





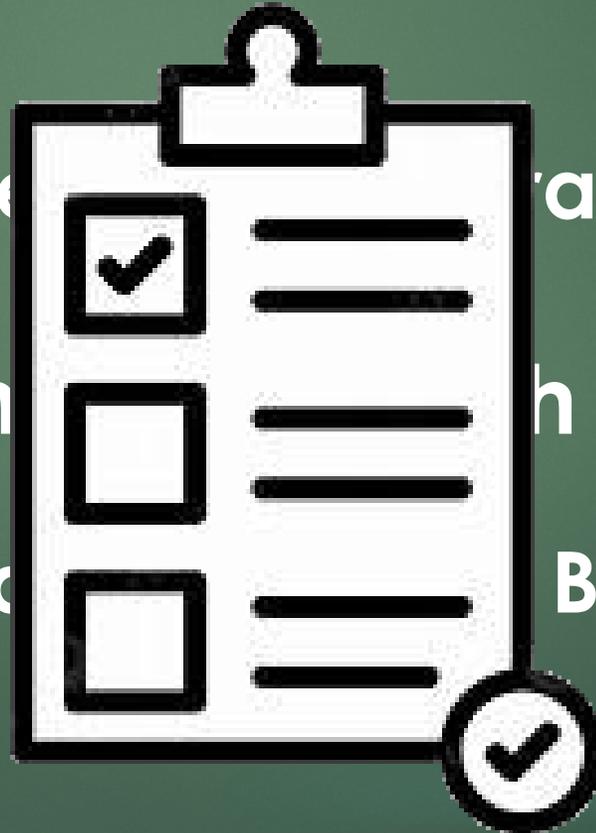
Ashuelot Rail Trail, Swanzey

# NHRTC 2023 Conference Action

Provide State Rail Funding

The

Created Bill





Northern Rail Trail, Orange Cut

## NHRTC Objective

Implement the 2022 NH State Rail Trail Plan

Build out the New Hampshire rail trail system

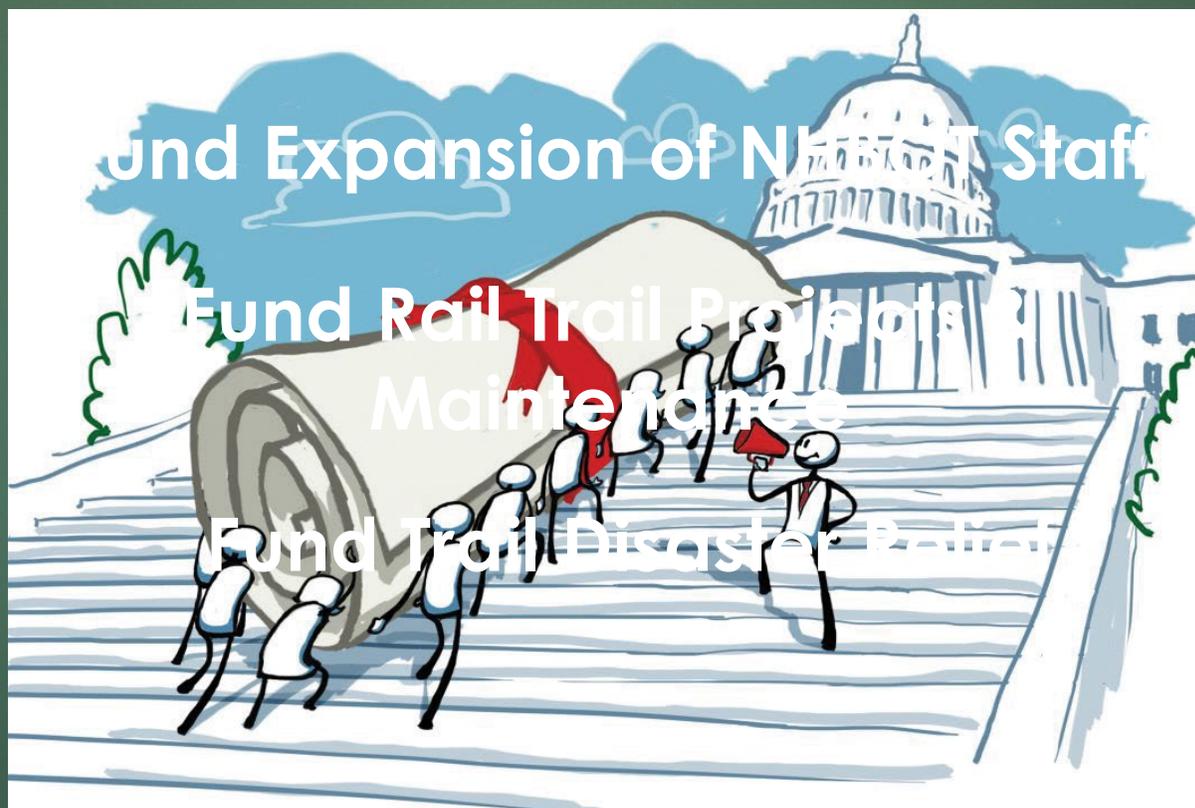
Provide a state system that is available year-round to all allowed users





