



## Eighth Annual Forum Collaboration Works

July 16, 2014  
Sabattis Pavilion, Long Lake

### Overview of the Forum

- We listened to your feedback: most of today is in workgroups
- First, a brief perspective on CGA
- Then, three CGA accomplishments:
  - ADK Partnership's Economic Strategies Project
  - Adirondack Non-Profit Summit and Economic Impact Study
  - Amendments Working Group proposal
- Then, how our elected officials view CGA
- Workgroup Tasks start no later than 11:30

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**Adk Futures**  
Jim Herman  
and Dave Mason



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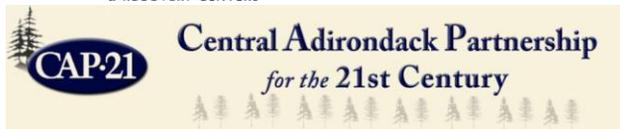
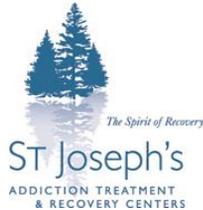
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## Feedback and Notes Cards

- Please fill out the FEEDBACK CARD and give it to us before you leave
  - Indicate the workgroup you participated in
  - Whatever you write in the GENERAL FEEDBACK area will be included in the Forum documentation
  - Give suggestions for next year's topics
  - Your feedback shaped this year's forum significantly
- The NOTES CARD is yours to use and take away

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## Results of the Legislative Priorities Poll

- 135 people completed the poll online
- Perfect score would be 1
- Lower is better

Increase funding and effort on stopping invasive species	4.82
Fund broadband deployment, training in how to use for economic benefit	4.91
Funding for water systems: waste treatment, storm management, drinking	4.96
Update to SLMP, move to landscape planning	6.14
Pass Community Net Metering for renewable energy projects (S4722)	6.89
Assist farm transfers to young people	6.94
Create inter-regional REDC sub-council for the Park	7.55
Assist in conversion to safe, clean biomass heating	7.62
Pass proposed Article XIV amendment to allow for utility modernization	8.15
Pass and implement a successful TDR system	8.38
Submit a bid to create a regional smart grid	8.49
Address rail safety issues with oil trains along Lake Champlain	8.68
Support the NC Health Systems Redesign Commission	10.38
Increase scheduled air access at all regional airports	11.10

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# Nonprofit Summit and Economic Impact Study

- Nonprofits are responsible for 1 in 10 jobs in the Adirondacks
- Nonprofit organizations have used the Economic Impact Study to engage with donors, local and state government officials and other partners

- [www.generousact.org/leading/economic-impact-study](http://www.generousact.org/leading/economic-impact-study)



**ECONOMIC IMPACT**

**36 ADIRONDACK NONPROFITS**



## Two Years Since Starting as a CGA Forum Working Group in 2012...

### CGA Amendment Proposal

Dave Mason  
July 16, 2014

## Who is the CGA Amendment Working Group?

- Started by Neil Woodworth and Karyn Richards after the CGA Forum in 2012, and then turned into this CGA work group:
  - Karyn Richards, DEC Forest Preserve Coordinator
  - Neil Woodworth, ADK Mountain Club
  - Ross Whaley, CGA Core Team
  - Bill Farber, Chairman Hamilton County
  - Ken Hamm, DEC Legal
  - Sherman Craig, APA Commissioner
  - Ed Franz, DOT Adirondack Park
  - Jim Herman, ADK Futures
  - Dave Mason, ADK Futures
- The group self-organized and was not officially appointed by anyone to do anything
- 70 interviews, mostly in Nov/Dec 2012 and a 2<sup>nd</sup> round of ~25 in the fall of 2013

## Part One: A Use Amendment

- Legally allow existing utilities associated with roads in Forest Preserve as permitted use
  - A legal correction of a long known problem like TWP 40
- Legally allow new buried utilities in a road ROW over Forest Preserve as a permitted use
  
- Would NOT allow new aerial pole lines
- Would NOT allow new submerged cable
- No change to existing widths of road ROWs
- No change to Highway Law

