

In the Year of Our Lord two thousand and nineteen

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED LAKES REGION
RECREATION TRAIL EXTENSION IN THE EXISTING STATE-OWNED
RAILROAD CORRIDOR**

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Laconia as follows:

WHEREAS the Laconia City Council and select boards representing neighboring towns supported a processional study to analyze alternatives for filling in the 10-miles of gaps necessary to complete a proposed 20-mile-long regional Rail-(Recreation)Trail from Franklin to Weirs Beach, and

WHEREAS the study compared the relative value of completing the trail by building IN PLACE OF the existing tracks (Rail-To-Trail) versus building ADJACENT TO the existing tracks (Rail-With-Trail), and

WHEREAS the study concluded the Rail-To-Trail alternative would have a significantly higher positive economic, recreational and public safety impact on the affected communities, and

WHEREAS the Rail-To-Trail alternative is estimated to have a benefit-to-cost ratio of 32 to 1, four times higher than the 8 to 1 ratio predicted for the Rail-With-Trail alternative, and

WHEREAS the Rail-To-Trail alternative is projected to have much less negative impact on abutting properties, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED the Laconia City Council endorses efforts that could lead to the removal of existing state-owned railroad tracks between Northfield station and Weirs Beach station and pledges to work cooperatively with representatives of neighboring communities to study what actions may be necessary to gain state and federal approval for the Rail-To-Trail project.

This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

Edward Engler, Mayor

Passed and approved this ____ day of _____, 2019

Cheryl Hebert, City Clerk