley	ARRT	Opposes	I am not in favor of the ARRT Maynard-Acton funding being restored at this time. Many of the abutters to the Caouette property near the proposed terminus of the trail were completely surprised and dismayed when the proposals were presented for the parking and trail routing in this area. I don't feel that the effects the trail routing will have on our daily life on our property has been properly considered. Viewing the options from a Google map image is far different than from our backyards. More time is needed to consider all the reasonable options that are available to the planners and not rush this.
Acton resident	Abigail Mieko Vargus	Assabet River Rail Trail (ARRT)	Supports	I am strongly in favor of ARRT Acton-Maynard construction funding being restored to the 2016 TIP. The rail trail is a huge improvement to the town and area in so many ways. It also will greatly increase the convenience of traveling in town without using a car.
	Alan Frankel	BFRT	Supports	I support Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Phase 2A Construction. Rail trails in general, and the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in specific, are important in giving people safe and enjoyable places to exercise.
Citizen	Alan Mertz	BFRT	Supports	I support the Phase 2A of the BFRT construction for FY14. This is exactly what we need for this area because of the high traffic. I would use the railtrail for not only pleasure but also for commuting. Please include in the budget for FY14. Thank you.
Concord resident	Alan Whitney	BFRT	Supports	I urge you to consider funding Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail at the earliest possible date, namely to carry through on draft decision to fund in Fiscal Year 2014. Building of this section of the trail would be a huge boost and very welcome addition to Westford, Carlisle and Acton and a big step towards completing the BFRT.

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Alison Lohrum	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
	Andrew Barber	BFRT	Supports	I would like to give my strong support for including the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail phase 2A construction inclusion in the upcoming TIP. As a bicycle commuter, it will give me more miles on the trail during my commute to work which keeps me safe and out of the way of motorists.
Acton resident/ Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Supporter	Ann Budner	BFRT	Supports	I am writing in support of the BFRT Phase 2A construction. I have lived very near Route 2A for 18 years and support the need for more pedestrian and bike presence here. 2A is a fast, dangerous and developed road; the East Acton section is a busy speedway that is unfriendly to foot traffic. I am afraid to let my kids cross the street alone. The 2A rail trail would safely connect us to stores and services as well as to the Westford rail trail (where we often bike). It would enhance both the scenic, recreational and neighborly potential of this neighborhood, as well as the opportunities for doing errands without having to get in our cars. Please support the rail trail.
BFRT Supporter	Ann Gibbs	BFRT	Supports	As a supporter and user of the BF Rail Trail, I urge you to fund and schedule the second phase. Everyone talks about obesity as a health problem in this country, then says they don't know how to reverse it. Easy. Build more bike trails.
	Ann Miller	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
resident	Anna Ward	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Thank you.
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Arthur N. Milliken	BFRT	Supports	The extension of the rail trail in Acton is key. I hope to be able to lead bike groups of folks in their 80s like me to the movies in Lowell. And being able sooner rather than later to cross route 2 into West Concord where I live opens all sorts of biking , opportunities for shopping, going to restaurants and recreation. The trail will see a lot of shopping use along 2A/119 in Acton as well.

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
N/A	Barbara Conway	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Concord citizen and member of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail organization	Barbara and Murray Nicolson	BFRT	Supports	We would like to have the rail trail extended ASAP. Thank You
	Barbara Doucette	BFRT	Supports	Support for BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is a great project that would provide recreational access for several communities to enjoy and get fit and stay fit. Please include BFRT in your improvement program
	Barbara Floss	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction This is important as the roads in this area are not very good for biking and car sharing. Both my husband and I commute by bike and sometimes I fear for my safety. This would go a long way to improve that. Thanks
	Barbara Meurer	BFRT	Supports	Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Phase 2A: The Rail Trail is a wonderful resource for the community. Whenever I use it I notice the great variety of people also enjoying it. From familys with small children, young adults, adults on lunch break, to older people. The Rail Trail is a convenient and safe place to exercise and maintain our good health. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)! Thank you.
Concord BFRTAC/ Friends of BFRT	Barbara Pike	BFRT	Supports	I fully support inclusion of construction funds in the TIP for Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. Completion of this section will provide for safe transportation and recreation links between neighborhoods, businesses, recreational facilities, and the temporary southern terminus of the rail trail in Westford. It will also provide additional parking and a safety upgrade to the Rt 27/225 intersection. Thank you.
Avid BFRT supporter	Bessy C. Petit	BFRT	Supports	I believe this is great project to provide a wide recreational facility for several communities. I support the effort to complete this phase asap.

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
none	Beth A. Flanagan	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
none	Bob Lehmann	BFRT	Supports	My whole family is excited about the inclusion of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Phase 2A in the plan. We live in West Concord and are also excited about getting the trail across Route 2 to West Concord. We bike a lot (Lexington trail this weekend) and would love to have the trail come closer to us.
MA Taxpayer	Bob Macauley	BFRT	Supports	As a 72 year old cyclist I am eagerly looking forward to the extension of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. Not only do I get good exercise riding on the currently completed section- I love taking my grandchildren out to ride and enjoy the outdoors and get them off the couch and away from their 'devices' on which they only exercise fingers! Please let me see in my life time the completion of the entire trail and this next phase as soon as possible. It's the kind of public project that I am happy to pay for with my taxes.
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail supporter and sponsor	Boris Bugalter	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction. Please make it happen before our kids will grow old!
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Brett Cromwell	BFRT	Supports	I am writing to provide my support of Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) Construction for the Federal Fiscal Year 2014. As a resident of Lowell, I use the BFRT countless times throughout the spring, summer and fall each year, and to see the trail extend further west from Westford would provide a hefty amount of satisfaction not only for me but for everyone who has worked hard to bring this amazing idea to fruition. Thank you.
	Brian Crouse	BFRT	Supports	I support the inclusion of Phase 2A of the BFRT in Acton, Carlisle and Westford in the 2013-2016 TIP!

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Westford resident	Brian Skedd	BFRT	Supports	<p>I would like to register my support for the early extension of the BFRT Phase 2A through Acton. This will benefit residents of all surrounding towns by providing safer communication to recreational areas and work areas without use of motorized vehicles on narrow and congested roads. Several additional affordable housing developments will come within easy reach of the trail providing residents of these developments economic access to potential work and recreation areas. The current southern termination of the trail at the intersection of Routes 27 &amp; 225 in Westford, increases congestion and causes a dangerous interaction between pedestrian and bicycle users of the trail and traffic at this busy intersection.</p> <p>It also causes dangerous parking at the side of a state road and close to the intersection. Early extension of the trail will enhance safe usage by moving the end of the trail to a safer termination in Acton. It will also alleviate some disruptive parking issues in the Westford area by providing more convenient parking and access in correctly-zoned areas.</p>
Concord resident	Calvin Probst	BFRT	Supports	My wife and I support the BFRT Phase2A plan.
	Charles Davis	BFRT	Supports	The plan to start weork on the BFRT phase 2A is wonderful news. I thoroughly support the project and hope that it truly does sdtart in 2014.
Concord resident	Charles Jennings	BFRT	Supports	<p>I'd like to add my voice to the supporters of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail who are advocating for the inclusion of Phase 2a in the 2014 transportation improvement program. I'm a Concord resident and parent of two young kids, and to families in our position the availability of outdoor recreation opportunities in our local community is hugely important - habits that our kids form while they are young will last a lifetime. My 5-yr old daughter is just learning to ride a bike now, and I'm hoping the BFRT will be finished in time for us to enjoy it together. The trail will be a wonderful resource for all of us in the metrowest area, and I hope the phase 2a program will be included in the TIP for 2014. Thanks for your consideration.</p>

