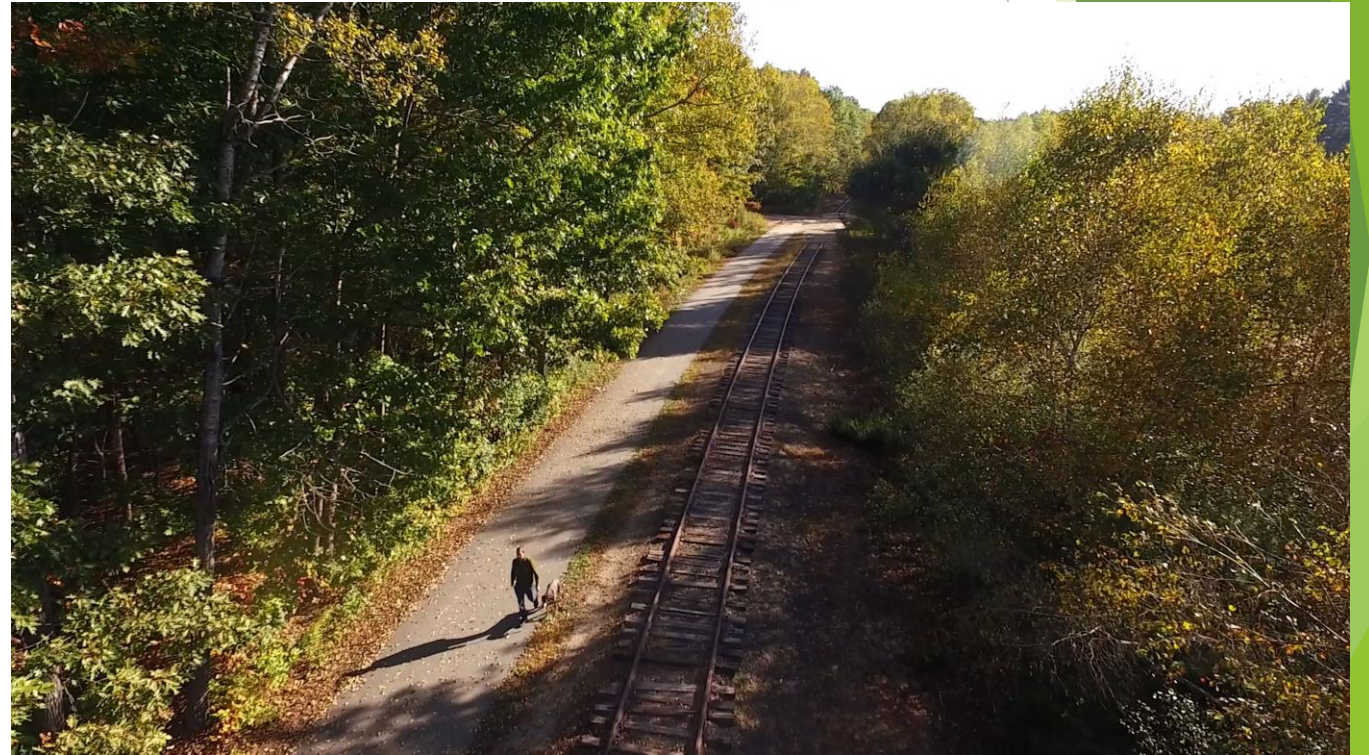




CASCO BAY TRAIL ALLIANCE

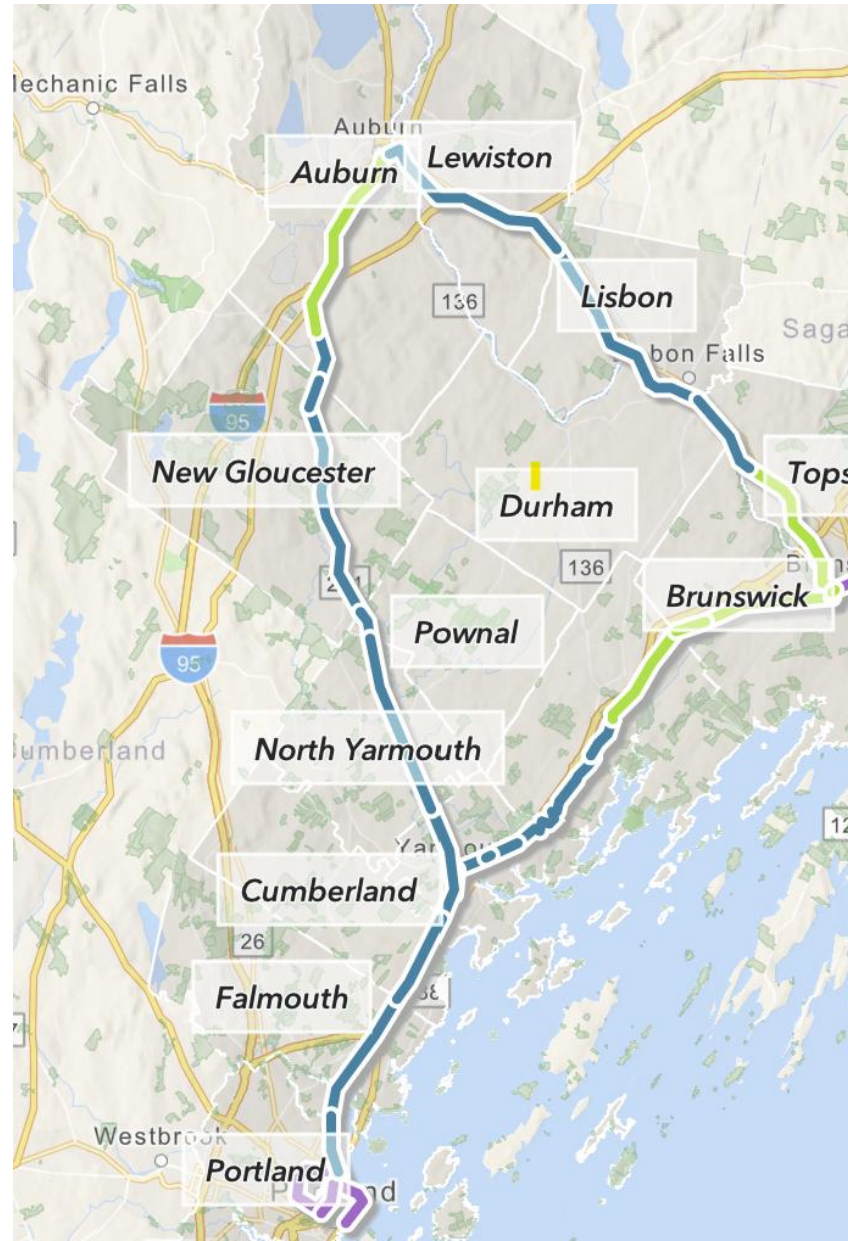
Overview

- ▶ Introduction to Casco Bay Trail Alliance vision and
- ▶ Benefits of the trail
- ▶ History of CBTA in Falmouth
- ▶ Purpose and benefits of the Interlocal Agreement



