PRESS RELEASE

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Goffstown Rail Trail Receives 2011 Recreational Trails Grant Goffstown, NH

The Friends of the Goffstown Rail Trail is pleased to announce that the Town of Goffstown has received preliminary approval for a 2011 Recreational Trails Program grant from the New Hampshire Bureau of Trails (www.nhtrails.org). Final approval is contingent on the successful review of the proposed project by other state agencies, including the Department of Environmental Services, the Natural Heritage Bureau, and the Division of Historical Resources. Notice of final approval is expected in June. This is the fifth Recreational Trails Program grant to be awarded to the town.

This year's grant will pay nearly \$29,000 to construct a 10-foot wide nitpack gravel surface along a 1,640-foot section of the rail trail between Danis Park Road and Lynchville Park Road. Permanent drainage improvements will be made to address an area of trail that has had problematic drainage within a rock cut, and has been the subject of multiple interim improvements by the Friends of the Goffstown Rail Trail. This project will also remove the last non-ADA-compliant slope on the rail trail.

Construction will be carried out by the Goffstown Department of Public Works. The value of the town employees' labor will satisfy the grant's matching requirement. Grant funds will be used to purchase required materials for the project, such as gravel fill, nitpack gravel for the trail surface, culverts, headwalls, riprap stone, barriers at public road crossings, trail side fencing and shrubbery. It is expected that the project work will be completed later this year.

The Goffstown Rail Trail follows the former Boston & Maine railroad right-of-way from the Piscataquog River near Main Street in Goffstown village, through Grasmere and Pinardville, to the Manchester city line. It runs roughly parallel to Mast Road and the Piscataquog River, and is approximately 5-1/2 miles long. The trail will provide a quiet, healthy, and safe non-motorized connection between many nearby neighborhoods, community facilities, and natural areas. Trail segments are being constructed as funding allows.

The Friends of the Goffstown Rail Trail conducts various trail work days and trail events throughout the year. More information on the Goffstown Rail Trail and the Friends of the Goffstown Rail Trail is available at www.GoffstownRailTrail.org.