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25,

**From:** [Stacey Brown](#)  
**To:** [brenttoddconcord@gmail.com](mailto:brenttoddconcord@gmail.com); [Herschlag, Allan](#); [Kretovic, Jennifer](#); [Hatfield, Meredith](#); [Werner, Robert](#); [Kenison, Linda](#); [Nyhan, Keith](#); [Matson, Gail](#); [Bouchard, Candace](#); [Hawkins, Zandra-Rice](#); [Coen, Mark](#); [Sexton, Amanda](#); [Keach, Fred](#); [chamby@comcast.net](mailto:chamby@comcast.net); [James Bouley](#)  
**Cc:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Letter in Support of Terrill Park Improvement Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 4, 2019 8:42:57 PM

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To Mayor Bouley and City Council,

I am writing to share my enthusiastic support for the Terrill Park Improvement Project, which includes the paved Merrimack River Greenway Trail, a new dog park, new parking lots and other amenities. I was a board member of the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail for three years because I believe that a multi-purpose trail along the river would be an amazing economic and recreational resource for the city of Concord.

I would never have gone to Terrill Park if I wasn't a board member, but once there I was able to appreciate incredible views of the Merrimack River and downtown, regardless of the time of day or season. However, it doesn't feel safe to be at Terrill Park. I would go to the park to put up a Greenway Trail poster or take pictures and inevitably there would be one or more cars idling in the parking lot with a single occupant in the driver seat who avoided eye contact. Normally, I am not fazed by fellow park goers, but these gentlemen never left their vehicles and almost always left when I pulled out my camera.

There is an existing trail, but it's not great for strollers or wheelchairs and the parking lot is severely rutted. I never had any luck convincing other mothers of young children to join us for a picnic even though the lawns were always maintained and inviting.

I also have an 85 lb dog who I walk regularly in White Park and around our neighborhood. However, the only designated dog park in the city is at Terrill Park. A fenced-in dog park is a wonderful resource for dog owners who want to allow their dogs to socialize with other dogs and run sans leash without bothering other people in the area or running into traffic. Unfortunately, I do not go there often because the parking lot at Terrill Park cannot be seen from the dog park. After visiting the dog park, I wouldn't know who I would encounter in the parking lot until I was halfway down the path.

I am no longer on the board of the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail, but I will champion it forever. I believe our parks and trails create an opportunity for us to enjoy the health benefits of nature and community. A riverside, multi-use trail would connect communities in Concord and invite travellers along I-93 to stop in. I believe renovating Terrill Park would serve as a threshold to the first section of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and provide a green space in an area of Concord that doesn't have one. I can enjoy White Park daily because philanthropic landowners 200 years ago understood the value of green space to a community. I believe Terrill Park and the Merrimack River Greenway Trail can be as much of a draw and as valuable to residents and travellers as White Park.

Sincerely,

Stacey Brown

Ward 5

To the members of the Concord City Council

I am writing to urge you to pass the resolution to fund the improvements to Terrill Park including construction of the first phase of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail. It is long overdue for Concord to begin construction of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and while I wish that this project would construct a greater portion of the trail, this project will get things started. In addition, it will be beneficial to securing future grant funding to demonstrate a commitment to building this portion.

So many communities in New Hampshire have made investments in bicycle and pedestrian trails that have created excellent opportunities for both recreation and off-street transportation, improving the health and safety of their residents. As the state capital, it's disappointing that we have fallen behind these other communities.

This project would give all residents of Concord including the disabled, improved access to the river, something that is currently lacking.

The City has more than half the funds provided for this project by the LWCF grant and the local trail organization. While expending funds is always a difficult decision, construction costs have steadily risen since the grant was awarded several years ago, reducing the portion that it is able to fund. These costs will continue to rise and the value of the grant will continue to fall over time. I urge the City Council not to delay any further in order to make the most of the grant and the contribution from the trail group.

Thank you.

Nicole Fox  
19 Merrimack St  
Concord

## Bonenfant, Janice

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**From:** Monique <dsmsbs@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2019 1:01 AM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Greenway trail

Mayor and City Council -

Please record this email as strong support for the Merrimack River Greenway trail by both myself and my wife. We ask that you support phase 1 of the project and approve construction in 2020.

We have enjoyed traveling on bike trails in both Canada around Lac St. Jean - a 180 mile loop mostly on paved bike trails, and in several U.S. locations, including Missoula, Montana, Jackson, Wyoming, and the Ohio to Erie trail running the length of Ohio from Cleveland to Cincinnati on paved trails. Traveling in Ohio near Cincinnati on a Saturday I counted over 100 people going the opposite way on the trail in just a 1-mile span.

