

E1-373
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Response to Docket No – AB-167 (Sub-No,1095X)

I was at the 6:00 meeting concerning the Atglen-Susquehanna rail line but passed on speaking because I had little to add. Thought I would send my comments in this manner to be sure I was counted as a supporter.

I have used many rails-to-trails in Pennsylvania as well as outside the state. I have always felt that they were an asset to the community and great opportunity for recreation.

Landowners in the area are concerned about trash, noise and invasion of privacy. I have never seen trash along the trail or seen anyone being loud. The issue of privacy has some validity but I have never seen bikers/hikers/horse riders leaving the trail. I don't try to keep people from driving past my house.

The current situation with the line invites lawbreakers. Converting to a trail would encourage law abiding citizens to enjoy nature and encourage the law breakers to leave. A trail would probably eliminate the problems that currently exist. Trails attract the kind of people who take care of property and the kind of people I want in my community. I have seen a wide variety of people exercising and enjoying nature.

Currently I need to drive over an hour to a rail-to-trail that is adequate length for biking. I would still have a 15 minute drive which is not bad and useful for an afternoon ride. I would use it regularly on Sunday afternoons if it is turned into a trail. As I reach retirement I would probably use it more frequently.

I am not familiar with nature of the line except where I cross over by vehicle. It sounds like it would be great with the many bridges. I am in strong favor of converting the line to a trail.

Thanks for listening.

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