

Use this letter as a template to introduce an elected official or agency representative to the ECG.

INSERT DATE

Representative's Name
Address Line One
Address Line Two
City, State Zip



Dear Senator/Representative/Mr./Mrs./Ms. [Insert Last Name]:

I am seeking your support of the East Coast Greenway (ECG) trail system. The ECG is a 3,000-mile route spanning the Atlantic seaboard, connecting cities, towns, and countryside from Maine to Florida. The objective is to provide a continuous, off-road, firm-surfaced route to serve non-motorized travelers of all kinds for recreation, exercise, transportation and tourism.

The ECG will be the only trail of its kind in the country. By connecting cities rather than cutting through wilderness, we are creating an entirely new transportation facility—an I-95 for non-motorized transportation. The trail is being developed by stitching together abandoned railroad corridors, canal towpaths, waterfront esplanades and other publicly owned linear spaces, all of which are locally developed and managed.

The ECG promises to transform countless lives and communities along the East Coast. [YOUR STATE/TOWN/COUNTY] is just one of the [states/towns/counties] already benefiting from this remarkable trail system. People in [BRIEF LIST OF ECG CITIES IN YOUR STATE] are able to lead more active lifestyles without risking their personal safety on busy roadways.

We believe the ECG will have a positive impact on (STATE/CITY/COUNTY). It has been clearly demonstrated that community trails enhance our quality of life in many ways. All of these benefits are multiplied when local trails are aligned with a national system. Becoming part of the ECG aids local economies by bringing trail-related tourism to the community.

The ECG is growing one link at a time, thanks to tremendous local efforts in every state. While not yet complete, there are segments open in all of the 15 states and Washington, DC that the ECG passes through. Over 20 percent of the route is now in place off-road! On-road links allow cyclists and walkers to traverse the entire route today.

Federal funding from the Transportation bill, Department of Interior Land & Water Conservation Program, National Park Service's Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program and other sources produce the majority of funding for building new trail segments. Health, Education, and Welfare departments have also been very supportive of the ECG.

The East Coast Greenway is an outstanding example of a community-based, grassroots driven project fostered and led by Americans and developed with the cooperation and collaboration of all levels of government. I invite you to join with us by supporting the development of this "urban Appalachian Trail." I do hope you will find the enclosed information on the Greenway of interest. Again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

YOUR NAME
YOUR ECGA AFFILIATION
YOUR ADDRESS