

Emily Paskewicz
East Coast Greenway Alliance
LD 1451

Testimony of Emily Paskewicz on behalf of The East Coast Greenway Alliance.

Supporting: LD 1451 An Act to Advance Coordination of Community Transportation
- Sponsored by Senator Mike Tipping

April 17, 2025

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation:

My name is Emily Paskewicz and I am testifying on behalf of The East Coast Greenway Alliance. I support LD 1451 and appreciate Senator Tipping and the other cosponsors for bringing this legislation forward.

The East Coast Greenway Alliance leads the development of a 3,000-mile biking and walking route from Calais, Maine to Key West, Florida, designed to safely connect people to their communities and key destinations. In addition to serving long distance travelers, a key goal of the East Coast Greenway vision is to provide an active transportation alternative for the communities that are part of the route. We recognize that not all people can, or should have to, own and drive a car and are proud to be working towards safe active transportation routes, separated from traffic to help fulfill some of that need. Beyond active transportation, The East Coast Greenway Alliance also strongly supports a diverse and coordinated transportation system that provides options that can fulfill the mobility needs of all Mainers. LD 1451 is one critical step forward in achieving this goal.

Maine's aging population and dispersed, largely rural, development patterns will only stand to increase the need for a coordinated community transportation system in the coming years. Active transportation is one piece of that solution, but coordinated mobility management across multiple types of transportation will truly ensure that Maine residents of all ages and abilities are able to get to where they need to go without driving. A mobility management hub and manager will help users access the transportation they need while improving efficiency and ensuring that the state's precious transportation resources are spent wisely. By supporting the coordination of community transportation we can make the most of the options that residents already have and better understand where more resources are needed moving forward.

Thank you for listening to my perspective. Please vote Ought to Pass.

Sincerely,
Emily Paskewicz