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Westford resident	Cheryl Major	BFRT	Supports	<p>I would like to register my support for the early extension of the BFRT Phase 2A through Acton.</p> <p>This will benefit residents of all surrounding towns by providing safer communication to recreational areas and work areas without use of motorized vehicles on narrow, congested and high-traffic roads.</p> <p>Several additional affordable housing developments will come within easy reach of the trail providing residents of these developments economic access to potential work and recreation areas.</p> <p>The current southern termination of the trail at the intersection of Routes 27 &amp; 225 in Westford, increases congestion and causes a dangerous intersection used by pedestrian and bicycle users of the trail and traffic at this busy intersection.</p> <p>It also causes dangerous parking at the side of a state road and close to the intersection.</p> <p>I strongly urge the early extension of the trail which will enhance safe usage by moving the end of the trail to a safer termination in Acton.</p> <p>It will also alleviate some disruptive parking issues in the Westford area by providing convenient parking and access in correctly-zoned areas.</p>
Sudbury resident	Chip Ach	BFRT	Supports	<p>I support the BFRT Phase 2A Construction. I live near the proposed trail in Sudbury, and it would provide a much needed recreation trail and will provide a path for me to access the commercial areas of Sudbury without driving.</p>
Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Chris Barrett	BFRT	Supports	<p>I was very pleased to hear that the BFRT Phase 2A was on the draft 2013-2016. As you know Phase 1 of the BFRT is very successful and extending the trail south to the recreational and shopping centers in Acton will only make it better. Also there is a serious need for safe place for people to exercise as the roadways in the communities surrounding the trail are not very safe - especially for families. Thank you for the inclusion of the BFRT on the TIP. I hope that it stays on the final TIP.</p>

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Westford resident	chris conway	BFRT	Supports	I am writing to submit my support of the legislation to fund the construction/continuation of the Bruce Freeman bicycle trail from Westford into Acton (and hopefully eventually into Concord). This is very important for families, children and adults to SAFELY bicycle in our communities. I urge you vote for the funding for this project. Thank you.
Sudbury resident & homeowner	Chris Menge	BFRT	Supports	Support for BFRT Phase 2A construction
Westford resident	Cindy Freud	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Chelmsford resident	Clare Jeannotte	BFRT	Supports	I am writing to express support for phase 2 of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, to extend the path thru Westford and Carlisle. As a Chelmsford cyclist, I love the addition of this safe riding alternative and hope it can be extended. Thank you for your consideration
Westford resident-registered voter	Connor Crawford	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
State Representative	Cory Atkins	BFRT	Supports	I write in strong support of including the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) in the FFY 2013-16 TIP. This rail trail repurposes old infrastructure and creates safe, green alternatives for commuters. It increases accessibility and allows more residents to enjoy the outdoors. The BFRT protects the environment, promotes healthy living, and enhances quality of life for residents. Construction has been completed on a portion of the trail, but more funding is needed to finish the project and extend its positive benefits. Please give the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail high priority in the FFY 2013-16 TIP.

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Chelmsford resident, Chelmsford Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Friends of the BFRT	Cynthia McLain	BFRT	Supports	<p>I support inclusion of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT), Phase 2A in Acton, Carlisle, and Westford, on the 2013-2016 Boston MPO TIP for construction in 2014.</p> <p>Phase 1 of the BFRT in Chelmsford and Westford is a very popular resource. It is used extensively for both recreation and transportation. Trail usage counts conducted in Chelmsford recorded 1500 trips over a 12-hour period at a single location in September 2011. The counts are recorded by volunteers, many of whom are residents of towns other than Chelmsford. These other towns include Acton, Carlisle, Concord, Littleton, Lowell, Sudbury, Wayland, and Westford. The counts have been conducted since 2009, when Phase 1 opened. Many of the regular volunteer trail counters are from Acton, Carlisle, and Westford, as well as Chelmsford. Many users of the trail are, likewise, from towns other than Chelmsford. In addition, I have spoken with several people who chose their houses in Lowell and Chelmsford based on proximity to the BFRT. Some of those people were relocating to the area from other states.</p> <p>A frequent question from users of the trail is when the BFRT will be extended. Trail users have expressed interest in Phase 2A for a variety of reasons including: commuting to work, commuting to recreational resources in Acton (e.g., NARA park), more convenient to their homes, and distance/length of the trail. Construction of Phase 2A will also provide additional options for trail parking. Chelmsford currently provides the only parking for the BFRT.</p> <p>The BFRT has proven to be an important regional resource; used by many people throughout the region for regular exercise, commuting, errands, family outings, and gaining confidence on a bicycle.</p>

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Acton Board of Selectmen	Dave Clough	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction. I have been a resident of Acton for 16 years and have been awaiting the construction of the Rail Trail for most of that. At first I watched those involved, and then contributed to the efforts. There are many in Acton who want this constructed for many reasons. One main reason is that North Main Street and Great Road (those adjacent to the rail trail) are not bicycle friendly due to the traffic volume and speeds. Many would use the trail for not just recreation but also as an alternative to using the car. Our Economic Development Committee expects this to help our businesses on Great Road. Our Historical Commission is excited that more people will take the time to visit sites such as the Trail Through Time, Issac Davis Trail to the Old North Bridge, Sites of former businesses such as the Pencil Factory, and sites of homes of patriots what are along the trail. Also the trail will link two of our recreation sites (Nara Park and Morrison Farm).We see great interest and supporting actions from our neighboring towns of Westford, Carlisle and Concord and Sudbury, in the support of town boards and residents.For all these reasons and many more, I hope you will continue to support the contraction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in the 2013 TIP.
	David Fried	BFRT	Supports	I strongly favor rail trail development for recreational purposes, especially BFRT Phase 2A construction. This project will help bring the rail trail to my vicinity, and we can really use it.
Mass Central Rail Trail Coregroup	David Hutcheson	BFRT	Supports	I am thrilled, surprised, and grateful that Bruce Freeman Phase 2A has made it onto the TIP. Rail trails help people live healthier better lives. They improve the health of our Planet, by reducing our negative impact. The Boston Region MPO has taken courageous intelligent action in choosing to advance BFRT 2A. I do know that you have choices. Thank you for choosing well on this. Your good action has the additional benefit that it keeps me heartened and on task advancing rail trails.
None	David Kleinschmidt	BFRT	Supports	Thanks for supporting the rail trail construction from Carlilse thru wayland and beyond. We need places to exercise and a safe transportation corridor.  Dave K.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Member, Friends of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, Westford resident	David Martin	BFRT	Supports	I'm delighted that the Westford/Carlisle/Acton extension of the existing Bruce Freeman Rail Trail is included in the Draft 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program. As an ardent user of the trail and a supporter of all 'green' forms of transportation, I enthusiastically urge you to include Phase 2A in your Final 2013-2016 TIP document.
Concord citizen	Dean Sullender	BFRT	Supports	I strongly support the financing and expedited completion of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. This vital corridor connecting cities from Lowell to Framingham will bring benefits to these communities by providing outdoor exercise to fight obesity, a safe and practical thoroughfare for non-vehicular access to villages for shopping and schools, as well as a sense of community by encountering one another without automobiles. You should see how fantastic these rail conversions have been in other places. As just one example, such as near Monkton, MD where the old railroad line that took Pres. Lincoln to the Gettysburg Address (and his body the other way in 1865) has transformed into a well-used, valued non-vehicular corridor for the Northern Baltimore and Pennsylvania areas. Please ensure the BFRT is well-funded and given a top priority.
Home Owner - Westford	Denise Cooper	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Dick Williamson	BFRT	Supports	I heartily support the inclusion of the next stage of construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in the 2014 TIP. The portion of the rail trail that has been constructed from the Lowell/Chelmsford line south to Route 225 has been enthusiastically received by nearby residents and by the large number of users. Extending the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail south from Route 225 through Acton is a very important next step in constructing this multi-town regional rail trail. The construction will provide a link to trail parking in Acton thus relieving a temporary problem with parking near Route 225. Continuing with the build-out of the 25-mile rail trail demonstrates the Commonwealth's commitment to multi-modal transportation.
Westford resident	Dr. Martin F. Ryba	BFRT	Supports	I strongly support the Phase 2A Bruce Freeman Rail Trail project. It will increase the community of users and connect to important facilities such as Nara Park. It will add needed parking at the southern end of the trail in areas properly zoned for it.

