

**Testimony on H.B. No. 5415**  
**An Act Concerning the Air Line Trail**

Submitted to the Environment Committee

By

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To the members of the Environment Committee:

The residents of Portland only have to look as far as East Hampton to see what a wonderful asset the preserved Air Line Trail is for a community. I first discovered the Air Line Trail there several years ago and was thrilled to learn I could put my kids in a jogging stroller and push them around for miles and miles on a traffic-free path. It was great!

Over the years, I have accessed the Air Line Trail countless times starting in either East Hampton or Colchester and always wondered why Portland had not developed its portion of the trail for recreational use. Knowing how much the trails are used in these other towns leaves no doubt that a trail in Portland would be enjoyed by many folks in the area.

As a long-time Portland resident, I sincerely hope the Air Line Trail in this town is restored for recreational use, and connected in some way to the Portland downtown area giving those who like to walk and bike access to our lovely town center and Riverside Park.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chantal Foster