



Josh Arneson <jarneson@richmondvt.gov>

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## Green Mountain Stage Race - Sunday morning 9/3 - Richmond

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Gary <Gary@gmsr.info>  
To: jarneson@richmondvt.gov

Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 2:10 PM

Hello Josh,

Thank you for speaking with me today. As we discussed I would like to be added the agenda for the 8/21 board meeting to discuss the Green Mountain Stage Race traveling on the River, Cochran, Huntington and Hinesburg Roads.

The GMSR is a 4-day road bicycle stage race run under a permit from USA Cycling which is the Olympic governing body for cycling. This is the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the race and it brings racers from all around North America and further afield. So far this year we have 500 racers registered with another 100-200 expected. At this point we have racers from 32 states, DC and 7 Canadian provinces competing. The race has been in Richmond a number of times over its 23 years of racing.

We had a permitted route that took racers from Mt. Ellen in Fayston over the Middlebury Gap, through Middlebury and Bristol with a finish at the summit of the Appalachian Gap. Recent localized flooding in Hancock and Middlebury has resulted in both Rt. 125 and Rt. 116 being significantly damaged and closed to traffic. Vtrans does not have a firm date for the roads to re-open. Since the race is only two weeks away I cannot wait to learn if the roads will re-open so I am seeking approval for the race to travel on the River Road from Duxbury onto Cochran Road then onto the Huntington Road and finally onto the Hinesburg Road. We will have 9 groups of racers based on ability, age and gender. Groups will start at approximately 10 minute intervals at Mt. Ellen and travel in a caravan consisting of a lead state police vehicle, USAC officials in cars and motor cycles, EMS vehicle, and race support vehicle. We will place notice signs

about the race a week prior to alert drivers. We will also have police officers or certified flaggers at intersections including River/Cochran, Cochran/Huntington and Huntington/Hinesburg. I have spoken to Hinesburg Chief of Police Cambridge who supports the event using the roads and is working to provide Hinesburg police coverage at the intersections which the race pays for. In total the race would be on these road from the first field to the last over approximately 2 hours.

As I mentioned the race is permitted through USA Cycling and we get insurance from that entity. I will purchase coverage that names the town of Richmond as an insured.

Finally, as an event organizer our primary focus to safety on the road for racers and all other road users. While the GMSR is a bike race it is also an athletic tourist event that between racers and supporters brings 1200+ visitors to Vermont for 4 days and nights which a benefit for the state.

I look forward to speaking with the board on Monday and answer any questions they may have.

Thank you for your help.

Gary

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Gary Kessler

Director

Killington Stage Race

Green Mountain Stage Race