



Dr. Yvonne M. Spicer
Mayor

Thatcher W. Kezer III
Chief Operating Officer

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December 19, 2018

Karl Quackenbush, Executive Director
Central Transportation Planning Staff
State Transportation Building
10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150
Boston, MA 02116-3968

Re: Framingham Grade Crossing Project

Dear Mr. Quackenbush,

I write this letter to express my support for Framingham's Grade Crossing Project at the key downtown intersection of Routes 126 (Concord Street) and 135 (Waverly Street). As Framingham's first mayor, I am committed to improving our Downtown, recognizing its important role as both a destination and a key regional route for travelers both north and south as well as from east and west.

As you begin the process of updating the region's long-range transportation plan (Destination 2040), I ask you to continue to carry this critical regional infrastructure investment in your long range plans. This project is vital to the community's future particularly in light of ongoing conversations around improving access on the MBTA commuter rail lines between Boston and Worcester. In addition, with expected increases in freight rail activity the impacts of the rail operations on downtown Framingham's already congested traffic will only worsen. We recognize that additional tracks and trains will likely further complicate an already challenging regional intersection for Framingham and the MetroWest region.

I am committed to working with the CTPS and the MPO leadership to demonstrate our ongoing commitment this critically important project for our downtown.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Yvonne M. Spicer".

Dr. Yvonne M. Spicer, Mayor

cc: Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization Members