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail member, also Framingham Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee member	Ed Kross	BFRT	Supports	I am glad to hear that Phase 2A of the BFRT is under serious consideration for funding in this next cycle. Please include it in the final TIP, and funded in 2014. It will benefit me as well as many, many more people in this region.
Wachusett Greenways	Edward Yaglou	BFRT	Supports	We, folks building the Mass Central Rail Trail west of Worcester, wholeheartedly support the continuing construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail southward into Acton. It will be a major north-south trail, complementing our east-west trail, fulfilling the DCR plan "Commonwealth Connections." The Bruce Freeman has the added advantage of providing bicycle commuting to Lowell and to Framingham-Natick.
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Ellen Gendreau	BFRT	Supports	My husband and I have been living in Westford, MA for almost 40 years. There are so many things we love about this area, however, hands-down what we have enjoyed and used the most has been the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. Since its opening there has not been a week that has gone by when we haven 't used the trail a number of times, and from the amount of people we see when we are on the trail we are not alone. Therefore, would you please put our tax dollars to good use and include the 2A phase of the BFRT in this year's Final Tip. Thank you--
Concord resident	Ellen Quackenbush	BFRT	Supports	I am strongly in support of the Phase 2A extension of the BFRT. I use the current Westford to Lowell section often and would value having a path within biking distance of my house in West Concord. This path provides safe, family-friendly recreation for all!  I encourage affirmative actions by byt Boston Region MPO.

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Westford resident, 1 of 2 Westford Friends of the BFRT Board of Directors member	Emily Teller	BFRT	Supports	THANK YOU VERY, VERY, VERY MUCH for moving the construction of Phase 2A & 2C forward to the 2013-2016 TIP - hopefully construction can begin in 2014!! The 8 towns along the BFRT are working VERY hard to support this transportation corridor/recreational resource; the 3 towns/city in Phase 1 are seeing increased family usage every summer - and 3 season use is also increasing! The sense of connection and wider community is clearly evident when users greet each other, even though they are strangers, they feel each other's delight in this resource and do sense a connection in the best sense of the word. Hooray for enhancement funding and moving ahead on the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail!! Thank you so much!!
Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction	Esther Tacke	BFRT	Supports	My husband and I did 6700miles in the USA last year (as part of a world trip by bike). Our journey ended in Boston (flights back to the UK). As part of that route we used a number of Rail Trails which we really cherished. We really enjoyed the Lowell to Westport section and would love to see the RailTrail section around Acton as that would make the journey for a touring cyclist going to Boston a great and safe route. Thank you.
no affiliation	Eunice Niveyro-Garay	BFRT	Supports	Please support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction. This is a critical project that would improve the quality of life, reduce carbon footprint and increase fitness in the communities it touches. Thank you!
Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction	Gary Webster	BFRT	Supports	Please give top priority to funding this extremely important project. It is vital not just to Acton and surrounding communities, but to the health of all users.  Thank you.
Resident of MA	Gerard H. Boyle	BFRT	Supports	I support the BFRT phase 2A construction. I am 75 years old and would like to be able to use the trail in my neighborhood (Concord) before I am too old to use it. I knew Bruce Freeman.
	Henry T Keutmann	BFRT	Supports	I emphatically support the inclusion of Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail as set forth in the draft TIP for 2014 construction. This section of the trail is especially important as it follows the busy Rte 119/2A corridor, with its many small businesses, shops and interspersed residential areas that would be well served by foot and bicycle users. This will markedly reduce the congestion and cross-traffic seen throughout the day along this road. Both local users and people traveling from the completed, and very well-used, section to the north (Phase 1 through Chelmsford and part of Westford).

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Irwin B Abrams	BFRT	Supports	We should do all possible to move forward phase 2A of the BFRT as this will provide better access to the North Acton Recreation Area Park and the Acton Town Forest. Each of these facilities is a destination for outdoor recreators and bicyclists in particular. It will remove bicycle traffic from Route 27A and improve its flow while providing improved experience to the cyclists.
Middlesex Canal Association Member	J. Breen	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction. The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail could use an extension beyond MA route 225 in Westford as parking is prohibited. Users from Acton, Concord, and beyond would have better access.
	Jack Currier	BFRT	Supports	I use the BFRT to commute to work from Lowell to Rt 225. I need to exit onto Rt 225 because the paved portion ends. Rt 225 in Westford is treacherous to ride on because there is no bike lane, vehicle speeds are high, and the road has curves and hills, making for short site lines. If the BFRT were extended into Acton, then I would use that additional section to avoid 225. I work at St. Jude Medical, and share this problem with other bike commuters. The Acton section would allow the BFRT to link up with the preserved former Acton - Nashua "Red Line" which provides great off-road biking to Powers Road in Acton, and potentially onto Rt 110. Please keep this on the TIP list for 2014, or earlier. Jack Currier, Nashua, NH
Westford resident	James Crawford	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
none	James Scholten	BFRT	Supports	I strongly support the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) Phase 2A Construction. Please build the whole trail as soon as possible. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.
Concord resident	James Sommer	BFRT	Supports	I would like to ask you to support the continued construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. Phase 1 is very popular and residents have been waiting a long time to see this project completed. Thank you.
abutting to proposed Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in Acton	Janet Irons	BFRT	Supports	I have been very impressed with the thoughtfulness, professionalism and never-ending enthusiasm for this project by Tom Michelman and others. The 10% and 25% plans that I have seen look great and the completed rail trail in Westford/Carlisle is lovely and much used. My property backs up to the rail trail in Acton and I look forward to being able to use it, and sooner rather than later would be great!

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Janice Allegretto	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Carlisle Resident and Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Jean K. Donnelly	BFRT	Supports	I am writing in support of the BFRT Phase 2A Construction. Located on the edge of Carlisle both the existing trail and the proposed expansion are valuable resources for those of us who find the Carlisle roads too twisty and narrow for recreational biking. The current section is just barely long enough for a good ride. Extending the facility to West Concord and, hopefully, into Sudbury will provide that longer ride as well as some interesting destinations. In short, this is a wise use of tax dollars.
Concord Resident	Jeanne Griffith	BFRT	Supports	I'm writing to express my support for all phases of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. I believe this trail would promote alternative transportation in the area, especially biking and walking. It's really not safe to ride bikes on the roads around the area now, so people drive, even if they prefer to bike.  Thank you for including this in the plan.
none	Jim Salem	BFRT	Supports	In addition to my previous comment supporting the Bruce Freeman rail trail, please also restore funding construction of the Acton to Maynard portion of the Assabet River Rail trail. That is another key link that will be used by many in the area. Thanks!
none	Jim Salem	BFRT	Supports	I strongly support the phase 2A construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in Acton, Carlisle, and Westford in FFY 2014. Thank you for including it in the draft. This will be a huge asset to the region, will receive widespread use, and should not be delayed.
Acton resident	Jim Snyder-Grant	BFRT	Supports	I write in support of Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) construction for the Federal Fiscal Year 2014. I spent the last two year's on Acton's comprehensive community plan committee. I learned that providing safe workable alternatives to car travel is important for Acton's future sustainability, and that Actonians are enthusiastic supporters of bike travel in general, and the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in particular. The proposed route of the BFRT goes by important retail and recreational spots in Acton, and provides an excellent link to the resources of Lowell (and, eventually, Concord). I strongly support the proposed schedule for the BFRT.

