

## Public Comments Submitted to the Boston Region MPO

March 18, 2021

Written comments were submitted for the following projects since the last MPO meeting on March 4, 2021:

- **Bedford:** Minuteman Bikeway Extension (#607738) (Currently programmed in FFY 2023)
- **Belmont:** Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1) (#609204) (Scored for FFYs 2022—26 TIP)
- **Everett:** Citywide Transportation Management Association (TMA) (Scored for FFYs 2022—26 TIP)
- **Hingham:** Intersection Improvements at Route 3A/Summer Street Rotary (#605168) (Currently programmed in FFY 2025)
- **Lynn:** Reconstruction on Route 129 (Lynnfield Street) (#602077) (Currently programmed in FFY 2022)
- **Salem:** Salem Skipper Microtransit Service (Scored for FFYs 2022—26 TIP)
- **Swampscott:** Swampscott Rail Trail (#610666) (Scored for FFYs 2022—26 TIP)



March 11, 2021

David Mohler, Chair  
Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization  
State Transportation Building  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150  
Boston, MA 02116-3968

Re: Minuteman Bikeway Extension Project, TIP Project Number 607738

Dear Chairman Mohler and Members of the Boston MPO,

The Town of Bedford has been working for the past 15 years planning this regionally significant project, which will extend the existing Minuteman Bikeway from its current terminus at Loomis Street in Bedford to the Concord town line via the existing Reformatory Branch Rail Trail. At this time, we would like to reiterate the Town's commitment to advancing the project design and securing the necessary ROW. Our project is ahead of schedule, and we are well positioned to take advantage of any openings in the TIP schedule to move back into a FFY2022 advertisement date.

In regards to concerns raised at recent MPO meetings, I can assure you that we do not anticipate further cost escalations. Much of the difference from the 25% to 75% cost estimate is a result of refinement of the 25% design as outlined below.

- Design development of Route 62 culvert and wingwalls: The 25% cost estimate for the culvert was based on preliminary information and submitted prior to the completion of the bridge sketch plans. Once the bridge sketch plans and 1st structural design details were developed and submitted as part of the 75% design submittal, we were able to more accurately develop a cost estimate.
- Water main replacement: To minimize environmental impacts, the off-road portion of the path profile was lowered so the side slopes would not disturb the surrounding wetlands. As a result, the underlying 16" DI water main needed to be lowered to maintain frost protection. Insulation is also proposed over the sewer line at this location to maintain frost protection.
- Response to 25% design and DPH comments: In response to feedback on the 25% design, changes were made as part of the 75% design submission. This included a sidewalk along Concord Rd and ramp structure from Concord Rd to the path to provide a logical terminus that

met FHWA requirements. Additionally, the Lavender Lane parking area was revised, a stone dust walk/shoulder was added adjacent to the path, and use of permeable pavement at the three parking lot locations was included to meet MassDEP stormwater standards.

- Construction Items price escalation: Since the initial 25% submittal in early 2017, the weighted average bid prices have increased due to inflation and general material cost increases.

Thank you again for your continued support of the Minuteman Bikeway Extension Project. The Bedford community is eagerly awaiting the completion of such a vital recreational, tourism, and transportation asset for the entire region. If you would like further information, please contact Jeannette Rebecchi, Transportation Program Manager, at [jrebecchi@bedfordma.gov](mailto:jrebecchi@bedfordma.gov) or 781-275-7605.

Sincerely,



Sarah A. Stanton  
Town Manager

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 7, 2021

Paul Cobuzzi  
125 Channing Rd.  
Belmont, Ma 02478  
(617) 489-5156

Mr. Matt Genova  
[mgenova@ctps.org](mailto:mgenova@ctps.org)  
3/7/2021

RE: continuing tent village and trash problem on the Fitchburg cutoff path.

Hi Matt,

Thank you for your response dated 2/27/2021. It provided more information than we have received from the bike path committee in its various forms and the town, in 20 years.

In my email dated 2/11/2021, I informed you and the MPO of the existence of the tent village on the Fitchburg cutoff path in Cambridge. Since that time the village had disappeared, for a while, thanks to you and your fellow committee members. However, the occupants left behind a great deal of trash (some of it quite large) in a very sensitive area. Please see photos 1, 2 and 3 attached below.

Also, like a bad weed, a village has popped up again in the same place with a different colored tent. Please see photo 4 attached below.

This is a recurring problem on the Fitchburg cutoff path. This is the 4th village that I know of in this area. As a Channing Rd abutter, I do not want the trash nor unknown people to accumulate on the north side of the MBTA RR tracks in Belmont close to my home and to create a security problem. I also do not need the rats or other vermin that will be attracted by the above mentioned.

Thank you,  
Paul Cobuzzi











**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 11, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path for many reasons.

The railroad underpass component of the project will enable me to easily walk or bike to the Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines, and everything on the other side of Belmont. It will also create a safe route to school for children in the Winn Brook area - too late for mine who have been supporting the project since they were in kindergarten, but are now graduating from High School. But hopefully others will benefit.

The project will also improve my commute into universities in Cambridge and Boston, and provide my family with a much improved, and desired, connection to the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, and other paths in the region, for recreational and transport use.

Thank you for your consideration

Rachel Abercrombie, PhD.

79 Winn St  
Belmont



## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 11, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

The path through Belmont will close the 2-mile gap in the Mass Central Rail Trail, which is otherwise pretty much on track to take people from Boston to Northampton. Even the first segment has many advantages within Belmont:

- The railroad underpass will connect two close but disconnected neighborhoods, allowing, for example, middle school and high school students to use the tennis courts at the Winn Brook School and giving residents of the Winn Brook neighborhood a safe walk to the Belmont Memorial Library.
- The path will provide an easy pedestrian and bike connection between Belmont Center and Alewife Station. Now it's convoluted except for people who walk on the railroad right of way, which I think is illegal.
- The project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- The drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- and no doubt much more.

Sue Bass  
530 Concord Avenue, Belmont 02478  
617 489 4729  
Town Meeting Member, Precinct 3

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 11, 2021

Dear Matt,

I just wanted to write and share my support for the Belmont Community Path. I moved to Belmont 12 years ago and heard a path was being planned at that time. I was very excited about the possibility of an easier way to commute into Cambridge where I work that doesn't involve driving.

I was also very excited at the prospect of a safer route to school for my children who had to cross the road at the crazy intersection that is Common/Concord and Leonard Street! My own kids have now long since graduated from Belmont High School but the path will make getting to school safer for children all over Belmont.

Finally I am excited about the foot and bike traffic (rather than car traffic) the path will bring to Belmont. I hope this path becomes a reality soon!

Warm regards,  
Sharon

Sharon Bridburg  
Director of Human Resources  
Office of the Vice Chancellor  
617-253-6998

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 11, 2021

I urge the Boston MPO to approve construction funding for Phase I of the Belmont Community Path in the earliest possible timeframe. In addition to the many immediate benefits to Belmont, the Community Path is a critical segment of the statewide Mass Central Rail Trail. With the Belmont section and other sections underway, the entire Eastern portion from Northpoint Park in Cambridge to Berlin could be open within the next few years.

John Dieckmann  
47 Lorimer Road  
Belmont

Town Meeting member, Precinct 3



## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 11, 2021

Dear Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- Belmont clearly needs a link directly to Alewife and to the western suburbs
- the railroad underpass component of the project will create a safe route for kids & adults to safely walk or bike to the Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines from the Winn Brook neighborhood and vice versa
- the path will improve my family's commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station
- the path will finally create a safe in-line skateable option near my home
- the path will provide an accessible connection from the path and the train to Belmont Center for shopping and dining (right now there is NO accessible way to get to/from the Commuter Rail train and down to the street, but once the path is built, it will provide an accessible connection to the train, too.)
- the path will provide a key connection to the Mass Central Rail Trail and other bike paths west of Belmont
- the path will provide a key connection to the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, to Boston and to other paths in the inner suburbs
- the path will enhance recreational opportunities by connecting to many paths in the region
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists, pedestrians, and cars crossing or driving on Brighton Street in Belmont
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Friedman  
16 Hay Road, Belmont

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 11, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to express my support of the Belmont community path, which will make it easier for my family to commute to work via bicycle, to have a safe path to jog on, and to enjoy for slower recreation with my young daughter. I'm particularly excited for Phase 2 of the path project in Belmont.

Thanks,  
Jason

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 11, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because I live right across the street

- the railroad underpass component of the project will create a safe route to school for my children and enable me to easily walk or bike to the Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path will provide a key connection in the region's bicycle and pedestrian network.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Amy and Dan Kirsch  
8 Jason Rd, Belmont, MA 02478



## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing on behalf of the [Friends of the Mystic to Charles](#) to voice our support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

In addition to its critical nature as a community cornerstone for the residents and visitors of Belmont, we look forward to the Belmont Community Path because of its regional import. It will serve as a critical portion of the Mass Central Rail Trail, which adjoins the community paths we are advocating for, including the Somerville Community Path Extension (CPX) and its spur northbound to Assembly. Belmont to Assembly in 30 minutes - entirely on paths - that's a future we can believe in.

We greatly value the role of CTPS in advancing progressive yet fiscally responsible infrastructure programming in the region, and feel the Belmont Community Path serves such a mission.

Thank you for your consideration.

