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November 6, 2008

Planning Department  
City of Ellsworth  
1 City Hall Plaza  
Ellsworth, Maine 04605

To Whom IT May Concern:

I am writing in support of the grant proposal to Bikes Belong for the .7 mile trail connector within the city of Ellsworth.

As co-owner of the Bar Harbor Bicycle Shop, a member of the Downeast Bicycle Club, The Bicycle Coalition of Maine, Bikes Belongs and the Downeast Bicycle Club. I feel this project only makes sense and is crucial to connect 2 separate bicycle corridors into 1 major bikeway for most of eastern Maine. The creation of this connection will allow safe and easy access for all types of riders from recreational and bicycle commuters to the bicycle tourist. I'm very hopeful that the surrounding population as well as the bicycle tourist will enjoy the abundance of available safe riding, without having to utilize a vehicle, deal with parking limitations or be exposed to trying to navigate a safe route thru an area that is experiencing a commercial boom, as Ellsworth becomes more of a crossroads for eastern Maine. I also believe that as time goes on and eastern Maine continues to grow this will become more of an asset to the surrounding population and the bicycle community.

Sincerely,

Albert Minutolo  
Bar Harbor Bicycle Shop