



Glenview

Responses to Questions from March 2023 Survey and Community Workshop and Subsequent Hearsay

1. What factors went into the design of the trail plan?

The trail designs reflect our internal deliberations and firsthand knowledge of land management as well as factor in community and neighbor input. The proposed trail loops go through different habitat types, have varying lengths, and gradients to accommodate broad interests such as birdwatching, photography, painting, enjoying the views, hiking, walking, and skiing, as well as trails that are suitable for wheelchairs, other mobility devices, and strollers. The proposed parking area is below the grade of NYS Route 86 to address concerns about visibility. To address safety concerns, the proposed entrance is where sightlines are most optimal for drivers, and safety will continue to be examined in subsequent stages. We are also committed to contacting the department of transportation to request a lower speed limit.

2. What part of the trail system will be accessible for people who use wheelchairs?

We envision the field loop as the most conducive to providing a firm and stable surface with limited gradient and side slope to accommodate wheelchairs and other wheeled aids like walkers and strollers.

3. What factors influenced the location of the parking area?

Visibility and safety were the biggest considerations of the proposed parking area and design. That's why it is below the level of NYS Route 86 and the entrance is where the longest sightlines are for drivers. At the same time, we want to ensure the parking area is safe for visitors. We are also committed to contacting the department of transportation to request a lower speed limit.

4. Will the surface of the parking lot be dirt or paved? How many parking spaces will it have?

We will have a better idea of the number of parking spaces and the nature of the surface as we get further into site assessment and environmental conditions. Our aim is to size it for the expected use (e.g., visitors using mobility devices, perhaps school groups) while not causing overflow parking issues. The surface will need to be firm and stable to accommodate vehicles and a small section immediately adjacent to NYS Route 86 will likely need to be paved for safer access.

5. How will you prevent people from visiting Glenview after hours or camping in the parking lot? Will the parking lot be gated? Will it be plowed in the winter? Who will pay to keep the area clean?

These kinds of issues are important, and hearing about them from community members demonstrates alignment with our internal discussions about effective and responsible management. We can adjust trail layouts and designs, install signage or gates, communicate clearly, and take other actions to provide recreational access that is safe, clean, and welcoming while also protecting natural resources, wildlife habitat, and the scenic vista. How we manage the property reflects who we are as an organization, and we are committed to getting it right.

6. What uses will be permitted? Will dogs, bikes, e-bikes, or horses be allowed?

The permitted uses must be compatible with our vision for Glenview to be a safe place where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy the scenery and connect with nature. We currently do not plan to allow bikes or horses. Dogs are under consideration as we strive to balance recreation with habitat protection.

7. What will the viewing platforms look like? Is there a way to connect a trail to the Bloomingdale Bog trail?

The viewing platforms are meant to give people a vantage point of nature and the bog that they would not otherwise have. The height and dimensions will depend on the topography of the terrain and location. The plan does not contemplate connecting to the Bloomingdale Bog trail for a variety of reasons. It would require a half-mile boardwalk trail through state land and would negatively impact sensitive wetland and boreal bog habitat.

8. Does there need to be a pavilion? How far apart will the benches be spaced?

We think it is important to provide some shade and a gathering place for visitors and we are open to exploring different options than a traditional wooden pavilion. We've heard from many people that benches are important as rest places and places to enjoy the property along the trail, and we intend to include them. Design and spacing to be determined.

9. Will trees need to be cut for the trail to be built? Have you considered the potential impacts to wildlife?

Yes, we anticipate that some trees will need to be cut to build the trail through the forested portion of the property. The trail layout will determine the extent of tree cutting and it's worth noting that it may be necessary in the future to cut trees for safety and forest health reasons. This area was logged in 2011 and we will continue to let it regrow into a mature forest. Old logging roads, which are in varying condition, will be considered for trail locations.

We currently mow and remove trees from the field to maintain the meadow habitat for wildlife and the scenic vista for the enjoyment of the community.

10. Will there be a wedding pavilion, yoga platform, or barbeque pit?

No, no, and no.

11. Where can I find more information or share my thoughts?

We will continue to engage community members in this process and welcome your ideas or questions. You can visit our website for updates, plans, and other information or contact Stewardship & GIS Specialist Becca Halter at becca.halter@adirondacklandtrust.org or 518-576-2400 ext 105.