

From: Finlay, B Brett [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 1:26 PM
To: Jane Wolverton; Tahirih Rockafella; Dan Rogers
Subject: Upper ridge public access for Crystal Mtn Access

Dear Trustees:

I understand that soon you are going to consider the Crystal Mountain zoning application. I have read their response to concerns, and want to address one area specifically: public access across the upper ridge.

Access to that ridge is via an easement through our property (and one more). Hence all traffic to and from the upper ridge goes directly through our property, which is their right. I am relieved they have decreased the number of proposed cabins from 5 to 3. What really concerns me is pedestrian access across the upper ridge from our side to DL87 on the other side. This is a beautiful ridge (same geological formation as Bodega Ridge) that runs from our property, through Crystal Mountain, and through DL87. On DL87 there is an old logging road that I keep clear that comes up from Old Cook Road to the ridge. Thus a wonderful 45 min hike goes through the easement, along the ridge, down DL87, along Old Cook Road, and back to the easement. It really is a special walk. In the current Crystal Mountain proposal, they show that their property would extend all the way out to the ridge edge (there is a nice view there), which effectively would block access across the ridge from our side to DL87. I have spoken several times to members about this, but see no sign of any access on their proposal. In theory, assuming the plans go through as drawn, they could fence off their part and this would completely shut off ridge access.

I would like to propose, that as part of the land transfer, that some bypass or right of passage be given so that the ridge can still be traversed. As a cofounder of the Galiano Trails Society, I have put the access part of our land to be used as trails, which would then allow access across the ridge.

I strongly believe that this is a wonderful opportunity to really give the public a major benefit as part of this land transfer. If not, the only accessible land is a very steep cliff face that is not traversable (Believe me, I have tried!).

Please consider ensuring some kind of pedestrian access across the upper ridge, otherwise we lose a beautiful part of Galiano to the public, especially since it is adjacent to the public DL87.

