

Big boost for Tupper

July 9, 2015 As submitted to the Adirondack Daily Enterprise

To the editor:

Thank you, Gov. Cuomo and New York state, for your enlightened decision to create a 34-mile, four-season recreational trail on the old rail corridor from Tupper Lake to Lake Placid! Now we beseech you to move quickly with this very promising project, to waste no time in removing the tracks this year and building the trail next year. We have waited 20 years for this to happen, and we aren't getting any younger!

This rail-to-trail conversion will put Tupper Lake and surrounding communities on the cusp of new economic growth and employment opportunities not seen in decades. What a fabulous opportunity for entrepreneurial individuals, for those with vision, optimism, commitment and a desire to help create a once-again vibrant community!

Herewith is a partial list of possibilities for potential business owners, managers and employees:

- * Bike shops where bicycles could be purchased, rented or repaired. Bike tours could be arranged and tours guides provided.
- * Snowmobile shops where sleds could be purchased, rented or repaired. Snowmobile tours could be arranged and guides provided.
- * Outdoor supply stores with equipment, clothing and rental gear available
- * Lodging to include motels, hotels, B&Bs and seasonal cabin rentals
- * Food services to include restaurants, snack bars (use refurbished train cars?), food trucks, sidewalk cafes and grocery shops
- * Bars, microbreweries, liquor stores and wine shops
- * Souvenir shops
- * Tour guides and excursion leaders for boat tours, bike tours, snowmobile adventures, fishing and camping trips
- * Courier services to transport bikers and bikes, snowmobilers and sleds, hikers, skiers, kayak and canoe trippers

Trolley services to transport tourists uptown and to The Wild Center

Now it seems certain. This trail will be built, and the tourists will come. So let us be prepared. With courage, optimism and foresight, we can help return our beloved town into a premier vacation destination, a place where outdoor family activities endure and Adirondack memories are made.

Maureen Peroza

Tupper Lake