

11. CPA PROJECT APPLICATION FORM

[CPC Use Only: Date Received 2/16/2021 By: SAMMIE KUL
Assigned CPC #2022- 06]

If possible, use word processor to fill out form. Please answer all questions, use "N/A" if not applicable.

1. a.) Applicant Name and Organization: Last Peter Cunningham First _____
Organization(s) (if appropriate) Squannacook Greenways

b.) Regional Project: Yes ☒? or No? ☐ If Yes, Town/Organization: Groton-Townsend

2. Submission Date: _____

3. Applicant Address: St. 44 Smith Street
City/ State: Groton, MA. ZIP: 1450

4. Ph. # 448-3497 Email: brecca@charter.net

5. CPA Purpose. Check all that apply:

Community Housing ☐ (Affordable Housing ☐ Historic Preservation*: ☐ Open Space: ☐
Recreation ☒

* As per MA General Law Chapter 44B, proposed historic projects that are not on the structures listed on the state's registry of historic places require a determination by the Groton Historic Commission that the proposed project is of historic significance.

6. Town Committee or boards participating: _____

7. Project Location/Address: Groton GIS parcel 202-60 and 102-3 to it's intersection with 202-12

8. Project Name: Squannacook River Rail Trail: Crosswinds Dr. - Bertozzi WMA

9. Additional Responsible Parties (If applicable):

Role (specify)	Name	Address	Ph. (w) (cell)	Email
Property/Site Owner	MBTA	10 Park Plaza, Boston	(617) 222-32	
Project Manager	Peter Cunningham, Squannacook Greenways	44 Smith Street, Groton	(978) 448-34	
Lead Architect	Mark Cram, P.E.	114 Turner Road, Townsend	(978) 597-81	
Project Contractor	to be determined			
Project Consultants	Stan Dillis, P.E.	1 Main St., Lunenburg	(978) 779-60	
Other:				
Other				

10. As appropriate, indicate if proposal requires P&S agreement ☒ Deed ☒
Option agreement ☒ Other-describe: Squannacook Greenways has a 99 year lease with the MBTA for development of the SRRT

11. a.) Assessor info. (map/ block/ lot id.(s)): 209/19/0 b.) Tax classification type: _____

12. Permits required: Zoning: N/A Historic Preservation: N/A Other: Mark Cram, P.E.

13. Historic Commission Approval signoff (when required): N/A Date: _____

14. Funding: a.) Project Cost: \$ 130,000 Estimate: \$ _____ Professional Quote: \$ _____

b.) Requested from CPC: \$ 30,000.00 c.) Committed from other sources: \$ 100,000.00

d.) Annual anticipated total income: \$ 0.00 e.) Annual anticipated total expense: \$ 2,000.00

f.) Anticipated net income (loss): \$ _____ g.) Estimator name/company: _____

15. CCP Objectives - use codes from **Section 5** to indicate all that apply: Code: 5.3 and OSRP code: 9.5.1

16. Project Timelines: Proposed Start Date: 11/15/22 Projected Complete Date: 3/15/23

17. Estimated Delivery Date of Completion Report to CPC: 5/15/23

18. Project description and explanation (attach additional sheets as needed): The project proposal is for construction of the Squannacook River Rail Trail from the Bertozzi Wildlife Management Area to the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing for a total distance of .65 miles. The construction of the entire SRRT is being conducted in phases due to environmental requirements which limit construction activity to a period of between November 15th and March 15th. Squannacook Greenways is also relying on DCR Trails grants to underwrite a large portion of construction costs and has been the successful recipient in the last two rounds of grant cycles (see attachments). Squannacook Greenways will be applying for a DCR MassTrails grant for FY 2022 and will be relying on CPA funds as the local match requirement. If successful, it is our intention to commence construction in November, 2022.
19. Feasibility: The feasibility of the SRRT was documented in CPA project # 2007-11; 'Squannacook River Rail Trail, Environmental Engineering Assessment.'
20. List of attachments: DCR MassTrails grants, 2019 & 2020. CPA project # 2007-11 (see CPC website for pdf link)
21. Additional Information: After years in the planning phase, the SRRT is currently becoming a reality. The entire rail corridor from Townsend center to the Bertozzi WMA has been cleared of trees and the rails have been removed. The final construction phase from Townsend center to Old Meetinghouse Road is currently underway and is due for completion by March, 2021. The next phase, to commence in November, 2021 would be from Old Meetinghouse Road to the Townsend harbor area with completion by March, 2022. Once the trail is constructed, Squannacook Greenways will be responsible for future maintenance and upkeep, as well as outreach and promotion. Our financial plan includes a operations budget of \$2,000 per year; \$1,500 for insurance.
22. Management Plan: Management of the SRRT is by the applicant, Squannacook Greenways. Squannacook Greenways has the experience from the work that been performed on the SRRT to date which includes all requisite permitting, clearing of the rail corridor and final construction on Townsend sections of the trail. S.G. will also liaison with the CPC, coordinate with contractors, ensure timelines are adhered to, verify work is completed per contract specifications, and ensure invoices are verified and signed before submission to the CPC for final approval and subsequent payment.
23. Applicant Signature: Peter Cunningham Digitally signed by Peter Cunningham
Date: 2021.01.12 11:22:47 -05'00' Date: _____
Co Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____
Co Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Addendum to CPA application FY 2022-06 Squannacook River Rail Trail

1. Funding request, \$30,000, is limited the amount needed to complete the project by augmenting a DCR MassTrails grant of \$100,000.
2. Project title has been changed to 'Squannacook River Rail Trail – Crosswinds Drive to Bertozzi WMA' (Wildlife Management Area)
3. Management of the SRRT is by the applicant, Squannacook Greenways. Squannacook Greenways has the experience from the work that been performed on the SRRT to date which includes all requisite permitting, clearing of the rail corridor and final construction on Townsend sections of the trail. S.G. will also liaison with the CPC, coordinate with contractors, ensure timelines are adhered to, verify work is completed per contract specifications, and ensure invoices are verified and signed before submission to the CPC for final approval and subsequent payment.

An RFP for bids will be sought Fall, 2021. Squannacook Greenways has engaged in the RFP process for the current construction in Townsend and is using the bid numbers that were awarded for that section as a hard number for this CPA application.

Once the trail is constructed, Squannacook Greenways will be responsible for future maintenance and upkeep, as well as outreach and promotion. Our finances include an operations budget of \$2,000/year, with \$1,500 for insurance and \$500 for materials. These numbers were developed in consultation with Wachusett Greenways, who have been maintaining a similar rail trail for over 20 years using only volunteers. All ongoing maintenance work will be performed by Squannacook Greenways and our volunteers. Our group has been committed to this project for almost 15 years, and we will continue our commitment for the future of the trail.

4. A map of the Cosswinds to Bertozzi section has been submitted electronically.
5. Additional funding source will be a DCR MassTrails grant. Also volunteer labor has been used extensively and will continue to be used in trail maintenance and clearing. Professional engineering services have been donated and were used in the final design documents.
6. The CPA pdf application previously submitted has been updated and resubmitted to incorporate requested updates. Due to the nature of the format, it is unclear if all changes made it into the updated application.

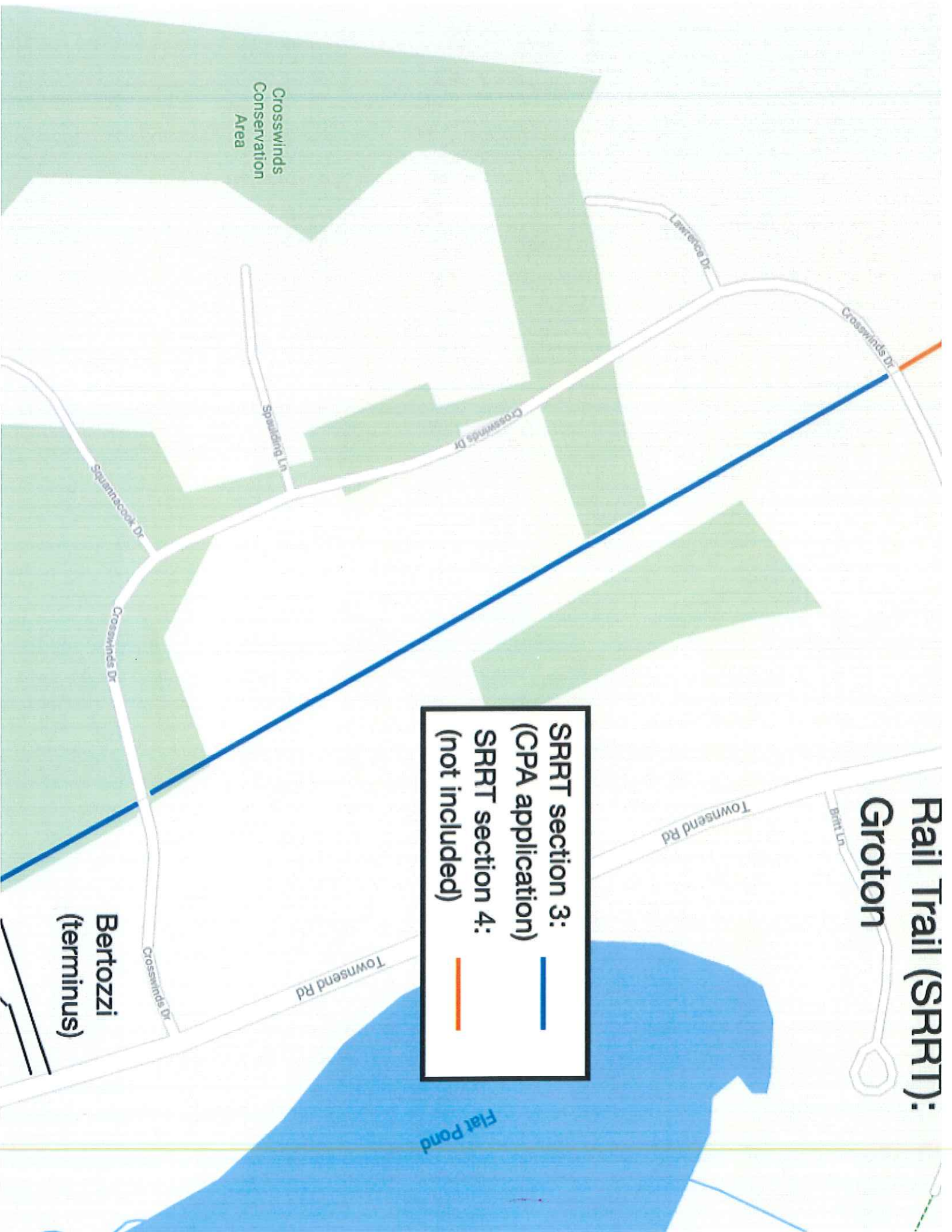
Rail Trail (SRRT): Groton

SRRT section 3:
(CPA application)
SRRT section 4:
(not included)

Flat Pond

Crosswinds
Conservation
Area

Bertozi
(terminus)





TOWN OF GROTON

173 Main Street
Groton, Massachusetts 01450-1237
(978) 448-1111
FAX: (978) 448-1115

Groton Trails Committee

19 January 2021

Community Preservation Committee
c/o Sammie Kul, CPC Administrator
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

RE: Project 2022-06, "Squannacook River Rail Trail"

Dear Community Preservation Committee:

At their 19 January 2021 meeting, the Groton Trails Committee unanimously voted their support for the Squannacook Greenway's application requesting \$30,000 from Groton's Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds.

The Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) will go from the Squannacook River Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Groton to downtown Townsend. The SRRT is being built in three phases and this Project 2022-06 represents part of the funding for the third phase. The third phase will build 0.65 miles of the trail that is entirely within the bounds of Groton. The bulk of the funding for this third phase will be sought by the Squannacook Greenway organization from the state's MassTrails grant program, which requires a 20% match. The \$30,000 will be used to pay the match as well as other estimated expenses that will exceed the ceiling of the MassTrails grants.

The Groton Trails Committee supports this project because it will create a) Groton's only trail connection with Townsend; b) a much-needed additional accessible trail in Groton; c) a larger recreational destination comprising the SRRT, the Bertozzi Conservation Area, and the Squannacook River WMA; and d) an alternative to using the busy Townsend Rd. for reaching those recreational opportunities from homes in Townsend, the Crosswinds subdivision, and nearby on Townsend Rd.

Sincerely yours,

Paul G. Funch, Chairperson



TOWN OF GROTON
Conservation Commission
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450
(978) 448-1106
Fax: 978-448-1113
ngualco@townofgroton.org



February 10, 2021

Bruce Easom, Chairman
Community Preservation Committee
Town of Groton
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 1450

Dear Chairman Easom:

On January 12, 2021 the Conservation Commission reviewed a request from the Squannacook Greenways regarding the FY22 CPA application – the Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT). The Commission voted at this meeting by roll call vote to voice its support of the application for funds to complete the Groton portion of the SRRT from the Bertozzi Wildlife Management Area to the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing for a total distance of .65 miles. The \$30,000 being requested by Squannacook Greenways will serve as the local match for a \$100,000 Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) MassTrails grant. Squannacook Greenways has successfully used this approach in development of the SRRT to date in Townsend where the final phase of construction is underway now between Townsend center and the Townsend harbor area. In Groton, the entire rail corridor has been cleared of trees and the rails have been removed. The final phase will involve removal of the old RR ties, grading of the base and the application of a final stone dust surface.

Development of the SRRT has been underway for a number of years and was subject of a previous CPA grant: # 2007-11; SRRT Environmental and Engineering Assessment which this Commission enthusiastically supported. The benefits of development of the SRRT have been identified both in the Town of Groton's Master Plan as well as its Open Space and Recreation Plan. The advantages of trails that provide a non-motorized source of recreational activity to the community have long been recognized as one of the greatest assets Groton has to offer its residents. And our town's experience with the Nashua River Rail Trail is a prime example of this fact. This has become even more evident over the past year as the impact of the COVID pandemic has led townspeople to explore safe ways to be outside and appreciate the open space our town has to offer.

Squannacook Greenways has made significant progress in constructing the SRRT with sections in Townsend nearing completion. The Groton Conservation Commission enthusiastically endorses this CPA application so their work can continue in Groton.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nikolis Gualco', with a stylized, cursive script.

Nikolis Gualco
Conservation Administrator



Protecting our water, our land, our communities

February 16, 2021

Community Preservation Committee
Town of Groton
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

RE: Squannacook Greenways CPA application: # 2022-06

Dear Committee members:

The Nashua River Watershed Association (NRWA) writes you in support of Squannacook Greenways, Inc. (SGI) application for funds to complete work on .65 miles of the Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) in its Groton portion, that is from the Peter E. Bertozzi Conservation Area to the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing. SGI requests \$30,000 which is the amount needed as local match for a Department of Conservation and Recreation "MassTrails" grant of \$100,000. The NRWA has been very involved in this rail trail conversion project for going on two decades and we are still paying close attention to the most impressive work of the SGI; we are thrilled that the time for construction has finally arrived.

Indeed, in Groton, the entire rail corridor has been cleared of trees and the rails have been removed. The final phase will involve removal of the old railroad ties, grading of the base and the application of a final stone dust surface. SGI has successfully used this approach in development of the SRRT to date in Townsend where the final phase of construction is underway now between Townsend center and the Townsend Harbor Pond area.

Back in 2007, the NRWA supported a previous Groton CPA grant: # 2007-11; "SRRT Environmental and Engineering Assessment". In large part this is because the benefits of development of the SRRT are many: see both the Town of Groton's Open Space and Recreation Plan as well as its Master Plan. Groton's extensive trail system is nearly incomparable in the region; just the Nashua River Rail Trail alone is an asset of the greatest worth. Now more than ever, residents and visitors are utilizing trails like never before.

The NRWA supports this CPA application because the Rail Trail will be of benefit to Groton residents. Squannacook Greenways is nearing the end of a very long effort to construct this bi-town project, and support from Groton's CPA will enable Squannacook Greenways to continue their work on the portion in Groton. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 978-727-2372 or at alf@NashuaRiverWatershed.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Futterman".

Al Futterman
Land Programs Director



Office of the
PLANNING BOARD

TOWN OF GROTON

173 Main Street
Groton, Massachusetts 01450
Tel: (978) 448-1105
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Planning@townofgroton.org

February 16, 2021

Mr. Bruce Easom, Chair
Community Preservation Committee
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

RE: Squannacook Greenways application for FY22 CPA Funding

Dear Mr. Easom and CPC members:

The Groton Planning Board voted unanimously on January 28, 2021 to support Squannacook Greenways' application for Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding in FY22. The Planning Board offers its strong support for the application for funds to complete the Groton portion of the Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) from the Bertozzi Wildlife Management Area to the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing for a total distance of 0.65 miles.

The Planning Board recognizes the benefits of rail trails to our community based on the experience of the Nashua River Rail Trail. The Town of Groton's Master Plan as well as its Open Space and Recreation Plan have both emphasized the benefits of completing the SRRT as it links with other trail networks and provides a passive recreational connection with a neighboring community. The recent COVID pandemic has also underscored the need and importance of trails that provide an outdoor resource for townspeople to enjoy the open space that is a hallmark of Groton.

Squannacook Greenways has made great progress in the development of the SRRT with final construction presently underway on sections in Townsend. The Planning Board urges you to act favorably on this CPA application so the Groton section of the SRRT may soon become a reality.

Sincerely yours,

Takashi Tada
Land Use Director/Town Planner
For the Groton Planning Board