State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF PARKS & RECREATION

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76

May 6, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation to make a payment to the Mount Washington Summit Road Company d/b/a Mount Washington Auto Road (VC #154040), Gorham, NH in the amount of $24,000 for a portion of road repairs to the auto road for wear and tear caused by DNCR's snow cats during the 2023-2024 winter season, effective upon Governor and Council approval. 100% Other Funds (Agency Income).

Funding is available in account, Mt. Washington Commission, as follows:

	FY2024
03-035-035-351510-37420000-022-500257-35M00311 – Rents – Leases Other Than State	$24,000

EXPLANATION

The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) and the Mount Washington Auto Road (Auto Road) have had an agreement since 1975, when the Auto Road expanded and improved the summit parking areas at Mount Washington State Park. The 2004 agreement continued to provide the Auto Road with use of DNCR's summit parking areas and granted DNCR access to the summit via the auto road, but also provided for reimbursement to the Auto Road to cover damages to the auto road from the snow cat equipment used by DNCR to access the summit in the winter.

The DNCR and the Auto Road entered into a Non-Disturbance Agreement (NDA) in 2016 to allow the Auto Road to secure financing for its hotel project located at the base of Mount Washington (approved by the Governor and Executive Council on August 24, 2016, item #46B). The NDA provided the Auto Road rights to use the summit parking areas and the DNCR rights to access the summit via the auto road through August 2, 2033. Reimbursement for yearly winter damage costs to the auto road was not included in the NDA. For this reason, costs are assessed yearly once the winter season has ended and an evaluation of repairs and associated costs can be determined.

Current estimated road repair and maintenance needs relative to the length of the auto road particularly where it is now paved is assessed to be $24,000 for DNCR. A copy of the invoice from the Auto Road is attached for your information.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian J. Wilson
Director

Concurred,

Sarah L. Stewart
Commissioner

Invoice

Mt. Washington Summit Road Co.
PO Box 278
1 Mt Washington Auto Road
Gorham NH 03581

Date	Invoice #
6/30/24	13173

Bill To
NH Dept. of Natural & Cultural Resources Parks & Recreation 172 Pembroke Road Concord, NH 03301

Terms
Upon Receipt

Description	Amount
JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024 - Auto Road Use Damages	24,000.00
	Total $24,000.00