

Peter Hall
Falmouth
LD 29

My name is Peter Hall and I am in support of the Merry meeting Bay Trail .I am a resident of Falmouth and wholeheartedly endorse "LD 29 Resolve, to Require the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Lower Road Rail Use Advisory Council."

In the interest of brevity I will not get into the multiple studies of how these trails are not only an economic benefit for businesses and homeowners, how they improve health outcomes, or quantifiably improve quality of life whenever they are put in. Hundreds of these rail to trail conversions have occurred not only in Maine and the US but all around the world. And time and again they become part of a community's core identity. For example Bloomington, Indiana's Economic Development Corporation, for example, lists trails as the second most important quality for its city, right after its most famous asset: Indiana University. Locally just look at the Eastern Trail or Back Cove trails to get a sense of how popular they are. The old adage, "If you build it they will come," has been proven time and again regarding bike/ped projects.

Do not let this opportunity to repurpose this unused and redundant railroad line into an asset we all may enjoy and take pride in for years to come.