October, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the creation of a bicycle / pedestrian trail in the village of Warner. As principal of an elementary school located in the heart of town, I am pleased to see so many students coming and going on foot and on bicycles. While there are sidewalks on most of Main Street, there are many places where the sidewalk ends and students have to go onto the road while coming to school or going home.

Over the past five years, I have worked with Safe Routes to School committee. We heard from parents who drive their children to and from school and would prefer that they walked or biked, but did not think the route was safe.

The creation of a bicycle / pedestrian trail seems like a worthy endeavor that would benefit many citizens in town, including the youngest ones. Please know that our school community is appreciative of your efforts to make this trail a reality.

Sincerely,

Judith Pelletieri
To Whom It May Concern:

Warner Youth Sports Association supports the exploration and implementation of a pedestrian/bicycle trail connecting Bagely Field with Riverside Park in Warner. The potential of this trail is in line with the philosophy and purpose of WYSA in providing sports and athletic opportunities to the children of Warner and surrounding towns.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

On Behalf Of The Board of Warner Youth Sports Association
October 25, 2013

Dear Mr. Blagden,

The Warner Energy Committee is charged by the community of Warner to suggest actions and solutions that will reduce carbon emissions, dependence on fossil fuels, and increase conservation and use of renewable resources.

Because vehicular transportation is a major contributor of carbon emissions, the Energy Committee is interested in options that include alternative transportation modes and/or routes.

The proposed restoration of the Concord-Claremont rail line to a rail trail is a project that we support in concept. It will provide a safe and energy efficient means of travel for pedestrians and bicyclists of all ages and abilities within, and eventually, outside the Town limits.

The initial phase connecting the 2 Warner ball fields by a bike-pedestrian path will mean children and families can travel between the 2 facilities and to and from downtown safely without the use of motor vehicles.

As the project develops along the proposed route, more options for non-vehicular travel will be possible; so people can opt to commute, shop, recreate, etc. at any point along the trail.

Other benefits inherent in this project like increased physical activity and health, appreciation of natural and historic resources, and community connectivity convince us this is a worthwhile endeavor that will have long lasting positive effect for our community and the environment.

Sincerely,

The Warner Energy Committee
Leigh Levine  
Planning and Development Manager  
Federal Highway Administration  
New Hampshire Division Office  
53 Pleasant Street, Suite 2200_Concord, NH 03301

Richard Radwanski  
District Engineer  
NH Department of Transportation  
Maintenance District 5  
16 East Point Drive, Bedford NH 03110

November 13, 2013

Dear Mr. Levine and Mr. Radwanski,

The town of Newbury joins with Concord, Hopkinton, Warner and Bradford in its desire to see a multiuse trail developed substantially following the old railroad grade from Concord to Newbury. We recognize this trail must somehow get from the east side of Interstate -89 to the west side and urge you to allow the trail to proceed along the route you walked with interested parties in Warner on the 10th of October.

The trail would provide a green transportation link between our five town/city centers. The economic benefits of enabling workers to use an off-road trail with gentle grades provides a true alternative option to using an automobile to reach their place of employment or the
place where they shop.

The health, family, and community benefits of such a trail could not be overstated. Winding for 32 miles along beautiful river, farm and forest sections of central NH this trail would be used by the widest group of residents on a daily basis. The trail would link town recreation fields in Concord (next to Beaver Meadow), Hopkinton, Warner and Bradford (which partners with Newbury using the Newbury/Bradford sports field) making it possible for participants to bike and walk to games instead of driving to athletic events.

Once completed from end-to-end this trail would become a significant tourist destination with the Concord end of the trail less than a mile from I-93 at Exit 15. Exits 8 and 9 of I-89 would also provide nearby trailhead parking. The junction of Route 114 and Route 103 in Bradford provides another collection point. The proposed trailhead at Lake Sunapee where Route 103 and 103A meet appears to be a natural destination or launch point.

The need to pass through I-89 in the vicinity of Exits 8 and 9 in Warner is critical to our vision and your support is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

Katheryn C. Holmes, Chair
Newbury Conservation Commission
The Rural Heritage Connection of Bradford (RHC) is a ten-year old non-profit whose mission is to promote the preservation of properties that have historic, recreational, or environmental significance. Because the idea of a multi-community rail trail embodies all of these aspects, the RHC is very interested in assisting Bradford and the towns of Concord, Hopkinton, Warner, and Newbury in their mutual desire to see a multiuse recreational trail developed following the old railroad grade from Concord to Newbury. We have been informed that one sticking point is the crossing of Interstate - 89 in Warner and hope that the trail will be allowed to use the right of way that was scouted on October 10th with yourselves, Tim Blagdon and others.

We believe that along with the recreational and ‘green transportation’ benefits of connecting the five communities there would be economic benefits in Bradford should this trail become a reality, connecting our downtown businesses.

This trail would also be a significant tourist destination when completed from Concord to Newbury and Lake Sunapee.

Thank you for your support in this project.
Sincerely,

J. Ann Eldridge, co-chair Rural Heritage Connection of Bradford, Inc.
Leigh Levine  
Planning and Development Manager  
Federal Highway Administration  
New Hampshire Division Office  
53 Pleasant Street, Suite 2200  
Concord, NH 03301

Richard Radwanski  
District Engineer  
NH Department of Transportation  
Maintenance District 5  
16 East Point Drive  
Bedford, NH 03110

Dear Mr. Levine and Mr. Radwanski:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Concord’s Conservation Commission and the City of Concord in support of the creation of a multi-use trail to be built along the Concord to Claremont railway corridor. We believe such a trail will have significant recreational and other benefits which will enhance the City of Concord and the adjacent towns of Hopkinton, Warner, Bradford and Newbury where the proposed trail would be built.

One of the difficulties with this project is a suitable crossing over I-89 in Warner in the alignment which roughly parallels the Warner River between exits 8 and 9. We understand that you did a site walk on October 10, 2013, in an effort to locate a possible area for the trail crossing. We support these efforts and a means of finding usable access points so that trail users are not forced to go onto the roads in this area. Please take our views into consideration in planning for this project.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

James E. Owers  
Vice Chair, Concord Conservation Commission