



# CITY OF FRAMINGHAM

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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**Dr. Yvonne M. Spicer**  
Mayor

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**MEMORIAL BUILDING**  
150 Concord Street, Room 121  
Framingham, MA 01702

**Thatcher W. Kezer III**  
Chief Operating Officer

August 19, 2020

To the Community of Sudbury:

I am writing to express the City of Framingham's support for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail project, including the essential portion going through our neighbor, Sudbury.

An incredible resource for the entire MetroWest region, this project has been in development for a long time. We are thrilled that it has reached a point where it is coming closer to fruition and that we are working closely with our partners in Sudbury to see it through. We understand and appreciate that the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail will be most valuable to residents and visitors in both municipalities if all parts are completed, ensuring a continuous artery through the heart of MetroWest that can be used for recreation and commuting. With the COVID-19 pandemic, we are seeing an increased desire for non-motorized individual transportation modes like bicycles, as well as to recreate outdoors. Furthermore, given the connection between COVID-19 vulnerability and air pollution, the time is now to progress projects such as this that can make our municipalities greener and healthier places to live.

Once completed, the 22-mile route will connect Framingham and Sudbury to communities as far north as Lowell, Chelmsford, and Acton. Residents will be able to access critical assets, such as jobs, educational opportunities, retail outlets, restaurants, cultural and recreational sites and activities, natural resources such as parks, and more. It will intersect with commercial districts in Sudbury along Route 20 and in Framingham along Water Street in the Nobscot Village. Its terminus, close to Route 9 in Framingham, will be close to businesses, transit, our Framingham Centre Common Cultural District, and Framingham State University.

We understand Sudbury is moving forward with negotiations with CSX regarding the acquisition of the Right of Way that would enable this project to reach the next stage, as well as securing the necessary funding. Framingham is committed to aligning resources and efforts to make the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail a reality and is in full support of Sudbury's current proposals and progress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Yvonne M. Spicer'.

Dr. Yvonne M. Spicer, Mayor  
City of Framingham, MA