



Vincent Sapienza, P.E.
Acting Commissioner

Paul V. Rush, P.E.
Deputy Commissioner
Bureau of Water Supply
prush@dep.nyc.gov

P.O. Box 358
Grahamsville, NY 12740
T: (845) 340-7800
F: (845) 334-7175

December 13, 2017

Ernest E. Hunt
Catskill Mountain Railroad
PO Box 1415
Kingston, NY 12401

Dear Mr. Hunt:

Commissioner Sapienza received your Nov. 21 letter and asked me to respond on his behalf.

Please know that DEP respects the Catskill Mountain Railroad organization, its volunteers, and the work that you've done to revive the tourism operation on the easternmost stretch of the corridor. However, we do not believe it would be productive to further discuss long-settled issues related to the easement owned by Ulster County, or the County's project to build a recreation trail through City-owned lands north of Ashokan Reservoir.

Practically all the requests in your letter relate to items that have already been decided – some years ago, and some more recently. What's more, many of these issues are not directly related to DEP or its supportive role in the trail project.

DEP's position on the general use of the corridor through City lands has been clear and consistent for more than a decade: we would allow rail or trail, but not both. In fact, those terms are written into the easement that the City recently conveyed to Ulster County.

We hope you will reach out to Ulster County on your other requests, including concepts to link the train and the trail, which could benefit users of both.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Bosch', written over a white background.

Adam Bosch
Director of Public Affairs
Bureau of Water Supply
NYC DEP