Karl Alexander

Co-President, [Friends of the Mystic to Charles](#)

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 11, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because of several reasons, including but not limited to:

- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path will provide a key connection in the region's bicycle and pedestrian network.
- the path will enhance recreational opportunities by connecting to the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, and other paths in the region.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ray Lemieux  
57 Common St, Belmont MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 12, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I am writing in support of TIP funding for the long-awaited Belmont Community Path! The proposed railroad-underpass tunnel from the Winn Brook neighborhood to the high school, town pool, library, post office, and MBTA bus lines is a particularly important asset of the project that will reduce motor traffic on our congested roads and encourage safe walking/biking. The access to Alewife Station and opportunities for recreation are other key components.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Angel  
100 Cross St.  
Belmont, MA 02478  
[raineyangels@gmail.com](mailto:raineyangels@gmail.com)



**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 12, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to lend my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

The Belmont Community Path will provide a vital link in the trail network and create a safe route for children and families.

I am particularly interested because my granddaughters live less than a half-mile from the path and will get lots of use out of it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John V. Burns

99 Larch Row

Wenham, MA

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 12, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path for numerous reasons that are important to me (listed below):

1. Safety impacts on commuting: The path will provide a key connection in the region's bicycle and pedestrian network, and the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
2. Safety impact on recreation: The path will enhance recreational opportunities by connecting to the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, and other paths in the region.
3. Environmental impacts: Drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency, and the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Chelsey Graham

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 12, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

May I please request ask your help to request the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization to include the Belmont Community Path in Transportation Improvement Program funding at the earliest possible date.

I'm a frequent user of existing paths in the Belmont and Cambridge area, but the gap in Belmont is a big problem for me and my neighbors. The Belmont Community path will help solve this problem

- It will make it possible for us to access the Minuteman path and the Linear Park/Somerville Community park without having to travel on-road in Belmont.
- It will give access from Cambridge and Arlington (and eventually Waltham and the west) to shopping and dining in Belmont Center
- It will give expanded access and increased ridership to the MBTA Commuter Rail station in Belmont Center
- The railroad underpass part of the path will finally give school children from the northern half of Belmont safe access to Belmont High School, the Underwood Pool, and 74/75 bus, the Belmont Library, the skating rink, and the playing fields
- It will give me a safer commute to my office in North Cambridge, on Rindge Avenue. At present--though not during the pandemic--I commute by bicycle from Waverly Square, Belmont to Rindge Avenue, Cambridge via the Alewife Connector and the Linear Park. But the Belmont leg of the journey requires biking along busy Concord Avenue, which is unpleasant and unsafe due to the lack of true separation between cars and bikes. Being able to take the Belmont Community Path from Belmont Center (and eventually, Waverly Square) would give me a safe daily commuting route.

William Messenger  
84 Lexington Street  
Belmont, MA 02478

617-489-8768

[wmessenger@mba1988.hbs.edu](mailto:wmessenger@mba1988.hbs.edu)



## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 12, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

**I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because I am a long distance & commuting cyclist. I did a cross country bike trip with the MIT Media Lab in 1998. I have since completed 3 major rides of over 400 miles each. I've travelled on 100s of miles of bike paths through the country. Some of them are like outdoor museums. The times on commuter paths were oasis. In general neighborhoods take great pride in having proximity to the bike path and some even decorate their properties for the commuters. I look at Commuter Paths as a universal good and have personally benefited greatly from their existence. I lived near a commuter path in Arlington and was semi-shocked that Belmont, for all it's forward thinking, didn't have one yet! Commuter path's reduce traffic, increase business opportunities, and improve community health.**

*-the railroad underpass component of the project will create a safe route to school for my children and enable me to easily walk or bike to the Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines.*

*-the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.*

*-the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.*

*-the path will provide a key connection in the region's bicycle and pedestrian network.*

*-the path will enhance recreational opportunities by connecting to the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, and other paths in the region.*

*-the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.*

*-the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.*

**Thank you for your consideration.**

Sincerely,  
Julian Orbanes

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 12, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because

- the railroad underpass component of the project will create a safe route to school for my children
- the path will provide a key connection in the region's bicycle and pedestrian network.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Nitin Sonawane  
137 Chilton St, Belmont, MA 02478.

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 12, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because it will provide a key connection in the region's bicycle and pedestrian network.

I am particularly in favor of the railroad underpass component of the project for the following reasons: It will create a safe route to school for children who live north of the tracks and enable them to easily walk or bike to the Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines. The underpass will enable students to walk safely from the new Belmont Middle and High School to Belmont Center. Last but not least, residents on the south side of the tracks will be able to visit Joey's Park and the Winnbrook tennis courts and playing fields. Without having to drive.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Yvette Tenney, Belmont Town Meeting Member, Precinct 1  
70 Bow Road, Belmont, MA 02478

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 12, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible. We have been waiting for so long and are so excited!

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the railroad underpass component of the project will create a safe route to school for my children and enable me to easily walk or bike to the Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines.
- the path will provide a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path will provide a key connection in the region's bicycle and pedestrian network.
- the path will enhance recreational opportunities by connecting to the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, and other paths in the region.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- it will encourage me to use my bike more, walk more, and drive less.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Laura VanderHart  
96 Agassiz Avenue, Belmont, MA 02478



**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway. It will also fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail and will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
John Baron

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm a bicycle commuter who lives in Arlington. I often bike on the Minuteman path here, but also bike to and through Belmont frequently under ordinary non-COVID circumstances.

This is to indicate support for the Belmont Community Path and funding from BRMPO. I live right next to the Minuteman Bike Path in Arlington, and I can only imagine the path in Belmont will be heavily used — even cherished — by all ages, just as ours is.

The strongest reason is that we are in a climate crisis, and need to encourage all manner of low- and zero-emissions mobility. This project will easily connect populations with Red Line transit, and provide safe business and recreation routes between Cambridge, Arlington, Belmont, and Waltham. The network effects of such a convenience will be significant.

Truly we need far more than this, but this will be a major artery for bike mobility in the west suburban area.

I hope you'll give this worthy project every consideration.

Yours

Charley Blandy

Arlington MA

(he/him/his)

cell: (857) 998-1548

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Brown  
12 Hurley St, Belmont MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the Mass Central Rail Trail provides a superb connection from where I live in Somerville out to the western suburbs of Boston, rich with natural, cultural and business destinations. Currently, there is a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on the MCRT.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because it will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, newly extended Somerville Community Path (as of end of 2021) and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Juliana Cherston  
Properzi Way  
Somerville MA  
02143

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing in support of funding for completion of the Belmont Community Path. As a 15-year resident of Belmont and Cambridge, one of the things I value most about living here is the opportunities for walking and biking -- for fun, for commuting and running errands, and for exercise. In the warmer months (and non-pandemic times) I commute by bike as much as possible. And during the pandemic when I've been working from home, biking has been one of the recreation opportunities keeping me sane. But honestly, on-street biking can be hair-raising, especially given the narrow streets and often congested traffic.

As a driver, cyclist, and pedestrian, I know the road design and traffic around here can be challenging for everyone who uses our streets. The Belmont Community Path will help everyone (not just cyclists) by taking bikes out of traffic and onto a dedicated, safe route. I know I'll feel safer both when I'm driving and biking.

Having previously lived near the long-established rail trails in Amherst and Northampton, I have also seen firsthand that a convenient bike path is a real benefit to the community.

Thanks for your consideration!

Best,  
Laurel Damashek  
31 Francis St. Belmont MA 02478



**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because real connections between bike paths make cycling and walking safer, simpler and more enjoyable. Nothing is more dangerous or annoying than cruising along a bike path and getting dumped into a dangerous and high-speed intersection. Could you imagine driving somewhere and being told to get out of your car and push because the city didn't feel like finishing that section of road? That is a daily experience riding a bike.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Matthew Dezii

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to express my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I live in Cambridge near Fresh Pond and would be able to use the BCP to reach Belmont Center for shopping and dining. It also improves connectivity between Belmont and Alewife, which lacks a stop on commuter rail but offers the Red Line.

Thank you,

Jan Devereux  
255 Lakeview Ave  
Cambridge MA 02138

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Hi Matt,

As a 20 year Belmont resident, I wanted to let you know how much my family is anticipating the development of the Belmont Community path and especially the provision of safe passage across the railroad tracks by the high school. Knowing that kids and adults won't need to cross illegally and put themselves at risk is a huge relief. I think the additional foot and bike traffic into Belmont Center is an additional boon to the shops and shop owners.

We are very much looking forward to this path.

Thank you.

Nancy Dignan

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your attention,

Jennifer Dorsne  
Somerville, MA

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because...

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steven Fafel, CPA MST  
11 Millett Lane  
Swampscott, MA 01907

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because...

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve commutes for many by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow easier connections between different sections of town, especially making it easier and safer for kids to commute without parents needing to drive them in the car
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sue Garland



## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Gasbarro  
139 Trapelo Rd  
Belmont MA 02478

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because I haven't been to Belmont (I live in Boston) in over a year and miss shopping at all the great stores as well as awesome cafes, bakeries and restaurants.

I'm someone who loves getting to explore the Boston area on my bike and safe bike ways like off road trails become regular places that I'm able to visit and spend money on a day out.

I know Belmont prides itself as a wonderful place to raise a family and giving safe ways for kids to travel to see friends and go to school is exactly the kind of improvement to quality of life for families that Belmont can continue to be a leader in in the region.

As climate change causes more extreme weather, more resilient travel methods that get people out of cars as well as projects that reduce flooding like this one will protect our future generations' quality of life.

I'm really looking forward to the end of the pandemic and biking around the region again. The more we do to make that a safe possibility and connect all the great trails in the region to shopping and dining areas, the quicker the Boston area's economy can rebound. Making projects like this a reality as quickly as possible is a win/win.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anne Gripenburg  
75 Crawford St, Boston, MA

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because it creates vital non-motorized connections to the minuteman and future mass central trails. I appreciate that the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children. In addition, I support it for the following reasons:

- The path will provide an accessible connection for me to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Grimble  
66 Rayburn Road  
Belmont, MA

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

My family is eagerly anticipating the way the path will allow us to safely access Belmont's library and town center by bike. It will help us feel more connected to the life of the town, reduce our carbon footprint, and get some exercise all in one fell swoop.

