



Special Thanks

- **Eversource Energy**
for lease of land to the town of Portland for the trail
- **Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP)**
for the trail grant and continuing support
- **Portland Board of Selectmen**
for continuing support and the purchase of the Keegan property
- **Connecticut State Legislators**
for continuing support
- **Volunteer Members of the Portland Air Line Trail Steering Committee:**

Riz Rizzo, Chair
Steve Byrne
Steve Crusberg
Chantal Foster
Kathy Herron
Tom Ladny
John Shafer
Carol Winiski



It takes a dedicated group of people with support of the community, businesses, legislators, local and state officials, and many volunteer hours to build a trail.



The Portland Air Line Trail Steering Committee Presents:

Portland Air Line Trail Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

Sunday, June 3, 2018, 11 AM
Trailhead – 82 Middle Haddam Road, Portland

Program

Welcome and Introductions:

Rosario (Riz) Rizzo, Chair

A Brief History of the Portland Air Line Trail:

John Shafer

Distinguished Speakers:

- CT DEEP, State Parks Division – Laurie Giannotti
- CT State Representative - Christie Carpino
- Portland First Selectwoman - Susan Bransfield

Special Acknowledgements:

- Jamie Litner, Eversource Energy
- Kevin Grindle, Anchor Engineering Consultant
- Louis Pear, BOS, former Co-Chair of ALTSC
- Deanna Rhodes, former Portland Town Planner
- Nathan L. Jacobson & Associates
- Pat Dichello, Dichello Construction Co.
- John Hall and The Jonah Center for Earth & Art
- James Tripp and The Brownstone Quorum
- Sean Dwyer & Portland Parks & Recreation Dept.
- Rick Kelsey & Portland Public Works Dept.
- Andy Bauer (who designed our banner)
- Portland Complete Streets Group
- Spectra Energy / Enbridge

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony:

- Air Line Trail Steering Committee
- Distinguished Speakers and Special Guests
- Portland Board of Selectmen

Walk and Bike Ride on the Trail

The Portland Air Line Trail

Phase 1 of The Portland Air Line Trail is on land used by the Air Line railroad that ran between New York and Boston between 1873 and 1955. Hopefully soon, Portland's trail will connect to the current 53-mile long Air Line State Park Trail that runs from East Hampton to the Massachusetts border. The state and East Hampton are currently working to bring the trail to Portland.

The trail itself is made up of a gravel base and topped with compacted stone dust. It will be open to the public daily from dawn till dusk. The Air Line Trail is strictly intended for non-motorized use only, such as cyclists, pedestrians, equestrians, and cross-country skiers in the winter. The trail will be treated like other parks in town -- maintained by the public works department and overseen by the Parks & Recreation department.

Phase 1 of the Portland Air Line Trail is made possible because of a lease agreement with Eversource Energy, who owns the land, and a grant from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT-DEEP).

The Portland Air Line Trail committee has started work on Phase 2 of the Portland trail with a goal of continuing west to downtown Portland, the bridge to Middletown, and the riverfront park area.

