## Appendix B

### 2008 Visitor Use Survey Summary Maggie Wildnauer, Mt. Agamenticus Conservation Crew

#### Introduction

This survey was used to gain insight concerning the recreational uses of Mt. A, information about its visitors, as well as public opinion of the work the conservation crew has done on the mountain. Also included this year were questions concerning the addition of a user fee for the mountain.

#### Methods

Surveys were taken twice a day, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at three locations: the summit, the base parking lot, and the cedar parking lot. During the months of July and August, seven full days of surveying took place: one on each day of the week. Conservation crew members were instructed to approach visitors and ask them a series of questions about their Mt. A. experience. The dates surveyed were 7/26, 7/27, 7/28, 7/29, 7/30, 8/7, and 8/8.

#### Results/Summary

A total of 735 visitors were recorded on the mountain throughout the survey, which averages out to 105 people per day. There were 251 cars, 10% with bike racks, which equals a daily average of 36 cars. There were also 72 bikes, 1 ATV, and 58 dogs total. The average group size was 2.4 people, the same value as in 2007 (see *Table 2*).

The crew obtained slightly less than 200 individual surveys. They showed that 36% of people were first time visitors, while 31% visited once to a few times a year. The other 33% constituted frequent users – meaning they visited at least once a month. Over a third of the visitors heard about Mt. A. from a local resident or because they themselves were local residents. 'Word of mouth' and 'friend or family' received 19% and 14% of the answers, respectively. In addition to those totals, 7% heard from the Internet, 6% heard from summer residents, and 4% of people saw it on a map. The 'other' category had 10% of the answers, with guidebooks and simply seeing it being the most common answers. The numbers for how often people visit the mountain have remained relatively consistent since 2005. The numbers for hearing about the mountain, however, have changed this year mainly because of the word of mouth option, which often applied to people who weren't sure of exactly who they had heard about Mt. A. from, just that they had heard it 'around' (see *Table 1*; see *Figures 1* and 2).

When asked how far they had traveled, 48% were locals, from less than 30 miles away, and 52% were non-locals, from over 30 miles away. For locals, 29% were from York, followed by 9% from Portsmouth and 7% each from South Berwick, Kittery, and Kennebunk. For non-locals, 30% were from Massachusetts, while 12% were from NY, 9% were from Canada, and 8% were from Connecticut. The amount of locals seems to have decreased slightly since 2006 and 2007, while the amount of people from further away, specifically Massachusetts and New York has increased (see *Table 1*; see *Figures 3, 3a*, and *3b*).

The recreational uses for the mountain seem to have stayed pretty constant over the years. Hiking and sightseeing had the most responses with 41% and 23%, respectively. Biking came in third with 16%, followed by dog walking with 10% (see *Table 1*; see *Figure 4*).

Trail conditions were evaluated on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the best. Only 44% gave the trails a five, while 48% gave it a four, 8% a three and nobody gave a one or two. Last year 'five' was the dominant choice. When asked about the number of signs around the mountain, 87% said it was just right, while 8% said too few and 5% said too many. This was fairly consistent with previous years, though more people thought there were too many signs and a lot less thought too few (see *Table 1*; see *Figures 5* and 6).

Questions 9, 10, and 11 were asked only to our frequent users. The seasonal uses were distributed fairly equally, though winter had slightly less and summer had slightly more use. The majority of people stayed on first hill, followed by second, while Third Hill and the water district property had about the same amount of usage. The unmarked trails had the least activity. These results were similar to those in 2007, although it seems that more people are venturing out to Second Hill this year. About half of the frequent visitors came with family or by themselves, while few came with an organized group. The only mentioned group was the York Parks and Rec day camp (see *Table 1*; see *Figures 9, 10*, and *11*).

This year a new question was posed to the public, whether they would be willing to pay a fee for the use of the mountain, either daily or annually. The data was broken down to responses from locals (<30 miles away) and non-locals. After looking at the results it was clear that although some locals would be willing to pay the daily fee, more would prefer some type of annual membership. For non-locals the daily fee was more appropriate than the annual fee. It depended on how often they visited the mountain and how much they'd be paying. For the daily fee, both groups seemed to favor \$2 or \$5 (whether this is per person or group or car is unclear and should be clarified if future surveys take place). For the annual fee, \$25 was the majority choice for both groups (see *Table 3*; see *Figures 7*, *8*, *8a*, *8b*, and *8*.).

The visitor comments concerning fees were numerous. Many people said that it would dissuade them from visiting and that they would seek alternative recreation if a fee were to be implemented. A lot of people preferred a more obvious donation tube with a suggested donation clearly displayed as well as an explanation of where the money would be going. Many people also thought that locals should be free or given a discount since they pay taxes. Another opinion was that if a fee were to be charged, more amenities would have to be provided, specifically restrooms. One person pointed out, however that charging the fee and increasing amenities would increase the amount of people, which means the mountain would again need more money and more amenities. What would the stop threshold for development be?

