



## **PROJECT UPDATE – 12/30/19**

*As another year is quickly coming to an end many people are starting to ask why the Eastern Trail from the Nonesuch River to Wainwright Fields has not been completed and feel like it has been forgotten.*

*This is far from the truth as behind the scenes, the municipalities of Scarborough and South Portland, Maine DOT and HNTB have been working diligently to get through the necessary federal procedures that give us access to the close to \$5 million that is needed to fund the trail.*

*In order to access federal funds for a transportation project such as Close the Gap, there is a very lengthy and very precise procedures that need to be followed to access and retain those funds. While the process has taken longer than originally thought, there is a light at the end of the tunnel as it seems we have hit all the benchmarks at this point in time and will be moving forward.*

*If everything goes to plan, we will meet with landowners to negotiate final easements through their property in late February. After that we will finalize the construction documents and send the project out to bid in May. Once the project has been advertised, the low bidder will win the project and construction can start shortly thereafter, depending on the contractor's availability.*

*Thank you all for your support and patience.*

*Sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bill Reichl'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

*Bill Reichl, President  
Eastern Trail Management District  
Scarborough Close the Gap Project Manager*

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