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Bruce Freeman rail Trail	JoAnne Lund	BFRT	Supports	The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail is a wonderful resource for recreation and safe bike riding and walking in Westford and Chelmsford. Support for its extension through Acton and Carlisle is important to users, especially to those of us who live in Westford.
	Joe Johnson	BFRT	Supports	Please support the BFRT Phase 2A Construction. Phase 1 has been a huge success and I am certain that Phase 2A will be equally successful. This is a project with regional significance as I personally travel from NH to enjoy the Phase 1 trail with my family. I look forward to the continuation of this trail since a project such as this provides an awesome opportunity to explore nature, exercise, build community and create memories with family and friends.
Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction/HomeOwner	Joe K.	BFRT	Supports	I would like to show my support for the BFRT Phase 2A Construction. Thanks for adding it to the draft FFY 2013-16.
Belmont Citizens Forum	John Dieckmann	BFRT	Supports	I understand that construction of Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) has been include in the Draft TIP for 2013-2016, with construction to start in 2014. This is a wise decision that I assume recognizes the high value this facility will bring to both the towns of the BFRT and to the broader region. I strongly support the inclusion of this phase of the construction of the BFRT in the TIP and hope that other regionally important rail trail projects will be funded in timely fashion in the coming years.
Concord resident	John J. Moriarty	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction. I strongly support the Phase 2A construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in Westford, Carlisle and Acton. My wife and I enjoy using the currently available BFRT in Westford and Chelmsford and look forward to the extension into our neighboring towns as we await the extension into Concord, which we hope will occur in the not too distant future.
	John Sergeant	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Acton Board of Selectmen	John Sonner	BFRT	Supports	I strongly support making it a priority to move ahead with the project. ACTON- CARLISLE WESTFORD- BRUCE FREEMAN RAIL TRAIL (PHASE II-A). This trail will get us closer to connecting to the West Concord rail station and I think will be heavily used. Thanks
Westfor resident	Joim Crawford	BFRT	Supports	I support to prosed acceleration of Phase II of the rail trail.
Westford resident and BFRT supporter	Jorge E. Petit	BFRT	Supports	This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
	Julie Y. Wong	BFRT	Supports	I am in support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction. This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Acton citizen	Kate Crosby	BFRT	Supports	Support of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Phase 2A Construction: I am thrilled that the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail is in the plans for construction during 2014, and I commend the Metropolitan Planning Organization for making sure this project is receiving support. There are many folks looking forward to enjoying the benefits of this trail! Bring it on!
Friends of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Katherine Reiner	BFRT	Supports	Please include Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. This would be a wonderful addition to the community. Thank you.
Concord resident	Kathleen Moriarty	BFRT	Supports	"Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction" I am very much in favor of proceeding with the next phase of construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in our nearby towns of Acton, Carlisle, and Westford.
Westford resident and avid user of the BFRT	Kathleen Reny	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
	Katie Arnold	BFRT	Supports	I work as a nanny for a family who lives near the BFRT. It is a wonderful resource that I regularly take the children out on. Please keep the BFRT Phase 2 on the TIP for 2013-2016.

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
(None)	Ken Leonard	BFRT	Supports	I was biking on the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail today and noticed the amazing amount of use--walkers to bikers to skaters, families, dogs being walked--and even an elderly man on an assisted mobility device. Clearly the communities are benefiting from the rail trail, and I am glad to see that it is in the TIP for 2014. Please green light this so the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail team can get the 4.88 mile extension underway, making even more people in more communities part of this resource, just as the Nashua River Rail Trail, the Minuteman, and other trails in the Commonwealth have done.
Chelmsford resident	Kenneth Dews	BFRT	Supports	I want to express my fervent support for including the extension of the Bruce Freeman Bike Trail in the final TIP. Phase 1 of the trail has provided a safe alternative to bicycle or pedestrian traffic on Rt 27 and other busy roads lacking accomodation for anything other than high speed vehicular traffic through Chelmsford and Westford. The neext phase of the project is needed to extend the safe passage of non-motorized traffic.
none	Kevin Neijstrom	BFRT	Supports	I support the BFRT Phase 2A Construction. Please include the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Phase 2A in your list of programs to be supported. Thanks, Kevin
Bike Path User	Kim	BFRT	Supports	My family lives in Acton. We have been driving to the bike paths in Bedford/Arlington and more recently Chelmsford/Lowell for years. We love the healthy safe exercise that the bike paths bring. My boys are older so now I enjoy the paths with my husband and or friends. I also frequently take my nieces and nephews. The CHelmsford path is so beautiful - we love how it winds through the woods and often stop by the beach/lakefront and then enjoy lunch at 4 corners in Chelmsford. We are anxiously awaiting the continuation of the path through Acton and into Concord - especially since there is no parking at the Chelmsford/Acton end of the path. Please do not delay any further!
Concord citizen	Kimber Lynn Drake	BFRT	Supports	Subject: Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction. We Concordians are thrilled to see that the draft TIP includes a project to extend the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail from the end of Phase 1 (Westford-Lowell Phase) to continue south through Westford, Carlisle and Acton. The portion of the trail already completed contributes very nicely to the health and well-being of Massachusetts citizens in the towns north of us. Extending the trail as proposed will benefit many more citizens in the towns further south by providing not only a wonderful local trail but also safe access to the northern portion of the trail already built. Please keep the BFRT on the final TIP!! Many thanks in advance.

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Acton resident	Kirk Companion	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction!! I write in strong support of BFRT Phase 2A construction. I have supported BFRT since I 1st heard about it. As a ten year Acton resident who rides for fitness and for transportation, I believe this phase of the project should be moved forward now. I attended the annual Town Meeting and other meetings regarding BFRT. As many others (I'm sure) have written, Acton is ready for BRFT and supports it strongly. Rts 2A and 27 are very unpleasant to cycle/walk/run upon. The BRFT would allow those roads to be bypassed. Thank you for your consideration of this wonderful project.
	Kirsten Capowski	BFRT	Supports	I am writing in support of including Phase 2A of the BFRT in the Transportation Improvement Program. Located down the street from my house, the BFRT is used heavily almost all day, during most seasons. Well worth supporting!
Westford resident	Kristin Vegeto	BFRT	Supports	I would like to state my support to move forward on Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Bike trail. I use the bike trail almost every sunny day and observe more and more people doing the same. I see people commuting with laptop backpacks, kids going to school, kids riding to after school jobs, parents pushing strollers, friends walking, and so many bikers. These people come in every age group, fitness level, and size. I can't think of a better way to fight the national obesity epidemic. This trail provides transportation solutions, environmental impact reduction, quality of life improvements, and increases the health of many Massachusetts residents. It's the direction our transportation system should be moving in.
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail supporter-- Westford resident	Laurel Martin	BFRT	Supports	Thanks for including Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in your draft 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program document. Accessibility to this safe venue for walking, jogging and cycling is so important to the health of our community--particularly in suburban towns where fast moving traffic and lack of sidewalks limits safe exercise options for children and for adults. I urge you to include the extension of this wonderful rail trail in your Final document. Sincerely, Laurel Martin
Westford resident	Lenore R Souza	BFRT	Supports	This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
	Leonard Palmer	BFRT	Supports	Please give serious consideration of the extension of the BFRT, phase 2. This will greatly improve the situation at the Junction of 27& 225, and will make the trail available to many more of the folks in the surrounding towns. Thank you

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Resident West Concord, supporter of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Leslie Touw	BFRT	Supports	Dear Sir or Madame, Please support the 'Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Phase 2A Construction'. This trail is highly popular for many reasons. One, it will encourage more physical activity for our quite overweight population. Second, it will encourage more commuting by bicycle reducing pollution and use of fossil fuels. Third, it will enhance SMART growth development plans in West Concord center. Forth, it revitalizes the old rail line and will be part of plans to recognize the historic importance of the railroads in the development of our communities. It's a win-win-win-win project. Thank you for seriously considering this matter.
	Leslie W. Vieth	BFRT	Supports	Support BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This project will not only help tie these communities together via a healthy mode of transportation, but will bring a bit of income to small businesses. I can't think of any negative impact. Thank you for being proactive, and funding this important project.
Supporter of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Lisa Underkoffler	BFRT	Supports	The Rail Trail is a huge benefit for many - walkers, riders, people in wheel chairs, families, kids learning how to ride a bike, and more. It's a resource that goes beyond benefitting the local communities - people from many towns come to use the trail. It's added to the businesses along the route - particularly in Chelmsford Center, and introduced many to the beauty of this area. The extended trail will benefit the families and others in Acton, Carlisle and nearby towns by making it more convenient to access the trail. It also gives all of us a longer "workout" by extending the trail a few more miles - either by a longer ride/walk/run or by being more convenient so we get out and get moving - as Americans definitely need to do!
	Lori Sheehan	BFRT	Supports	Please include the BFRT on the TIP 2013-2016. My family is fortunate to live near the BFRT in Westford and we use it frequently. As a mother of 3 small children the BFRT is one of the few places the whole family can safely go for a walk or ride bikes. Being able to ride to NARA park with the whole family would be incredible!
Private Citizen	Louis Hills	BFRT	Supports	Yes, for 2014 Construction of Acton, Carlisle and Westford Bike Trail, Phase 2A. One step closer to help commuters get to the West Concord Train Station. Thanks for all your Design effort. Wonderful job. Now's the time for the much needed Construction Phase

