

Funding Opportunities for Trails

**Format: Roundtable Discussion ,
led by Dick 'Brien**

Participants suggestion - Nov. 12 2011

**There is a need for a dedicated workshop on
Future Trail Funding Options!**

Current Working Funding Approaches

- DCR' RTP program
- CMAQ
- Mass TIP – Transportation Improvement Program
- Banks – community investment program
- Trustees of the Reservation
- Other Trail Groups
- REI
- Chambers of Commerce
- Chapter 90 funds
- Community Preservation Act

Future Funding Approaches

- Selling Advertising rights on trail mile markers
- Working with Planning boards and Developers to make greater use of setting aside trail easements or open space for trail corridors. Transaction should be completed before building begins
- For critical connectors, use Eminent domain takings
- Greater use of Events like an annual run/bike/walk
- Get on Town Warrant petition City Council for local funding for trails cite

economic impact for justification as well as other factors.

- More applications to our Community Foundations' environmental funds
- For larger projects, continue to pursue Earmarks from our congressional representatives.
- Seek to create a Trail vanity license plate.
- Seek to earmark some of the gaming revenue or simply put a line item in the State budget to fund trail projects.
- Railway funding – historical markers
- Historical Commissions
- Connecting with our Art & Cultural councils for funding visitor amenities on the trails
- Selling a Trails Cookbook (ref. Wachusett Greenway)
- Selling Memorial Granite benches
- Granite name displays
- DEP – SEP grants, Enforcement funds dedicated to a trail project, especially if it goes to wetlands protection or other resource protection aspects of trail construction
- Greater use of US EPA program funds

Cost Reduction as a means to stretch limited funds:

- Use Volunteer labor to a greater extent and on more projects
- Use Scouts for more trail maintenance tasks
- Use Local DPW when possible
- National Guard – SAPPER Program
- Use Civil engineering students to help design bridges, decks, other trail structures
- Use the Coast Guard, the Army Corps of Engineers or the UMass Amherst –

Keystone projects as appropriate for
your trail projects.