Further, we've enjoyed riding our bikes to Somerville's Davis Square in the past, but doing so has required a few dicey crossings in Belmont, most especially Brighton St., that have been stressful to manage, especially for the kids. We'd love to see this path bring Belmont into a network that plugs us into the already-completed bike infrastructure connecting Alewife, Watertown, Somerville, and points beyond.

Thank you for your consideration!

Best,  
Justin Hardy  
150 Beech St., Belmont

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because I live near the Alexander underpass at Dean St and Jason Rd. My twin daughters are in fifth grade now, and the community path will provide a safe route for them to walk to the new 7-12 grade middle and high school. Without it, I will need to drive them to school. We are also frequent users of the library and post office, and attend the Unitarian Church on Concord Ave. The community path would provide much easier access to these places and more. The path will also offer safe recreational opportunities for me and my family. The path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region. Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because it's been years in the making and it's time to take action to complete this project! For years, local residents have been cutting through the fence and crossing the tracks unsafely. It may even reduce suicide rates. Let's do it right now that we have a chance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Irion  
Town Meeting Member  
Precinct 8

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway and offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Meryl Junik  
14 Royal Rd, Belmont

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because of the following reasons:

1. the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children, in particular the middle and high schools.
2. the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because of the many ways it will improve access to and spacing within our town's center, which needs help after a hard time for all the businesses during this pandemic.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Catherine Karatzas  
Winn Street  
Belmont



**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing in support of the Belmont Community Path. I request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, all of which I frequent.

I'm also looking forward to the path because the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining, and the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Nate Kaufman  
56 Gorham St, Somerville MA

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because I and my family like to bike ride and my kids will be walking to the High school. I am worried about my kids crossing the tracks when they are tired and in a hurry in the morning, but the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.

The path will reduce emissions and related transportation costs to the State by making direct, safe walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.

I drive on Brighton St. all the time and the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing the dangerous intersection on Brighton Street in Belmont.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Sincerely,  
Idith and Mark Kisin  
Oliver Rd., Belmont , MA

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I support funding for the Belmont Community Path construction.

Thank you,

Jennifer Leigh  
150 Radcliffe Rd, Belmont, MA 02478  
617-359-9850

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Allison Lusic  
53 Oak Ave Belmont MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I am writing to express my support for the Belmont Community Path project, and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program Funding for the project as soon as possible.

I strongly support the Belmont community path because the path and railroad underpass would create safe routes to school for children. In addition they would connect with other neighborhoods and recreation corridors in the region. It is a revolutionary win - win - win for our community.

Additionally, I am looking forward to the path so I can enjoy spending time on it, enjoying the landscape with my wife.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Andrew McLean  
15 Coolidge Rd, Belmont, MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on the Massachusetts Central Rail Trail and offer recreational opportunities for me and my family. In addition, projects like these are critical for reducing emissions and the use of fossil fuels.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelly Moriarty  
75 Kilburn Rd.  
Belmont, MA

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

We are very much in support of the community path in Belmont!

Suzanne and David Morris  
135 School St.

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my enthusiastic support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

As a Belmont resident, I will most directly benefit from the project providing a safe, direct connection from our neighborhood to Belmonts middle and high schools.

Furthermore, the path is a critical missing link to connect Cambridge, Waltham and Belmont to the Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.

The path would allow me and my family to directly ride to downtown Boston or out to the Central Rail Trail almost entirely on dedicated bike paths!

When connected, our communities will be stronger, greener, and more vibrant.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Sincerely,

David Nicholson  
95 Chilton St.  
Belmont, MA 02478



## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because mobility options are rapidly becoming available and more affordable for every user, making it possible for people of all abilities to make active transportation choices for errands and recreation. Community paths like proposed in Belmont are good for health, good for the climate, good for economic vitality and good for quality of life.

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve commutes by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path even though I live in Newton because active transportation options provide regional benefits and connect communities in a sustainable web when our infrastructure makes it safe and convenient to make these mobility choices.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Nathan G. Phillips  
73 Charles Street  
Auburndale MA 02466

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path for so many reasons, but primarily because the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining, as well as great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because, as the mother of a 7-year-old who's just learning to ride his bike, it's challenging to find safe places for him to practice his skills away from automobile traffic.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Norah Piehl  
150 Beech St  
Belmont

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path for all of the following reasons:

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sonja Plesset  
27 Arthur Rd.  
Belmont, MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Matt,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region MPO provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will provide a key connection in the region's bicycle and pedestrian network.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Nicholas and Fabrizia Renart  
52 Lincoln Street  
Belmont, MA 02478

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I am writing to ask that the Boston region MPO provide TIP funding for the Belmont Community Path as soon as possible. I think the path is very important for the residents of our community and the greater Boston region as a whole.

The Belmont Community Path will provide a crucial link between Boston and the other area paths and all of the towns West. I am fortunate to live close to the Fitchburg cutoff, and I look forward to a path that we can take in the other direction - through Belmont and points beyond. I think it is crucial to have safe routes that families can use where children are not at risk of drifting into the path of cars.

I also believe that the tunnel under the railroad tracks is a crucial connection from the north side of the tracks to the the rest of Belmont. From our house, my children can easily get to the Brighton Street crossing of the railroad tracks, but it is so dangerous. If end of nine was hit by a train when her car was trapped on the tracks by other commuters. I know all too well what can happen. (Thankfully, she survived.) That tunnel is a vital piece of infrastructure for all cyclists and pedestrians north of the tracks.

As you can see, safety is one of my top concerns. Traffic is so bad in Belmont, and the commuters are in such a hurry to get to work and to get home. I think we need the path to keep the children off the streets as much as possible and to make it safe for bicycle commuters to get to and from the city.

Additionally, I am a big volunteer in Belmont, and building community is one of my key priorities. I have led projects to rebuild Joey's Park and rebuild the Underwood Pool. Outdoor spaces where people can be together enjoying themselves are so important for our health and sense of community. I really can't wait to "hit the path" as a family.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ellen Schreiber

49 Sandrick Rd, Belmont MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for me and my fellow students. I also am excited to see the traffic signal proposed for the Brighton St crossing, which will save lives at the grade crossing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Petru Sofio  
He/Him  
8 Elmore St Arlington MA 02476

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Belmont Community Path and to request that the Boston Regional Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Funding for the project as soon as possible.

The Belmont Community Path would link communities in the area, provide a safe biking and walking area for residents, and draw people from other communities to commercial areas of Belmont to enjoy and revitalize our shops and restaurants. Creating this path would also reflect the desires and needs of an overwhelming majority of Belmont's residents who have been stymied by a loud and frustrating minority. It is in the best interest of Belmont and it's what we resident want.

I live very near the proposed path and would welcome visitors from other areas as well as our own residents who could finally benefit from it. I use the Cambridge and Arlington sections of the path at least once a week and really look forward to Belmont finally joining this wonderful community treasure.

Thank you so much for your attention to this important issue and hopefully for supporting the Belmont Community Path!

Thanks so much,  
Kathleen Spencer  
15 Coolidge Road  
Belmont, MA 02478

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Hello Mr. Genova,

I'm sure you're getting a ton of emails about this, so I'll keep mine short and sweet.

I am a year round cyclist and live in Somerville with my wife & two preschoolers. I'm also a member of the Somerville Bicycle Advisory Committee. My wife works at Bentley University and would love to bike to work more, but laments the poor bicycle infrastructure once she gets past Cambridge. The Belmont Community Path (and larger Mass Central Rail Trail) would be an almost door-to-door off street ride for my wife.

Please do everything you can to make sure the Belmont Community Path is built. It will enable bi-directional bicycle commuting and I bet my kids would love to ride their own bikes out to the Beaver Brook splash pad, something they definitely could not do today.

Ian Woloschin  
[ian@woloschin.com](mailto:ian@woloschin.com)  
3 Eliot St #2  
Somerville, MA 02143



**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 13, 2021

Mr. Genova,

I am writing in support of the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organizations provide transportation improvement program funding. This will help my children walk safely to the high school and middle school. As of now they have to go through that intersection and depend on many crosswalks to get to and from school. This will provide my husband and I more faith in them getting to and from school safely!

We are also looking forward to the path as we currently ride our bikes on the road to get to the Alewife path and Minuteman path! This will be much better and create a sense of community and safety for those bikes as traffic picks back up after the pandemic! This will allow us to stay almost completely off the main road and on bike paths!! It will also make it easier for us to get to Alewife and ride the train into the city without having to park more cars in the garage!

Thank you for your consideration,

Julia Yates  
11 Sunnyside Pl  
Belmont, MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I am writing to express my support for the Belmont Community Path project. I urge the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization to fund this project as soon as possible.

I am a resident of Waltham and I am very excited about the possibility of biking into Belmont on the Community Path/Wayside Rail Trail (actually, I am an abutter of the trail in Waltham). I have a 3 year old daughter and we love biking together on various paths, such as the Bruce Freeman, the Charles River trails, and others. I am excited for the Belmont Community Path to allow us to bike into Cambridge and Boston almost all off road, not to mention visiting cafes and ice cream places in Belmont Center.

Please fund this project. Along with the Wayside Trail in Waltham, this will be a huge benefit to our communities.

