

Letter: Residents are being railroaded with Rail Trail

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To the editor:

I would like to express my concerns regarding the “rails to trails” program to the Topsfield community.

Our town is fortunate to have a myriad of sidewalks and wide streets well maintained for family and bikers to use. This is a walking town! We also have Bradley Palmer Park, Wellington State Park and the Audubon Sanctuary for rural strolling. I question the need for rails to trails in the first place, and strenuously object to the serious invasion of privacy which the trails will impose on our neighbor’s privacy. These are not two acre house lots that will be impacted. They are small lots and their privacy will be significantly diminished. These neighbors already have extensive sidewalks for people to walk on. I also fear for these neighbors’ safety because of the increased accessibility to their homes from the bike trails, and the proximity to Routes 95, 1, and 97 providing ready escape to criminals.

Town residents will have the opportunity to vote against the bike path in upcoming warrants and ballots. As a Topsfield resident for 35 years, I urge you to vote against the trails and support your neighbors’ rights to privacy and safety. Support your neighbors. These people are being railroaded.

Rosemary Baker
Parsonage Lane

Topsfield