

Senator Chipman, Representative Williams, and Members of the Committee on Transportation:

My name is Martha Leggat and I live in North Yarmouth. In light of the incredible written, zoomed and spoken testimony shared (and to be shared!), I've pared the many reasons I'm supportive of and advocating for the Casco Bay Trail, into 5 Cs: Connectivity, Community, Conservation, Commercial and Collaboration.

**Connectivity:** The Casco Bay Trail will be a connector of the two largest population centers in Maine, and all the towns in between. As a North Yarmouth resident, I would love to be able to so easily bike to neighboring communities.

**Community:** Our rural road in North Yarmouth fosters community because people are able to comfortably walk and bike. Because we see each other on a regular basis outside of our cars, wonderful relationships are fostered. The Casco Bay Trail would create the same connections. Whether providing a space to meet a friend for a walk or bike ride, or a place to connect with familiar faces on a personal run, trails build community in ways big and small.

**Conservation:** The Casco Bay Trail would provide an ideal opportunity to get away from our cars. Whether we use our automobiles to access recreational spaces or for commuting purposes, a trail provides an eco-friendly transportation alternative.

**Commercial:** Businesses along the Casco Bay Trail will benefit from locals spending an afternoon outdoors and looking for a place to take a break, or from travelers who come to Maine to take advantage of the trail and Maine's other incredible natural resources.

**Collaboration:** While the planning and development of the Casco Bay Trail will be a significant undertaking, the collaborative opportunities in its creation have the potential to foster relationships, liaisons and partnerships among our town leaders, state representatives and supportive volunteers. This will be positive for southern Maine.

This project provides an EXCITING vision for Maine's future. Let's make it happen!

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