Thank you,  
Patrick Allen

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm already a frequent user of the Mass Central Rail Trail from Waltham into Wayland. It's a spectacular resource for commuting and recreation. And I'm certain the Belmont project will offer the same benefits for Belmont and the connecting towns.

The path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road. The path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region. The path is a wonderful resource for families to safely bike with their children.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Benjamin Bayes

96 Westland Ave, West Newton, MA 02465

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I read there is a group opposing the Belmont Community Path.

My daughter learned to ride a bike on a community path (the Cape Cod rail trail). I was so grateful for this safe, car-free corridor. I see elderly walkers, rollerbladers, baby strollers, and families on bicycles out enjoying the outdoors, and completely removed from the fear of a motorist texting while driving, not looking where they're going.

That any group could be opposed to the existence of a community trail is unconscionable. They are wonderful assets that enrich our communities on many levels.

No newspaper article I've ever read blamed the road the criminal used to get away. The argument that community trails would bring in crime applies to the same roads motorists use, and has been proven untrue.

I hope the trail has your support. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Jeff Berlin  
21 Walton Park  
Melrose, MA 02176

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jeremy Brown  
12 Hurley St, Belmont MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family. We are avid runners and cyclists, and expecting our first child in June. We are particularly proud of the Community Path and Minuteman Trail, and are excited to have a protected biker and pedestrian path all the way to Belmont Center, and on to the Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Colin Carroll  
38 Windsor Rd, Somerville

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because parking can be difficult and would love to safely commute on my bike when possible

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because biking is a great family activity that makes for strong and happy New Englanders.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Andrew Cohen

658 Lowell Street

Lexington MA 02420

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because...**[INSERT ONE OR MORE REASONS LISTED BELOW]**

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path it will better connect Cambridge Highlands to Belmont, especially as MBTA bus service is cut back temporarily.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mike Copacnio



**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because it will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family, and will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region. Additionally, it will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Deb Downs & Steve Smrcina  
286 Orchard St. Watertown

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because of the green space it would provide, the community of walkers, runners and cyclists it will bring together and the positive environmental effect it would have.

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because I am a runner and biker and am looking to explore the beauty of this part of Massachusetts!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sanjay D'Souza  
22 Harris Street,  
Cambridge,  
MA: 02140

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Good Afternoon Matt,

I ask the MAPC to support construction of the Belmont Community Path. As a long-time proponent of the Minuteman Commuter Bikeway, Mass Central Rail Trail and the Cochituate Rail Trail, this project has been of interest for a few years. Although construction of the path (MCRT) through Belmont will be challenging, the plans I have seen are very forward-looking.

Please bear in mind four points in favor of the MAPC's support:

- 1) this is a vital element in the regionally valuable Mass Central Rail Trail project
- 2) this is an important transportation element for Belmont
- 3) the opponents are always short-sighted and always cry the loudest
- 4) these projects should be advanced on the State level, and not be impeded by NIMBY complainers.

Regards,

George

George Eckert  
Natick MA 01760

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible. I live in Watertown, right on the Watertown/Belmont line. I'm a year-round bike commuter; biking is my primary means of local transportation, and I bike through Belmont almost daily, so I have been following this project with keen interest.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because it will connect to the MetroWest bike network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway. With this addition, I will be able to bike from my home to Arlington, Somerville, and Cambridge almost entirely off-road. I am particularly excited that the path will provide a way to avoid the dangerous 3-way intersection of Common, Concord, and Leonard in Belmont Center, and that it will offer a safer crossing for bicyclists and pedestrians across Brighton Street. I also hope that the path will reduce car usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, Watertown, and the surrounding towns.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kendra Eshleman  
18 Warwick Rd.  
Watertown, MA 02472

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining and it will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Sam

---

Samuel Haymann  
89 Porter St, Somerville MA 02143  
+12035409908  
[samuelhaymann@gmail.com](mailto:samuelhaymann@gmail.com)

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children, the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail and the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katie Janeway

20 Jackson Rd.

Belmont, MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because I enjoy cycling along the Minuteman extension, as well as looking forward to the access to the other side of town without having to go under the bridge or out to Brighton street.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Carol Kean  
23 Orchard Street  
Belmont

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Matt Genova:

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide TIP funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because

- The path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway.
- The path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cordially,  
Tom Kelleher  
Acton, MA



**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing in strong support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provides funding to Belmont for the realization.

Community paths improve the quality of life --- I see this every day when I am running, walking or biking.

The planned extension would not only create an additional piece of bike path, it would also provide connections between existing paths and enhance their use.

With best regards

Wolfgang Ketterle  
80 Clifton Street  
Belmont, MA 02478-3363  
Tel 617-489-2421  
Email [ketterle@mit.edu](mailto:ketterle@mit.edu)

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to express my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the way the Belmont Community Path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway. I use this network for both transportation and recreation, and chose to move to my current home partly because of its proximity to this network. I'm excited that the Belmont Community Path will provide more safe transportation options for cyclists and pedestrians. Moreover, with more safe non-car transportation options, we can reduce car traffic and carbon emissions in our area. As an expecting parent, I am also delighted about the safe recreation opportunities that the path will provide for my family.

The existing paths in our region are an asset to the community, and the Belmont Community Path will make these paths even more connected, useful, and valuable.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Karin Knudson

38 Windsor Rd, Somerville, MA

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Valerie Krempus

123 school st

Belmont MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to support the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project.

I'm a cyclist living in Cambridge and riding several times a week west and through Belmont center. The path will improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians and by streamlining where cars and bikes intersect. The underpass should also improve safety for school children.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Herbert J Lees**  
**16 Gurney Street, Cambridge MA 02138**

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path for the following reasons:

- The path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- The project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- The path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- The path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- The path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- The path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- The project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

I am a runner and weekly user of the Somerville Community Path and the Minuteman Bikeway. At present, I typically avoid running or biking to the Belmont and Waltham areas due to the inconvenience of routing onto the roads, the relative inaccessibility, and the often unpleasant experience of running/biking next to busy roads. By connecting the Fitchburg cutoff to Belmont Center, this path would greatly improve access to shops and dining in Belmont center and recreation on the trails and natural areas of the Western Greenway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Doug Lipinski  
81 Conwell Ave Apt 2  
Somerville, MA 02144

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, as well as fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on the Massachusetts Central Rail Trail. I believe the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont and in the surrounding region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Gavin Lund  
166 Charles Street  
Cambridge, MA

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because it will help promote healthy and safe transportation options for commuters, children, people running errands, and recreation. I think this project is also especially important because the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway. This will enable people who live in the city to travel safely to the suburbs.

Sincerely,

Janet Miller

Concord MA

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because...**[INSERT ONE OR MORE REASONS LISTED BELOW]**

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will allow me to get to my mother's house in Belmont by bicycle instead of a car, reducing pollution and traffic in Belmont.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Line.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Morgan

54 Warwick St

Somerville MA 02145



## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because of the following:

- the railroad underpass component of the project will create a safe route to school for my children and enable me to easily walk or bike to the Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide a key connection in the region's bicycle and pedestrian network.
- the path will enhance recreational opportunities by connecting to the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, and other paths in the region.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Steve Muson

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on the Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

This is of vital interest not just to Belmont residents but our neighboring communities as well. Unfortunate delays and very small but too loud opposition have created very unfortunate situation, but it can finally be reversed.

A majority of Belmont residents support and desire this project to be accomplished ASAP. Young or old we are all equally excited.

Many thanks for your hard work and leadership.

Best,  
Azra Nelson  
Town meeting member and long time Belmont resident.

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children. (I was on the Safe Routes to School Committee for several years. This is an essential safety issue in town.) Also important to me is that the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining. We live closer to Waltham, and it would be wonderful to connect from one area to another, off the main road. Specifically, the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, filling a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail. I love that the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family, as well as others across generations. An added bonus is that the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region. Especially given the density in the areas closer in to Boston, the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Please support the path project in Belmont!

Sincerely,

Rose O'Neil, Belmont Town Meeting Member, Precinct 4

77 Maple St, Belmont, MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm a runner and a cyclist, and a resident of Davis Square in Somerville. I often travel down the Fitchburg cutoff (alone or with my 3 year old in tow). The current end on Brighton St doesn't serve many residents or businesses. It would be a huge benefit to the running/cycling community, and to Belmont Center businesses, if we could continue on to Belmont Center and beyond on a protected path.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Prokop  
Somerville, MA

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

My name is Paul Roberts and I'm a 16 year resident of Belmont, a Town Meeting Member and chairman of the Town's IT Advisory Committee. I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and **request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.**

As a resident of the Winn Brook neighborhood in Belmont and the father of a Belmont High sophomore, I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because it will provide a safe path and railroad underpass creating a safer, shorter route to school for my child than her current, looping route through a busy and dangerous intersection in Belmont Center. With scores or hundreds of parents of BHS students in my neighborhood, the availability of this short, walkable route will also take cars off the roads during morning commute and in the afternoon - a boon to the environment and relief from chronic road congestion.

The path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station. My current trip requires winding through residential neighborhoods and then a dangerous 1/2 mile stretch on busy Brighton Street, which has no bike lane, before I can meet up with the Fitchburg Cutoff path to Alewife. The Belmont Community Path will create a safe route to mass transit for me and hundreds of Belmont residents who use the MBTA to get into town and to work.

Finally, the project will create new public space in Belmont Center and a boost to Belmont Center businesses: providing a direct, walkable route from dense residential developments around Alewife and Fresh Pond in Cambridge to Belmont Center stores and restaurants.

