



John Anders



Courtesy NEOC



Stephanie Griffin

Support the Maine Trails Bond

Support: LD 1156 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Promote the Design, Development and Maintenance of Trails for Outdoor Recreation and Active Transportation

Sponsored by: Rep. Jessica Fay (D-Raymond)

Co-sponsored by: Sen. Bennett (R-Oxford), Sen. Black (R-Franklin), Sen. Ingwersen (D-York), Rep. Henderson (R-Rumford), Rep. Kuhn (D-Falmouth), Rep. Landry (D-Farmington), Rep. Millett (R-Waterford), Rep. Pluecker (I-Warren), and Rep. Soboleski (R-Phillips)

For more information, please contact NRCM at (207) 622-3101 or nrcm@nrcm.org



Natural Resources Council of Maine

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Passing a first-ever Trails Bond will help make Maine a national leader in recreational and multi-use trails that bolster local economies, strengthen community connections, and improve our quality of life.

Trails Funding is Needed to Meet Demand

- Maine's trails are experiencing record levels of use, and many are falling into disrepair because of extreme rain and other weather impacts.
- Communities across the state are developing plans for expanded trail networks but require funding to make them a reality.
- Improving accessibility of trails to people of all ages and abilities should be a top priority. As local groups seek to create more accessible trails, they will need funding to design and build them.
- Maine invests almost no funding in our trails even though they are a vital part of our outdoor recreation economy and a resource for walking, biking, snowmobiling, skiing, and everything in between. The \$30 million Trails Bond will provide sorely needed funding to design, build, and maintain trails of all types statewide.

Trails Create Economic Opportunity

- Maine's trails support a wide range of uses that contribute hundreds of millions of dollars annually in economic activity, especially in Maine's rural communities.
- The Trails Bond will provide grants to community groups, trail clubs, and municipalities for trail projects that will help make Maine a national leader in high-quality trails.
- Trails bring Maine residents and visitors to all parts of the state, creating opportunities for small businesses that wouldn't exist without trails being there.

Broad, Bipartisan, Statewide Support for Trails Funding

- Polling shows that 74% of Maine people would vote to support a Trails Bond.
- More than 515 businesses, towns, and organizations have signed a statement of support for the Trails Bond, including Maine's largest outdoor businesses, rural towns, and ATV/snowmobile clubs.
- The Trails Bond proposal is sponsored by Republicans and Democrats from all parts of Maine, reflecting strong bipartisan support for improving our trails networks.

How the Trails Bond Will Work

- Provide \$30 million over four years in competitive grant funding to towns, organizations, and clubs
- Support design, maintenance, or construction of trails, prioritizing accessibility and sustainable design standards
- 25% of funds distributed to motorized, 25% to non-motorized, and 50% to multi-use trails
- Funding can be used to leverage other sources of public or private funding
- Administered by the Bureau of Parks and Lands

More than 515 organizations, businesses, and towns have joined a sign-on letter to Maine lawmakers encouraging them to pass the Maine Trails Bond. A partial list of those who have signed the letter:

Adaptive Outdoor Education Center
Appalachian Mountain Club
Aroostook Partnership
Associated General Contractors of Maine
ATV Maine
Bangor Regional Chamber of Commerce
Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce
Bicycle Coalition of Maine
Can-Am Crown Inc.
City of Calais
City of Caribou
City of Ellsworth
City of Lewiston
City of Presque Isle
Dennysville Snowmobile and ATV Club
Discover Downtown Westbrook
Downeast Sunrise Trail Coalition
Katahdin Chamber of Commerce
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments
Kennebunk-Kennebunkport-Arundel Chamber
Kittery Trading Post
Lake Moxie ATV Riders Club
Lakes Region ATV Club

L.L. Bean
Lyman Parks and Recreation
Main Street Skowhegan
Maine ATV Coalition
Maine Audubon
Maine Council on Aging
Maine Municipal Association
Maine Outdoor Brands
Maine State Chamber of Commerce
Maine Recreation and Parks Association
Maine Public Health Association
Maine Snowmobile Association
Maine Tourism Association
Maine Trails Coalition
Maine Youth Camping Association
Moosehead ATV Riders
Moosehead Economic Development Corp.
Moosehead Riders Snowmobile Club
Moosehead Outdoor Alliance
Natural Resources Council of Maine
New England Mountain Bike Association
Northern Maine Development Commission
Northern Timber Cruisers

Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce
Piscataquis Chamber of Commerce
Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce
Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust
Saddleback Ski Area
Sebago Lakes Chamber of Commerce
St. Croix Valley Chamber of Commerce
Sugarloaf
Sunrise County Economic Council
Teens to Trails
Town of Belgrade
Town of Bethel
Town of Carrabassett Valley
Town of Frenchville
Town of Greenville
Town of Guilford
Town of Jay
Town of Kingfield
Town of Madawaska
Town of Madison
Town of Millinocket
Town of Rangeley
Town of Rumford
Town of Skowhegan



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