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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Gobi and Smola Announce Grant for Seasonal Trolley Service Study in Sturbridge**

**(Boston)- Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) and Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren)** announced today that the Town of Sturbridge will receive \$10,000 through the Massachusetts Downtown Initiative to conduct a feasibility study for seasonal trolley service for the Town of Sturbridge.

“I appreciate that a seasonal trolley is being considered,” said Gobi. “Sturbridge is a major tourist destination and a trolley may help to encourage more tourism and help to reduce some of the traffic congestion currently experienced during the height of the season.”

"Downtown Initiative Grants provide an incredible opportunity for local communities to plan for future development and growth," said Smola. "I would like to congratulate the Town of Sturbridge for securing these funds and I look forward to reviewing their results."

The Massachusetts Downtown Initiative is dedicated to making downtown revitalization an integral part of community development in towns across the Commonwealth. In doing so, the MDI takes a holistic approach, using workshops, programs, and professional consultant services to promote community growth. This holistic method is focused on ensuring economic vitality and promoting downtown assets as well as encouraging community involvement.

The MDI recognizes that vibrant town centers are a critical aspect of the success of communities. The grant awarded to Sturbridge to analyze the feasibility of seasonal trolley service is just one of thirteen grants to cities and towns throughout Massachusetts.

This grant will begin the process of making public transportation in Sturbridge more readily available and efficient. The project award will work toward continued downtown revitalization in Sturbridge.

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