



TOWN OF GROTON
Conservation Commission
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January 23, 2020

Joan Wotkowicz
Clerk of Squannacook Greenways, Inc.
88 South Harbor Road
Townsend, MA 01469

Dear Ms. Wotkowicz:

The Groton Conservation Commission voted on January 14, 2020 to support the Squannacook Greenways, Inc. (SGI) project and their \$100,000 application to the Mass Trails grant program. This project involves the construction of an approximately 3.7-mile stone dust trail on an abandoned railroad right-of-way owned by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). The 2020 grant application is the latest installation of nearly two decades of work to create a multi-use rail trail along the Squannacook River.

In their efforts to provide a recreational resource for the communities of Townsend and Groton (and beyond), SGI has also worked to ensure all permitting requirements have been adhered to. To this effect, SGI was issued an Order of Conditions (MassDEP#169-1180) in 2018 for work in Groton. During this process, MassWildlife weighed in on the potential impacts to rare wildlife and this resulted in the restriction of all construction work to the period of November 7 to March 15. As of the date of this letter, SGI have been completely compliant with all regulatory requirements.

The Commission is happy to answer any questions you may have on these matters.

Sincerely yours,

Nikolis Gualco
Conservation Administrator