



Office of the  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
272 Main Street  
Townsend, Massachusetts 01469

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Sue Lisio, *Vice-Chairman*

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*Town Administrator*

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October 24, 2012

Commissioner Edward M. Lambert, Jr.  
Department of Conservation and Recreation  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114-2104

RE: Townsend  
Squannacook Greenways  
Letter of Support

Dear Commissioner Lambert,

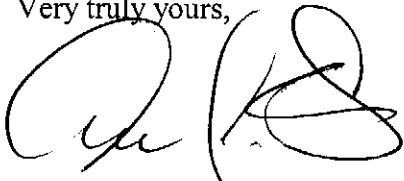
At its meeting of October 23, 2012 the Townsend Board of Selectmen voted to support Squannacook Greenways' effort to build the Squannacook River Rail Trail in Townsend and to send this letter of support. The Town of Townsend, acting by and through its Board of Selectmen, makes the following commitments:

1. The Town commits to pursue the construction of a sidewalk approximately 900 feet in length along Route 119 in the Townsend Harbor area, near the intersection of South Street. This sidewalk will allow for the diversion of the trail from the railroad right of way, protecting environmentally sensitive areas and minimizing abutter impacts. This diversion was a key recommendation of the committee that studied the building and financing of the rail trail. The Town will undertake design of the sidewalk. MassDOT-Highways previously committed to construct the sidewalk when it reconstructed Route 119 if the Town undertook the design; and
2. The Town further commits that its public safety agencies (Police, Fire, and EMS) will provide reactive response on the rail trail.

A majority of the Board of Selectmen believes the rail trail will be a positive amenity for Townsend's residents and businesses, as similar projects have proven to be in other communities. We look forward to DCR's execution of agreements with Squannacook Greenways and the MBTA so this project can move forward.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew J. Sheehan', written in a cursive style.

Andrew J. Sheehan  
Town Administrator