Introduction to Casco Bay Trail Alliance

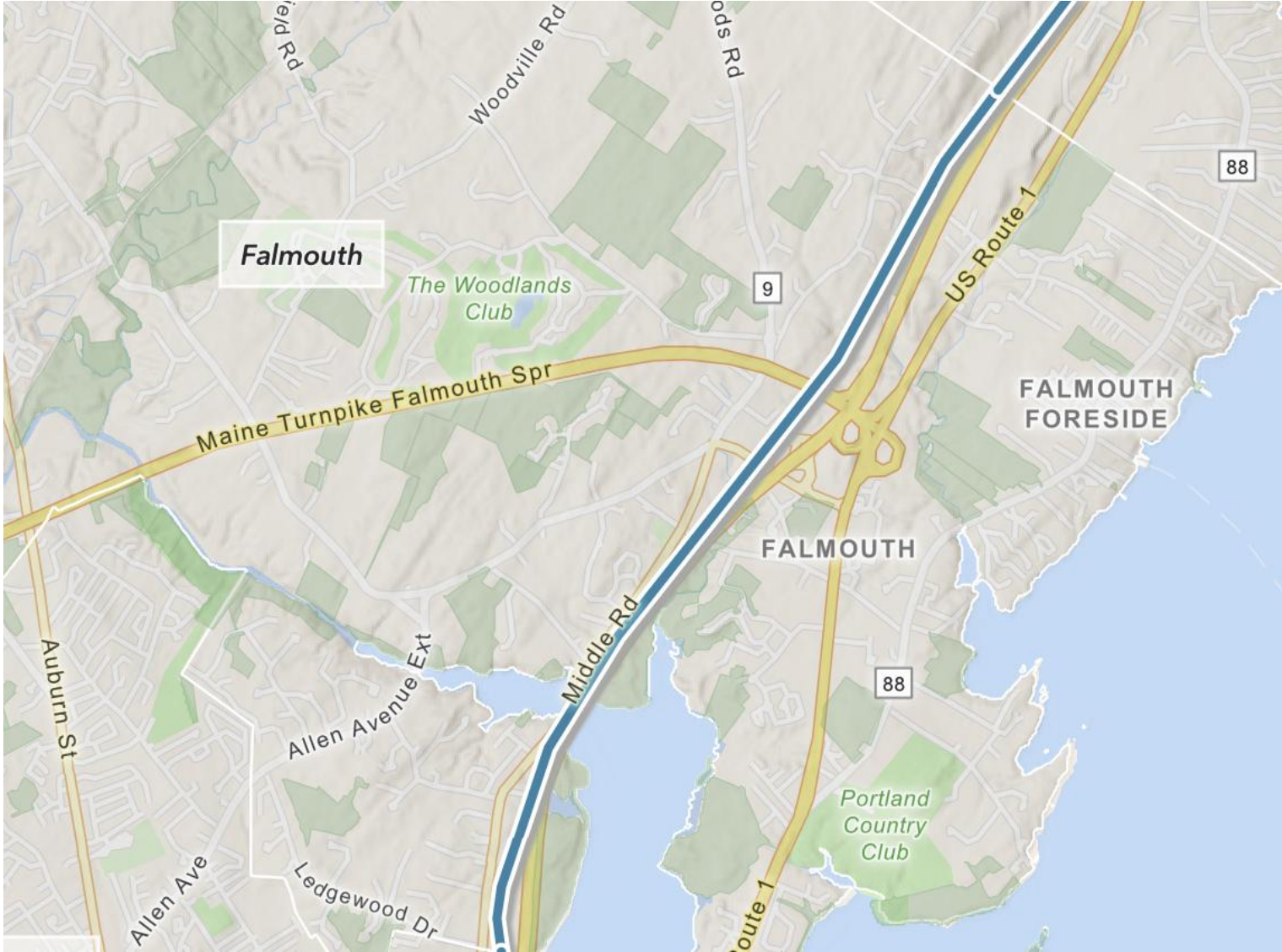
- ▶ 72 mile loop connecting Portland, Lewiston / Auburn, and Brunswick
- ▶ Backbone of the trail: 26-mile state-owned segment from Portland to Auburn



Benefits of the Casco Bay Trail

- ▶ Economic benefits - e.g., study about Eastern Trail
- ▶ Community - brings people together in the outdoors and connects across municipal boundaries
- ▶ Safety and Public Health - Walk, bike, and access the outdoors without danger from vehicle traffic
- ▶ Environmental Benefits - Fewer car trips

Casco Bay Trail in Falmouth





Brief History

- ▶ 2021 - Town of Falmouth approves resolution to request MDOT create Rail Use Advisory Council (RUAC) to review best use for the corridor
- ▶ Jan. 2023 - a majority of voting members on the RUAC recommend the “interim trail” option. Councilor Hope Cahan participates in RUAC on behalf of the Town of Falmouth Town Council
- ▶ 2023 - Town of Falmouth approves resolution to support legislation to implement the RUAC recommendation
- ▶ 2025 - Legislature authorizes an interim trail on the corridor and Governor signs it into law

