



The Passy Rail Trail

*Imagine... A scenic walking and biking path
following the Passagassawakeag River in Belfast, Maine
on the bed of the Belfast & Moosehead Lake Railroad*

A collaborative project of
the City of Belfast & Coastal Mountains Land Trust



Transforming an old train track into a public trail we'll all enjoy

The historic Belfast & Moosehead Railroad corridor is entering a new era. The Passy Rail Trail will use the corridor to connect downtown Belfast to the Brooks Preservation Society's City Point Railroad Museum at the Oak Hill Road crossing. The Society will continue to use the rest of the corridor for rail operations from the museum to Unity.

The Passy Rail Trail will follow the most scenic stretches of the Passagassawakeag River as it reaches toward Penobscot Bay, offering passages through forest and bedrock cuts interspersed with views of the river and surrounding pastoral landscape. The City's consulting engineer, VHB, Inc., has designed a wide, level, packed granite trail appropriate for walkers and bicycles (built on the old rail bed) with safety improvements at bridges and steep drop-offs.

For hikers, the Rail Trail will connect to the Passagassawakeag Greenway, a set of nature preserves owned by Coastal Mountains Land Trust. These preserves feature additional hiking trails through the forests and fields along the river.



The opportunity to create a community legacy

Development of the Passy Rail Trail offers more than simply a place to walk. Creation of this 2.25-mile recreational trail will offer the community exciting new benefits and opportunities:

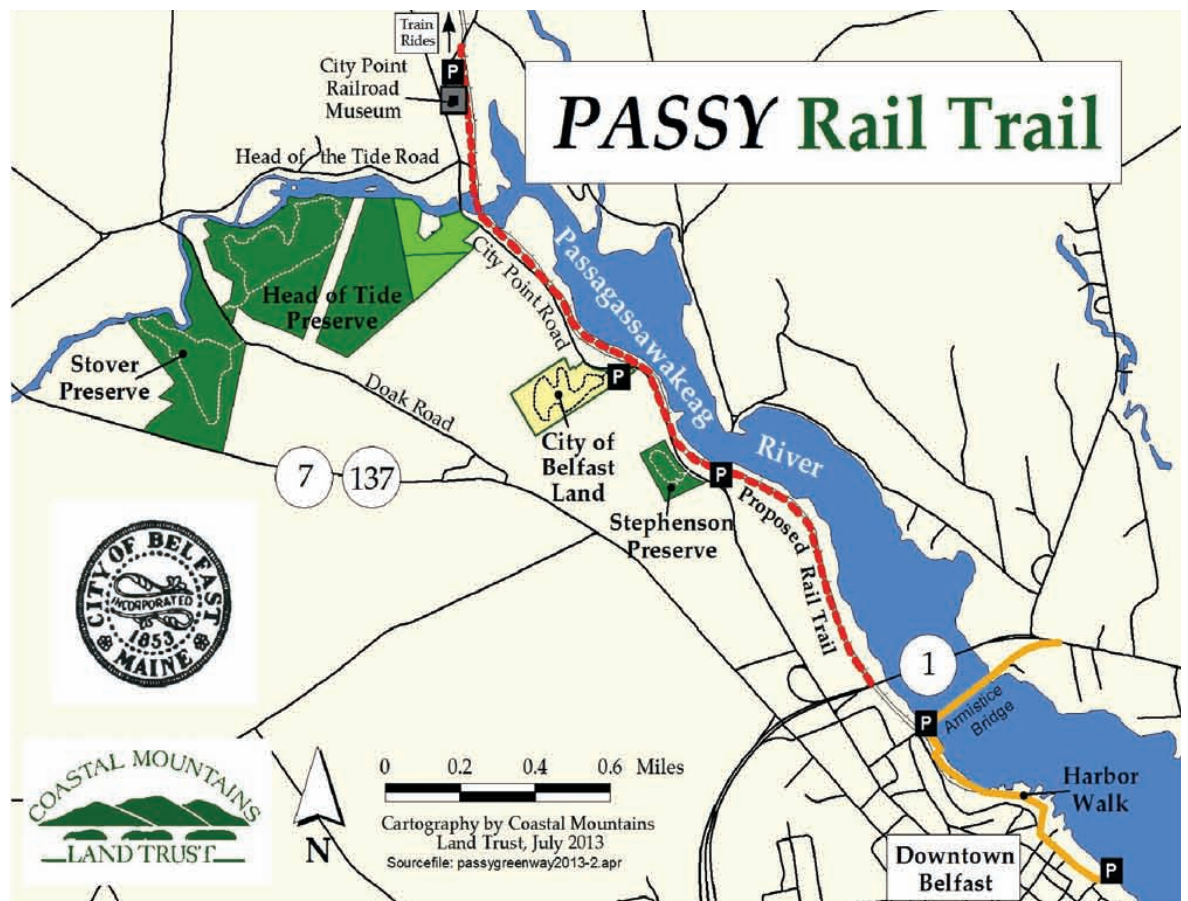
Connection to the scenic forested river bluffs that feature nesting eagles and ospreys, songbirds, seals running the tide, deer and other wildlife, wildflowers, fishing access, and the shifting palette of the four seasons

The opportunity to combine a walk or bike ride with a visit to Coastal Mountains Land Trust's Passagassawakeag Greenway hiking trails and the City Point Railroad Museum, and a ride on Brooks Preservation Society's passenger train—creating a recreation destination that will draw visitors to the Belfast area

Easy access to clean, healthy outdoor recreation and exercise for the whole family

Improved, safer travel to and from downtown for bicycle commuters

Potential future links to the Harbor Walk and the Armistice Bridge (the Footbridge) connecting east and west Belfast.



We need your help

to create a permanent community legacy, the Passy Rail Trail. Construction will begin as soon as we have raised the \$661,000 necessary to make this vision a reality.

The City of Belfast and Coastal Mountains Land Trust have established a strong partnership through the many years it has taken to secure this outdoor recreation opportunity. We are now working together to raise these essential financial resources for the project.

Contributions and grants to the Passy Rail Trail

Campaign will be used to construct the trail, establish a parking area and restrooms at the northern trailhead, and offset a portion of the fundraising expenses with five percent of the campaign proceeds.



Please join us in this exciting effort to create a trail that will permanently enhance the area's quality of life and establish Belfast as a recreation destination.

Your donation in cash or securities will advance the Campaign while offering you significant tax benefits. Pledges of up to three years are also a welcome option to sustain our campaign progress. All donations should be made to **Coastal Mountains Land Trust**, which has agreed to receive and acknowledge them on behalf of the City, after which they will be transferred to the City for payment of project costs. Coastal Mountains Land Trust is a 501(c)3 nonprofit; all donations to the Land Trust for the Passy Rail Trail are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.



For more information, please contact:

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Coastal Mountains Land Trust has been working since 1986 to permanently conserve almost 9,200 acres in the western Penobscot Bay region, including the three preserves of the Passagassawakeag Greenway in Belfast.

