

From: [Alan Bunker](#)
To: [DNCR: Mt Washington Comments](#)
Subject: Mt. Washington Master Plan Public Input
Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2022 3:55:48 AM

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Dear Mt. Washington Commissioners:

I was born and raised in North Conway. I have also lived most of my adult life in or around the Mt. Washington Valley. My wife and 3 kids currently live in Tamworth. My wife and I have been here for 27 years. I am an avid hiker, having done all the NH 48 4K footers in the warmer months. I have done 30 of the 48 in the winter. I am 60 years young.

Pertinent feedback: I have seen use of Mount Washington grow over the years. It is something that concerns me. It is a finite resource. It seems fair that it is enjoyed by hikers and sightseers alike, whether they come up by the Cog, by Coach, or by driving themselves.

However, I believe that the summit of Washington during the summer months, is overrun with foot traffic. I don't have statistics. I am going according to how it feels. There are too many people vying to take pictures at the true summit. (You have to wait in line to even touch the summit.) Too many people waiting to get food inside. Too many people talking outside. Too much commotion going on. It's too busy.

It's not a question of getting better septic and water supply, or a bigger building or buildings. We are intruding on the mountain enough already.

The hiking community has already taken a step, in the past, to reduce hiker traffic on the "Rock Pile". Years ago, the 4,000 footer club was conceived of and publicized. "The New Hampshire 4,000-footer list was created as a way for hikers to explore new areas of the White Mountains."

So, hikers have been aware for many years that that the mountain has been subject to overuse.

Therefore, I am against any expansion of the summit buildings for visitors. (in general)

And, I will also take this opportunity to say that we must not allow any lodging establishment to be built on the side of the mountain, no matter where they wish to locate it. It should not be built no matter the description, no matter the size, no matter whether it is described as appropriate for the surroundings or not. As I said before, we have already intruded enough/too much on Mount Washington.

NO MORE EXPANSION on Mount Washington, please! No bigger buildings, No higher visitor capacity. No motel/hotel/lodging establishments of any kind allowed on the mountain, in any location, no matter the description.

Thank you for listening.

Respectfully,
Alan D. Bunker


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