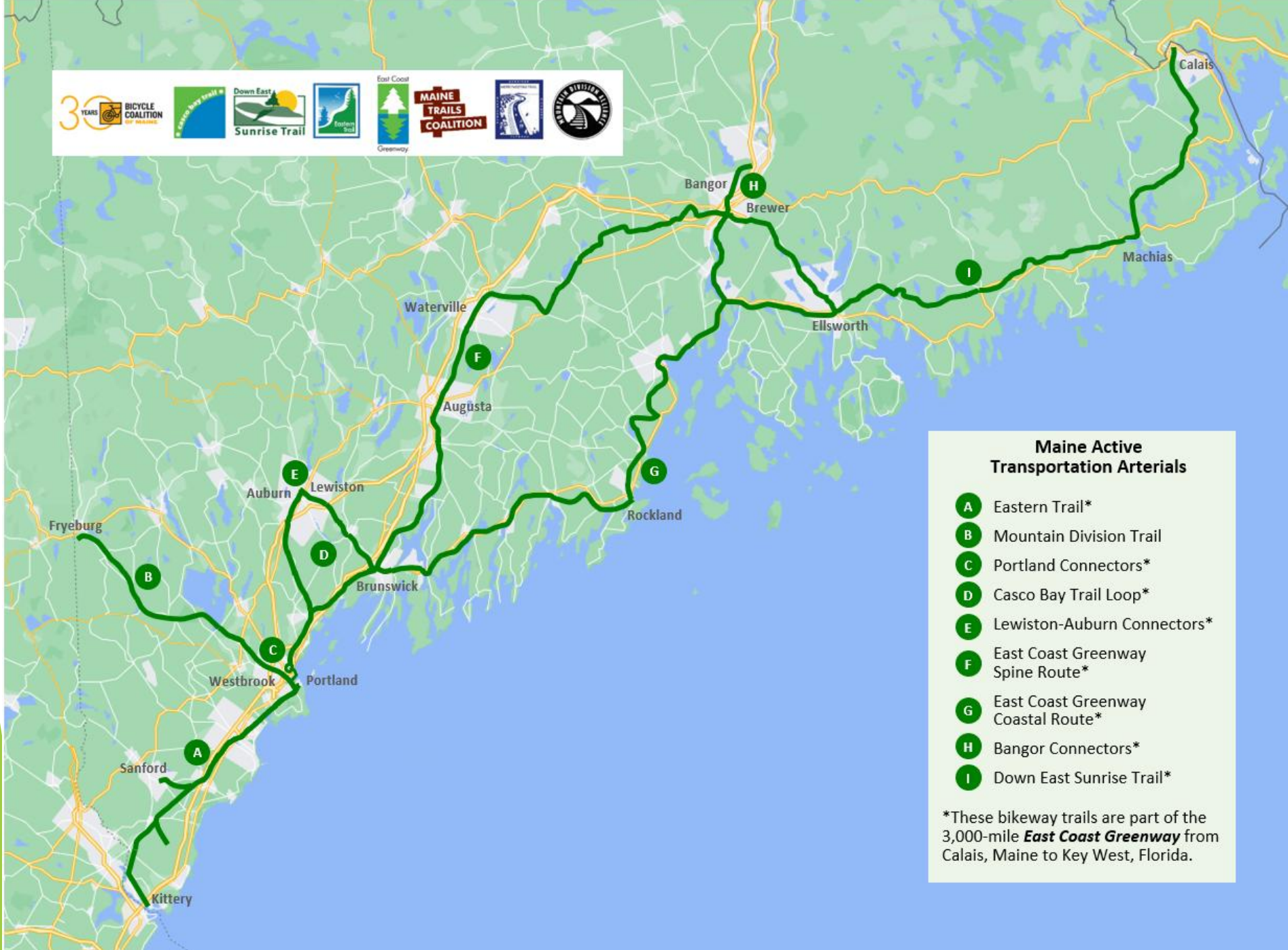
Most Recently...

- ▶ 2025 - Legislature authorizes an interim trail on the corridor and Governor signs it into law
- ▶ 2026 - Maine Department of Transportation includes \$600,000 in its work plan for coordination and design of 9.4 miles of trail between Portland and Falmouth

Future Connections



- ▶ Grant: Connecting Northeastern University's Roux Institute Campus in East Deering to Eastern Prom and Back Cove
- ▶ Maine DOT workplan includes \$600,000 for preliminary engineering study for Portland to Yarmouth segment



Maine Active Transportation Arterials

- A** Eastern Trail*
- B** Mountain Division Trail
- C** Portland Connectors*
- D** Casco Bay Trail Loop*
- E** Lewiston-Auburn Connectors*
- F** East Coast Greenway Spine Route*
- G** East Coast Greenway Coastal Route*
- H** Bangor Connectors*
- I** Down East Sunrise Trail*

*These bikeway trails are part of the 3,000-mile **East Coast Greenway** from Calais, Maine to Key West, Florida.

Interlocal Agreement

- ▶ CBTA is an interlocal trail that requires interlocal planning and development
- ▶ No money required for municipalities to join
- ▶ Prior authorization by municipality required for any future funding
- ▶ Board of Supervisors can accept grants and donations to help fund planning, construction, etc.

Other Examples

- ▶ Other regional trails have similar regional entities to guide planning, construction, and maintenance.
 - ▶ **The Eastern Trail** has succeeded in part through planning by the Eastern Trail Management District, a regional body.
 - ▶ **The Merrymeeting Trail Board of Supervisors** supports planning, construction, and maintenance of a trail connecting Topsham, Bowdoinham, Richmond, and Gardiner.
 - ▶ The Merrymeeting Trail recently obtained a Rural and Tribal Assistance grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation

Questions?