Londonderry Rail Trail,  
Londonderry

## The Bill Contents



Fund and Expansion of NHRTC Staff

Fund Rail Trail Projects

Maintenance

Fund Trail Disaster Relief



*New Boston Rail Trail,  
Lang Station*

## NHRTC Effort

The Team: Marianne Borowski, Boyd Smith, Mike Kowalczyk

Timeframe: 16 months

## Senator Fenton's Office Effort

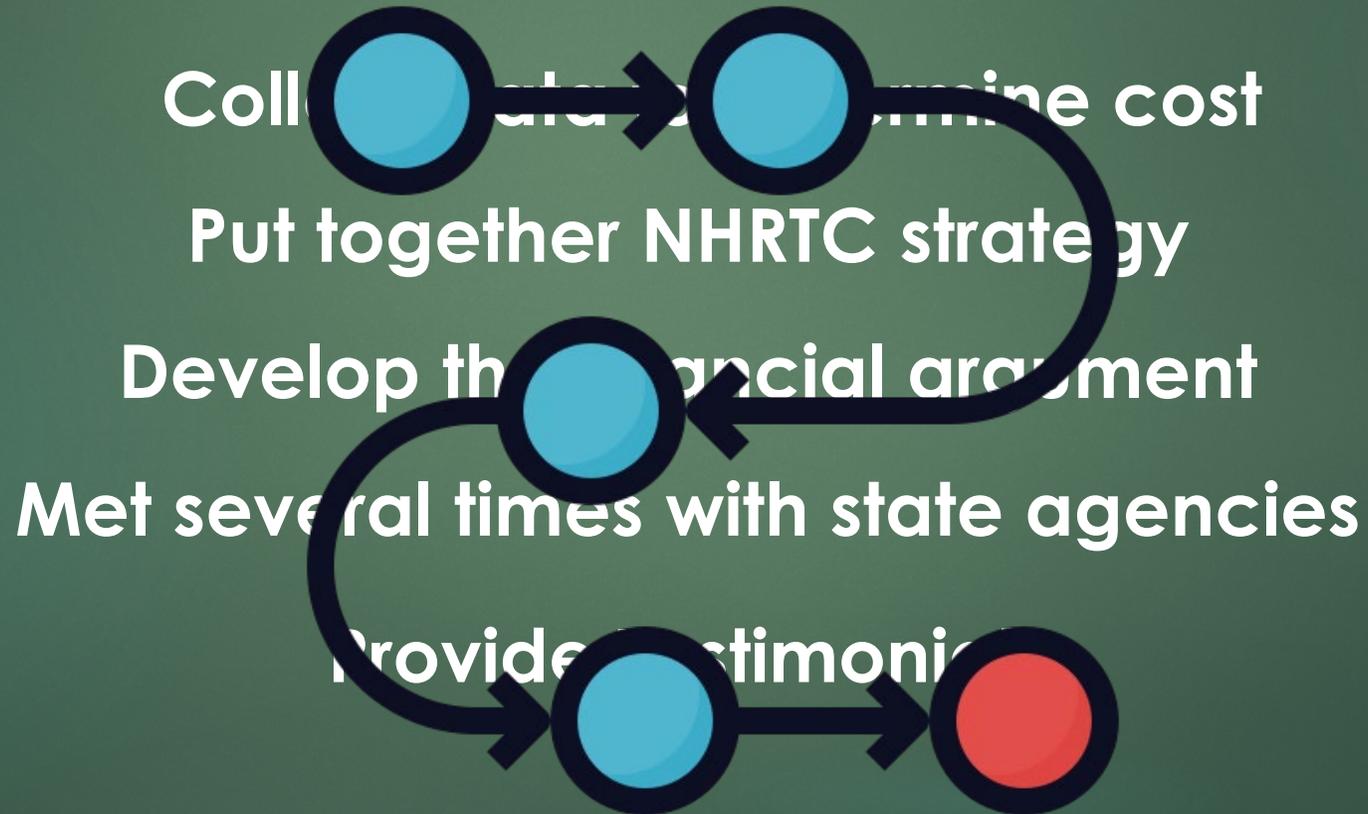
The Team: Senator Donovan Fenton, Sophie Walsh

