

What Is Being Proposed?

The **Casco Bay Trail** would convert the existing rail corridor between:

- Portland
- Falmouth
- Cumberland
- Yarmouth
- North Yarmouth
- Pownal
- New Gloucester
- Auburn

into a multi-use walking and biking path. It will not likely allow ATVs like similar trails in Northern Maine.

Stop the Casco Bay Trail argues this conversion would permanently remove active rail infrastructure and alter the long-term future of the corridor.

Key Concerns

Property Rights

- Impacts to privacy for abutting homeowners. An estimated **500 thousand people** will use this trail between Portland and Freeport.
- Increased foot traffic directly behind private property
- Concerns about legal protections for landowners

Future Transportation

- Rail removal eliminates future passenger or freight rail potential
- Loss of long-term regional transit options
- Irreversible infrastructure decision

Government Process

- Concerns about transparency
- Landowners were not meaningfully included
- Objections to legislative efforts authorizing rail removal

Stop the Casco Bay Trail believes that the project represents government overreach and insufficient protection of private property.

Legislative Focus

Land owners and rail proponents are actively monitoring and opposing state legislation that would authorize rail removal for trail development. While the project has received initial approval by the Maine Legislature, no funding is being submitted.

We encourage:

- Contacting state legislators
- Submitting written testimony
- Requesting rail preservation
- Advocating for property rights protections

Supporters of the trail, including the **Casco Bay Trail Alliance**, argue the project would provide recreation, connectivity, and economic benefits.

Stop the Casco Bay Trail folks disagree and advocate keeping the corridor intact for rail.

Why Preserve Rail?

We believe:

- ✓ Rail supports long-term economic development
- ✓ Transportation corridors are valuable public assets
- ✓ Once removed, rail infrastructure cannot realistically be restored
- ✓ Future generations may depend on rail options

Community Impact Concerns

- Local tax impacts: who is going to maintain these trails? Who will provide public safety?
- Privacy loss
- Safety and security issues
- Increased noise and activity
- Property value impacts

These risks have been ignored and outweigh recreational benefits.

Costs

\$36 million-the minimum cost to complete this project.

Where will the money come from?

Where will the money for maintenance and public safety come from?



Stay Informed and Get Involved.

Learn more about the concerns and current updates at:

stopcascobaytrail.com

Contact your local officials.
Ask questions.
Review the facts.
Make your voice heard.

STOP THE CASCO BAY TRAIL

Protect Property Rights

Preserve Rail

Defend Local Control

A community response to the proposed Casco Bay Trail

Learn why residents and property owners are speaking out.