

# Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, Inc. – 2007 Annual Meeting

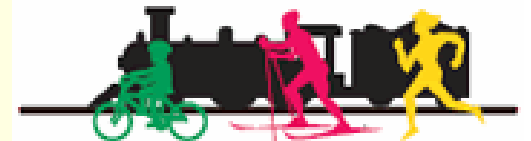
November 18, 2007 – 2:00 pm  
Concord Children's Center  
1300 Main Street  
West Concord, MA



# Agenda

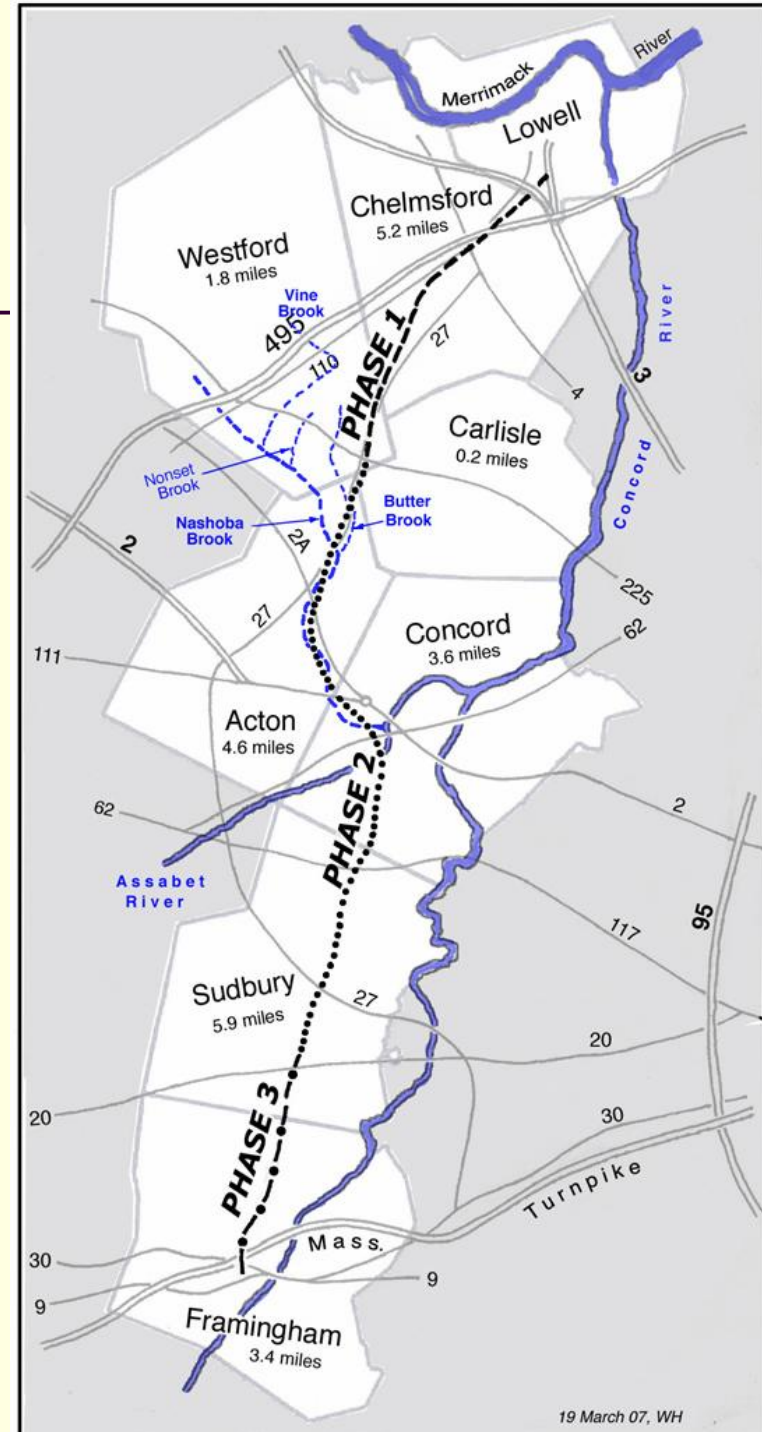
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- Introductions
- Trail and Organizational Overview
- 2007: Accomplishments vs. Goals
- 2008: Goals
- Formal Meeting
  - Discussion and Adoption of 2006 Annual Meeting Minutes
  - Nominations and Vote for Directors
  - Adjourn
- Trail Walk
- Annual Directors' Meeting (all members are welcome to attend)

