

***Patricia Pinto***  
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**Senator Chipman, Representative Williams, and Members of the Transportation Committee:**

My name is Patricia Pinto, and I am a resident of Portland. I am here to testify in strong support of Rep. Bell's proposed amendment of LD 209, "Resolve, to Direct the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendation of the Portland to Auburn Rail Use Advisory Council."

I am an Aging Well Activist and yes, a Boomer. I know I speak for a lot of older Mainers who live in these communities and along this corridor and cherish being outdoors.

Having this rail trail through my community would be an incredible resource for me, and my fellow older compadres – a group of interested Mainers who stand ready to become ambassadors of the Casco Bay Alliance trails.

We plan to organize creative walks and talks that will help combat isolation and get residents out into nature. It is a fact that such physical activity contributes tremendously to leading healthy lives.

Either individually or with others, it will allow us to experience local retreats, so to speak, only limited by our imaginations.