

# TOWN OF STANDISH

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March 1, 2023,

Transportation Committee  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Members of the Transportation Committee,

We are writing on behalf of the Town of Standish in support of LD404: Resolve, To Direct the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Mountain Division Rail Use Advisory Council.

Standish benefits from having a portion of the Mountain Division Rail Trail in its community and the connectivity potential to other surrounding communities is an exciting prospect for us collectively.

From a perspective of both healthy living and economic development, considering the feasibility of constructing a trail along all portions of the Mountain Division Rail Line has the necessary momentum it needs to move forward. While hiking and biking on trails has become wildly popular during the pandemic, the section of the trail between Standish and Windham has a long-standing history of offering an outstanding outdoor recreation destination for people of all ages.

The reinvigorated efforts of the Mountain Division Alliance and collective interest of the nine communities on the corridor is a positive direction for the project and we are excited to see its continued progress.

Sincerely,

*Jen DeRice*

Jen DeRice, Director of Parks & Recreation

*Tasha Pinkham*

Tasha Pinkham, Town Manager

