


Yovani Baez-Rose
Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

Camilo Espitia
Deputy Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Thomas A. Golden, Jr., City Manager 

FROM: Yovani Baez-Rose, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

CC: Camilo Espitia, DPD Deputy Director

SUBJECT: MOTION RESPONSE: 08\22\2023 – Councilor Jenness- Request City Manager
Provide Update On The Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Extension Project

In 2020, the Department of Planning and Development began the construction of the Connector Trail with the goal of improving the connectivity of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. This portion of the trail goes from Industrial Avenue to the Target Parking lot consisting of 1,200 linear feet.

As of 2021, the Department of Planning and Development During managed to execute part of the trail, which included the removal of the exiting train tracks, landscape improvements, and set the foundation for future trail paving. In addition to that, the owners of the Gervais Auto Group kindly contributed to a part of the trail by paving the connection from Industrial Avenue and the public portion of the trail throughout their property. To date, approximately 400 linear feet of the trail have been completed. The Department of Planning and Development applied for additional capital funding and is excited to announce that bids for the completion of the multi-user path connector trail will be released in the fall of 2023 to resume construction in the Spring of 2024.

At the same time, the Department of Planning and Development is currently in the process of finalizing the access agreement and property easement with the property owner (RB Lowell) and its representative RD Management LLC who is currently reviewing the agreement language with its legal team.

The Lowell Connector Trail is an essential part of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and will be keeping the council in constant communication about the progress of this project. DPD is committed to take it as far as possible and to make sure the community is aware of the advancement of this mobility plan to improve connectivity in the City and the Commonwealth as a whole.

CE