



American Discovery Trail Society

Making connections coast-to-coast

P.O. Box 1514
Front Royal, VA 22630-0032
www.discoverytrail.org

Phone: (800) 663-2387

info@discoverytrail.org

246675

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The American Discovery Trail Society opposes the change in Surface Transportation Board rules that would restrict the length of time allowed for negotiations on railbanking.

Railbanking can be a long process, requiring complicated agreements between the railroad owners of the corridor and local trail managers. Negotiations to preserve corridors can be slowed by many factors and often take years to complete.

This process sometimes requires railroads and trail managers to extend the negotiation period several times—well beyond the original six-month period provided in the railbanking law. The Surface Transportation Board (STB) proposal to significantly restrict the timeframe for these negotiations would impose an unneeded and unreasonable restriction on efforts by state and local groups to create new rail-trails.

The American Discovery Trail is America's first coast-to-coast trail. Many segments of the American Discovery Trail follow rail-trails, so this proposed rule would impede efforts to create a continuous, off-road coast-to-coast trail.

Submitted by:

Eric Seaborg

President
American Discovery Trail Society