Timeframe: 12 months



WOW Rail Trail, Laconia

## Bill Development Steps





NEW HAMPSHIRE  
RAIL TRAILS PLAN

August 2022



Londonderry Rail Trail,  
Londonderry

# Prior to Bill Submission

## Collect Rail Trail Project Cost Data

### Cross NH Adventure Trail (xNHAT)

Ammonoosuc Rail Trail (19.3 mi)

Presidential Recreational Rail Trail (18 mi)

Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge Rail (1.8 mi)

Twin States Rail Trail (30 mi)

### Monadnock Region Rail Trail Collaborative (MRRTC)

Ashuelot Rail Trail (21 mi)

Cheshire Rail Trail (40 mi)

Fort Hill Rail Trail (9 mi)

Hillsborough Rail Trail (8 mi)

Monadnock Rail Trail (7.2)

Friends of the Northern Rail Trail (FNRT)

Northern Rail Trail (58.2 mi)

Friends of the Salem Bike-Ped Corridor (FSPBC)

Salem Bike-Ped Corridor (5 mi)

Londonderry Rail Trail (4.5 mi)

Windham Rail Trail (4 mi)

Friends of the Concord-Lake Sunapee Rail Trail

Concord-Lake Sunapee Rail Trail (34 mi)





NEW HAMPSHIRE  
RAIL TRAILS PLAN

August 2022



Londonderry Rail Trail,  
Londonderry

# Prior to Bill Submission

## Collect Rail Trail Project Cost Data

**NH Seacoast Greenway Alliance (NHSGA)**  
NH Seacoast Greenway (17.2 mi)

No Friends Groups, NHRTC Estimated  
Blackmont Rail Trail (3.8 mi)

**Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway (FMRGT)**  
Merrimack River Greenway (6.8 mi)

Profile Rail Trail (1.5 mi)  
Upper Coos Rail Trail (10.5 mi)

Total Number of Trails: 19

Total Miles: 300 miles

Total Estimated Cost: \$86M



NEW HAMPSHIRE  
RAIL TRAILS PLAN

August 2022



Cheshire Rail Trail,  
Troy Depot

# Prior to Bill Submission

## Lobby for Support

### NHDOT

Bill Cass, NHDOT Commissioner;  
Shelley Winters, NHDOT Deputy Commissioner

### DNCR/NHBOT

Sarah Stewart, DNCR Commissioner  
Craig Rennie, NHBOT Chief  
Alexis Rudko, NHBOT Deputy Chief

### Fish & Game

Captain Michael Eastman  
Executive Director Scott Mason

### NH BEA

Taylor Caswell, BEA Commissioner  
Janel Lawton, Director, Office of Outdoor  
Recreation Industry Development

