

LD1450

The Mountain Division was originally part of the Portland and Ogdensburg (N.Y.) Railway.

To the west of us in Vermont is the former Lamoille Valley rail line, also originally part of the P&O Railway. In 2006 the state of Vermont removed the rails and built 2 sections of trail that have been used by many, many people including several times by myself. This spring, the last sections will be completed making it the longest trail in New England – 93 miles.

The trail has already proven to be an economic engine for the 18 towns and villages along the route. New businesses have started up and existing ones have expanded to meet the increased bike traffic through their towns.

Currently there are 2 bicycle shops, a bike rental shop, a bike tour company, and a canoe rental business.

There are several places to eat, a bakery and a market that has weekly outdoor concerts.

No bike trail would be complete without a brewpub and there are 3 of them along the Lamoille Valley Trail as well as a tea house. A shuttle service has started to transport cyclists, pedestrians, and their luggage between several B&Bs and motels.

On the western end, the goal is to connect their trail into Quebec and their massive trail system.

To the east is The Mountain Division Trail which is on the same rail bed.

The Mountain Division Trail has the potential to bring that kind of vibrancy to Western Maine and you have the opportunity to make that happen.

Thank you,

David Kinsman

President, Mountain Division Alliance