

From: [Jason](#)
To: [Caswell, Lynne](#)
Cc: crazyhorse61710@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Discontinued Roads Bill 1513 Testimony
Date: Saturday, September 18, 2021 5:26:38 PM

This message originates from outside the Maine Legislature.

Dear Lynne Caswel et al,

My name is Jason Remillard and along with my wife Jennifer, live in Amity, ME and live at the end on Monument Rd, an unmaintained and discontinued road that is a public easement. We are the last of the landowners on this road with our boundary on the US/Canada border.

As a result of the public's use of this road, we have had to invest \$1,625.00 of our own money (in 2021) to have rock/gravel added to a section of the worst part of the road, near our residence, so that my wife and I could drive on it without the threat of getting stuck in mud or damaging our vehicles. Based on our assessment we will need to invest an additional ~\$3000.00 into the road via gravel, in 2022 to ensure it is safe for us to travel on.

The public routinely uses the road by way of vehicles, ATVs and motorbikes. We have personally seen the public create deep muddy ruts and drive with no care to the integrity of the road. This has impeded our ability to move freely to and from our home and land. We are unable to keep up with the damage that is caused.

As a landowner, my property taxes were ~\$720 in 2020 and as a new resident to the Amity area, I am not yet aware of how my tax dollars are being allocated, except to say that there has been no road assistance despite having 4 full-time homeowners living on the unmaintained section of Monument Rd.

It is not fair for my township to have me, a private tax paying citizen, to fund a public easements maintenance costs - which is exactly what is happening now.

If the intent is to continue to treat Monument Rd as an unmaintained and discontinued road with public easement rights, I would expect some sort of reprieve to the homeowners and landowners who rely on this road for their livelihood.

This could be accomplished in a number of ways including:

1. Property tax credit for any personal funds used on the road by a landowner;
2. Reimbursement by the township to any landowner who uses personal funds on the road;
3. Property tax reduction for landowners who actively live on the road year round;
4. Town could provide a scaled down maintenance plan on the road by way of adding gravel to ensure the integrity of the road annually.

Alternatively, the unmaintained section of road could simply become a maintained road by the town, thus ensuring the homeowners and landowners who live off the road can have the same assurance as landowners who live on maintained roads.

I appreciate your efforts on this matter.

Sincerely,
Jason & Jennifer Remillard
476 Monument Rd.
Amity, ME 04471

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