I urge you to approve funding for this critical project as soon as possible!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul F. Roberts

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because parking can be difficult and would love to safely commute on my bike when possible

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Zev Shapiro**

Lifelong Cambridge resident  
Harvard'24  
35 Walden St  
Cambridge, MA, 02140

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway. Also, the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Rick Stacy

Watertown, MA

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Hi Matt,

I'm writing to support the Belmont Community Path and advocate that the Boston Region MPO fund the project.

I'm interested because I routinely use my bike to get around the Boston area for my personal business and for recreation. We've made great progress but our bicycling network is still full of gaps and disconnects. For people less experienced than I it is hard to imagine how they would get started. We need to really ADVANTAGE those who travel at minimal environmental impact to actually slow the growth in motor vehicular traffic.

Also I'm looking forward to the path because it will open up a new opportunity for exploration for me and others like me who spend locally.

Yours,

***Roger Wilson***

*81 Irving Street*

*Winchester, MA 01890*

*(781) 721-2271*

*[rbwilsonjr@comcast.net](mailto:rbwilsonjr@comcast.net)*



**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

I walk every day, even before Covid, and will definitely use the path! The easier it is for people to walk/bike outside, the better it is for our health, physical and mental.

Thank you.

Elizabeth

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 14, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Zipkin  
137 Claflin Street, Belmont, MA  
Town Meeting Member

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because

- The railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont High School safely.
- The project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont, especially school children.
- The path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- The path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- The path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool and the Belmont Center Post Office.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin Amaratunga  
345 Cross St  
Belmont, MA 02478

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I have lived in Belmont for almost 12 years. Before that, I lived in Arlington Center and made use of the Minuteman bikeway regularly, specifically including a number of excellent bike routes it connects to beginning in Bedford. I've walked on the Fitchburg Cutoff as well as using it to commute from my home on Brighton st to Alewife. My older son just turned 8 and this summer will be the first summer he is ready to spend riding his bike on real streets and paths. The connection the Belmont Community Path would provide to the public library, Underwood pool, and the middle and high schools is incredibly valuable. Having the ability to more safely bike to all those places would help build his independence and responsibility, as well as saving me time and keeping my car off the Belmont streets thus reducing traffic and emissions.

This project will benefit many residents in the greater metro west area, both within Belmont, and further out along the connecting routes through Waltham. I urge you to support and fund this project to the fullest extent possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Catherine & George Bieber

232 Brighton St, Belmont

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

Just a quick note to express my support for this project. During the pandemic, we have been using the Weston portion of this trail as our gym on a daily basis, and it has been such a pleasure and improvement in our quality of life to have this resource available to us. I would add that several businesses at the Wayland terminus have also benefitted greatly from our patronage and that of other trail users.

Though short, the Belmont segment is a crucial part of the future Mass Central rail trail. Once built in the entirety, this trail will make MA a destination state for riders who want to do extended bike trips, and provide a much needed boost to towns along the trail from the dollars that they spend here.

As for the "naysayers" in Belmont, I'd urge them to take a look at what's happened in Weston, where not only do the trail and the town co-exist, but many abbutters who were initially opposed have become the most frequent users and enthusiastic supporters. If they simply make the short trip to Weston Center and then take a pleasant walk from the old train station to the historic iron train bridge over the commuter rail, they'll see exactly what is going on: folks riding to work or to the store, friends enjoying each other's company, and families out getting some exercise all together.

Also, if Belmont is doing any sort of crowdfunding to help finance this project, please count me in. I'll be happy to contribute.

Thanks and best regards,

Bruce Cherner

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I am so very excited to be able to utilize the Belmont Community Path because it will make my daily bicycle commute to the Belmont Town Hall Annex much safer and easier than it is currently. I have worked as an employee within the Information Technology Department for the Town of Belmont for nearly 16 years. Year round, I have commuted from my home in Boston to Belmont via a bicycle as my primary mode of transportation for the past eleven years. About eight years ago, I was struck by a hit and run driver of a utility van whilst cycling a route which will be made obsolete for me by the creation of the Belmont Community Path. I received cracked ribs and a couple of scars from the road rash. I have had motorists slow to my pace, roll their passenger window down, and threaten to run me over (while I'm riding in the bike lane on Concord Ave). This path will make my commute safer, every day.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Consentino

188 School St, Boston, MA 02119

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to you to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because I want the Belmont Community Path because it will connect with the other bicycle paths that I use on a daily basis without having to detour via Concord ave. In addition, it will make it easier for me to bring my family to shop in Belmont Center.

Additionally, the path will make it safe for children to walk or bike to school.

Best regards,  
Edgar Costa

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide the necessary Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project.

The proposed Belmont Community Path will be an extremely important addition to the local transportation infrastructure.

The path and railroad underpass will create a safe route to school for children.

The path will improve commuting options by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.

The path will improve accessible routes, providing an important connection to Belmont Center, Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines

The project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.

The path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway. In addition the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.

The path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.

The drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.

As a local resident who lives, works and commutes daily in the area, I strongly urge you to give this project the support and urgency it clearly deserves

Sincerely,

Michael J Curtis P.E.



**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

I've been walking the path from Alewife to Belmont most weeks for quite a few years now. It would be great for the other half of the trail to be built to make the route more direct.

Thanks,  
Jeremy

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont, connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, and will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because it will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region. One of my favorite things about the Boston area is the proliferation of great bike paths that connect communities that I would otherwise have a hard time getting to without a car. Investments like the Belmont Community Path will make it easier for me to get from my current home in Boston over to see friends and family west of the city.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sebi Devlin-Foltz

115 Peterborough St Apt 23  
Boston, MA 02215

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region, including Somerville, where I live
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because one of my healthcare providers is located close to Belmont Center, and the path would provide a non-automobile accessible way to visit their office.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alan R Dickens

29 Woodbine St. Unit 202

**Somerville, MA 02143**

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because I cycle thousands of miles a year and this improvement will help me expand the areas I can cycle, it will also allow me to cycle with my young kids from home in Belmont. To go west with them requires putting the bikes on the car which is not an ideal situation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Julien Dugal-Tessier  
27 Grant Ave, Belmont, MA, 02478

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

My name is Grant Ellis and I have been a resident of Belmont for over 30 years.

Throughout my time in Belmont as a resident, the one major improvement I have always thought would be of benefit to the town would be a community bike path to connect the town to the larger central bike trail that runs throughout most of this part of the Commonwealth.

In that regard, I am writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I fully support the Belmont Community Path because the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont, provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines, improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont, offer recreational opportunities for me and my family, enable commuters to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road, reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region and so much more.

For those reasons, I feel the Belmont Community Path is a wonderful proposal and I am fully in support of the Boston Region MPO providing TIP funding for the project in as expedient a manner as possible.

With my regards and sincere appreciation for your consideration of my request,

Grant Ellis

Stone Rd

Belmont, MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to register my support for the Belmont Community Path, and to request that the project is funded as soon as possible. It's a great project.

The Belmont Community Path is important to me because it would connect Belmont Center to Alewife and to the Minuteman Bikeway in Arlington where I live. My teenage kids enjoy going to Ranc's in Belmont Center and this would allow them to get from my home in Arlington Heights to Belmont Center via bike paths. I also like to visit the Craft Beer Cellar, Champion Sports, il Casale, and friends that live near Belmont Center.

It will also reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont and the surrounding region. Additionally, the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency - something that future generations will thank you for.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
josh

Josh Fenollosa  
12 Benjamin Road Arlington MA 02476

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
**Susannah Ford**  
**83 Rogers Ave**  
**Somerville MA 02144**

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

Please support the Belmont Community Path by providing project funding. My family is fortunate enough to live off the community path in Somerville, and it has really framed how I get around. During non-COVID times, I can bike on the Minuteman almost all the way to my job in Concord, which saves me money on gas and keeps me healthy.

I rarely go to Belmont; I've looked at the bike routes to various places, and they're just not safe enough for me to want to bring my kid on my bike. And while I could drive, I'm trying to model good behavior for my son - driving isn't good for the world or our community. If I can substitute a bike destination for a driving destination, I almost always will.

An expanded bike path would open up Belmont as a destination for us. Please request that the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization provide the funding to expand our world of safe and enjoyable rides. Thank you for your consideration.

Stephanie Galaitsi



March 15, 2021

David Mohler  
Chair, Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150  
Boston, MA 02116

Dear Mr. Mohler and Members of the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization,

Thank you for considering public comments in your decisions. I am writing in support of the Belmont Community Path (Project 609204) and to offer assurance based on public engagement to date that the path project has broad support in our community.

Community attention to this path grew after the 2012 Metropolitan Area Planning Council report on the Belmont/Waltham trail and formation of the Community Path Advisory Committee (CPAC) by town leaders. The 2013 CPAC online questionnaire received 1,427 responses, with 1,051 from Belmont residents, and showed the following results: 82% Very Supportive, 9% Supportive, 3% Neutral, 2% Opposed, 3% Very Opposed. Survey results shaped the mission of the Friends of the Belmont Community Path (FBCP), which formed in 2013: advocating for a safe, off-road, multi-use path to connect communities in Belmont and along ever-expanding path networks. The CPAC engaged residents through 39 public meetings and several public forums. A 2014 forum drew 303 people with broad support expressed through open comments and FBCP buttons.

Public engagement has been a priority for the CPAC, the Community Path Implementation Advisory Committee (which delivered a feasibility study in 2017), and the current Community Path Project Committee. In addition to frequent open committee meetings, where public comments have been regularly incorporated, the firms contracted for the feasibility study and current design have facilitated 11 public meetings, led four public field walks, and held targeted engagement meetings with abutters, students, town departments, and state agencies. Support for the project has remained high as the town engaged in this deliberate process of study and public input. Excitement has recently grown with early renderings in the draft 25% design, news of partial funding from the transportation bond bill, and consideration now by the MPO. The Friends group currently counts 843 Facebook supporters, 163 email list members, and 88 Google group members.

