

January 26, 2021

Mr. Mitchel Cypes, P.E.  
Hinesburg Development Review Board Coordinator  
Hinesburg Town Offices  
10632 Route 116  
Hinesburg, VT 05461

Dear Mr. Cypes,

The Town Trails Committee wants to be sure that an appropriate trails easement is part of the Hinesburg Center II development, should that project be approved. An informal email to Mr. Brett Grabowski has not yet initiated a dialogue regarding this issue.

Therefore, we are sending a more formal letter to Mr. Grabowski (copy attached) outlining a proposed trails easement. We also wish to make this initiative part of the DRB record of actions in the approval process for the proposed Hinesburg Center II development. In fact, we propose that resolution of this matter between the town and the developer should be a condition for final approval.

We have no reason to believe that this should be a contentious issue, because both parties stand to gain. A formal easement would give the town deeded trail connections between the village and the recreation fields and other destinations to the north and west such as the library and, eventually, Geprags Park. The terms of such an easement would give the developer, or subsequent owners of the property, relief from liability for incidents occurring as a result of trail use.

The proposed trails in the easement are mostly trails that are already in use, they align almost exactly with the "future trails" shown on the Hinesburg Official Map, and they do not, to our knowledge, impinge on anything that the developer plans to build.

Please record this Town Trails Committee proposal in the DRB record of the Hinesburg Center II review.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Oren Guttman  
Chair, Hinesburg Town Trails Committee  
380 Sunset Lane East  
Hinesburg, VT 05461

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