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Stone Wall in Trail's Way Coming Down

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FRAMINGHAM

Rosenfeld Concrete Co., which has been using a sliver of Massachusetts Turnpike Authority property parallel to Speen Street, yesterday began moving a large stone wall that proponents say was an impediment to the nascent Cochituate Rail Trail. Natick resident A. Richard Miller, a leading proponent of the trail, said moving the wall constituted "a big step in the right direction. This was the ugliest, most direct impediment on the segment." Turnpike Authority spokesman Bob Bliss said the authority asked the company to move the wall because it was a safety concern. The authority is still seeking to sell the land, which Bliss said was originally acquired to give buses an exit off the Mass. Pike. But the agency has committed to granting an easement for the rail trail. "It seems like a reasonably good policy from the public's point of view and lets the Turnpike Authority recoup some money for land that was bought for a purpose that's no longer needed," Bliss said. Rail trail proponents want the Pike to preserve the entire property for open space.