In each of these places, it is clear that a paved multi-use trail contributes to the economic and social capital of the surrounding areas. In Canada, for example, there are B&B's along the route specifically for cyclists. In many places, there are shops and restaurants along the trails.

Phase 1 is a small segment - but it is a start. Someday it would be great to be able to ride the length of New Hampshire on a paved trail.

Regards,  
David and Monique Scharlotte  
39 Oakmont Drive  
Concord

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Peter Breu <peterbreu746@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 8, 2019 7:17 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Greenway trail

To the Mayor and City Council:

I support the Merrimack River Greenway trail and I urge the council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020. Thank you! Peter Breu, 11 Dwinell Dr., Concord, NH

## Bonenfant, Janice

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**From:** Luis Maldonado <luis.n.maldonado@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 8, 2019 6:33 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk; Hawkins,Zandra-Rice; chamby@comcast.net  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Greenway Trail

Zandra & Byron, et. al.,

I strongly support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and I urge the City Council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020.

I have been a Concord resident since 1991. I am also an avid bicyclist, hiker, and outdoorsman. Extending the Greenway through the city and eventually connecting to the Northern Rail Trail in Boscawen will be a terrific enhancement to our community and a relatively inexpensive investment in our infrastructure. Phase 1 will be a great start to this project.

In 2014, I biked the entire Northern Rail Trail, starting from Hannah Dustin and going all the way to Lebanon and back, camping along the way. One thing that was crystal clear to me was what a shame it was that the trail was not rideable down into Concord itself.

While Concord has been my home for almost 30 years, I did have to live remotely in Arlington, Virginia from early-2017 to mid-2019. While there, I saw first hand how popular the National Capitol Region's extensive and excellent multi-use trail system really was. Thanks to their trails, it was possible to enjoy safe and scenic outdoor adventures from anywhere in the city. People of all ages, economic levels, and cultural backgrounds enjoyed a sense of community from sharing the experiences of the trails, as well as the many parks along the way.

Multi-use paths, like these are also economic engines. For example, many businesses along the Washington & Old Dominion Trail (50 miles long in Northern Virginia) advertise by the trail and cater to trail users, who benefit from everything from excellent food and microbrewery options to bicycle repair services. Here in New Hampshire, you can see that many businesses advertise along the Northern Rail Trail, offering everything from hot chocolate for snowmobilers to pizza. The Greenway Trail will be good for Concord's economy.

Please vote "Yes" for this trail. Concord needs more such infrastructure.

Thanks!

Luis

Luis N. Maldonado  
67 Snow Pond Rd  
Concord, NH 03301

c: 603-496-2815

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Kathleen Conners <kathleen.m.conners@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 8, 2019 5:24 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Greenway Trail

Mayor and City Council,

We strongly support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail. We hope you will vote for the trail on Monday.

Kathleen Conners and Michael Reynolds  
5 Cambridge Street

## Bonenfant, Janice

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**From:** Dale Arnt <dale.arnt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 8, 2019 4:20 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Mayor and City Council

I support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail, and I urge Council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020

As a Pembroke resident, I realize that this will not count as a vote for a Concord resident however my family and I often visit the Concord City Parks, nearly every weekend. The potential plans for the trail along the river as well as the park, helps tie The Pembroke community even more into the Concord area. I have been so happy and proud of the downtown revitalization project and feel that the area outlined here near the Terrell dog park could help expand that same level of revitalization. That area is under utilized currently and the beautiful Merrimack River is barely accessible. My family would absolutely use the park as well as the connecting Trailway to visit concord even more. I already can imagine going to the park in the morning riding our bikes up the river and into downtown to spend the day spending money at the local shops and restaurants.

Please consider this a vote for not only expanding and enhancing the riverfront but also expanding the beautiful concord public parks system even further.

Thank you

Dale Arnt  
711 Eley Ln  
Pembroke, NH

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Crissie Ferrara <cmferrara@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 8, 2019 3:45 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk

Dear Mayor and City Council,

I am writing this email to let you know that I support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and **I urge Council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020.**

**Here are just a few reasons why you should approve this project:**

- When it's completed, a paved, multi-use trail through Concord will draw families to Concord, boosting the city's appeal and economy, just as the revitalization of Concord's Main Street has.
- Cities across the state and country are all embracing greenway paths and rail trails. As the capital of New Hampshire, Concord should not be left out.
- The trail will be paved, and therefore can accommodate people of all ages and abilities.

