

1910 Colley Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23517

Facebook.com/BikeNorfolk



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November 1, 2018

Surface Transportation Board Members
Docket # EP-749-1

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Dear Surface Transportation Board Members:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and over 1100 of our facebook members, I ask that you vote against the changes to railbanking negotiations. These tighter restrictions may result fewer rails to trails projects. The most prominent multi-use path in Norfolk, the Elizabeth River Trail, uses a portion of retired Norfolk and Southern railway. The ERT has benefited local and visiting bicyclists in our city for over 20 years, and it is used by numerous other active users like walkers, skaters and runners.

There are other rail lines around the city that are no longer in use, and I anticipate that someday those may end up in negotiations for trails. I would like to know that restrictions in the railbanking negotiation times would not stand in the way of any future trails projects.

Part of Bike Norfolk's mission to support improved bicycle infrastructure in our city. We ask for a NO vote on the change to railbanking negotiations due to the potential of more rails to trails projects happening here and nationwide. Thank you for your time, and feel free to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,

Liz Schleeper
President
757-735-1529

Bike Norfolk's mission is to promote a bicycle friendly city through awareness and education, improved infrastructure, and a strong cycling community that embraces all kinds of cyclists who cycle for fun, fitness, well-being, and as a mode of transportation.