

WASHINGTON , Congressman John W. Olver (D-1st District) announced that the U.S. House of Repre

Congressman Olver said, "Communities have been patiently awaiting this reauthorization so it's critica

Olver is the senior Democrat of the House Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, which will be

This bill builds upon the successes of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) of 19

"This bill ensures that Massachusetts , particularly western Massachusetts , will continue to receive its

The bill includes:

**\$2.56 Million for Route 32 in Palmer**

The funding will help reconstruct and realign a 3.8-mile section of Route 32 from the Ware town line to

Congressman Olver and Congressman Richard E. Neal (2nd District) secured this earmark. "This sect

**\$4 Million for Southwick and Westfield Rail Trail**

The Southwick Rails to Trails and Westfield Columbia Greenway comprise a 9.5-mile multi-use trail loc

In Southwick, the bike path will follow the line of an abandoned railroad track, while the Westfield portio

When complete, the two projects will create a 48-acre linear park with a variety of unique land features

**\$3.5 Million for Holyoke Canalwalk**

The Holyoke Canalwalk is part of a large-scale, multi-phased urban renewal and rural enhancement pr

Senator Edward M. Kennedy secured this earmark.

"The Holyoke Canalwalk will help reinvigorate the local economy by drawing visitors to the once thriving

"The Holyoke Canalwalk is a bold project that will draw vitality and investment to the heart of Holyoke,"

**\$4.4 Million for Hampshire County Bike Paths**

Several Hampshire County bike path projects will be eligible for funding through this earmark. The first

Another project is the creation of a series of bikeway connections through Northampton. Some exampl

Finally, the creation of the Ware River Valley Rail Trail is eligible for funding. The rail trail extends 3.5 m

"Together, these projects will comprise the backbone of a regional network of bike paths and safe walk

**\$3.2 Million for Improvements to Rte 116 and Bay Road in Amherst**

This project for road and intersection improvements will realign a 9000-foot section of Route 116 from t

**\$800,000 for Canalside Rail Trail in Deerfield and Montague**

The Canalside Rail Trail will be a nearly 4-mile off-road bike path for use by residents, tourists and com

Construction of the trail is being done in two sections. This funding will allow for construction of a portio

A portion of the trail will run along land near the Great Falls Discovery Center in Turners Falls, an educ

### **\$3.84 Million for Charlemont Bridge**

The Charlemont Bridge is a three-span steel girder bridge carrying the state highway Route 2 over the

The Charlemont Bridge, built in 1955, was not designed to carry today's truck loads, hindering the mov

The funding will allow for rehabilitation of the bridge, including the removal of the existing deck, plac

### **Rural Interstate Corridor Communications Study**

The surface transportation reauthorization bill includes language for a study of rural interstate corridor c

The study area would include the Interstate 91 corridor in Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshir

The Rural Interstate Corridor Communications Study will examine how a fiber optic cable and wireless

This feasibility study is a first step towards increasing the access to affordable high-speed Internet ser

Additional media contacts:

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or Joseph Pellissier, Ware Selectboard Chair, 413-967-9648

Southwick Bike Path: Town Administrator Karl Steinhart, 413-569-5995

Westfield Bike Path: Mayor Rick Sullivan, 413-572-6200

Holyoke Canalwalk: Mayor Michael Sullivan, 413-534-2170

Hampshire and Hampden County Bike Paths: Jeff McCollough, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 4

Route 116 and Bay Road Intersection: Guilford B. Mooring PE, Superintendent of Public Works,  
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Canalside Rail Trail: Maureen Mullaney, Franklin Regional Council of Governments, 413-774-1194

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