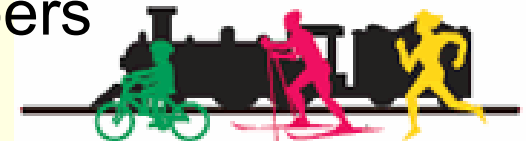
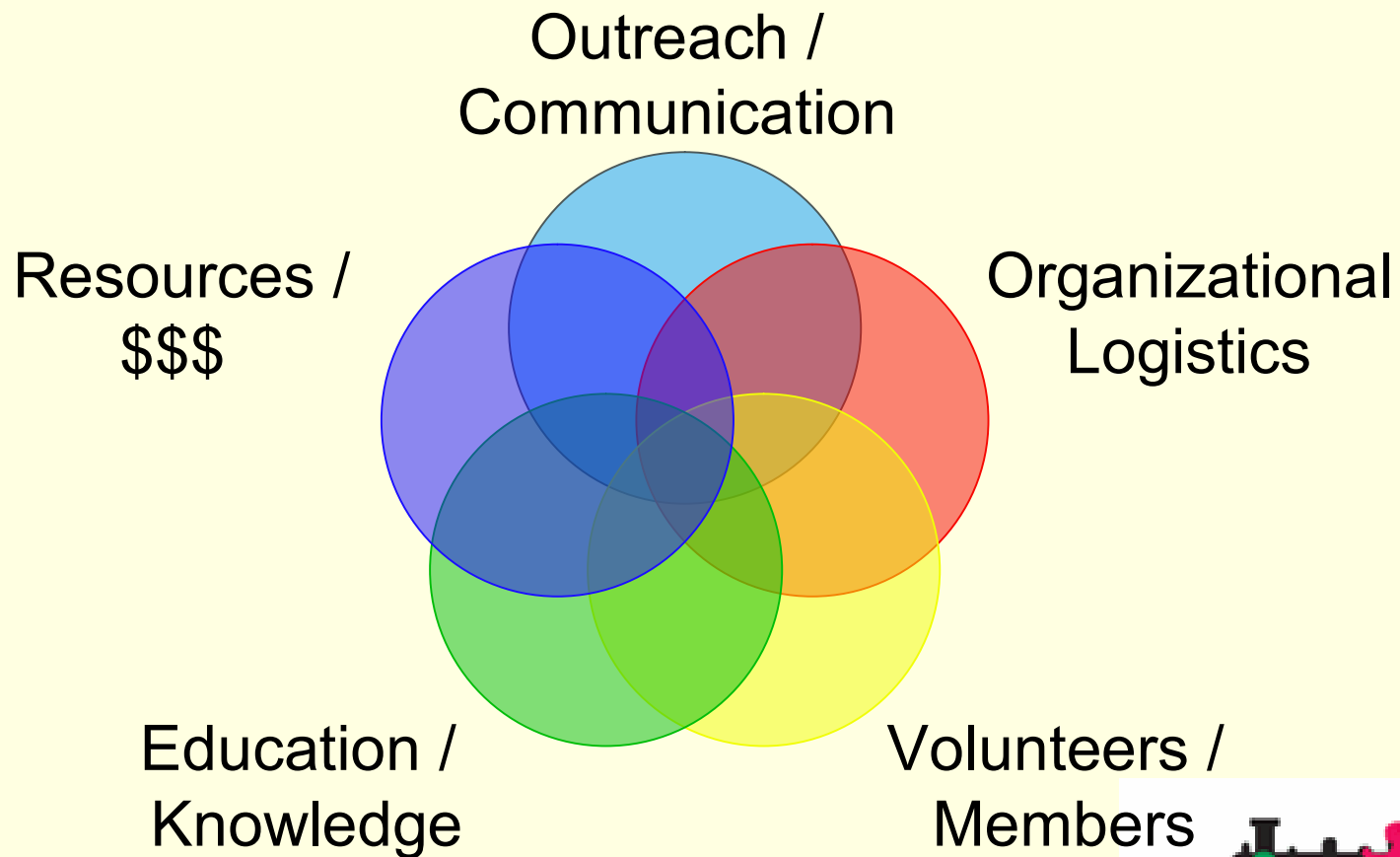