**VOTE YES FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE CITY CONCORD AND ITS CONSTITUENTS!**

Thank you,  
Crissie Ferrara



## Bonenfant, Janice

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**From:** Dean Whitehead <deanwhitehead1968@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 8, 2019 3:35 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Greenway Trail

My name is Dean Whitehead. My address is 126 Snow Pond Rd. Concord, NH. 03301.  
I support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail project for the following reasons....

- ~ The Merrimack River Greenway Trail will provide safe access to the natural beauty of the city, which has otherwise gone unseen and unappreciated by the majority of Concord's residents.
- ~ The trail will promote and encourage health and well-being of its residents.
- ~ The trail will be paved, and therefore can accommodate people of all ages and abilities.
- ~ When it's completed, a paved, multi-use trail through Concord will draw families to Concord, boosting the city's appeal and economy, just as the revitalization of Concord's Main Street has.
- ~ When completed, the trail will provide an environmentally friendly and safe way to commute.
- ~ Cities across the state and country are all embracing greenway paths and rail trails. As the capital of New Hampshire, Concord should not be left out.

Dean Whitehead

Sent from my iPhone

## Bonenfant, Janice

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**From:** mateoman@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 8, 2019 2:43 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** To Mayor and City Council - MR Greenway Trail

*Dear Representatives,*

*I support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and I urge Council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020. The trail will promote and encourage health and well-being of its residents. When it's completed, a paved, multi-use trail through Concord will help in boosting the city's economy.*

Thank you for serving Concord,

Matt

Matt Cahillane  
30 Spruce Street  
Concord NH

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Mathew Conlin <mathewjconlin@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 8, 2019 1:49 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** I support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and I urge Council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020!

As a Concord resident (I live on Thompson Street) and single dad, the Merrimack River Greenway Trail would only add to my daughter and I's love for and enjoyment of the city. Please approve the MRGT!

Sincerely,  
**Mathew J. Conlin**  
[mathewjconlin@outlook.com](mailto:mathewjconlin@outlook.com) | tel: 603.785.3021

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Eddee <ed@mrvolts.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 8, 2019 9:03 AM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Rail Trail

To the Mayor of Concord &  
City Councilors

Please help pass the Monday Vote on Phase 1 of the Rail Trail Construction Project.

When it's completed, a paved, multi-use trail through Concord will draw families to Concord, boosting the city's appeal and economy, just as the revitalization of Concord's Main Street has.

Thank you for your Help for Concord Tourism.

Regards

Edward Deely

11 BourroughRd

Penacook,NH 03303

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Jean <jean03301@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 10:39 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Greenway Traila

*I support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and I urge Council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020.*

*Although I am too old to use it now, I have enjoyed the trail from Boscawen to Lebanon for years. It would be great to preserve this land as an extension of the trail system for future generations to enjoy.*

*Jean Lawrie  
5 Hillcrest Ave  
Concord, NH  
603-224-0060*

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Elizabeth Rice <emrice4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 10:00 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack River greenway trail

Mayor and City counsel,

I support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and I urge Council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020.

Thank you,  
Elizabeth Rice  
Concord Resident

## Bonenfant, Janice

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**From:** Pemigw1@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 8:31 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Mayor and City Council - Terrill Park trail support

Dear Mayor and City Councilors. I am testifying in support of investments in the Terrill Park recreational trail, part of the Merrimack River Greenway. I have lived in Concord for 20 years, and have deep appreciation for the network of hiking and walking paths around the City. In the past 5 years, I have discovered rail trails, from the 350-mile Pittsburgh, PA to Washington, DC run to our own 60-mile Northern Rail Trail.

Recreational trails provide enormous benefits to health, a sense of community, connection to the outdoors, the environment, and the local economy. I ask you to approve the Terrill Park project scheduled for vote on September 9, 2019, and act favorably on future trail projects, from the Concord portion of the Sunapee – Concord rail trail, to extending the Northern Rail Trail into the heart of Concord along the recently-abandoned PanAm corridor.

Thank you in advance for supporting such a sound investment in Concord's future!

