

**From:** [Tom Sawyer](#)  
**To:** [DNCR: Mt Washington Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Mt Washington Master Plan & Resources - Our COMMENTS  
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Hello,

We are residents of Bartlett, NH and would like to voice our opinion on the Mt Washington Master Plan. First of all we applaud all those who are managing and participating in the endeavor regardless of their views. This process will allow us to proceed in an orderly and logical fashion while listening to various stakeholders.

We feel that the #1 priority should be the preservation of the unique environment offered by Mt Washington and the Presidential Range for the enjoyment of future generations. We are in our 70's and have spent years hiking and enjoying the alpine flora and the beauty of these mountains. Tom has participated in the annual Mt Washington road race for several years in the 1980's and we have both spent the night in the Weather Observatory as guests. Our time is coming to an end but we would like future generations to enjoy what we been fortunate to experience. We realize that many people do not have the mental or physical capabilities to hike the Presidentials and witness their wonders. Therefore we see the cog railway and auto road as solutions that allow visitors to experience the mountain with some of the worse weather on the planet and to access areas where rare arctic flowers and butterflies can be seen and appreciated.

However, with this access comes a responsibility to limit encroachment by civilization so that we will not destroy what we cherish. The summit already has the Sherman Adams building providing amenities to visitors and housing the all important weather observatory that will help us to understand and control climate change. The historic Tip-Top house offers visitors a look into the past and the communication buildings exist up there as well to facilitate today's world of communications. That is enough!

With the recent COVID pandemic, increased pressure has been put on the trails and the summit as visitors choose safer outdoor activities. Therefore we are opposed to any further development on the mountain in order to preserve the environment we all treasure.

Needless to say, there should be small changes periodically to insure safety and aid in the long term conservation effort. However, we oppose changes for generating monetary profit for a few wealthy stakeholders at the expense of the fragile environment. Also the proposal now being contemplated will only benefit those with the financial means to pay for those amenities. Surely this proposal is a very bad, short-sighted plan. Ultimately that short sightedness will destroy much that we hold dear.

**Preserve and Protect the Treasures that Mount Washington Offers for All to Enjoy Now and Into the Future.**

Thank you for listening.

Tom & Diane Sawyer

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