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
none	Louis Miccile	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
BFRT Abutters	Margaret Darling	BFRT	Supports	As abutters to the Carlisle portion of Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, my husband Eric and I are enthusiastic supporters of both the concept and the reality. We live near the southern end of the existing trail, and often find that cars with bike racks are parked along our street on sunny days. This has never presented a problem. We enjoy using the trail ourselves, both for biking and for walking, and will be happy to see it extended.
Westford resident	Mark M Souza	BFRT	Supports	This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Friends of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Members	Martha and Bob Supnik	BFRT	Supports	We'd love to be able to use the extension of the rail trail to bike from Carlisle to the many retail shops in Acton without riding in the road on Route 27 in Acton. The traffic there is heavy. We regularly ride from the end of the trail in Westford to the beach in South Chelmsford and enjoy meeting others who come there from Lowell on the trail. Just this weekend we met a young mother with 2 small children who arrived by bike to use the beach from Lowell.
abbutter	Martin Burke	BFRT	Supports	I'm writing in support of the development of Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. As residents at 743 Main St, Acton we are abutters and enthusiastic proponents of this project. We look forward to the recreation and transportation opportunities that the extended trail will provide.
Resident	Mary Hunt	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
	Mary Small	BFRT	Supports	I wholeheartedly support inclusion of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Phase 2A construction in FY 2014. This is a well planned project that will be utilized by thousands for exercise and recreation. I welcome extension of the BFRT closer to my community (Concord).

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
none	Maureen Bates	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Westford resident	Michele Crawford	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Westford resident	Michelle Hillman	BFRT	Supports	My family thoroughly enjoys the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, and wholly support and encourage the approval of phase 2A of the BFRT Construction for the Federal Fiscal Year 2014. To have a safe place for recreation for people of all ages is important, and this trail provides just that.
Friends of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Nancy Crowther	BFRT	Supports	My family and I are strong supporters of BFRT Phase 2A. Please include funds for its construction in the Draft TIP for 2014 construction. It will be a wonderful, long-overdue addition to the amenities in the area, improving people's mental and physical health.
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Committee	Nancy Kerr	BFRT	Supports	With the nation facing an ever-increasing obesity and fitness crisis, it is imperative that we make exercise as safe and accessible as possible. Please include the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in your funding and planning for 2013-2016.
member of Sudbury's RTCAC/friend of the BFRT	Nancy Powers	BFRT	Supports	I support whatever help monetary and otherwise can be given to move the direction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail along---especially granting the money to support the construction of Phase 2A in the year 2014
Friend of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Nathaniel B. Bates	BFRT	Supports	I would like to see the extension of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail move forward, so that a better parking area can be built to assess the trail near Rt. #2. There is really no parking at the present end of the trail on Rt. #225/RT. #27. It is a dangerous end of the trail since there are no sidewalks. If the trail were extended to Rt. #2 the trail would become more accessible for the highly populated area in Acton. Wounded veterans, need this trail for recreation and physical exercise, as well as, general public. Please make this trail a reality for the benefit of all.
	Nuno Santos	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction I support the expansion of the Bruce Freeman rail trail, I believe it is an asset to the towns.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Resident of Town of Acton	Pamela Cochran	BFRT	Supports	I urge support of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail as bike paths are important in reducing carbon emissions, encouraging exercise and healthy weight, and supporting recreational activity for individuals and families.
Westford MA Resident	Pamela Ryba	BFRT	Supports	We are in support of the BFRT Phase 2A Construction. This important project will provide a valuable recreational resource for all the surrounding communities. Please ensure this project is included in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program. Thank you.
Westford resident	Paul Drongowski	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - Please accelerate the extension of the trail into Acton. The Rail Trail is an important regional recreational resource. I also support a new parking area at the north Acton terminus (just south of Routes 225&4 within Acton) as this area is properly zoned (industrial) and would provide safe access, parking and traffic pattern on Route 27. Thank you.
None	Paul LoVecchio	BFRT	Supports	I rode the Bruce Freeman Trail for the first time this Sunday may 28. Not only was it a pleasure to ride with scenic water views and trees all around, I was very pleased to see so many people using it. Some were biking as I was while others were jogging, roller blading or pushing a stroller. This trail is truly a community treasure allowing many people to enjoy the outdoors at a very convenient location. I look forward to the extension of this trail in the next phase. I live in Concord, MA and will greatly appreciate having the trail even closer to my home.
Resident	Pertti Vulli	BFRT	Supports	Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the 2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
	Peter Floss	BFRT	Supports	I am writing to express my support for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail project. The existing trail is a valuable community asset and the extension will provide even more value. I strongly support the Phase 2A construction as soon as reasonably possible.
	Ray Mazzaferro	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Acton resident	Richard Fallon	BFRT	Supports	I live in Acton, and the extension of the Rail Trail from Chelmsford through Carlisle and Acton would be a great boon to area bicyclists and outdoors folk.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Richard Fryling	BFRT	Supports	I strongly support the inclusion of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in the 2013-2016 TIP and urge you to retain it in the final version. The BFRT will be a huge asset to the entire region, with benefits for both transportation and recreation. I urge you to retain the Phase 2A BFRT in the 2013-2016 schedule.
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Richard Gadbois	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction. As a long time resident of Sudbury, I would support BFRT Phase 2A's inclusion on the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for 2014. Sudbury residents recently voted both at the ballot and at town meeting our desire to have the BFRT pass through the town of Sudbury. The completion of Phase 2A will be a major step in keeping that movement alive. Please consider including BFRT Phase 2A in the TIP for 2014 to bring the rail trail to residents of Metro West. Thank You Richard Gadbois
Private Citizen	Richard Kenyon	BFRT	Supports	As an 81 year old retiree I use the Phase 1 Bruce Freeman Rail Trail for recreation and exercise. My wife and I also use other regional rail trails and find their availability a useful adjunct to our lives as senior citizens. We support the construction of Phase 2 of the BFRT as an addition to safe local recreational facilities that will be used by significant numbers of Massachusetts residents. We urge inclusion of Phase 2 of the BFRT in the FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program
	Richard Vanderslice	BFRT	Supports	I support inclusion of Phase 2A in the TIP.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
A Founder & Member, Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail since 2002	Robert Armstrong	BFRT	Supports	I strongly support your decision to place Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in the 2014 funding cycle for construction. The first 7 miles of the BFRT have been constructed and have been getting tremendous use as a popular and well designed transportation corridor. Completion of Phase 2A will only produce more users and make the trail an even more important transportation corridor for the towns of Acton & Carlisle. As you know, the project has been 25% designed and can be made construction-ready by the 2014 estimated funding date. Also, the Towns of Acton and Carlisle has shown their strong support for this project by many positive town meeting votes and with CPA funding for much of the preliminary feasibility and design of the rail trail. I support your decision to remove the preliminary designation for funding and make 2A of the BFRT a fully approved project ready for funding in 2014. With the strong support of the Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, a 501(c) 3 non profit organization, you will find that the construction project will be welcomed strongly in the affected towns and will bring much positive publicity to the project.
Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, Sudbury Rail Trail Conversion Advisory Committee	Robert Hall	BFRT	Supports	I was absolutely delighted to learn that Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail had been advanced on the Draft TIP to 2014. Under design now, that portion of the trail will be ready for construction in 2014 if it is retained in the final version of the 2013-2016 plan. Phase 2A through Westford, Carlisle and Acton will be a truly great addition to the completed trail to the north in Chelmsford and Westford, which has had rave reviews ever since its opening. With some movement forward on the trail in Sudbury - with the overwhelming support of the trail in a town wide election - we seem closer to our vision of the entire trail than ever before. I strongly urge you to retain the BFRT on the final version of the 2013-2016 TIP.
BFRT Member & Concord resident	Robert White	BFRT	Supports	BFRT Phase 2 Construction - I am writing to express my support for construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail section through Westford, Carlisle and Acton. Having used the Minuteman RT, Nashua River RT and the Bruce Freeman Phase 1, I can't be more positive than to say Phase 2 will be a great amenity for those towns and a convenient venue to encourage exercise and enjoyment of the outdoors. I a member of the Rails to Trail Conservancy and have heard only good about these trail constructions. Lets get Phase 2 moving.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Robin Miller	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Acton resident	Rosemary Benson	BFRT	Supports	As a resident of Acton, I ask that you please include Phase 2A of the BFRT Construction in the final plan for the Federal Fiscal Year 2014 Transportation Improvement Plan. We need more bike paths!
Juniper Networks	Ross Callon	BFRT	Supports	I am very pleased that phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail has been included in the draft 2013-2016 TIP, and I urge you to include this in the final TIP. The Bruce Freeman trail is a huge asset to the community and its extension through phase 2A would enhance its value considerably.
Friends of Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Roy Westerberg	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction I am pleased to see Phase 2A Construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail included in the Draft TIP. I hope that it will remain in the Final TIP and that the construction will proceed as described. Thank you.
Westford resident	Ryan Crawford	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Westford resident	Sabrina Reming	BFRT	Supports	As a 20 year resident of Westford, abutting the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, I strongly urge you to support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction. This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Concord resident	Scott Bates	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail will dramatically improve the quality of life for all residents of Acton, Carlisle, Concord, Westford and the other surrounding communities. It will offer a safe and scenic way to bike through the area. Families, who are often concerned about riding/walking with their kids on busy streets, will have a safe alternative for riding and walking. It builds a sense of community. The Trail will also be useful for students riding or walking to school or people commuting to work or walking to the stores.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Concord resident	Scott Richardson	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction. I would like to voice my support -- along with that of my wife and daughter -- for the inclusion of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail phase 2A in the 2013-2016 TIP. We use the current trail often for recreation, and the addition of phase 2A would increase the value and opportunity of the Trail, and create a long-term, sustainable community asset for the towns.
Westford resident-registered voter	Sean Crawford	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
	Shannon Banatt	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Currently the terminus is in a residential area in Westford. If the trail extended a short way the terminus would be in a commercially zoned area in Acton with parking available and more people would have access. It is not safe to bring my kids because I can not park close to the trail. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
Board Member - Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Sharon Galpin	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction Please include the Phase 2A Constuction on the 2012 - 2016 TIP - it is essential to the progress of this highly successful rail trail. The existing trail has had overwhelming support and approval since its' construction and all users are eager to have it extended through Phase 2A and beyond.
Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction	Shawn Dodds	BFRT	Supports	I strongly support the inclusion of Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in the 2013-16 Draft TIP. The current trail already provides me with a healthy, pollution-free, relaxing alternative to driving to the beach, and I ride the length of the trail 1-2 times a week. Extending the trail to Acton will provide the same opportunity to many others along the rail bed. After riding the trail on weekend mornings a few times, I realized just how friendly people who walk/ride the trail can be; and there is almost a sense of community about it.
Supporter of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Sheila Kirschbaum	BFRT	Supports	I would like to express my support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
BFRT Supporter	Sheila Zacharchuk	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
None	Sherry Zhu	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
	Shinji Yue	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Senior Citizen	Stanley Goslovich	BFRT	Supports	I wish to record my wholehearted support of the BFRT Phase 2A Construction Program. Many seniors like myself plan to use these trails for healthy outdoor exercise and recreation.
None, private citizen	Stephen McIntosh	BFRT	Supports	I support the BFRT Phase 2A Construction. This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
BFRT member	Steve Hinton	BFRT	Supports	I Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction for Westford South of Phase 1, Carlisle and Acton as described in the Boston MPO's 2013-2016 Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Specifically, construction should occur on or before 2014.
Concord resident	Steve Sutter	BFRT	Supports	I support the BFRT Phase 2A Construction! I live in West Concord and our community was "cut off" by Rt 2 many years ago. This is a great way to bring our towns back together and make a safe path for traveling to Acton and other points north and south. It is also links our towns to their railway hub heritage.
Acton citizen	Steven Evans	BFRT	Supports	My family and I fully support and approve that The Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) Draft FFY 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program (DRAFT TIP) includes funding for the BFRT Phase 2A (Acton - Carlisle - Westford) in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014 - !!!!!