## Part Two: Land Bank #3

- Maintenance of town and county roads, especially bridges and culverts to:
  - accommodate higher storm water flows and
  - enable better fish and wildlife habitat connectivity
- Realignment of existing aerial utilities as required for safety or related to road projects
- Short aerial utility lines (1/2 mile) where no buried option is available
- Drinking water systems and waste water treatment projects
- Restarting existing hydro dams and shared community solar to reduce greenhouse gas production
- Public health safety and welfare projects not associated with roads such as airport safety, cemeteries, transfer stations, fire and rescue buildings

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## Project Size Limits

- Project limits
  - No project can be larger than 10 acres
  - No project can involve more than a ½ mile of road
  - No aerial utility project can be longer than ½ mile
  - No one town can use more than 20 acres
- Projects require all normally needed approvals and permits
- Approved projects cannot be diverted to unapproved uses
- Can be only be used when no feasible alternative exists
  
- We expect this land bank to last a half century or longer
- We don't expect every town will need to use it

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## 500 Acres is Conservative

- The State DOT Land Bank was 400 acres serving 291 miles of road
- This land bank will serve 1200 miles of road, as well as non-road projects
- It is conservative for a reason: to ensure it is treated as a scarce resource
  - Simple math suggests it should be 1200 acres

## Known Next Steps

- A summer of feedback
- Version 2 of the proposal
- Then legal writing and onward in a long process

## Toward a More Diverse Adirondacks

- CGA is a co-sponsor of a symposium on diversity in the Adirondacks
  - Saturday August 16 8am to 5pm
  - SUNY/ESF Adirondack Interpretive Center(AIC), Newcomb
  - Sponsors: SUNY-ESF, Adirondack Foundation, John Brown Lives!, Adirondack Almanack, Adirondack Council
- Diverse internal and external voices on a complex topic
- A serious long-term threat to the Park
- Contact the AIC: 518.482.2000 aic@esf.edu

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## Workgroup Exercises

- 14 workgroup topics chosen by online survey (135 responses)
  - A core team member will facilitate but not present
- The exercise is in two parts
  1. Share information about this set of issues
  2. Brainstorm strategy for success in this area
- Self-select into group where you can contribute and/or learn
- Lunch available at 12:15, you need to work while you eat
- Short readouts start at 2:00pm

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## Workgroups

1. Backing off the back country, promoting hamlet life
2. Recreation destination planning
3. Thwarting invasive species
4. Adirondack response to climate change
5. Scaling up the local food sector
6. Creating a regional identity
7. Financing innovations for small business
8. Waste water, storm water, drinking water infrastructure
9. Enhance stability of agriculture and forest industries
10. Transportation infrastructure improvements
11. Renewable energy
12. Making small schools affordable and good
13. SLMP update and moving to landscape scale planning
14. Arts, culture and heritage as drivers of Park revitalization

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## Workgroup Exercise 1 – You are Here

- Goal: Share information about what is happening on this
- Tasks:
  1. Review the material provided from the ADK Futures database including evidence about what has been happening (or not) in this area
  2. Participants volunteer additional information and it is recorded on flip charts
- You have data packets with:
  - Excerpts from ADK Futures vision related to this topic
  - Events from ADK Futures database related to this topic
  - Selected other materials as relevant

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## Workgroup Exercise 2: Strategy

- Goal: Where do we want to go and how do we start out right?
- Tasks (Record answers on flipcharts):
  1. **Expand the vision** for this issue area: describe what success looks like.
  2. Considering what is already happening (the prior hour's discussion), are we making positive progress in this area or not? **Is the progress sufficient?**
  3. Brainstorm a list of **new, or enhanced, activity** needed to better move forward in this area
  4. Decide as a group or use dots to select the **single most important** increased activity from the list you just made.
  5. **Who** can take on this activity? What are the **next 2 steps** forward?
  6. Is there a specific **legislative message** for Albany or Washington on this issue?
  7. Choose a spokesperson to explain your workgroup's output at 2pm

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## Workgroups

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