# Trail Map Overview

- Phase 1: 6.8 miles from Lowell - Cross Point Towers through Chelmsford to Rte 225 + Rte 27 in Westford
- Phase 2: 13.1 miles from Westford through Carlisle, Acton, Concord, to Rte 20 in Sudbury
- Phase 3: 4.5 miles from Rte 20 in Sudbury to Rte 9 in Framingham



# FBFRT Organizational Effectiveness is Interaction of at Least 5 Elements



# Checklist of 2007 Accomplishments

## Goals for BFRT – from 2006 Meeting

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### ✓ Phase 1

- ✓ Start construction; have big ground-breaking party, ramp-up education campaign in Phase 1 and 2 towns, inform public the BFRT is coming
- ✓ Have MassHighway assign formal liaison to provide information on construction progress

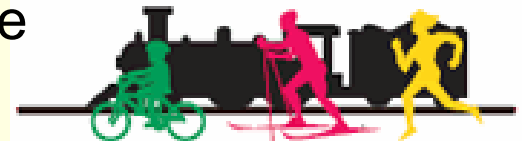
### ■ Phase 2

#### ■ Tri-Town (Acton, Carlisle, Westford)

- Complete 25% Tri-Town design
  - MassHighway start 75% Tri-Town design
  - Memo of Understanding: MassHighway, DCR, Tri-Town

#### ■ Concord:

- Issue and complete 25% design
  - Procure additional CPA funds to complete design, if needed



# Ground Breaking / Phase 1 Construction



# Ground Breaking / Phase 1 Construction



# GPI Presentation – April 2007





# 10% Design Meeting June 12, 2007



# Phase 1 Bid Opening June 26, 2007



# Checklist of 2007 Accomplishments Goals for BFRT – from 2006 Meeting

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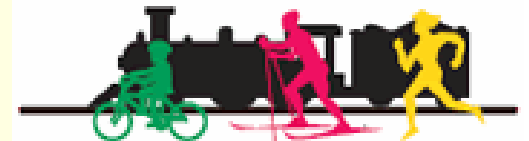
## ■ Phase 2

### ■ Sudbury

- Issue RFP for and complete early design tasks
  - Prepare request for funding to complete 25% design

### ■ Various Towns

- Move back up on TIP for 2008 construction by working with MPO and state representatives
  - Start process of rail and tie removal w/ benefits of rail's sale to towns
- Negotiate lease(s) with EOT



# Checklist of 2007 Accomplishments Goals for BFRT – from 2006 Meeting

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- Phase 3
  - Extend Rail Banking through negotiation period
  - Progress on acquiring Phase 3
    - Sudbury and Framingham BoS's press negotiations with CSX,

and / or:

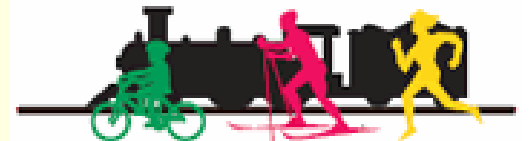
  - Work with state and local legislators to introduce bill to purchase Phase 3 section
  - Fund raise for an engineering and environmental assessment
- Ramp-up fund-raising and grants:
  - For Phase 3 assessment and acquisition , assistance to Towns for additional costs, amenities (e.g., benches, historic plaques)
- ✓ Increase number of FBFRT members
- ✓ Formalize communication process with MassHighway
- ✓ Continued improvement of database and mailing logistics