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
citizen and voter	Sue Felshin	BFRT	Supports	I write in support of including Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail in the final 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Rail trails support recreation and exercise; they support our mental and physical health and reduce obesity and health care costs. Rail trails provide transportation alternatives to cars, which reduces our carbon footprint. Rail trails maintain public right-of-ways, preserving the option to rebuild railroads at some future date. Please continue construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail!
Concord senior citizen and Bruce Freeman Rail Trail advocate	Suzanne Knight	BFRT	Supports	I strongly support acceleration of construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. This non-vehicular corridor will be a vital asset for communities in the MetroWest by reducing pollution and providing a safe path for shopping, schools, recreation, reducing obesity and connecting towns which have no public transportation access. I am a senior citizen and would love to be able to bike to Sudbury, Acton and beyond rather than having to drive my car. In addition, I would love to have a safe place to walk, beside in the road. Thank you, Suzanne Knight
	Szifra Birke	BFRT	Supports	I am in full support of expanding the Bruce Freeman Trail into Carlisle and Acton.
	Tanya Boucher	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
None	Tim Walsh	BFRT	Supports	Support for BFRT Phase 2A Construction: This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and for the entire region. It provides important recreation opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this important projects in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for 2014.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
President - Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	Tom Michelman	BFRT	Supports	<p>We, the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (FBFRT), are writing to you as the Chair of the Boston Region MPO to provide comments on the Draft 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (Draft TIP).</p> <p>The FBFRT represents over 4000 individuals, families and businesses who desire the swift design and construction of the proposed 25-mile multi-modal path from Lowell through Chelmsford, Westford, Carlisle, Acton, Concord, Sudbury, and Framingham. As we have been participating in the TIP and Long Range planning process since 2007, the FBFRT Board was very pleased to see Phase 2A of the BFRT scheduled for start of construction in 2014 and to be paid for with Statewide Transportation Enhancement funds. It is with great delight that we are asking for construction of Phase 2 of the BFRT in 2014, hoping it will remain in the Final TIP.</p> <p>Phase 2A is a 4.88 mile extension of the BFRT from Westford through Carlisle into Acton and its swift construction is a logical next step. As the 75% design is ongoing for Phase 2A, completion of the Phase 2A design is scheduled to be completed in time for the 2014 construction season. The public support is overwhelming, and the construction of Phase 2A will provide even more benefits as the trail will provide access to many more destinations adding to the already heavily used BFRT Phase 1 in Chelmsford and Westford.</p> <p>Of course, we will be advocating for inclusion of BFRT Phase 2B (crossing Route 2 now in 25% design) and Phase 2C (in Concord: now in 75% design) , and hopefully Phase 2D (in Sudbury) in TIPs over the next few years. For now the inclusion of just Phase 2A in the Final 2013-2016 TIP is appropriate.</p>
	Vilas Bhade	BFRT	Supports	I support inclusion of phase 2a of BFRT in the TIP.
resident in the area	Vonne Cook	BFRT	Supports	<p>Please include BFRT Phase 2A Construction in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). This project provides wonderful recreational opportunities for the residents and others in the area who like to walk and ride the trail.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Westford resident	Wade Ripley	BFRT	Supports	I would like to register my support of the BFRT Phase 2A extension through Acton. This project provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. This trail provides residents with a safer travel path and keeps pedestrians off of the congested and narrow roads. The current terminus in Westford at the intersection of 27 & 225 is unsafe and has created a dangerous parking issue along the curb of a state road. In addition to extending the trail into Acton it is equally important to ensure safe and convenient parking with access to the BFRT in properly zoned locations. These parking locations have been defined in the Acton plan. Please include this BFRT Phase 2A project in the draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for 2014 construction.
	Wendy Capland	BFRT	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail	William Ames	BFRT	Supports	I strongly urge keeping the BFRT phase 2A on the TIP. Acton has a strong history of supporting the BFRT. Whenever a BFRT issue comes to a vote at a Selectman meeting or annual town meeting, it passes easily with no controversy.
	William Latimer	BFRT	Supports	Please fund the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail to Acton (preferably immediately after the Assabet River Trail). This will help bring alternative transportation thru the region, and hopefully connect with both the ARRT and the Mass Central line.
	William Vieth	BFRT	Supports	Phase II BFRT constructin. Please fund this project as it is necessary to bring the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail closer to it true potential. This section of the trail's construction will allow many more users and will help bring potential customers to Acton center.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Westford resident	Rob Frado	BRFT	Supports	<p>I would like to register my support for the early extension of the BFRT Phase 2A through Acton.</p> <p>This will benefit residents of all surrounding towns by providing safer communication to recreational areas and work areas without use of motorized vehicles on narrow and congested roads.</p> <p>Several additional affordable housing developments will come within easy reach of the trail providing residents of these developments economic access to potential work and recreation areas.</p> <p>The current southern termination of the trail at the intersection of Routes 27 &amp; 225 in Westford, increases congestion and causes a dangerous interaction between pedestrian and bicycle users of the trail and traffic at this busy intersection.</p> <p>It also causes dangerous parking at the side of a state road and close to the intersection. Additionally, this area of Westford through which the Trail runs is zoned Residential which prohibits parking, whereas there is currently a potential parking area in Acton which is in a non-residential zone.</p> <p>Early extension of the trail will enhance safe usage by moving the end of the trail to a safer termination in Acton.</p> <p>It will also alleviate some disruptive parking issues in the Westford area by providing <u>convenient parking and access in appropriately-zoned areas of Acton.</u></p>
	Ahmad Awada	Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT)	Supports	Support of BFRT Phase 2A Construction - This is an important project and resource for all the communities surrounding the proposed trail and it provides important recreational opportunities for residents of the region. Please include this project in the Draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
City of Medford Homeowner	Fernando Colina	Green Line Extension	Supports	I am strongly in favor of extending the Green line.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Jeff Dearman	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports for extension of project in TIP	<p>Make sure there is a connection from Stoneham to Bike to the sea using existing paths and roads.</p> <p>Have end of the trail in Winchester be SANDY BEACH PARKING LOT Mystic Valley Pkwy Which would connect the Medford trail system</p> <p>Make sure the path looks like a path appropriate pavement, yellow dashed lines, info kiosks, lighting, flowering trees/bushes/flowerbeds/gardens along the trail, historical markers, you are here info directories with maps to local businesses etc. benches, recycle bins/trash bins</p> <p>Make sure to have recycle bins along the route for bottle water etc as well as trash cans</p> <p>Add picnic tables and a gazebo at DAVIDSON PARK</p> <p>Have path cut along rail line from Davidson Park into Calvary Cem in Woburn going down central street to Montvale ave rail bed. crossing at Montvale with traffic light</p> <p>Add tennis wall at Leonard Beach - Jogging track paved track around Leonard pond (with a new bridge across the brook by the dam)</p> <p>Convert the Old Leonard bathhouse to bathrooms and a Seasonal Cafe for the Leonard field users soccer, etc. lax, etc. and trail users. have bathrooms open year round - maintained by DPW and Concession stand cafe open from April to November.</p> <p>Have Historical Markers throughout the path highlighting historical sites in Winchester</p>

