From: dan
To: publicinformation@bostonmpo.org
Subject: comment on long range plan
Date: Monday, September 12, 2011 10:03:17 PM

Mr. Mohler, I've believe including the Bruce Freeman Trail and the Assabet River Trail in the Long Range Plan is a poor prioritization of transportation funds.

I have reviewed the spreadsheet justifying the Bruce Freeman Trail. Frankly, it's a joke to think that this path is going to do anything to reduce traffic and congestion in the area. In fact, it is likely do the opposite by adding recreational traffic and new crossings that don't currently exist. I question the underlying projections for use as transportation and you should too. The combined cost of these projects is $33M. Why isn't this money being used to reduce traffic on Rt 2? Rt 2 travels E-W. Bruce Freeman travels N-S.

The loudest voices for the Bruce Freeman Trail in Concord are for recreation. Parents want it so they can have fun with their kids. The cross country ski team wants it so they can train on an asphalt path. Rollerbladers want it so they can have another weekend destination.

It seems the department has been swayed by heavy lobbying from the special interest recreational groups and construction companies who profit greatly from such projects. Please prioritize this money on real transportation projects that will actually reduce traffic and congestion in the MetroWest area.

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