

Testimony in Support of LD 1450



Many Trails. One Voice.
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Senator Chipman, Representative Williams, and Members of the Transportation Committee,

My name is Silvia Cassano. I am speaking today on behalf of the Maine Trails Coalition, a state-wide, all volunteer organization formed in 2019 to champion the establishment, use, and stewardship of trails in Maine. We have supporters all over the state and are part of a growing movement dedicated to advancing the trails movement in Maine.

MTC supports [LD 1450](#): An Act to Fund the Recommendations of the Mountain Division Rail Use Advisory Council. This bill will help to fund the building of the Mountain Division Trail from Standish to Fryeburg. The bill proposes using surplus general funds to begin funding the trail.

The MTC supports funding of multi-use trail projects on unused rail corridors that are identified in our Maine Active Transportation Arterials vision document. This corridor is also referenced as a priority in the newly released, Maine Statewide Active Transportation Plan. We will continue to advocate for funding of completing segments of off-road, multi-use trails such as this because we believe in the innumerable benefits trails such as this offer.

Please reach out to us if you would like to learn more. Thank you all for your time and for the opportunity to comment today.

Silvia Cassano
Project Coordinator
Maine Trails Coalition

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Carrie Kinne and Gabe Perkins. The signature for Carrie is written in a cursive style, and the signature for Gabe is written in a more stylized, blocky cursive style.

Carrie Kinne and Gabe Perkins
Co-Coordinator, Maine Trails Coalition