



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

February 7, 2023

Dear Chairman Gray and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I write to you today regarding Senate Bill 55, making an appropriation for the Cannon Mountain tramway.

I want to thank Senator Gendreau and the other co-sponsors for bringing attention to the need for substantial investment in this iconic site – and it will be substantial. We all know that infrastructure projects of this size are not low cost. Additionally, the Tram at Cannon Mountain needs to be replaced within the next 5 years to continue effective operation – so now is the time to make an investment. I would and ask that given the size and purpose of this historic upgrade all variables and options be given due consideration to ensure best use and design of the project.

My office has been working with Commissioner Stewart and the team at the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for nearly two years looking into the cost of replacing the Tram and potential alternative options to reach the summit. Latest estimates indicate replacing the Tram with another Tram may be in excess of \$25 million. I urge the committee to consider all options and alternatives including the installation of an 8-10 person gondola that carries numerous benefits over the older tram model.

In addition to the savings on construction cost, a gondola would increase revenue, through its ability to bring customers to the summit faster, as well as create a more secure customer experience. Visitors may feel more comfortable in a gondola with 8 to 10 people rather than a tramway car with 70 to 100 people during the height of respiratory illness season in the winter months.

I thank you for your attention and your consideration of all proposals for the replacement of the Cannon Mountain tramway as this legislation moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher T. Sununu".

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor