



## Town of Hudson Select Board

January 13, 2025

Re: Mass Central Rail Trail

Dear Commonwealth Leaders:

We are writing to express our strong support for the Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT) and the continued efforts to complete this essential multi-use path. The MCRT builds on the historic legacy of the Massachusetts Central Railroad, now a 104-mile trail that serves as a vital artery connecting 26 communities from Boston to Northampton. Hudson has already seen the tremendous recreation and economic development benefits from the completion of the Assabet River Rail Trail, and understands the importance of completing our portion of the Mass Central Trail, part of which is already under construction as part of the Eversource Transmission Line project.

The completed trail will offer remarkable economic, health, and environmental benefits to Massachusetts. Studies estimate that a fully realized MCRT will boost the local economy by \$212 million annually, attract 5 million new visitors, and create nearly 1,000 jobs. As it stands today, over 60 miles of the trail are already complete, with 12 additional miles under construction. However, support is essential to complete key gaps in the route, which would allow it to connect seamlessly with other major trails like the Assabet River Rail Trail and the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail.

The MCRT is more than just a trail; it will serve as an enduring connection between people and places, an investment in local economies and cleaner, healthier, and a more connected future. Please help support the Town of Hudson in our efforts to finish our portion of the MCRT.

Respectfully,

 as Vice Chair  
Scott R. Duplisea  
Chair, Hudson Select Board