

Pranaya Tuladhar
East Baldwin
LD 404

My name is Pranaya. I live in Maine and I own the Whistle Stop General store in East Baldwin. The site of the store was historically a linoleum mill, a manufacturing site for air-boats, lawnmowers, and a train stop where lumber was loaded and refueling occurred. Our business thrives on thru traffic and with the transformation to a trail, we would anticipate that thousands of travelers would be interested in making short and long trips on the trail. Trails bring business. More so, we often struggle to find employees and folks are often attracted to living in areas where recreational trails exist, which would be a benefit to us in finding reliable help. We would love to see a trail become a reality behind our store and to provide a comfortable location where tourists and locals can stop on their trip to buy lunch, rest at our picnic tables, refill their water or look at a map that would show what lies ahead on their voyage. I see the great economic benefit that a trail will bring to the area and the social and health benefits which would come along with it. I support the recommendations set forth by the feasibility study. We will provide a memorable experience and a place to refuel for those who stop by the Whistle Stop.