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
none	Andrew Bartholomew	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	<p>As a resident of Winchester and a bicyclist, I am writing to express support for the Tri Community Bikeway/Greenway project on the 2013 2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).</p> <p>I live on Washington St, close to where the Greenway will run, and it will add significantly to the three towns it will pass through. The area currently does not have adequate facilities for pedestrian and bicycle traffic, and both Washington and Montvale Ave are unsafe for bicycle traffic.</p> <p>By building this Greenway, we will have an active and useful connection between these three towns, which, while physically close to each other, are difficult to connect to by foot or by bike. The benefit to the three towns is not insignificant and the currently proposed path is well thought out.</p> <p>The funding from the TIP is critical for this highly supported project to be undertaken and should continue on from the draft to the final budget, fully funded.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
	Christi Gorelli	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	I am in support of the Tri-County Greenway Project
	Daniel Press, MD	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	Hi, I just want to let you know that I actively support the Tri-Community Greenway Project and I think it would be a great benefit to the community for recreation, work, and the environment. Thanks.

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Stoneham resident	Ellen McBride	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	Hello, Thank you for asking for our input. I would like to declare my complete support for the Tri-Community Bikeway/Greenway through Stoneham, Woburn and Winchester. It's so wonderful to see that this vision on which so many have worked for years may finally come true. This path will do so much for all three towns; encourage physical fitness, provide an opportunity to improve the economy of all three towns, connect neighbors with neighbors and become a gathering place for residents to take time out of their hectic lives and unwind. Thank you for all the work you have done to make this happen. I am looking forward to the ribbon cutting ceremony!
Friends of the Tri-Community Greenway Stoneham Winchester Woburn	Janet Spratt	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	I believe the Greenway would be an asset to our community.
private citizen	Josh Reynolds	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	I strongly urge the MPO to support the Tri-Community Greenway project connecting Stoneham, Winchester and Woburn. This Greenway will not only provide runners, bikers and walkers an important route for recreation, but will provide safe pedestrian pathways to the commuter rail and connections to several schools, saving energy, reducing traffic and improving citizen's health.
Stoneham resident	Marcia M. Wengen	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	As a lifelong resident of Stoneham I support the Tri Community Bikeway/Greenway 2012-2116 TIP>  This path will be an environmentally friendly way to connect and benefit Stoneham, Woburn and Winchester with valuable outlet for safe exercise and family entertainment.  Thank you for your efforts to get this project on the list for 2015.
Stoneham resident	Mary Beth Cunnane	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	This is a really important step in making our communities more walkable, diminishing pollution, and increasing quality of life for people in Winchester, Woburn and Stoneham! Please support it!

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
Stoneham resident	Michael Corrente	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	I support for the Tri Community Bikeway/Greenway project on the 2013 2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). As a longtime Stoneham resident I have been waiting many years for this project to pass. This will add a lot to the quality of life for residents of my town, Stoneham as well as the towns. A bike/walk trail would be an excellent way to promote the health and well being of all residents. Thank you.
	Patrick Cox	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	I am supporting the Community Bikeway/Greenway project. I am looking forward to looking at a nice clean area instead of a bunch of overgrown brush invading our back yard which ruined our fence.  The bike path will be awesome for both young and old.
lifelong resident of Stoneham	Paulene Russo	Tri-Community Bikeway	Supports	I wish to urge you to continue to support the Tri Community Bikeway/Greenway project on the 2013-2016 //Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The Greenway will provide a valuable resource for the towns of Winchester, Woburn and Stoneham for recreational and transportation purposes. This path will be an environmentally friendly way to connect and benefit three communities and provide a fantastic outlet for safe exercise and family entertainment. Thank you.
Acton resident	Cheryl Ryan		Supports	I support the continued development of the rail trail. Thanks
none	Joseph F. Flanagan		Supports	I wish to voice my support for the indicated FFYs-2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program
	Clodene Anderson			You need no more than to watch the HBO special Weight of the Nation to know that these bike paths are a paramount need.
Abutter	Curt & Michelle McKelvie			Money better spent else where. It is not yet even a public way an we have people cutting through our private property to get to the trail. We do not want the trail in our backyard!

