Benjamin Hunsberger BOWDOINHAM LD 29

Hello,

My name is Ben Hunsberger and I live at 1139 River Road in Bowdoinham. I'm writing in support of LD 29, the bill to convert unused railroad into part of the Merrymeeting Trail system.

Expanding the trail system in this way would be an asset to those of us who live nearby it. We would be able to easily and safely bike or walk to Richmond and Gardiner to the north, and Bowdoinham and Topsham to the south. There is currently no option to do this other than the shoulder of Rt 24, which does not provide a safe distance between vehicles and bikes/pedestrians. The railroad bed runs through scenic and unspoiled areas of these towns where there is currently no public access. It would be a wonderful hiking trail! I would also use it to access fishing spots on the Abbey river.

Thank you for your attention and please vote to support this bill.

Best regards,

Ben Hunsberger