



May 23, 2022

RE: Vonderosa Properties, LLC, Conceptual Consultation

To whom it may concern,

The Amherst Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee would like to strongly encourage the parties involved in this conceptual consultation to incorporate a 10' wide, crushed stone, multi-use path along parcels in the proposed subdivision, as well as a 14' wide permanent easement for public access to such a trail.

A long-standing BPAC initiative to connect neighborhoods, conservation land, and other destinations in town via off-road multi-use trails has proposed a route that could run through the proposed development, seeking to connect Pond Parish and Birch Park with other communities to the Southwest.

The addition of this trail would provide a valuable amenity for residents of this subdivision, should it come to fruition. It has been clearly demonstrated through several studies on the matter that close access to public, walkable facilities increases property and sale values. The completion of this route would form an important piece of a network that could directly connect residents of this subdivision to Pond Parish, Birch Park, and the proposed Baboosic Greenway Rail Trail.

As a result, the development of this land provides a pivotal opportunity: either to establish a major segment of this proposed trail, ensuring its viability or constructing a likely permanent obstacle along the desired route. We are concerned that after repeated submissions for development on these parcels there still has been no consideration of this important priority.

We understand that the topography and wetlands in these parcels may present obstacles for the routing of a trail. It is understood that investigation into this request can yield a suitable routing for the applicant that could achieve the needs of this trail. Thus, exact routing of such a trail is not specified in our request, though it is preferred that the route be as direct as possible to connect the points identified in the attached map.

It is also worth noting that standard designs do exist for the construction of multi-use trails, including in challenging terrain such as wetlands.

The general points the proposed trail seeks to connect are known and depicted in the attached map. These three points are marked in red and are found in adjacent parcels.

- Proposed Trail Connection Point A in parcel 4-109 along the Eversource transmission lines
- Proposed Trail Connection Point B in parcel 6-104 along the Eversource transmission lines
- Proposed Trail Connection Point C in parcel 6-103-16

It is strongly encouraged that a trail meeting the properties described above be included in this development's proposal to connect these three points with a routing as directly as possible within the proposed plan.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter,

Christopher Buchanan  
Chairman  
Amherst Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee  
2 Main St  
Amherst, NH 0303