**Public Comments on the Draft FFYs 2013-16 Transportation Improvement Program -  
Comments Received via Website**

AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Jeff Dearman			<p>Work with IRON HORSE to make the trail or other organizations that can get this project done quickly. We cant afford to wait another 20 years for this to be built we need it build before 2015. Should start construction in 2013. if possible or even end of 2012. Should vote on the Final project at FALL TOWN MEETING to approve construction of the Bikeway. in Winchester. - Should try to get the Stoneham Woburn Sections done as well in the next 2 years.</p> <p>Lets do this right and make it part of the connected bike network that we can all enjoy</p>
	Jeff Dearman			<p>The Trail would be paved through Woodland Road path to the T junction by Hemlock Lake (near the Fellsway Reservoir roads) then turn Right and connect down with the Jerry Jingle Path (all would be paved like breakheart through the woods) as part of the bike path Bike path would continue to East Border Road. down East Border Road to Summer St.</p> <p>Right Turn onto Summer Street using new bike lanes or bike path on the sidewalks</p> <p>From here the trail would go to MALDEN CENTER T STATION ORANGE LINE cross COMMERCIAL STREET AT THE ROUTE 60 INTERSECTION at the LIGHT then go down Left turn on Central St (60) to Canal St. Right turn onto Canal Street in Malden where it'd hook up with the BIKE TO THE SEA PATH /NORTHERN STRAND TRAIL</p> <p>These are my views of what should be done with the route. Hope this helps in your planning ideas. :-)</p> <p>Main thing is to make the trail LOOK LIKE A BIKE WAY with paved asphalt, dashed lines, adequate stop signs on the trails and crosswalks ,, info kiosks, lighting, planted flowering trees along the route, flowering bushes/flower gardens. benches, historical landmark markers. etc.</p>

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Jeff Dearman			<p>From here the path would follow the existing sidewalk which would be widened and continue along the Mystic Lakes and the end of the path would be SANDY BEACH PARKING LOT</p> <p>SANDY BEACH PARKING LOT Makes more sense than Wedgemere station because there is more parking at Sandy beach and it is the terminus for the Medford path too so you could have signage here for both Tri community and the Medford Mystic paths.</p> <p>Maybe we could work with Medford to pave their portion of the bike path to the small rotary by West Medford..at least as part of it.</p> <p>There should be a new picnic table area and gazebo at Sandy Beach as part of this too , maybe a splash park for kids as well or new playground.</p> <p>The Northern part i Stoneham should have some kindof connection to the BIKE TO THE SEA/NORTHERN STRAND TRAIL in MALDEN.</p> <p>A suggestion Route would be from the RECREATION Park have the path go down Dale Ct to POND ST. Follow POND TO SUMMER STREET using widened paved/lined sidewalks to Route 28 (Main St.) Follow Left Side of Main St (route 28) as a bike path repaved/lined/signed etc as bikeway conncector Left onto Gorham ave following repaved lined, sidewalks to Pond St. Path would have to be constructed on the Right side of Pond St. to the intersection of</p>

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Jeff Dearman			<p>MORE IDEAS for ROUTE OF BIKE PATH THROUGH WINCHESTER</p> <p>) - Path would veer Right across Converse Bridge to the site of the First house (with a new first house sign that should be replaced) by Cups and cones with the outdoor seating area by the Waterfall. Path would cross Main St here at the Crosswalk, with two new stop signs or a smart traffic crossing light installed here to slow traffic thorough downtown.</p> <p>Path would continue along the current path to the post office along he Aberjona (connecting Winchester PL/Thompson St.) by the Winchester Stained glass . - to the Post office. Path would turn Left. Cross the waterfired bridge. with a historical sign here. Path would then cross the crosswalk at Waterfield Rd/Mystic Valley Pkway</p> <p>(Currently this section is under construction as part of the Aberjona project) (Maybe they could include that portion of the bike path already in the Aberjona project when they rebuild it)</p> <p>Path would continue along the path Mystic Valley Pkway Aberjona river and then cross the OLD BRIDGE across to GINN FIELD .</p> <p>BIKE PATH WOULD GO along the old basketball court to the edge of the stone wall on the right by the train tracks. Would follow the path to the crossing @ BACON ST. A new SMART TRAFFIC Crossing light would have to be installed here or a crosswalk with two way stop sign and clear pedestrian signage.</p> <p>Path would continue through the Wedgemere station tunnel (A new path bridge would be created across the creek that cut off the neighborhood from Wedgemere station) as part of the project.</p>

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Jeff Dearman			<p>More ideas for the bike path and bike path improvements to the neighborhood if we are to support the project</p> <p>From here bikeway would continue down the Right side of Holland Street widening the sidewalk crossing oak St at the new 4 way stop sign. Then proceed to the high school crossing walk at Holland/Nelson Street. From here the path should turn Right and follow the High School (Some rocks would have to be removed) or relocated then work its way around the currently paved path along the train tracks to the traffic crossing light. at Skillings Rd. (the path would need to be repaved/lined etc)</p> <p>From here it'd cross at the light and turn left along the Pond. to the Path by the Jenks Center. From here it would follow the Judkins pond and Aberjona River along the Jenks Center to a crossing walk (with two new stop signs) on Mt Vernon St at the crosswalk to slow fast moving rush hour traffic on Mt Vernon/Downtown as well forcing traffic to stop for the bike path on Mt Vernon St. traffic would cross here onto the path between the Town hall and the Mill Pond by the Mill pond stage (town day) area, in front of the Library and then turn Left up hill toward Mystic Valley Parkway (it would go by Sandys Island as well which would be a good rest spot for the trail with an Info Kiosk here and map) with a downtown business directory map locator</p> <p>From here the path would go up the hill toward the sidewalk along Mystic Valley Pkway. Cut over to the Parkway Path. then down along the stone wall by the Mill pond to the Crossing light by the veterans memorial and the Old High School/Lincoln School. (historical signs/markers could be along the route too marking these locations)</p>

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AFFILIATION	NAME	PROJECT	SUPPORTS/ OPPOSES	COMMENT
	Jeff Dearman			<p>I support the Tri Community Bikeway. There should be a route from Montvale Avenue through the Calvalry Cemetery , (there's a small trail along the train tracks from the back of the cemetery to Davidson Park) could run a path through there. Cross Cross St with a traffic crossing light there. Repave surface along Aberjona River (Remove run down ugly chain link fence on the right along the river) to Leonard Field.</p> <p>Info Kiosk at Leonardf field. Build a Jogging track around the old Leonard pond connect to the field. Build new tennis wall at Leonard field by the Leonard pond.</p> <p>Convert the old grey former bathhouse to bathroom facilities and a new seasonal Cafe for leonard field and the bike path serving drinks, food, ice cream candy and more. Could cater to people using leonards and residents as well. Have a new picnic table seating area and gazebo at Davidson aprk for events like music and such. Path should wind by Leonard Pond to Muraco cross at the island (you wouldnt need to cut back 7 parking spaces if you just habve it go through the island) come out at Irving St. cross onto Holland</p> <p>new 3 way stop at Florence/Irving/st. New 4 way stop at Holland/Florence St. Install School Zone signs on Irving.Florence. - New Smart light @ Swanton/Holland/Florence. Reconfigure traffic flow pattern,. make Holland parking on the right side of street facing Swanton, Make HOLLand one way toward Swanton. Stop line by the Nail Salon uphill from the train bridge. Stop line by Marmadou's bakery from Washington/Swanton light. Add no parking signage from Corner of Swanton to Columbus Ciricle. Make agreement with Medical center on Swanton St to allow Diner parking there after 5pm and on weekends as well as at the auto body shop. Make Spruce Street one way the other direction toward the high school. Add 4 way stop sign at Oak/Holland Street , add 4 way stop at Spruce/Oak st.</p> <p>Add 3 way stop at Spruce/Nelson (bad corner)</p>
Resident of the Boston Region	Prakash			<p>We would really like to see this trail put into place. We love biking and would greatly appreciate the ability to bike on specific trails. In this age of fossil-fuel-based transportation, we are seeking alternative ways to get around and exercise.</p>