

From: [Diane Starkey](#)
To: [DNCR: Mt Washington Comments](#)
Subject: Hotel near summit
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 11:45:18 AM

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Diane M. Starkey, [REDACTED], Rochester, NH, 03867

[REDACTED], [REDACTED]

August 24, 2022

Dear Gentle Beings:

The RECORD high winds and intersection of three weather wave fronts, the harshness of the isolation in the winter season for the meteorologists, the logistical challenge of building a modern, safe, weather-resistant hotel that can only be used for three seasons *most* safely, the need for a medical clinic to service guests and staff if it were open in winter, weatherize the hotel for fall closing, provide water and sewage storage nearby, the sheer impact this would have on the natural environment of the park and mountain, just to BUILD the hotel, staffing accommodations included, food service requirements, laundry, wi-fi, television, electricity, handicapped access, Need I really go on? Profitable? Highly doubtful.

Plus the loss of any further development rights for the summit?

I really believe, not just think, you are out of your minds.

The most viable solution would be to add a hotel mid-way between the auto road entrance and the cog rail base.

Secondly; the best way to address the situation of overcrowding is to LIMIT visitors and regulate it by reservation. Yes, this would put a crimp on profits. Do you

really care about the natural beauty and needs of the forest and ITS inhabitants?

A third solution would be an AMC-model facility that is manned even over the winter! It could have a much smaller footprint, be available for emergencies, have storage for medical supplies, and encourage people to really EXPERIENCE the natural glories of the mountain IN nature. It, too, would require reservations, but would be available for study groups. It could be situated between the cog railway and the auto road in approximately the same location proposed.

This AMC-style hostel would have: NO modern amenities, but handicapped accessible in all public areas; NO PARKING AREA; serviceable sewage tanks under the outhouses; propane or alcohol spirit lamps; woodstoves as a backup for propane for heat, all area-specific; a water-treatment system on solar or wind power to re-use graywater for the best conservation of water; storage of water tanks in a cellar or underground; cinderblock, well-insulated buildings; triple-pane windows; airlocks at all entrances, (except the outhouses,) and exterior removable insect screening and permanently mounted storm shutters for all windows AND doors. Water-permeable pavements or other natural treatments for roads. Arrangements to shut down in a storm for the water/electric systems for their preservation. AND yes, a sprinkler system! With baking-soda extinguishers over all cooking devices. All utensils, dishes, and drinking vessels required to be washable. No trash but the incoming food containers and sensible trash receptacles at the outhouses.

It may very well require bring-your-own food and bedding.

This would be the bare minimum, to provide accommodations for ordinary people **safely** ON THE

MOUNTAIN OVERNIGHT. ALSO very low chance of profit.

If the weather station does not have any of this, it is a gross neglect of their safety! I would urge their upgrade immediately!

These are most of the things that need consideration. I feel you have not yet scratched the surface – the environmental impact statement, the aesthetics of the building on the view of the mountain, the encouragement of drop-in hikers, emergency shelter needs for rescues, and many other possibilities are just a few off the top of my mind. I am certain that when you get to researching the project, you will see that the three alternatives I have presented have much more common sense. The first, my husband, Richard, thought of, is the one with a chance for profitability.

Partial copy sent to Gov. Sununu

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