



“Close the Gap”

A campaign to complete the Scarborough portion of the Eastern Trail

FACT SHEET

- The Eastern Trail in Maine is 65 miles long from South Portland to Kittery. It is part of the East Coast Greenway that spans 3,000 miles from Maine to Florida
- More than 90,000 annual visitors spend roughly \$1M per year on Maine’s Eastern Trail¹
- The Eastern Trail has a 1.6 mile “gap” in Scarborough – the only missing piece of off-road trail connecting South Portland and Saco
- Completion of two bridges will close this gap and create 16 off-road miles extending from Bug Light to Downtown Saco
 - The first bridge goes over the Nonesuch River off Eastern Road in Scarborough
 - The second bridge will cross the Pan Am Railways track near Pleasant Hill Road
- Maine Department of Transportation has committed \$1.55M to complete this project, but more funds remain to be raised
 - **Project total: \$4.1M**
 - **Amount raised: \$3,349,000**
 - South Portland and Scarborough committed \$70k in 2014
 - Town of Scarborough added an additional \$217k in 2016
 - Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System: \$1.115M
 - Eastern Trail Alliance matched \$50k donations for a total of over \$100k
 - Town and Country Federal Credit Union: \$100k
 - Thompson Family of South Portland: \$26k
 - Avangrid: \$25k
 - WEX: \$25k
 - IDEXX: \$25k
 - Proceeds from John Andrews Memorial 5k: \$13,800
 - Additional private donations of \$81,850+
- **Due to the overwhelming success of the Close the Gap campaign, the Maine Department of Transportation has lifted the deadline to raise the remaining balance**
- The Maine DOT has deemed the completion “high priority”
- The project design and permitting process is on-going with trail construction planned to start in once all funds are received
- **With successful fundraising, the project can be completed in 2019!**
- The “Close the Gap” campaign board is formally fundraising and is working to secure in-kind partners to decrease construction costs further
- For more information, to get involved or to make a donation <http://eastertrail.org/>

¹ <http://eastertrail.org/documents/ETEconomicImpactStudy2014.pdf>