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Docket #: EP-749-1

Subject: Railbanking proposal

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It has come to my attention that a property owner association opposed to trail-building has proposed that a rule be put into effect that limits negotiations on converting rails to trails to three years. This timeline is unrealistic and seems proposed merely to prevent trail expansion. Bike trail expansion is very important to us as a family (my kids both use(d) bikes to travel to school, and both my wife and I use bikes frequently for transportation and recreation). Everyone in our community (both conservatives and liberals) love the bike path -- it's safe for families and prevents many bikes from using arterial roads. In the fall, it's a great way to enjoy the colorful foliage. But this bike path would have been prevented from being built had this rule been in effect. It took years of careful negotiation to bring the trail into reality. Please do not put into effect this rule which will hinder further trail expansion: your grandchildren will thank you!