Fort Foster Gate Changes

Duncan Lake <

Tue 12/1/2020 3:58 PM

To:town comments <tcomments@kitteryme.org>;

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IMG_4433.jpg;

Hello Kittery Town Council/Town of Kittery,

My name is Duncan Lake, I live in Kittery Point on Haley road and visit Fort Foster every single day, rain or shine, with my dog Luna. We always look forward to this time of year when town starts to slow down a little bit and the Fort is more peaceful than in the summer.

I am disappointed to see that the gates are now open at the Fort all the way into the center of the park. Personally, I am not a fan of the new setup, at all. I have had no issues with the measures that have been put in place to reduce the number of guests at the Park, including parking on one side only, which (deliberately) makes it more inconvenient to visit the park; this honestly seemed to do a great job of reducing numbers within the park.

I myself have turned around to find greener pastures when the road is totally lined with cars. I understand that it's to help avoid congestion near the gate as well and help with social distancing, but the (un)intended effect is making it more inconvenient to visit if the park is busy. It works! Now that there is not a perceived notion of the park being visibly "busy", it will attract more people, even in the colder months.

That said, the entire atmosphere and solitude within the park is totally changed now with cars passing as we walk in, during the beloved off-season. The massive jersey barrier wall, while nicely painted (no offense to the artists), is a massive eyesore in such a beautiful park (photo attached in case you have not visited yet).

Is this a long-term change? Like many other residents, we cross country ski down the road in the winter all the time, are the roads going to be plowed now? Hopefully not. I would be extremely disappointed if that were the case, especially with the fragile wetlands directly adjacent to the road.

Furthermore, on a nice day, especially on the weekend, won't the park be even more packed with people now that it's so much more accessible? This seemingly contradicts all of the measures we've been adhering to this whole time to keep the park "open" during the pandemic.

It seems like the town is doing a lot to try to please everyone, which we appreciate, but sometimes less is truly more. Honestly it seems like the hands of a few well-connected residents can pull strings and make changes that benefit themselves instead of the greater community.

Please put up a few more no parking signs up directly adjacent to the neighbor's driveways and enforce with tickets strictly and close the gate. From my observations, people will not park where there are no parking signs at Fort Foster, you just need to put a couple on the opposite side of the last driveway on the left when driving towards the gate (where there are currently none) and I have seen more than a few bad parking jobs.

I'm not naive to understand that the new system has benefits to those who are handicapped, which is wonderful, but couldn't that be resolved with designating a handful of handicap accessible spots close to the gate, like at Seapoint?

Thank you very much for your hard work and your time serving our community.

Kind regards,

Duncan

Love Lane :D



Fri 12/11/2020 2:31 PM

To:town comments <tcomments@kitteryme.org>;

Hello!

I'm sure you are getting multiple emails about this.

I'm still seeing cars speeding and going the wrong way down Love Lane, this afternoon at 2p I flagged down a car going fast, the wrong way. He turned around and came back and asked if I wanted to tell him something and I said this is a one way street and keep in mind the limit is 25 and he said when did that start, I said about two months ago. He apologized and continued down the road (the correct way).

Let me know as a resident of Love Lane if there's anything I can do to help people notice the signage? Maybe there can be Ballards at the beginnings of each end of the street but not down the whole thing, I know they're in the way for plowing but definitely helped people see that the street was one way.

Thanks! Liz Beebe (36 love ln)

Re: Town Council Confirmation

Calvin Akers <

Mon 12/14/2020 11:42 AM

To:town comments <tcomments@kitteryme.org>;

Good Afternoon,

I would like to submit the following comments for consideration. I appreciate any time you may give this.

Thanks

Calvin

Calvin Akers Clayton Lane Kittery, Maine

To the Kittery Town Council,

Thank you for allowing me to submit comment on what is a very important and very historical issue for the Town of Kittery. I want to start by saying that I am in full support of both adult use and medical facilities within the boundaries of Kittery and within the zones listed in the proposed petition.

However, having assisted other municipalities on drafting/passing language for marijuana ordinances, I would suggest breaking the different license types into segments if the ordinance is developed through the council rather than the petition. What I have found is that the language, codes and standards for the manufacturing, testing, and cultivation are much more involved than that of retail and would take considerably more time to develop than a retail ordinance. Aside from odor mitigation and security, Kittery has a strong grasp on retail requirements. As for the other license types, you are looking at regulating off site impacts such as odor mitigation, waste management, security, power/water usage, traffic, Fire/Safety Standards, C1D1 standards for labs, et al.

In summary, I believe if the Town Council has interest in moving expeditiously then you may want to consider separating the ordinances by license type so the town can take the time to dive deep into all of the considerations that come with manufacturing.

I am happy to volunteer my time, knowledge, and experience at anytime or juncture during this process.

Again, thank you for allowing my comments to be heard.

Best,

Calvin Akers

Calvin Akers Owner/Operator Wisely Cannabis P: 207.842.6337 www.wiselycannabis.com

Cannabis stores

Rebecca Emerson

Mon 12/14/2020 10:38 AM

To:town comments <tcomments@kitteryme.org>;

I firmly support the allowance of recreational cannabis stores in Kittery. Rebecca Emerson-Brown Wilson Rd Kittery