

Teresa Price
NORTH YARMOUTH
LD 209

Senator Chipman, Representative Williams, and Members of the Transportation Committee:

My name is Teresa Price and I am a resident of North Yarmouth. I am writing to testify in strong support of Rep. Bell's proposed amendment to LD 209, "Resolve, to Direct the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendation of the Portland to Auburn Rail Use Advisory Council." I should mention that the proposed trail crosses my cul-de-sac road so it affects me directly.

Having this rail trail through my community would be an incredible resource for me, my family, and my community. I was a serious runner for years and very reluctantly ran on North Road, which parallels the proposed trail. I bought bright yellow clothes and wore a light if it was near dusk. Every time I ran, I knew I ran the risk of being hit by a car. Now I love to bike, and it is just too dangerous for me to bike down North Road even to Ledge Road, where it's safer. The new trail would open up a world of exercise to me and many, many people in our area. I understand that not all citizens would use it, but enough would to make it well-worth the investment. I've used the trail on Cape Cod, and wow, it was fantastic. Some people have advanced the idea that the trail would bring criminals to the area, which seems ludicrous when they can drive right up to any house. Common sense would indicate that the trail would be a great asset to our communities and we can leave a real legacy to our children and grandchildren. Thanks for your consideration of this laudable goal.