

Resolve 4-04/05

Passed 9/8/04- 7-0 (Leeman, Cohen absent)

NATHAN H. SMITH (MAYOR)(3)
WILLIAM R. GORHAM (1)
KAREN A. GERAGHTY (2)
CHERYL A. LEEMAN (4)
JAMES I. COHEN (5)

**CITY OF PORTLAND
IN THE CITY COUNCIL**

PETER E. O'DONNELL (A/L)
JAMES F. CLOUTIER(A/L)
JILL C. DUSON (A/L)
NICHOLAS M. MAVODONES (A/L)

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE EAST COAST GREENWAY ROUTE
THROUGH THE CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE**

WHEREAS, the East Cost Greenway is a proposed 2600-mile, shared-use pathway that will pass through Portland to connect cities along the eastern seaboard from Calais, Maine, to Key West, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Maine is one of 15 states and the District of Columbia through which the Greenway runs; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway, considered the “urban equivalent of the Appalachian Trail,” will pass through sites showcasing the nation’s industrial, historic, and cultural diversity; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway will spur the building of a network of pedestrian and bicycling greenways through Maine, a goal encouraged by the Maine Department of Transportation and other agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway will serve bicyclists, walkers, the physically challenged and other non-motorized users, both local residents and long-distance travelers; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway -- by increasing transportation options to train stations and bus stops, to schools, shops and places of work – will improve air quality and traffic safety, and reduce highway congestion and the demand for parking spaces; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway, by providing a largely off-road route separated from vehicular traffic, will encourage people of all ages to be outdoors more, improving their health and physical fitness while enjoying their playing fields, parks and nature preserves; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway – by connecting residential areas with day care and community centers, playgrounds, shops, churches, libraries and town halls – will increase socializing among neighbors; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway, by offering tourists access to cultural and historical sites, will bring economic benefits to towns and businesses along the route; and

WHEREAS, this grass-roots, non-governmental initiative has received critical support from countless federal and state agencies including departments of transportation and health, Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Park Service, and from numerous county and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway will enhance the city of Portland's existing trail system by encouraging trail connections to other communities; and

WHEREAS, the above goals, objectives and benefits are consistent with trails in the City of Portland, and are endorsed by the City of Portland Parks and Recreation Department and Portland Trails;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Portland City Council hereby endorses the concept of the East Coast Greenway and in particular, the designation of portions of the Back Cove and Eastern Prom Trails which the East Coast Greenway will follow through the City.