

Nicole Hewes
North Yarmouth
LD 511

I live in North Yarmouth and I urge the Transportation Committee to vote in support of LD 511. As an avid cyclist, I hope to be able to share my passion with my 4-year old son, but the narrow shoulders and traffic volume even in our largely-rural community make it difficult for me to envision road cycling with him until he is late into his adolescence. An off-road trail close to our local community would provide new opportunities for us to bond as we practice safe cycling and to travel in an environmentally-friendly way to communities connected by the trail. Beyond its benefits for my family, an interim trail from Portland to Auburn would improve public health, protect the environment, connect to public transit, and provide options for people who don't drive — or simply want to drive less. Please vote "ought to pass" to support a trail that promises to be an invaluable community resource.