Sincerely,

Boyd Smith  
139 Liberty St.  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-512-4046  
[Pemigw1@comcast.net](mailto:Pemigw1@comcast.net)



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** susan wolfe <susanmwolfe@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 8:04 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Please support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail

Dear Mayor Bouley and City Council,

I'm writing to respectfully urge you to approve construction of Phase 1 of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail in 2020.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan  
Wolfe

53 Millstone Drive, Concord



**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Scott Olson <scott.olson@rocketmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 6:03 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Greenway Trail

To Concord City Councilors,

I support the Merrimack Greenway Trail and would like to see a yes vote to start work on the trail. This would be such a positive impact to Concord and its surrounding communities. Such trails have been implemented across the US. They have proved to be great economically for the local community and also provide positive health and environmental benefits. Please vote yes for implementing the Greenway Trail!

Sincerely,  
Scott Olson  
4 Meadow Lane  
Bow, NH 03304

Sent from my iPad

## Bonenfant, Janice

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**From:** eberthsm@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 3:48 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** To the Mayor and City Council

Dear Mayor and City Council,

We had a paved rail trail in Dutchess County, New York, and it did all the things that are mentioned below. It would be a boost to Concord's tourism and the economy, but not only that, families will enjoy the trail just as we have witnessed in Dutchess County, New York. I rode the trail every day after work from the trail head, it was 8 miles long and so 16 miles to come back to the trail head. It was safe as there was no cars interrupting my ride and there was always another bicyclist just like myself riding the trail so even though I was alone, I was not alone as the trail was very popular. It bypassed a beautiful poultry farm, the back of a horse farm, a sheep farm, and ended up in the small town of Millerton, NY, where I could relax under a gazebo, had refreshments, perhaps go into a restaurant and then ride back to the trail head, another 8 miles. Since moving here, the Dutchess Country Rail Trail was completed, below is a map. It connects to other parks and attractions such as the Walkway Over the Hudson in the City of Poughkeepsie. The trail is now 13 miles long and there is easy access to the trail with convenient parking.



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- The Merrimack River Greenway Trail will provide safe access to the natural beauty of the city, which has otherwise gone unseen and unappreciated by the majority of Concord's residents.
- The trail will promote and encourage health and well-being of its residents.
- The trail will be paved, and therefore can accommodate people of all ages and abilities.
- When it's completed, a paved, multi-use trail through Concord will draw families to Concord, boosting the city's appeal and economy, just as the revitalization of Concord's Main Street has.
- When completed, the trail will provide an environmentally friendly and safe way to commute.
- Cities across the state and country are all embracing greenway paths and rail trails. As the capital of New Hampshire, Concord should not be left out.

Best regards,

Susan

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Susan Eberth  
16 Windchime Drive Bow, NH 03304  
E-mail: [eberthsm@aol.com](mailto:eberthsm@aol.com)

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** marc normandin <mgnormandin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 2:01 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Cc:** Kim Normandin  
**Subject:** Support for the Merrimack River Greenway

Dear Mayor and City Council:

We express our support for Phase 1 of the MRGT. We know first hand from living in other areas of the country how much such a project can enhance a city and increase property values as well. As it stands today we frequently leave Concord to travel to Nashua to enjoy the Nashua River trail, but we would much rather stay home! We have made our own financial contributions to the effort because we feel very strongly about it and we urge you all to vote in favor of Phase 1 in 2020.

Sincerely,

Marc & Kimberly Normandin  
54 Pleasant Street  
Concord

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Fran Philippe <franphilippe38@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 12:29 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Greenway Trail

Dear Mayor and City Council,

*I support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and I urge the City Council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020. Doing so will allow residents multi-use access to yet another part of the city of which we are so proud.*

*Thank you,  
Fran Philippe  
234 East Side Dr  
Concord*

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Tomi Salzmänn <tomiringem@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 12:23 PM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack Greenway Trail

*"I support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and I urge Council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020."*

As an avid cyclist, walker and trail seeker, I have been working with the folks from the committee to support this for several years. So excited to see things beginning to progress! Thank you!!

Tomi Salzmänn

**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Jeanne <murrysmimi@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2019 11:55 AM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Cc:** info@mrgt.org  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Greenway Trail

Mayor and City Council,

We support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and urge the Concord City Council to approve construction of Phase 1 in 2020. It's very exciting to anticipate a trail along the Merrimack. There are too few places in Concord to really appreciate the natural beauty of the River!  
Thank you for voting to approve construction!

Jeanne North  
Page Cannon  
41 Warren Street  
Concord, NH 03301

## Bonenfant, Janice

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**From:** Nancy DiPietro <nancy@slgl.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2019 8:09 AM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Merrimack River Greenway Trail

Good Morning,

I wanted to let you know that I support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail. I urge Council to approve the construction of phase 1 in 2020.

The completed trail through Concord will enhance the accessibility and encourage health and well being of its residents. The paved surfaces will be accessible to residents and visitors of all ages and abilities.

