



“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 251,000 annual visitors spend roughly \$200 per person 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 \$2.05M to complete this project, but more funds remain to be raised
 - **Project total: \$6M**
 - **Amount raised/committed: \$6M**
 - Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System: \$1.115M
 - South Portland and Scarborough committed \$287k
 - Eastern Trail Alliance matched \$50k donations for a total of over \$100k
 - Town and Country Federal Credit Union: \$100k
 - Caiazzo Family of Scarborough: \$30k
 - Thompson Family of South Portland: \$26k
 - Quimby Family Foundation \$25k
 - Avangrid: \$25k
 - WEX: \$25k
 - IDEXX: \$25k
 - Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation: \$25k
 - Morton Kelly Charitable Trust: \$20k
 - Proceeds from ETA 2nd John Andrews Memorial 5k : \$16,500
 - Proceeds from ETA 1st John Andrews Memorial 5k: \$14k
 - Davis Conservation Foundation: \$10k
 - Over 550 additional private donations
- **Due to the overwhelming success of the Close the Gap campaign, the Maine Department of Transportation has encouraged continued fundraising, will assist with additional \$ to meet any funding gap and encouraged Scarborough to move forward as quickly as possible with final design**
- 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 final design is complete and all funds and permits are received
- **Contingent upon regulatory approval, the project can be construction ready and out to bid with construction started mid-2021!**

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

For more information: <https://www.eastertrail.org/close-the-gap/>