



December 10, 2008

Please join me and many other members of this community in seizing this moment on behalf of present—and future—generations.

Before us is a rare opportunity to bring a 120-acre, four-season recreation area to life in the heart of Waterville, for the benefit of the entire community.

The enormous potential of this project is bringing numerous organizations and individuals together to make this happen. The City of Waterville, Kennebec Messalonskee Trails Inc., Alford Youth Center, New England Nordic Ski Association, Maine Winter Sports Center, Colby College, and MaineGeneral-- together with a growing number of area residents-- enthusiastically support this project and invite you to join us.

Phase I is the catalyst: a four-season riverside trail—with snowmaking and grooming in the winter—gets this started for use by next winter. Phases II and III allow us to reach maximum potential as interest grows locally, regionally, and throughout the Northeast.

Why now? While the history of winter sports at this very site argues for success, the land is now secured for public benefit. Public health and the quality of life would improve. We also have experienced and dedicated leadership, a world-class trail design, and good data to support and sustain operations for a variety of recreational activities throughout the year. Public/private community collaboration is strong.

Recreation trails also attract visitors, competitors, their families, and fans. Multiple studies in rural areas prove a beneficial economic impact—in property values, job creation, retail sales and tourism—all of value during hard times.

This project doesn't reinvent the recreation trail wheel; it improves it. While existing trails in Maine and elsewhere prove that nature and recreation trails can be achieved, a number of features of the Quarry Road Recreation Area make this a model project: from snowmaking and grooming to a world-class trail design to easy access off Route 95 in the heart of Maine, and more.

The Quarry Road Recreation Area will be a tremendous addition to this community. Let's embrace the beauty we have in our back yard, reinvigorate the winter tradition, and make the best possible use of this truly splendid natural resource. Let's make this happen together.

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Quarry Road Organizing Committee

Mike Roy, City Manager
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