Thank you for your support of this wonderful project.

Nancy DiPietro  
20A Grove Street  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

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Nancy DiPietro, Claims Administrator, AIC  
The Lawson Group  
P.O. Box 3304  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-228-3610  
(800) 544-8434 xt 215phone  
(603) 224-1970 facsimile  
[ndipietro@thelawsongroup.com](mailto:ndipietro@thelawsongroup.com)

**We may be changing our name, but our faces will remain the same.**

**So will the high quality service you have come to expect from The Scott Lawson Group, Ltd., Comp-SIGMA Ltd, and Workforce Wellness.**

**Healthier Employees Mean a Healthier Bottom Line.**

## **Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Roland Berube <rebnh@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2019 10:57 AM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Mayor and City Council (Re: Terrill Park renovation)

Simply stated, we support the Merrimack River Greenway Trail and urge the Concord City Council to approve construction of Phase 1 as part of the Terrill Park renovation project.

Sincerely,  
Roland E. Berube and Joanne Davis  
8 Spaulding St.  
Concord, NH 03301



**Bonenfant, Janice**

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**From:** Stacey Brown <staceyfm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2019 11:20 AM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Pictures of Terrill Park

Good Morning!

I'd like to submit a few pictures taken this morning for inclusion in the City Council meeting tonight. The first shows the uneven parking lot, the second is a view from the existing trail looking back towards the parking lot and the third is on of the magnificent views of the Merrimack River from Terrill Park.

Thank you!  
Stacey Brown  
Ward 5







August 20, 2019

Mayor Jim Bouley  
City Council of Concord  
41 Green Street  
Concord NH 03301

Dear Mayor and City Council:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Pope Memorial SPCA of Concord-Merrimack County, as well as the thousands of pet-owners we support on an annual basis, I am writing today to express our continued enthusiastic support for the Terrill Park project and the new Dog Park.

As you know, we have been a partner with the City for several years now for the care and oversight of the current Dog Park. Our staff and volunteers provide weekly upkeep to the park for the benefit of Concord residents and their dogs.

We have and will continue to work with David Gill and the City Parks and Recreation Department on the planning of this important project, and are willing to lend our support to fundraising efforts that will benefit the future Dog Park. Now that some initial grants have been secured, we hope that matching City funds will be allocated for the initial construction phase of this project and push forward the development of this highly visible and under-utilized river front park for the benefit of Concord.

Thank you for your consideration.

For the animals,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Moran".

Karen Moran  
President, Board of Directors  
KarenMoran@tds.net

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather Faria".

Heather Faria  
Executive Director  
hfaria@popememorialsPCA.org



## Bonenfant, Janice

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**From:** Christine Vigneault <christine.vigneault@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2019 9:50 AM  
**To:** \* City Clerk  
**Subject:** Terrill Park Improvements & Merrimack River Greenway Trail, Phase 1

To the Mayor and City Council,

I am writing in support of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail, and urge you to approve construction of Phase 1 of the trail and for the improvement of Terrill Park at tonight's meeting.

Originally from Newburyport, MA, I moved to Concord in 2013. Newburyport has been re-inventing itself since the 80s, with improvements to its downtown, the waterfront/ riverfront, and parks in the area. The biggest draw in recent years has been the careful design and implementation of a City-wide "rail trail". It not only provides a safe place for walkers, bikers, joggers to move around, but it also provides a way for residents and tourists to enjoy Newburyport's natural beauty, its history and its artists (art and sculpture dot the paths and trails throughout the City). Businesses have popped up catering to rail trail users, and Newburyport's economy is booming. The city has a healthy, vibrant feel, and I believe most of that is thanks to the rail trail.

I have come to love the city of Concord, and take great pride in its progress and also its character. I believe we have so much going for us here, but much of our natural beauty goes unseen and unappreciated. I am a coach with the Concord Crew (rowing team), and I am fortunate to be able to enjoy the river in that way, but most residents don't have safe access to the Merrimack. A rail trail/ greenway trail through the city would not only give residents and visitors an alternate way of traveling through town, but it would also promote healthy lifestyles and boost Concord's economy. Much like the revitalization of Concord's Main Street has drawn people (and dollars) to the City, so would a beautiful, scenic trail. I imagine the results for Concord would be identical to the results Newburyport has seen.

Please approve the resolution before the Council tonight. Concord needs this trail, and the park improvements, as soon as possible!

Sincerely,

Christine Vigneault  
11 Liberty Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
(Ward 5)