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*House of Representatives*  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Representative Smola Announces the Recreational Trails Grant Program Is Now Accepting Applications**

**BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) and Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer)** are pleased to announce that The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is now accepting applications for 2016 Recreational Trails Grants. The Massachusetts Recreational Trails Program provides funding for a variety of trail protection, construction, and stewardship projects throughout Massachusetts. In the application process, DCR will give priority to projects creating or facilitating physical, on-the-ground trail improvements, which protect or enhance the site's natural and cultural resources, and link individuals and communities to these resources.

“I am very happy to hear that these funds will be available to Massachusetts communities again this year,” said Representative Smola. “The Recreational Trails Grants allow residents to get out and enjoy the outdoors in a sustainable way.”

All state, regional, municipal, and some federal government agencies, as well as IRS-approved non-profit organizations are eligible for grants under the program. The application deadline is February 1, 2016.

Additional information on the program and the application process can be found at: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/services-and-assistance/grants-and-technical-assistance/recreational-trails-grants-program.html>

For additional information please contact Representative Smola at [Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov](mailto:Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov) or (617)722-2100.

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