# Other Major 2007 Accomplishments

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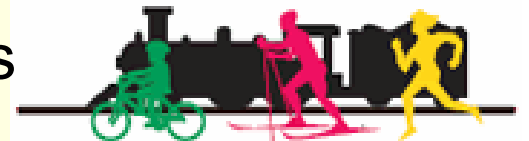
- Won CPA funding in Acton & Sudbury
- Help defeat warrant articles detrimental to the trail; Defeated:
  - Sudbury: 1x at April Town Meeting
  - Concord: 2x at November Special Town Meeting
- Conducted successful forum at State House
- Work formally and informally with Town, Regional and State officials and staff
- Attend and participate in Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Coordinating Committee for Phases 2 & 3
- Provide support letters for friends



# Other Major 2007 Accomplishments (cont.)

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- Built robust web-based membership infrastructure
  - Won grant to fund 1<sup>st</sup> Year of MemberClicks
- Continued to improve and update best rail trail website in New England
- Replenished war chest
- Participated in over a dozen community outreach events
- Continued education with numerous guest speakers at monthly meetings
- Upgraded Maps
  - New two-color map
  - Progress on interactive web-based map
- Brought on valuable new Board Members



# 2007 Events



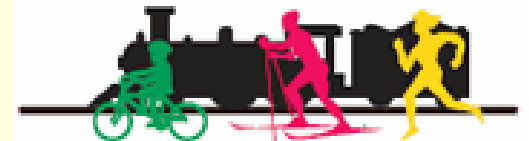
April - Statehouse



April – Earth Day, Concord



June – Summer Solstice Ride at Nashua River Rail Trail



# 2008 Goals

## ■ Phase 1

- Ensure completion date of end of Summer 2009 stays on track
- Continue to facilitate communication between MassHighway and community
- Continue to increase community outreach

## ■ Phase 2

### ■ Tri-Town (Acton, Carlisle, Westford)

- Complete 25% Tri-Town design
- MassHighway start 75% Tri-Town design
- Memo of Understanding: MassHighway, Tri-Town, others

### ■ Concord:

- Complete 25% design ready for Town vote
- Have & win vote on appropriate 25% design
- Submit CPA application as needed





# 2008 Goals (Cont. – I)

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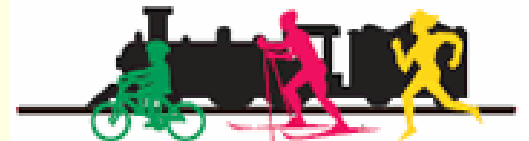
## ■ Phase 2

### ■ Sudbury

- Complete early design tasks
- Finish comprehensive study for Selectmen vote

### ■ Various Towns

- Move back up on TIP for 2009 construction for portion of Phase 2
- Negotiate lease(s) with EOT
- Start process of rail and tie removal w/ benefits of rail's sale to towns



# 2008 Goals (Cont. - II)

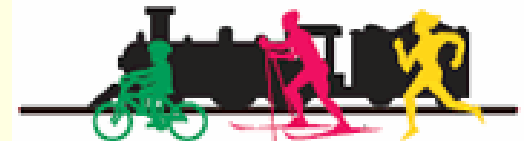
- Phase 3
  - Extend Rail Banking through negotiation period
  - Progress on acquiring Phase III
    - Sudbury and Framingham BoS's press negotiations with CSX,  
and / or:
      - Work with state and local legislators to introduce bill to purchase Phase III section
  - Fund raise for an engineering and environmental assessment
- Start major fund-raising campaign for large \$\$\$ items
- Increase number of FBFRT members & **participation**
- Continued improvement of database and mailing logistics
  - Increase % of e-mail addresses to facilitate quick & cheap communication



# Formal Meeting - Adoption of Minutes and Nominations for Directors

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- All members have one vote
- Nomination of Directors
  - 18 Directors currently, no more than 20 normally allowed per bylaws
- Vote for Directors
- Officers will be elected by the Board of Directors at the Board of Directors meeting after trail walk (all invited)



# Thank You for Attending – Let's Walk the Trail

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- <http://www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org/>
- <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/brucefreeman/>
- Monthly meetings at various locations