### Stay Work Play

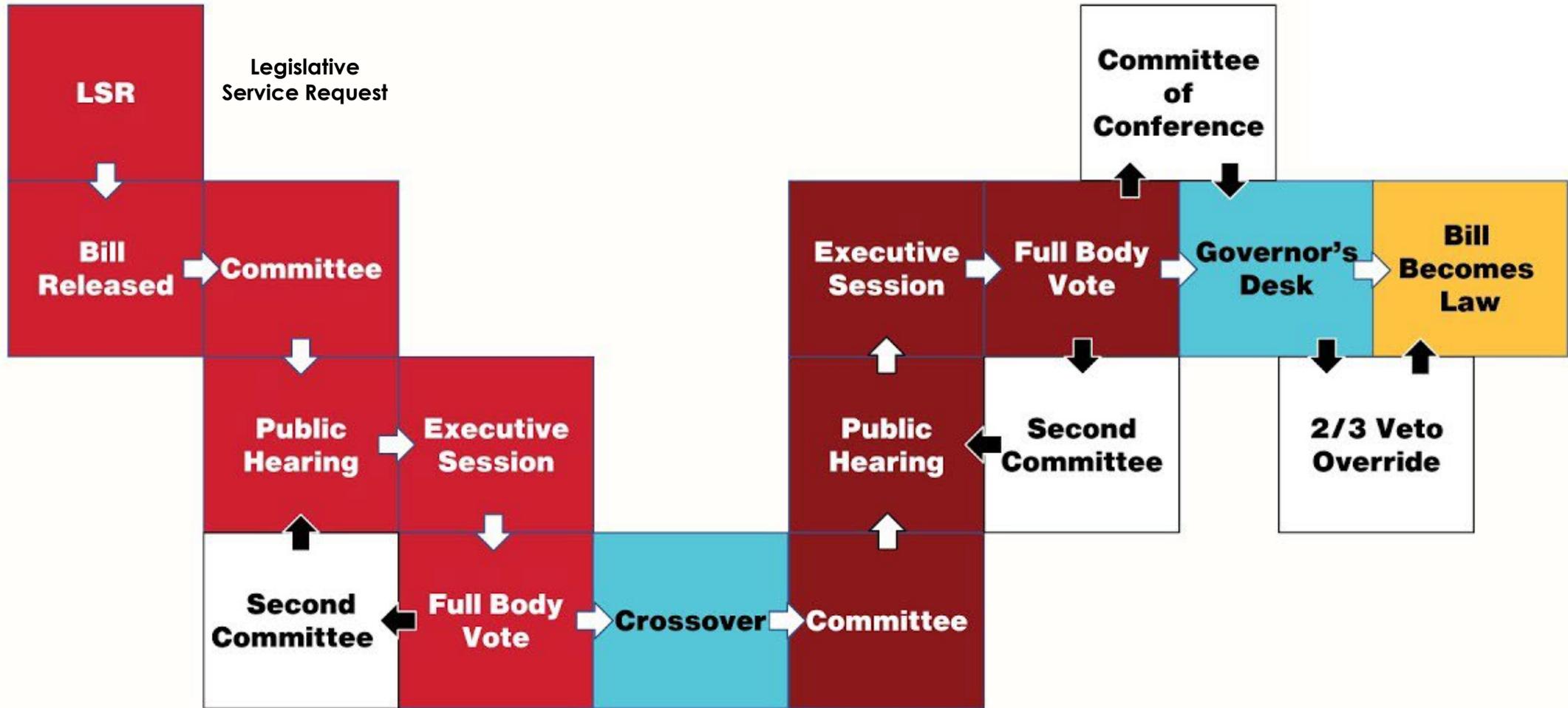
Corinne Benfield, Executive Director

### Granite Outdoor Alliance

Tyler Ray, Executive Director



# NH Bill Process



# Senate



NHRTC proposed 10 Rail Trails, \$3M/yr for 10 yrs  
NHDOT/DNCR proposed 4 Rail Trails, \$1.8M/yr for 4 yrs

Primary Sponsor:  
Senator Fenton  
**LSR**  
Legislative Service Request

**Bill Released**  
SB274FN

**Transportation Committee**  
STC

Reduced to 4 Rail Trails, \$250k/yr for 2 yrs

SB-Senate Bill  
FN-Fiscal Note

**Public Hearing**

**Executive Session**

Full Senate Passed/Tabled  
(The strategy was to prolong the life looking for funding)

NHRTC Testified – In Favor  
NHBOT Testified – In Favor  
NHDOT Testified – In Favor  
Fish & Game Testified – In Favor  
Stay/Work/Play – In Favor

**Finance Second Committee**  
SFC

**Full Body Vote**

**Crossover**  
No Funding Available

Note: SB274FN Shows 4 Rail Trails, \$1.8M/yr for 4 yrs

SFC Passed 1 Rail Trail, \$250k  
(The objective was to get the bill approved)



Salem Bike-Ped Corridor



## NHRTC 2025 Action Next Steps

### Lobby for Governor Ayotte support



Consider resubmitting in 2027