



Planning Board

TOWN OF ACTON

472 Main Street
Acton, Massachusetts 01720
Telephone (978) 264-9636
Fax (978) 264-9630
pb@acton-ma.gov
www.acton-ma.gov

September 23, 2008

Dear _____:

The Acton Planning Board has been a proponent of the Assabet River Rail Trail (ARRT) project ever since its inception in the early 1990s. When completed, the ARRT will connect people's homes to places of business, pastime activities, and public transportation in five communities - Acton, Maynard, Stow, Hudson, and Marlborough.

Over the past ten years, the Town of Acton has invested over \$200,000 in general fund monies, appropriated \$170,000 from Community Preservation Act funds, and spent thousands of hours of staff and volunteer time on the ARRT. In South Acton, the Town has installed public sewers and additional bicycle lockers at the MBTA train station resulting in increased pedestrian activity and mixed use redevelopment surrounding the ARRT area. Acton has applied for and received federal and state monies/grants for the project, worked closely with the MBTA, signed an Inter-Municipal Agreement and continues to actively participate in the Steering Committee with the four other communities for the ARRT. The Town citizens have also shown their support for the ARRT by making its design and construction a goal in the 1995 South Acton Village Plan, 1998 Acton Master Plan Update, and current and past Open Space and Recreation Plans.

Let's not let all this time, effort, energy, and money go to waste! The Marlborough and Hudson portions of the ARRT are completed. The Acton segment is essential to the ARRT plan as it is the only trail link to the MBTA commuter rail line. Let's connect Marlborough, Hudson, Stow, downtown Maynard, local neighborhoods, South Acton Village and the Fitchburg MBTA commuter rail station. Let's finish the project!

We hope the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization and Transportation Planning and Programming Committee will agree that the ARRT is an extremely valuable regional transportation project with a strong history of support, and will consider restoring funding for the project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Niemyski, Chairman
Acton Planning Board

cc: Senator Pamela Resor