

Trail use benefits even harshest critics

Buffalo News Published:
May 30, 2011, 12:00 AM

Updated: May 30, 2011, 6:27 AM

I wholeheartedly agree with the May 24 letter writer in support of a multiuse recreational trail on the Southtowns section of the abandoned Buffalo and Pittsburg Rail Corridor. I'm a resident and mother of four whose property touches the old railroad bed. Currently this abandoned railroad track brings nothing but trouble in the form of partying, illegal driving and trespassing.

In contrast, a controlled community trail would provide a safe place to walk, ride a bike with children, walk the dog, or jog with friends and family. Route 240 (the only non-hilly terrain out here) is not a safe road for pedestrians or bicyclists due to its multiple dangerous curves and high-speed traffic.

A multiuse trail will be a positive thing for the health and well-being of our community and its citizens. It could also give our local economy a much-needed boost in a manner that is compatible with the rural character of our community.

The most vocal opponents of community trails often become their biggest supporters and users once they see the positive impacts they bring. Controlled community trails encourage wholesome activities by law-abiding citizens. Uncontrolled, abandoned railroad tracks bring trouble.

Susan Russell
Colden