



November 13, 2017

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

Vincent Sapienza, P.E.
Commissioner

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Dear Mr. Hunt:

Thank you for reaching out to us directly concerning the Ashokan Rail Trail. As you know, the agreement that New York City has with Ulster County creates a "trail-only" project on the Ashokan Reservoir lands. This was reaffirmed recently in the trail easement granted to Ulster County, which explicitly outlines that the entire trail easement will be extinguished if trains are run on any part of it, including the 1.1 miles that you referenced in your note.

To be clear, New York City will not permit the use of rail and trail simultaneously on any part of the easement that runs through the Ashokan Reservoir lands. This has been our position for more than a decade, and it remains our position now.

We have been cooperating fully with Ulster County on our joint vision for a trail since we first reached an agreement in principle in 2013. That being said, any linkages between the existing rail and the future trail would be at the discretion of the county so long as they are constructed off City lands.

I hope this clarification is of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vincent Sapienza', written in a cursive style.

Vincent Sapienza
Commissioner