



4/12/2021

Dear Commissioners,

The [Coos Cycling Club](#) has been developing mountain bike trails, organizing events, and developing a cycling community in the Gorham, NH area for over 10 years, and for the past 5 years as a formal 501(c)3 non-profit.

The Coos Trails network provides recreational opportunities for mountain bikers, trail runners, walkers, and other human-powered activities. In collaboration with public and private partners, [Coos Trails](#) includes 22 miles of trail in Moose Brook State Park and through the adjacent land around the town of Gorham utilizing the Presidential Rail Trail and purpose-built recreation trails.

We believe cycling is an integral component of thriving northern New Hampshire communities, improving quality of life and contributing to a balanced outdoor recreation economy that's helping attract new residents and entrepreneurs to the region.

The Coos Cycling Club is in support of the Town of Gorham's request for a closure of the Route 2 parking lot for loading or unloading and parking of OHRV's from May 23rd through November 30th.

As our trail network has grown, we have seen a steady increase in use and visitation, especially between May and November. The Route 2 parking area provides critical parking capacity and centralized access to the growing Coos Trails network, as well as the Presidential Rail Trail, Multi-Modal Trail and Cross New Hampshire Adventure Trail. The route 2 parking lot is also used on a biweekly basis in the fall season by the 30 members of the Berlin & Gorham Middle High School's Mountain Bike Club as well serving as an access point for our [Pete's Bikes](#) youth cycling initiative. It is our belief that the new parking area and access for OHRVs on Route 16 adjacent to the Eastern Depot Restaurant provides sufficient capacity, will reduce conflicts, and will not adversely impact OHRVs user's ability to park and access motorized trails.

We respectfully ask the State of New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to honor the town of Gorham's request and close the Route 2 parking lot for loading or unloading and parking of OHRV's from May 23rd through November 30th.

Respectfully,

Coos Cycling Club

Board of Directors