Residents solidly stand behind town leaders' commitment to build this path. It will provide long-needed safe routes to schools and other town amenities, stimulate economic growth, address environmental issues, and extend the growing network off-road paths. It would be the most significant new transportation infrastructure in Belmont in decades. I ask that you allocate Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

Sincerely,  
Jarrod Goentzel  
Chair, Friends of the Belmont Community Path  
96 Agassiz Avenue, Belmont, MA 02478

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because of the innumerable benefits for our communities like:

- Providing a safe place to commute to work
- Provide a safe place for our kids to be outside
- Provides a place to interact and be social
- Provides alternative ways of transportation
- Keeps us healthy and active rather than behind a screen, a wheel, or a couch
- Our mass transportation system cannot support the growth of our communities
- It keeps us in contact with the outdoors
- Its not only good for physical health but for mental health

We should have learned from covid to avoid big masses. How much healthier can we be if rode to work instead of taken a car or the T or the bus?

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Daniel Gomez

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr Genova

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because it will improve my commute by creating a direct path to Alewife Station. The railroad underpass component of the project will provide a safe route for my children to Belmont Middle and High School. The path will also provide a safe and more direct route to the library, post office and school athletic fields. The path also allows more recreational opportunities as it connects us safely to a network of bike paths.

Even more, I look forward to fewer cars on Belmont's roads, less auto emissions and a new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Alexandra Houck  
345 Cross St, Belmont

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station;
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining;
- the path will provide a key connection in the region's bicycle and pedestrian network; and
- the path will enhance recreational opportunities by connecting to the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, and other paths in the region

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Isenberg  
3 Adams St.

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I look forward to the Belmont Community Path. I am higher education professional and live near the Minuteman Path. I cycle for transportation for health, happiness, and environmental sustainability. I also like supporting local businesses to keep my dollars in our community. I would shop at more Belmont businesses with a safe way to reach them by bike.

I support the path more reasons:

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Gloria Korsman**

**91 Montgomery Street**

**Cambridge MA 02140**

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

By now, I'm sure you've received emails listing all the various reasons the Belmont Community Path would be beneficial. I'll give you a break from the remainder of the form letter. Perhaps you'll be willing to read something more personal.

We are facing a climate crisis. With [28% of greenhouse gas emissions coming from the transportation sector](#), it is imperative that we do something to open up non-car forms of transportation. The Belmont Community Path will connect several suburbs to the Alewife T station, creating a safe, clean, and efficient path for cyclists and walkers to cut a combustion-powered trip out of their commutes. It is *vital* that our local governments invest in infrastructure like this.

Regards,

Trevyn Langsford

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because...

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Amy Markham  
55 Magee Street  
Cambridge MA 02139

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Hello,

I would like comment in support of the Town of Belmont's request for federal funding to construct the Belmont Community Path, a shared use trail which will help fill a critical link in the Mass Central rail trail.

As a resident of nearby Watertown, I look forward to using the completed trail for car-free recreation and transit and I encourage you to support this project which will advance the region's goals to provide safe and accessible active transit for all. The unique governance structure of our region means that many trails are built very slowly and only after overcoming hyper-local opposition. I encourage the MPO to use its position as an inter-locality entity to advance this project which will benefit the greater region as well as the local community.

Kind Regards,  
Dan McKinley



**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway, and will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Olson  
80 Prichard Ave  
Somerville MA 02144

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova -- I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible. I am an avid cyclist and have been utilizing all of the local rail trail and community bike paths as I cycle throughout eastern Massachusetts. I've seen the network of bike paths grow and in my experience these are terrific resources for the communities in which they are located. In my view the Belmont Community Path will be a welcome and greatly needed addition to the network:

- the path will provide a direct connection between Alewife Station and Belmont Center, which currently can be a hazardous trip on a bicycle.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont, which can be very hazardous at present.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.

Thank you for your consideration.

George Olson

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because that path will offer recreational opportunities for my family and me, including a place for marathon training. The drainage enhancements proposed for the project will also reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because it will help improve safety in and around the area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marisa Roman

76 Sullivan St, Charlestown, MA 02129

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Hi,

I write in support of the Belmont Community Path and to request that the Boston MPO provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for it as soon as possible.

I live in Belmont, and I will use the path regularly when it is built for travel into Cambridge and Somerville for both commuting and recreational purposes. I'm convinced it will help make metro Boston a more environmentally friendly region (and fight congestion) by encouraging more individuals to cycle for transport.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Russell  
14 Thayer Road, Belmont

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Mr. Genova,

I'm writing to support the Belmont Community Path.

This is a chance to add a vital link to the existing trail infrastructure - these chances do not come often. It would link Belmont to the Minuteman path, and eventually provide a way (via the new green line path) for people to safely commute into Boston. It would also provide people like me a reason to pass through Belmont on a bike and head west. It will bring more vibrancy to the town center - just look at Lexington.

Consider how popular and useful and loved the Minuteman path is. It would be foolish to not seize this opportunity.

Please get this done!

Sincerely,

Andrew Schmitt  
7 Meadowcroft Rd, Winchester, MA 01890

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Genova,

I support for the Belmont Community Path. Please provide funding for the project. I want the Belmont Community Path because it will connect with the other bicycle paths that I use.

In addition, it will make it easier for me to shop in Belmont Center. Craft Beer Cellar on Leonard Street is a favorite.

Additionally, the path will make it safe for children to walk or bike to school.

Sincerely,

Phillip Stern  
50 Woodside Rd  
Winchester MA

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.

On a personal note, I'm looking forward to the path because it will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Michele Carpenter Streetman  
18 Rock Ln, Waltham

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

As a Winchester resident who's office is on Brighton street in Belmont. I have found the existing bike path to be a godsend and I've often wondered why it doesn't continue. While I generally ride my bike to work, I will occasionally drive. As I sit in stop and go traffic on Lake or pleasant street I'm reminded why I don't usually drive. Im so glad my office is at the end of the path instead of Belmont Center. A path all the way to Belmont center would make a commute into the center much easier for all of the communities to the east.

Ian Swope



## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because I want to ride bikes without having to worry about vehicle traffic.

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path connection with Concord Ave. provides great access to Belmont Public Library, Belmont Underwood Pool, Belmont Center Post Office, and the MBTA 74/75 Bus Lines
- the railroad underpass component of the project will allow my child to walk or bike to Belmont Middle and High School safely.
- the project will improve safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing Brighton Street in Belmont.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will enable me to bike to Downtown Boston almost entirely off-road.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.
- the project will create new public space in Belmont Center.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the path because I expect my children to use this path to access the new middle and high school being built in Belmont.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Jasyn Tandy**

**38 Royal Rd**

**Belmont**

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path for the following reasons -

1. the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
2. the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
3. the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ramu Thiruvamoor  
17 Madison St  
Somerville, MA 02143

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr Genova,

I am writing to express my strong support for the implementation of the Belmont community path. It has been VERY long in the making and we need it today, more than ever, given the urgency of being outside for social distancing and to mitigate climate change emissions. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely, Ian Todreas  
Belmont Town Meeting Member, Precinct 1  
16 Chenery Terrace, Belmont, MA 02478

## **Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

Dear Mr. Matt Genova,

I'm writing to voice my support for the Belmont Community Path and request that the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization provide Transportation Improvement Program funding for the project as soon as possible.

I'm looking forward to the Belmont Community Path because:

- the path and railroad underpass creates safe routes to school for children.
- the path will improve my commute by providing a direct walkable/bikeable connection to Alewife Station or Belmont Center Station.
- the path will provide an accessible connection to Belmont Center for shopping and dining.
- the path will connect with the region's bicycle and pedestrian network including the Fitchburg Cutoff, Minuteman Bikeway, Somerville Community Path, and Watertown-Cambridge Greenway
- the path will fill a critical gap between Cambridge and Waltham on Massachusetts Central Rail Trail.
- the path will offer recreational opportunities for me and my family.
- the path will reduce auto usage and carbon emissions in Belmont, and the surrounding region.
- the drainage enhancements proposed for the project will reduce flooding and improve climate resiliency.

In summary, it will plainly make easier and safer and thus more pleasant non-automobile transportation within the town. We really need to ameliorate our traffic problems.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Wang  
273 Orchard St.  
Belmont, MA 02478

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

The Mass Central Rail Trail is an important part of obtaining a network of safe bike infrastructure. Please do whatever is in your power to help complete the MCRT. I live in Belmont, and I hope to see the Belmont section (the Belmont Community Path) completed as soon as possible.

Thanks,  
Chad

**Belmont (#609204): Community Path, Belmont Component of the MCRT (Phase 1)**

March 15, 2021

I am so excited to hear that Belmont will soon be building the community path. I look forward to using it both for bike riding and walking!

Rennie Zimmerman  
27 Emerson St, Belmont, MA 02478



OFFICERS 2020 - 2021

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**DANIEL CAMERON**  
National Grid

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TEAMWORK Cleaning

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Raymond Lepore  
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Retired

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Shawmut & O'Neil

Vincent Panzani  
Ameriprise Financial Services

Stephen Sachetta  
Sachetta & Callahan, LLC

Bertha Reis  
East Boston Savings Bank

Mary Whittaker  
Eagle Bank

February 8, 2021

Mr. Jay Monty, Transportation Planner  
City of Everett  
484 Broadway, Room 25  
Everett, MA 02149

Dear Mr. Monty,

I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the City of Everett's Community Connections grant application for the formation of an Everett Transportation Management Association (TMA).

