



**DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY WITH RESPECT TO  
THE 2025 UNIT MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT FOR THE MT. VAN  
HOEVENBERG INTENSIVE USE AREA**

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**WHEREAS**, Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act (APA Act) directs the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to develop, in consultation with the Adirondack Park Agency (Agency), individual management plans for units of land classified in the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan (APSLMP) and requires such management plans to conform to the guidelines and criteria of the APSLMP; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to such guidelines and criteria, the APSLMP prescribes the contents of unit management plans (UMPs) and provides that the Agency will determine whether a proposed individual UMP complies with such guidelines and criteria; and

**WHEREAS**, in December 1986, the NYS Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA), in conjunction with DEC, adopted the Mount Van Hoevenberg Recreation Area UMP; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 1999 and August 2018, ORDA, in conjunction with DEC, adopted amendments to the 1986 Mount Van Hoevenberg Recreation Area UMP; and

**WHEREAS**, ORDA, in conjunction with the DEC, has prepared the 2025 Mt. Van Hoevenberg UMP Amendment (2025 UMP Amendment); and

**WHEREAS**, the 2025 UMP Amendment proposes management actions to modernize sliding complex infrastructure, create a Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) sanctioned mountain bike course for future UCI Mountain Bike World Series events, and recognize the wax cabins located in an existing parking lot as conforming structures; and

**WHEREAS**, the APSLMP states “due to the extensive State control in the form of a permanent easement over the North Elba Park District lands on Mt. Van Hoevenberg, these lands have also been considered State lands for the purposes of the Plan” (APSLMP at 1-2); and

**WHEREAS**, the APSLMP identifies Mt. Van Hoevenberg as an existing intensive use area; and

**WHEREAS**, the APSLMP states Mt. Van Hoevenberg “should be maintained as a year-round sports facility meeting international standards for such sports as bobsled, luge, biathlon and cross-country skiing on improved cross country ski trails under developed, competitive conditions” (APSLMP at 45); and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed plan conforms to the basic guidelines for Intensive Use Areas and will avoid material alteration of wetlands, minimize extensive topographic alterations, limit vegetative clearing, and preserve the scenic, natural and open space resources of the intensive use area; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, ORDA presented the Draft 2025 UMP Amendment to the Agency and the Agency authorized a joint public comment period on the draft 2025 UMP Amendment from October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, through November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, ORDA and the Agency received 10 written comment letters during its public comment period; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, ORDA presented the 2025 UMP Amendment to the Agency and Agency staff recommended that the 2025 UMP Amendment conforms with the guidelines and criteria of the APSLMP; and

**WHEREAS**, ORDA, as lead agency for purposes of State Environmental Quality Review, determined that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact, and issued a Notice of Determination of Non-Significance on December 20, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 7 of New York State’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), the Agency has considered climate change and the state’s climate goals and finds that the 2025 UMP Amendment is not inconsistent with, and will not interfere with, the attainment of the state’s greenhouse gas emissions limits; and

**WHEREAS**, the Agency has considered the 2025 UMP Amendment, the October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 staff presentations, comments received by the public, and the deliberations of Agency Board Members and designees at the Agency’s January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that pursuant to Section 816 of the Adirondack Park Agency Act, the Agency finds that the Proposed Final Unit Management Plan Amendment for the Mt. Van Hoevenberg Intensive Use Area, dated January 2025, conforms with the guidelines and criteria of the APSLMP; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Agency authorizes its Executive Director to advise the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation and the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Olympic Regional Development Authority of the Agency’s determination in this matter.

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstentions:**

**Absent:**