

Katherine Johnston  
Hallowell  
LD 29

Good afternoon,

My name is Katherine Johnston and I am a resident of Hallowell. I am writing in support of LD 29.

My family is so fortunate to live along the Kennebec River Rail Trail. We use it as a safe and fun way to get to Augusta (and have beers at Cuchnoc Brewing overlooking the river in the summer months) or to go to community events (and more beer along the river!) in Gardiner. I love biking, but I don't feel comfortable on the major routes. This trail is an enormous asset in so many ways: economically, as a way of connecting businesses; physically, for our health; environmentally, as a fossil fuel alternative.

We would be thrilled to see the Merrymeeting Trail come to life. I have spoken to countless community members who dream of bike trips down to the coast and to support local businesses on the other end. We have friends from out of state who would love to come tour Maine in this way, supporting businesses all along the trail while improving our health and making memories. This is a win for our families, communities, and for Maine.

I urge you to vote "Ought to Pass" on LD 29.