

Natick Select Board

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LOCATED AT

Town Hall

13 East Central Street

Natick, Massachusetts

01760

Town of Natick • Select Board Office

August 3, 2022

Mr. Jonathan E. Church, AICP
Manager of MPO Activities
Central Transportation Planning Staff
Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization
10 Park Plaza, Room 2150
Boston, MA 02116

Dear Mr. Church:

On behalf of the Town of Natick, I am writing to request that MassDOT Project 610691, the Natick Center Connection, be added to the Transportation Improvement Plan for the Boston Region MPO for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025 using appropriate funding streams for a shared-used path.

This exciting project will extend the Cochituate Rail Trail (CRT) to Main Street (Route 27) in Natick Center. This project received MassDOT District 3 Project Review Committee approval in April 2020; the Town initiated design in 2021, and 25% designs were recently submitted.

This project will bring the CRT up to grade and will integrate the CRT into the Natick Center bicycle and pedestrian network. The CRT will also make a trail-level connection to the outbound platform at the new Natick Center MBTA station when the station itself is complete. This related connection is critical for safe and accessible connections to and from the CRT. In fact, this connection was part of the original 25% design for the CRT, but the project was pulled back from the MBTA Station to allow the station design and construction to proceed first, with this connection to be designed after.

We are specifically requesting FFY 2025 for this project so that the construction can be coordinated with the completion of MBTA station work.

We are available to discuss at your convenience.

Jonathan E. Church, AICP

August 3, 2022

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Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Joseph, Chair

Cc: Ann Sullivan, MassDOT District 3
State Senator Karen Spilka
State Representative David Linsky
Dennis Giombetti, MetroWest Region MPO Representative