We are excited to collaborate with an organization such as the TMA that will provide enhanced transportation options and improved access for employees and customers of the businesses in our city. The TMA will afford our members access to information and educational programming as well as cost-effective services that eliminate duplication of effort and expands their effectiveness by providing a larger, collaborative platform for engagement and service delivery.

We look forward to partnering with the TMA on transportation initiatives that foster a connected community and that provide equitable transportation choices for all members of our city.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

*Daniel Cameron*

**DANIEL CAMERON**

President

Everett Chamber of Commerce

467 Broadway, Everett, MA 02149 / P 617.387.9100 / F 617.389.6655  
everettmachamber.com / info@everettmachamber.com

February 8, 2021

Mr. Jay Monty, Transportation Planner  
City of Everett  
484 Broadway, Room 25  
Everett, MA 02149

Dear Mr. Monty,

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the City of Everett's Community Connections grant application for the formation of an Everett Transportation Management Association (TMA).

The Mystic River Watershed Association (MyRWA) is involved in a variety of programs that improve the water quality and open spaces of the network of rivers, streams, and lakes that drain into the Mystic River. The work of the Everett TMA to provide programs and services aimed at reducing single-occupant vehicle travel is closely aligned with the vision of our Mystic Greenways Initiative to connect 25 miles of paths from the Mystic Lakes to Boston Harbor – providing mobility, public health, and environmental benefits.

Safe and accessible mobility for people walking, running, biking and using transit is a key part of our work. Over the last several years, we have been actively involved with the Cities of Everett, Malden, and Medford, as well as developers, businesses, community groups, and citizens to create a comprehensive vision that will support a series of connected parklands and paths along the 3.5 miles of shoreline of the Malden River.

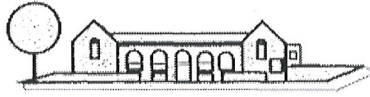
Partnering with the Everett TMA will expand our opportunity to engage and educate residents, developers, and employers about our resources and to encourage them to travel via our many connected biking and walking paths. Please let me know if you have any further questions: [Amber.Christoffersen@mysticriver.org](mailto:Amber.Christoffersen@mysticriver.org).

Sincerely,



Amber Christoffersen, Greenways Director  
Mystic River Watershed Association





**POST OFFICE CORNER LLC  
391 BROADWAY, SUITE 300  
EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 02149  
(617) 387-1819**

RICHARD J. O'NEIL, JR-MANAGER

DAVID E. O'NEIL-MANAGER

February 8, 2021

Mr. Jay Monty, Transportation Planner  
City of Everett  
484 Broadway, Room 25  
Everett, MA 02149

Dear Mr. Monty,

I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the City of Everett's Community Connections grant application for the formation of an Everett Transportation Management Association (TMA).

The Everett TMA will provide transportation solutions that will meet the evolving and changing travel requirements of the City of Everett's residents and employees. The TMA will also be an effective partner for developers and businesses – assisting them with the implementation of cost-effective options to driving alone such as collaborative first/last mile shuttles, enhanced bike infrastructure and bikeshare programs, as well as carpool and vanpool opportunities as appropriate.

I am delighted that the city is taking this proactive measure to foster the creation of an organization that will help in the development of transportation demand management programs, policies, and transportation-related infrastructure residents and employees of our city.

Sincerely,

David E. O'Neil



February 8, 2021

Mr. Jay Monty, Transportation Planner  
City of Everett  
484 Broadway, Room 25  
Everett, MA 02149

Dear Mr. Monty,

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the City of Everett's Community Connections grant application for the formation of an Everett Transportation Management Association (TMA).

Over the last several years, the City of Everett has become a prominent leader in transportation innovation, gaining regional, national and international recognition for its bold measures to embrace a human-centered, "transit first" approach to development and planning. ITDP has been proud to support these efforts starting with the launch of the region's first dedicated bus lane to implementation of the state's first level boarding platforms to a comprehensive reimagining of the Broadway corridor as a resilient multi-modal neighborhood building towards bus rapid transit (BRT).

The creation of a TMA would offer a powerful platform to connect local businesses, property owners and employers with the many transportation improvement initiatives underway throughout the city, and to leverage their collective resources to maximize the benefits for employees, tenants and the general public. We would be thrilled to partner with an Everett TMA on our continued work together towards greater mobility, access to opportunity and regional connectivity through BRT.

Yours sincerely,

Julia Wallerice, Boston Program Manager  
Institute for Transportation and Development Policy  
[Julia.wallerice@itdp.org](mailto:Julia.wallerice@itdp.org)

# TOWN OF HINGHAM

OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN

Mary M. Power, Chair  
Joseph M. Fisher  
William Ramsey



Tom Mayo, Town Administrator  
Michelle Monsegur,  
Assistant Town Administrator

March 3, 2021

By Email (david.mohler@state.ma.us)

Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization  
State Transportation Building  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150  
Boston, MA 02116  
Attention: David Mohler, Chair

Re: TIP ID 605168 – Hingham Intersection Improvements at Route 3A/Summer Street Rotary

Dear Mr. Mohler:

This letter is sent on behalf of the Town of Hingham to confirm the Town's commitment to the Route 3A Project included in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) FFY's 2021-25 and our continued interest in advancing the readiness status and programming of this project for FFY 2024.

The Town appreciates the MPO's inclusion of this project in the proposed TIP. As previously noted, because of the diligence of the Town since discussion of this project began in 2009, design of the Route 3A Project is currently on schedule to be completed before the current 2025 TIP allocation. As the Route 3A Project remains a very high priority for the Town, its neighboring communities and MassDOT, the Town continues to work at its current pace to receive all approvals necessary to go to bid and be "shovel ready" by FFY 2024 or earlier.

The Town respectfully requests that the MPO consider during your annual reviews advancing the readiness status and programming of this project for FFY 2024.

Thank you,

Thomas Mayo  
Hingham Town Administrator

cc: Matt Genova, Transportation Improvement Program Manager  
Rep. Joan Meschino  
Hingham Board of Selectmen  
J.R. Frey, Hingham Town Engineer  
Stephen M. Boudreau, P.E., Vanasse & Associates



THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, 02133-1053

David Mohler, Chair  
Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization  
10 Park Plaza #2150,  
Boston, MA 02116

March 15, 2021

Dear Chair Mohler,

We write to you today to express our support for the City of Lynn's FY22 TIP Project 602077, the Route 129 (Lynnfield Street) Roadway Improvement Project. This proposed complete streets and safety improvement project will bring much needed rehabilitation and safety improvements for bicycling, walkability and accessibility throughout the project corridor.

The proposed project extends from the intersection with Cowdrey Avenue in the south to a northerly limit at the intersection with Colonial Avenue. Lynnfield Street is a critical regional artery, connecting Lynn with the neighboring communities of Lynnfield, Peabody and the I-95 corridor to the north, as well as downtown Lynn to the south. The roadway is heavily used, and is currently in poor condition. Deterioration is accelerating as a result of the significant truck usage and the need for rehabilitation is urgent. Major cracks, utility patches and uneven settlement are frequently observed and are significant concern to the City and the local community.

The purpose of this project is to rehabilitate the entire roadway cross section and thereby improve safety and accessibility for all modes of travel along Lynnfield Street. Specific improvements will be made to pedestrian, bicycle accommodations and safety along the corridor, while also rehabilitating and strengthening the roadway pavement. Proposed improvements include, new sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and new signs and pavement markings, drainage improvement and roadway reconstruction all consistent with current MassDOT complete streets policy.

It is our understanding that the project is currently recommended to be moved to Fiscal Year 2023 due to concerns raised relative to readiness. We appreciate the Board's responsibility to ensure projects advance expeditiously, that said, it is our understanding that the project is proceeding through the design phases on schedule. A 25% design public hearing was held in October 2020 without any significant concerns raised and the 75% design public hearing is currently scheduled for the end of March 2021 with the Advertisement scheduled for March 2022. The project is on

track and we note that the advertisement date is well within the 2022 TIP year. We receive regular updates from the City as to progress, and are assured the community we represent is fully committed to the project.

It is our sincere hope that the Board does not delay this vital project and keeps it in the FY 2022 schedule as currently programmed. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our offices if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



**Brendan P. Crighton**  
State Senator  
Third Essex District



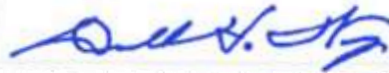
**Daniel F. Cahill**  
State Representative  
Tenth Essex District



**Peter Capano**  
State Representative  
Eleventh Essex District

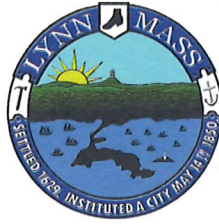


**Lori A. Ehrlich**  
State Representative  
Eighth Essex District



**Donald Wong**  
State Representative  
Ninth Essex District

# City of Lynn



City Hall, Room 306  
Lynn, MA 01901

Phone: 781-586-6850  
Fax: 781-599-8875  
thomas.mcgee@lynnma.gov

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

*Thomas M. McGee*  
*Mayor*

David Mohler, Chair  
Boston MPO  
State Transportation Building  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150  
Boston, MA 02116

Dear Chairman Mohler,

I am writing to express our support for the City of Lynn's FY22 TIP Project 602077, the Route 129 (Lynnfield Street) Roadway Improvement Project. This proposed complete streets and safety improvement project will bring much needed rehabilitation and safety improvements for bicycling, walkability and accessibility throughout the project corridor.

