Jeanette MacNeille Topsham LD 29

I am writing to support transition of the existing Lower Trail to non-motorized pedestrian and bicycle use. I ride on Route 24 once a week in the summer from Topsham to Bowdoinham to shop at the Farmer's Market. On almost every ride there's at least one car that causes a severe safety hazard, like passing a bicyclist on an uphill curve. I saw a very near miss of a head-on collision in that situation once. I'd greatly appreciate a safer, off-road trail. That'd be great for functional uses, and also to connect to Gardiner and beyond for longer rides.

I support the RUAC's conclusion that motorized use (ATV's and snowmobiles) be available on this right of way on a separate track. The ROW is over 90 feet wide in most places in Topsham: There is room. We have many older residents here and, for example, a nonagenarian out walking and an ATV at 15 mph or more don't belong on the same trail for safety reasons.