

Josh Arneson < jarneson@richmondvt.gov>

Re: Williams Hill Road Hearing

1 message

Jane Vossler <janevossler@gmail.com>
To: jarneson@richmondvt.gov

Fri, Sep 17, 2021 at 5:49 PM

Hello Josh,

I'm writing to you about the issue of putting in a trail at the end of Williams Hill Road. As a resident who lives two houses from the end of the road, I have several concerns.

I'm concerned about the amount of traffic the trail would bring to Williams Hill. This is a quiet road where a majority of the residents value the peace and quiet. A lot of residents walk on the road, often with children and dogs. The traffic is slow and respectful. People stop their cars in the middle of the road to talk with walkers. In many places the road is very narrow. This is a neighborhood, a way of life that people chose. Is it worth disrupting this for one more trail in Richmond?

It's not only the traffic but the parking as well. There is very little room at the end of the road for parking—I estimate maybe 4 cars at most. People will park along the rest of the narrow road making driving more hazardous. People parking, people getting rowdy and disrespectful as I've heard has happened at the trailhead on Wortheim Road. Again, is it worth disrupting the peace and safety of this neighborhood to satisfy one group of people who already have other trails to enjoy?

It might be different if Richmond had no trails and this was the only place a trail could be placed. But that isn't the case. I heard that the Trails Committee wants this trail to connect to Sherman Hollow or other trails in Hinesburg. Whose wishes are more important to the community at large—the tax paying citizens of Williams Hill or a group of Trail Committee members who don't have to live here and put up with the disruptions and lack of safety?

I'm not even getting into the arguments about the legality of whether the trail would be on town property or not and whether the town has a right to turn that into a trail. I'm not talking about the wildlife corridor that exists here and the disruption to the animals. I'll stick to arguing for a way of life that is becoming more and more scarce in Vermont. How important is it to have a trail here? I haven't heard any compelling arguments yet. Have you?

Sincerely,

Jane Vossler 1342 Williams Hill Road