ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town to transfer the care, custody, management and control of "Parcel X-6-T" and "Parcel X-TE-11" located on a parcel of land in the Town of Boxford, commonly known as "Baldpate Pasture", and any other land and/or permanent and temporary easement areas as may be shown on a plan of land entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of Border to Boston Trail in the Towns of Boxford & Georgetown," revised through February 9, 2021, prepared by Stantec, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, as said plan may be amended, for recreational trail purposes, including, without limitation, for the construction, installation, inspection, improvement, maintenance, repair, replacement and/or relocation of a rail trail, rights of way, access ways, sidewalks, ramps, drainage, utilities, slope, grading, landscaping, and for any and all other uses and purposes incidental or related thereto; from the Select Board, or such other board or commission that may have custody thereof, to the Select Board for the purpose of dedication to recreational trail purposes; and, further, to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a sum of money to fund the foregoing project and any costs incidental or related thereto, including, without limitation, the cost of any land/easement acquisitions; and, further, to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the foregoing purposes; or take any other action thereon.

> Sponsored and supported by the Border to Boston Trail Committee Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article Select Board recommends adoption of this article

MOTION: I move to authorize the Town to transfer the care, custody, management and control of "Parcel X-6-T" and "Parcel X-TE-11" located on a parcel of land in the Town of Boxford, commonly known as "Baldpate Pasture", to the Select Board for the purpose of dedication to recreational trail purposes; and, to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the foregoing purposes as described in and in accordance with Article #26 of this warrant.

COMMENTS: The long-awaited Border to Boston paved trail is beginning – slowly – to be built. The sections in Salisbury and Newburyport are complete. The next section on the State's plan is the trail through Georgetown – from Newbury, through Georgetown Center into Boxford. The trail primarily aligns with the existing power lines owned by National Grid. For the vast majority of the trail, the land is owned and maintained by National Grid.

The southernmost point of the Georgetown trail extends about ¼ of a mile into Boxford to terminate on Georgetown Road. In Boxford one part of the trail is not owned by the Grid, instead it is owned by the Town of Boxford. This article allows the Select Board to authorize the trail to be built on the Boxford land under the National Grid power lines. The actual construction is scheduled for FY2025.