The proposed project extends from the intersection with Cowdrey Avenue in the south to a northerly limit at the intersection with Colonial Avenue. Lynnfield Street is a critical regional artery, connecting Lynn with neighboring communities of Lynnfield, Peabody and the I-95 corridor to the north, as well as downtown Lynn to the south. The roadway is heavily used, and is observed to be in poor condition. Deterioration is accelerating as a result of the significant truck usage and the need for rehabilitation is urgent. Major cracks, utility patches and uneven settlement are frequently observed and is significant concern to the City and the local community. The City has recently need to resurface a small portion of Lynnfield Street because of safety concerns with the failing pavement.

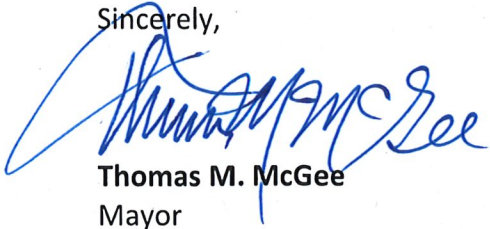
The purpose of this project is to rehabilitate the entire roadway cross section and thereby improve safety and accessibility for all modes of travel along Lynnfield Street. Specific improvements will be made to pedestrian, bicycle accommodations and safety along the corridor, while also rehabilitating and strengthening the roadway pavement. Proposed improvements include, new sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and new signs and pavement markings, drainage improvement and roadway reconstruction all consistent with current MassDOT complete streets policy.

The project completed the 25% design public hearing in Oct 2020 without any significant concerns raised. The 75% design is scheduled for end of March 2021 and Advertisement in March 2022. The project is on track and we note that the advertisement date is well within the 2022 TIP year. The City is committed to meeting these dates and keeping the project on track. I would also like to point out that the City is currently permitting early utility work such as gas line relocations in preparation for commencement of roadway construction in 2022. The

project schedule is routinely coordinated with MassDOT, and it is my understanding that they are in agreement with the feasibility of a 2022 TIP year advertisement.

We thank the committee for your time and consideration of this vital reconstruction project for the City, and urge the MPO Board retain it in its current place for construction in FY 2022.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas M. McGee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "M".

**Thomas M. McGee**  
Mayor



March 8, 2021

David J. Mohler, Chair  
Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization  
State Transportation Building  
10 Park Plaza  
Boston, MA 02116

RE: Community Connections Grant Request – Salem Skipper Micro-Transit Service

Dear Mr. Mohler and Members of the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments as you consider supporting the City of Salem's grant request for the Salem Skipper micro-transit service.

I am writing this letter as Co-Chair of the Salem for all Ages Task Force. Salem is certified by the WHO ( the World Health Organization) as an age friendly city. This is a city that makes a conscious effort to encourage active aging. It provides opportunities for such things as good health, inclusion and adequate transportation. Salem was the first on the North Shore and the third in Massachusetts to be certified. We are in the 5th year of our 5 year action plan.

We learned early on, that the greatest issue for people as they age are not health issues, financial issues etc. as one would expect, but isolation. One of the main causes for this isolation is their inability to travel around the city. One of the first things we did with the cooperation and efforts of the Salem planning department was to receive a grant from Tufts Health Plan Foundation to conduct a feasibility study for a shuttle around Salem. Through the efforts of many in Mayor Kim Driscoll's administration and despite a pandemic, Salem Skipper is up and running. I was very skeptical because of the pandemic and winter weather. However, response has far exceeded my expectations. The reports are that the shuttle is on time, the service is excellent, drivers courteous and one feels very safe due to the precautions taken at this time. Many older adults have said that they have ridden it and it is "a lifesaver". Many others have told me that with the snow and ice gone and their second vaccination, they will now ride it and are most grateful for this transportation option in Salem. .

Your support of the Community Connections grant request will allow the City to continue growing this vital service not only for older adults but for all Salem residents and visitors. Again, I am most grateful for your consideration of this request

Sincerely,

Patricia Zaido





THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, 02133-1053

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David Mohler, Chair  
Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization  
10 Park Plaza #2150,  
Boston, MA 02116

March 3, 2021

Dear Chair Mohler,

We hope this message finds you well in these busy and challenging times. We write to you today in support of the town of Swampscott's application to the MPO for support in your upcoming capital plan for fiscal years 2022 to 2026, listed as Swampscott Rail Trail Construction - 610666. The MassDOT Highway Division's Project Review Committee has also determined the project to be eligible for Federal Aid highway funding.

This project will convert an abandoned railroad corridor and provide an off-road connection between Swampscott High School, Swampscott Middle School, Stanley Elementary School, Clarke Elementary School, and Hadley Elementary School for more than 2,000 students.

The eventual completion of the Swampscott Rail Trail will connect it to Marblehead, and to Lynn's own Northern Strand. The trail will offer residents and visitors an opportunity for recreation and exercise, as well as an alternative to driving as a primary means of transportation in the communities that we represent, reducing emissions and vehicular pollution. The rail trail is a public good with great potential which not only has the support of town government, but also a majority of the town's voting population.

Receiving these Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) funds would help the town take a significant step forward towards completing the trail and connecting it to nearby communities where it has already been a wonderful addition to the neighborhoods we represent, to the benefit of public health, quality of life, local transportation, and much more. We urge the MPO to approve this critical funding to complete the trail, and look forward to seeing its positive impact on the people we represent. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request and should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our offices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Ehrlich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lori" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Ehrlich".

State Representative Lori Ehrlich

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brendan P. Crighton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brendan" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Crighton".

State Senator Brendan P. Crighton

8 Parsons Drive  
Swampscott, Massachusetts 01907  
March 7, 2021

Mr. David Mohler, Chair  
c/o Matt Genova [mgenova@ctps.org](mailto:mgenova@ctps.org)  
Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization  
State Transportation Building  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150  
Boston, MA 02116

RE: SWAMPSCOTT RAIL TRAIL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT 610666

Dear Mr. Mohler:

We are writing in support of completion of the Swampscott Rail Trail. As residents of Swampscott for 39 years, we enjoy walking and biking in the area. We have supported construction of the Rail Trail since our initial contribution 15 years ago. We are grateful that Swampscott Town Meeting members consistently supported creation of the Rail Trail.

The addition of the first section of the trail last summer and more recently, the second section have been welcome additions to Swampscott. We are now able to ride safely off-road into Marblehead and Salem and beyond as more and more sections are completed. While our children attempted to navigate various sections of the trail to and from school, without proper clearing and grading, it was a challenge. We are so pleased that local children will now have the benefit of a safe off-road path to each of the schools in Swampscott.

Now that we are pushing a stroller with our twin grandsons, the trail has been a welcome resource to walk from Marblehead to Swampscott and back. Along the way, we see walkers and bicyclists; there are always people on this wonderful trail!

We have been so pleased to see community support for construction of the first two segments of the trail. We hope that you will support the completion of this worthwhile project so that people of all ages can enjoy this fantastic resource.

Sincerely,



Irene Leamon



Jonathan Leamon

cc: Marzie Galazka, Director of Community and Economic Development, Swampscott

10 Eulow Street  
Swampscott, MA 01907

March 11, 2021

Mr. David Mohler, Chair  
c/o Matt Genova [mgenova@ctps.org](mailto:mgenova@ctps.org)  
Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization  
State Transportation Building  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150  
Boston, MA 02116

Re: Swampscott Rail Trail Construction Project 610666

Dear Mr. Mohler,

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter of support for the Swampscott Rail Trail project. Our family has lived in Swampscott for 34 years and I recently moved to a property that abuts the current rail trail, specifically the section that was most recently completed on Bradlee Ave.

Our family (including 3 boys below the age of 6) uses the trail at least 5 times per week – bike riding and nature scavenger hunts have been popular this fall! In the summer, we look forward to easy access to the beach, as the new trail extension means we now have an 8 minute walk to the beach on a quiet trail and quiet side street. As a parent, the safety and convenience that the trail provides is irreplaceable. I can also see how much the trail supports community engagement and physical activity...we meet new people and recognize familiar faces on every outing.

For the foreseeable future, our lives are going to be spent shuttling kids to school and sports practice. Creating a trail that can connect elementary and middle schools and also serve Swampscott's baseball fields will be a dream come true as parents, and I know we are not alone in that regard! We've seen first hand how the most recent extension can improve the lives of people in town and we look forward to seeing more in the future. Our family can't wait to take advantage of an expanded rail trail.

Sincerely,



Greg James



Ellen James

Cc: Marzie Galazka, Director of Community and Economic Development, Swampscott

3 Magnolia Rd  
Swampscott, MA 01907

March 14, 2021

Mr. David Mohler, Chair  
c/o Matt Genova [mgenova@ctps.org](mailto:mgenova@ctps.org)  
Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization  
State Transportation Building  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150  
Boston, MA 02116

Re: Swampscott Rail Trail Construction Project 610666

Dear Mr. Mohler,

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter of support for the Swampscott Rail Trail project. Our family has lived in Swampscott for 7.5 years .

Our family (including 2 girls who are 6) use the trail often. As a parent, the safety and convenience that the trail provides is irreplaceable. I can also see how much the trail supports community engagement and physical activity.

For the foreseeable future, our lives are going to be spent shuttling kids to school and sports practice. Creating a trail that can connect elementary and middle schools and also serve Swampscott's baseball fields will be a dream come true as parents, and I know we are not alone in that regard! We've seen first hand how the most recent extension can improve the lives of people in town and we look forward to seeing more in the future. Our family can't wait to take advantage of an expanded rail trail.

Sincerely,

Pete Raymond + Maggie Raymond

Cc: Marzie Galazka, Director of Community and Economic Development, Swampscott