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\$20K Allocated to Brimfield Trail Association in State Budget

BOSTON – State Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) and State Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer, Chair, Joint Committee on the Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture) are pleased to announce that the Brimfield Trail Association (BTA) will receive \$20K in the fiscal 2016 state budget. After months of preparation and negotiation, the \$38M spending bill was recently approved by both branches of the legislature.

The Brimfield Trail System currently includes several miles of trails along the old trolley rail bed in Brimfield. Funds from this year's budget appropriation will provide a start to Phase 1 of the BTA Bridge Project. The bridge will connect the Brimfield and Sturbridge trail systems by spanning the Quinebaug River in Brimfield. Prior to construction, topographic and geological surveys are required to determine the placement and design of the proposed 100 foot bridge.

"The towns in our district are home to some of the finest natural environments in Massachusetts," said Representative Smola. "The Brimfield Trail Association does an exceptional job giving people the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors in a sustainable way and these new funds will help expand that mission."

"I congratulate the town and the hard work of the Trails Committee," said Senator Gobi. "Access to our natural resources is a necessity and this funding will assist in the ongoing building of a sustainable trail system."

The budget passed in the House of Representatives and the Senate and is now before Governor Baker for final approval.

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617)722-2100.

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