

Nancy B Chandler
Topsham
LD 29

Honorable chair and members of the Transportation Committee,
I am Nancy B Chandler of Topsham and I am testifying in support of LD29, the Lower Road Railroad Advisory Committee Plan to build a walking and biking rail along the old railroad bed from Brunswick to Gardiner. I look forward to using this trail to walk from Topsham to Bowdoinham, and to bicycle from Topsham to Richmond and back. As a member of the Topsham Energy Committee, we are completing a much larger Climate Action Plan for our Topsham. In our public survey, strong support was voiced by 48 citizens for more recreational trails in Topsham. The railroad corridor will be both a scenic and safe place for the public to bicycle and walk and will meet this local need for more recreational trails. Although there is interest in motorized travel on a parallel route along wider parts of the corridor, I ask that at the full length of the trail will be available to nonmotorized travel. More opportunities for human powered transport is greatly needed for exercise, enjoying the out of doors, and improving our health.
This trail will provide a safe and scenic opportunity to recreate and commute between Gardiner and Topsham,
much safer and more enjoyable than biking on our busy roads.