

Karen McNutt
Standish
LD 404
May 17, 2021

I am submitting Public testimony in support for LD404- Resolve to Direct the Department of Transportation to implement the Recommendations of the Mountain Division Rail Use Advisory Council.

I am writing as resident of the town of Standish and life long land abutters of the Mountain Division Rail Line.

As abutters to this former rail line we have been saddened to see this now state owed resource rotting away when it could be used right now for people's enjoyment, connecting communities, and creating economic benefits.

My husband and I have bicycled seven different rail trails from Virginia to South Dakota on guided educational adventures. On every trip, we have been amazed at the bike and shuttle shops, bed and breakfasts, restaurants, lodgings and stores that prosper from the trails.

The reenergizing efforts of the Mountain Division Alliance and collective interest of the nine communities on the corridor is a positive direction for the project and we are excited to see its continued progress.

Sincerely,
Karen McNutt