



Hancock County  
Planning Commission

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*A voluntary association of governments*

Amherst  
Aurora  
Bar Harbor  
Blue Hill  
Brooklin  
Brooksville  
Bucksport  
Castine  
Cranberry Isles  
Dedham  
Deer Isle  
Eastbrook  
Ellsworth  
Franklin  
Frenchboro  
Gouldsboro  
Great Pond  
Hancock  
Isle au Haut  
Lamoine  
Lucerne-in-Maine  
Mariaville  
Mount Desert  
Orland  
Osborn  
Otis  
Penobscot  
Sedgwick  
Sorrento  
Southwest Harbor  
Stonington  
Sullivan  
Surry  
Swans Island  
Tremont  
Trenton  
Verona  
Waltham  
Winter Harbor

Bikes Belong Coalition  
P.O Box 2359  
Boulder, CO, 80306

October 10, 2008

To the Directors of Bikes Belong,

Speaking for the Hancock County Planning Commission, I fully support the Bikes Belong grant proposal submitted by the City of Ellsworth. This assistance may come at a critical time to fill a gap in an ambitious and important effort that will dramatically improve bicycle safety and access in the City of Ellsworth.

The gap is particularly important as it stands between the only local educational enclave with public schools for grades K-12 and a small branch of the state university with the major residential and commercial areas within the city. Closing this gap will help us to connect residential and education area with an 82 mile rail-trail that is nearing completion.

The city and state have made large commitments to improving health and safety through improvements to sidewalks and trails. You can learn more about Ellsworth's bicycle and pedestrian planning online at [www.cityofellsworthme.org/planning/bike-ped/bike-ped\\_homepage.htm](http://www.cityofellsworthme.org/planning/bike-ped/bike-ped_homepage.htm).

This grant will help Ellsworth to tie it all together.

Thank you for your consideration,

James H. Fisher, AICP