Upper Falls Greenway Trail Opportunity

- What is a “Rail-Trail”?
- Trails in Newton and Massachusetts
- Upper Falls Greenway Trail Opportunities
- Rail-to-trail Conversion
- Impact of Trails on Communities
- Trail Benefits
Greenway Trail Linear Park

• Conversion of inactive railroad rights-of-way into multi-use recreational paths (“rail-trails”).

• Trails offer a safe place for walking, jogging, bicycling, and cross-country skiing.

• Trails can now be converted quickly and very inexpensively.

• Greenway trails do not preclude additional future community uses.
Lower Falls – New Pedestrian Trail
“The abandoned rail right-of-way to the west of Needham Street should be converted to a recreational corridor, creating a path for wildlife, a connection to the Charles River and existing open spaces to the southwest and northeast, and contributing to a regional recreational network.

This plan recommends that any interventions along the corridor retain maximum flexibility for the long-term MBTA addition of a Green Line extension, while in the meantime encouraging the use of the corridor for pedestrian and bicycle use.”
Upper Falls Greenway Trail Opportunity with Existing and Possible Connecting Trails

Connections thanks to Dan Brody!
Bay Colony Rail-Trail Opportunity

- Newton: 1+ mile parallel to Needham Street.
- 1 mile to Needham Heights, further 1.2 miles active MBTA
- Needham: 2 miles from Needham Junction to the Charles River.
- Dover: 3.5 miles from the Charles River to Hunt Drive.
- Medfield: 1.5 miles to Harding Street.
Bay Colony Rail Trail

Redwing Bay, Needham
New Rail-to-Trail Conversion Method:

- **Free!!**
- **Iron Horse Preservation**
  
  Non-profit conversion  
  Based on scrap value of steel  
  Federally approved safe disposal of ties  
  Levelled and compacted crushed stone  

- Mass. conversions in progress  
  Watertown, Topsfield, Danvers, Everett, Rockland  

- Heavy equipment already in-state  
  Newton’s 1+ mile otherwise not feasible  

- One or two year process  
  MA state funding takes much longer
Popular Mass. Trails

- Minuteman Bikeway
  Arlington-Bedford, 11 miles

- Cape Cod Rail Trail
  Wellfleet-Dennis, 22 miles

- Nashua River Rail Trail
  Ayer-Nashua, 12.3 miles

- Shining Sea Bikeway
  Falmouth-Woods Hole, 10.7 miles

- Norwottuck Rail Trail
  Northampton-Belchertown, 10 mi.

- Bruce Freeman Rail Trail
  Chelmsford-Westford, 6.8 miles

- Assabet River Rail Trail
  Marlborough-Acton, 5.6 miles
Positive Impact of Greenway Trails

As seen on CHRONICLE! Extraordinary value! W/ 3400+-sf & versatile 1st fl suite w/ sep. entrance, this
Federalist Colonial blends period detail inc. 9 FP and wide pine flrs. w/tasteful updates in K and baths.

WOW! Custom Built with 2,416 square feet! This spacious townhome is larger than most single family
homes with a very open floor plan offering a spectacular kitchen with custom designed cabinets & gourmet
island. Located near Arlington Center with easy access to the Minuteman Bike Path, Mass Avenue and
Alewife Station. There are two magnificent master bedroom suites, 3 1/2 baths and 2 other spacious
bedrooms. Built by a well known builder featuring quality craftsmanship and detailing.

Rarely available loft style corner unit w/ 2211 sq ft. & cool roof top deck overlooking woods and serene babbling
creek. Set back from Mass. Av & W/ more open flow througout. Fully occupied in complex. On the 3rd floor in building with elevator. Close to Capital Theater District, Arl Center, Location, Location, Location. Updated 2 bedroom Spy Pond Condo! Beautifully renovated kitchen & baths with new marble floors, vanities, lighting, etc. (permit '06) and bath ($9,800 by permit '04). Partial pond views; Hardwood floors; Large balcony; & 79% owner occupied in complex. On the 3rd floor in building with elevator. Wonderful condo in great location. Choose this lifestyle!

WOW! Custom Built with 2,416 square feet! This spacious townhome is larger than most single family
homes with a very open floor plan offering a spectacular kitchen with custom designed cabinets & gourmet
island. Located near Arlington Center with easy access to the Minuteman Bike Path, Mass Avenue and
Alewife Station. There are two magnificent master bedroom suites, 3 1/2 baths and 2 other spacious
bedrooms. Built by a well known builder featuring quality craftsmanship and detailing.

Prime location! Spacious two family home convenient to Arlington Center, the Minuteman path, theatre,
restaurants and the Alewife Red line T. The top, bi-level unit, is a 4 bedroom 2 bath with in-unit laundry and
large family/sunroom with skylight and vaulted ceiling! Bright and sunny first floor is 5 rooms with 2 bedrooms, plus a study. Each unit offers a fireplace, formal dining and living area, hardwood floors and
carpet, Garden and yard area and 2 car garage with driveway parking.
Greenway Trail Benefits:

- Health: more recreation, fitness, outdoor opportunity.
- Transportation / Livability: improved viable and safe routes for transportation.
- Environment: choosing to use active transportation reduces your carbon miles.
- Open Space Protection: Trails preserve and maintain community space.
- Community Identity: Trails create civic pride and engender neighborliness.

*Background slides thanks to Tad Staley*