



**Town Manager**  
Mark W. Haddad

## TOWN OF GROTON

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## Select Board

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January 28, 2020

Mr. Jim Montgomery, Commissioner  
Department of Conservation & Recreation  
251 Causeway Street, 9th floor  
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Commissioner Montgomery:

We are writing to convey our enthusiastic support for Squannacook Greenways application for a Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) trails grant. Groton has a significant history of supporting development of the Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) from funding of a feasibility study through our Community Preservation Act, assisting Squannacook Greenways in lease negotiations with the MBTA, previous letters of support from our Board and recognition of the important role trails play in our community as documented in the town's open space and recreation plan. The SRRT will serve to link two communities, Groton and Townsend, with future phases linking Ayer and the Nashua River Rail Trail (NRRT). It also will provide an additional resource for safe outdoor recreational activity that gets users off area roadways that are becoming increasingly busy.

Groton has enjoyed a very positive experience with rail trails as the DCR's NRRT passes through it. We understand the importance of that agency's trails grant program to successful completion of the SRRT and fully support Squannacook Greenways application.

Sincerely,

Alison Manugian, Chair  
Groton Select Board

cc: Amanda Lewis, MassTrails Program Manager, Department of Conservation & Recreation