From the surveyors' perspective, the trail crew got the impression through answers and attitudes that a fee would not be very welcome. Some mentioned that it was a relief to have one thing in the area to do that didn't cost money. Though most people would pay, they would be disappointed about it and perhaps not visit as often. A suggested (and more obvious) donation, however, would prevent people from complaining about a fee and would hopefully bring in more money. It seems like at least

a trial run with a more obvious donation would be a more peaceful solution than charging a fee immediately. A list of fee comments is included (see *Table 5*).

The most helpful aspect of this survey was by far the individual comments of the people. It allowed us to take ideas and opinions and actually apply them to Mt. A. Many people mentioned the need for trails catered more towards mountain bikers so that they flowed better and allowed the bikers to maintain some speed. Also mentioned was the need for an improved view out towards the ocean. People asked for the rock pile sign to be put back up and the lookout tower re-opened. Improved driving directions were also requested, in the form of signs along Rt. 1 and at intersections, like Clay Hill Rd. These signs would also help advertise the mountain better. People mentioned increased advertisement of the views as well, so that more people are aware of what the mountain has to offer besides hiking.

The feedback on trail maintenance was more often positive than not, though some did mention that while hiking is great, the trails are rougher for biking. A lot of people requested a more detailed and expanded map which includes Second and Third Hill, as well as one of the whole area with distances and times on it. A map revision is currently in process, however, it should be noted that some believe it would be a negative thing if there were too many signs or blazes further out from first hill.

Many people thought that the nature center would be great because it would provide more information on things such as the mountain's history and the region's native plants. People do, however, enjoy the rustic, natural feel of the area and hope that it will remain. Other comments included alternative revenue sources such as selling water and opening up the tower for a fee. A list of visitor comments is included (see *Table 4*). All in all people seem to enjoy the mountain as it is, appreciating its beauty and the work the conservation crew performs.

This survey was a general success because we were able to gain insight into public opinion, which allows us to better maintain the mountain. It's clear that Mt. Agamenticus is a recreation destination for a wide variety of people who enjoy a wide variety of activities.

## Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission Traffic Counting Program

Town: Mt A Site: 287

Road: Entrance Road Location: 200" up from gate

#### Seven Day Volume

	Thu		Fri	i	Sa	t	Su	n	Мо	n	Tue		Wed		Mon ·	- Fri	Wee	-k
Interval		/9/2008 10/10/2008		10/11/2008		10/12/		10/13/		10/14/2008		10/15/2008		Average		Average		
Begin	UD	down	UD	down	UD UD	down	10/12/ UD	down	10/13/ UD	down	UD	down	up	down	up	down	UD	down
12:00 AM	up	uowii	1 0	0	- up	uowii	up 0	0	up 0	0	- up	uowii	- up	uowii	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6
1:00 AM			0	0	1	2	o o	0	1	1	Ô	Ô			0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6
2:00 AM			1	1	1	1	ŏ	Ŏ	ō	ō	ŏ	ŏ			0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
3:00 AM			Ō	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ŏ	0			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4:00 AM		-	Ö	Ō	Ö	Ö	Õ	Ö	Ö	Ŏ	Ŏ	Ö			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5:00 AM			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
6:00 AM		-	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0			0.7	0.3	0.4	0.2
7:00 AM		-	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0			0.3	0.0	0.4	0.0
8:00 AM		-	5	1	5	2	8	5	3	4	4	1			4.0	2.0	5.0	2.6
9:00 AM		-	7	2	6	2	22	9	9	4	8	3		-	8.0	3.0	10.4	4.0
10:00 AM		-	13	11	29	13	43	19	22	10	3	5		-	12.7	8.7	22.0	11.6
11:00 AM	-	-	10	13	34	23	77	44	32	20		-		-	21.0	16.5	38.3	25.0
12:00 PM	6	14	18	11	41	30	58	60	39	30	-	-		-	21.0	18.3	32.4	29.0
1:00 PM	12	7	17	18	60	63	71	65	29	44		-		-	19.3	23.0	37.8	39.4
2:00 PM	8	10	20	16	58	57	86	66	22	28		-		-	16.7	18.0	38.8	35.4
3:00 PM	15	11	12	23	53	50	45	81	18	25				-	15.0	19.7	28.6	38.0
4:00 PM	10	9	8	13	28	49	30	51	6	12		-			8.0	11.3	16.4	26.8
5:00 PM	8	19	7	4	10	26	13	26	1	5					5.3	9.3	7.8	16.0
6:00 PM	2	4	2	8	5	7	6	15	0	1		-			1.3	4.3	3.0	7.0
7:00 PM	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	0					1.3	0.3	1.2	0.4
8:00 PM	2	2	2	2	1	0	1	1	1	1		-			1.7	1.7	1.4	1.2
9:00 PM	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1					1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8
10:00 PM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		-			0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0
11:00 PM	U	1	- 4	1	Ų	Ü	U	Ų	Ų	U					0.7	0.7	0.4	0.4
Totals	67	79	126	125	336	328	462	443	188	187	16	10		-	139.3	139.2	246.6	239.4
Combined	146		25:	1	66	4	90	5	37	5	26				278	5	486	0
Split (%)	45.9	54.1	50.2	49.8	50.6	49.4	51.0	49.0	50.1	49.9	61.5	38.5			50.0	50.0	50.7	49.3
Spire ( 70)	43.3	34.2	30.2	45.0	30.0	49.4	32.0	45.0	30.1	45.5	02.3	30.3			50.0	30.0	30.7	73.3
Peak Hours																		
12:00 AM -		-	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	8:45 AM	9:15 AM			11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM
12:00 PM																		
Volume			19	13	42	23	77	44	32	20	8	6			21.0	16.5	38.3	25.0
Factor		-	0.79	0.81	0.88	0.72	0.74	0.73	0.80	0.71	0.50	0.50		-	0.88	0.75	0.83	0.86
12:00 PM -	2:45 PM	5:00 PM	1:15 PM	1:15 PM	1:45 PM	1:00 PM	1:45 PM	3:00 PM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM		-	-	-	12:15 PM	1:15 PM	1:45 PM	1:15 PM
12:00 AM																		
Volume	15	19	21	23	69	63	87	81	39	44		-	-	-	21.7	24.7	41.0	40.0
Factor	0.63	0.68	0.58	0.72	0.78	0.83	0.84	0.88	0.81	0.69	-	-		-	0.71	0.88	0.87	0.81

# Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission Traffic Counting Program

Town: Road:

York Mt A 100 yd up from gate Location:

Seven Day Volume

Interval	Tue Interval 9/12/2008 Begin up down		We 8/13/2	1008	Thu 8/14/2008 up down		Fri 8/15/2008		Sat 8/16/2008 up down		Sun 8/17/2008		Mon 8/18/2008		Mon - Fri Average n up down		Wer Aven	age_
		SOWN	<u>up</u>	down	UD.	**********	110	down	up	***************************************	üp	down	up.	down	UD	***********	UD.	down
12:00 AM			ì	i	S S	0	0	9	0	9	9	0	0	0	0.3	8.3	6.2	0.2
1:00 AM 2:00 AM			0		*	and the second		ő					ő	8	0.0	0.0 0.0	0.3	9.0 0.7
3:00 AM		*	o o	v V		ů V	9	o o	Ď		9			, o	0.0	9.0	0.3	0.7
4:00 AM	*		8	Name of the State			100000000000000000000000000000000000000	ő	,	¥	0	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e		**************************************	9.0	0.0 0.0	0.0	0.0
5:00 AM			, v	0		9	0	0	0		0	9			0.5	0.0	0.0	8.0
	•		CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE P			and the second second	Commence of the Commence of th	8		0	and the second	and the second		0			and the second	
6:00 AM		-	Ğ		2	0	0	9		0	ĝ	0	0	1	0.0 4.8	0.5	9.2	0.3
7:00 AM	*		6	Į.			4							ļ.	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	0.3	3.8	9.5
8:00 AM				annana y				0	10						2.8	1.8	4.0	1.7
9:00 AM	×		Ş			3		Ţ,	11		4		- 6	3	4.5	1.8	5.5	2.5
10:00 AM			5		8	5	8	9	6		12				7.0	7.3	7,7	7.2
11:00 AM	•		9	- 5	10	10	8	5	8	1.3	12	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	11	11	9.5	7.8	9.7	8.5
12:00 PM	*	*		11	\$	10	5	6	10	11	23	14	9	10	7.3	9.3	10.3	10.3
1:00 PM			- 5	3		. 6	3	- 5	12	16	17	26	9		5.3	4.8	8.3	10.2
2:00 PM		*	9				10	13	12	13	8	45	12	g	9.3	8.5	9.5	10.3
3:00 PM	*		2	9		2	- 5	3	12	13	17	13	7	12	4.3	6.5	7.7	8.7
4:00 PM		5		0			2.	6	5		10	12		7	3.6	4.6	4.2	5.9
5:00 PM	- 5	13	2	- 3	- 1	- 2	- 4	- 5	- 4	3	10	- 11	- 6	- 5	3.6	5.6	4.6	6.0
6:00 PM	4	4	3	9	4	8	4	10	3	5	6	8	4	9	3.8	8.0	4.0	7.6
7:00 PM	- 4	- 4	4				- 1	2	1	. 3		- 5	- 6	, ,	4.2	4.4	3.6	4.3
8:00 PM	g.	1		6	3		0	<b>Q</b>	<u> </u>	5	1				1.2	2.4	1.7	2.6
9:00 PM	- 1	9		0	2	1	- 1	0	2	- 2	0	- 1	- 2	- 1	1.4	0.4	1.3	0.7
10:00 PM	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.3
11:00 PM	0	0	- 0	0	0	0	- 1	3	1	- 1	2	- 2	- 0	0	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.9
Totals	18	27	67	67	71	70	68	69	107	107	133	130	91	93	74.0	74.9	89.0	89.1
#mathemat			2.00								0.5						200	
Combined	45		13		14		13		25		26	•	18		148		178	
Split (%)	40.0	60.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	50.4	49.6	49.6	58.4	59.0	50.0	\$0.6	49.4	49.5	50.5	49.7	\$0.3	50.0	\$0.0
Secretaria de la compansión de la compan																		
Peak Hours																		
12:00 AM -			结膜網	\$9000 AM	10:15 466	10:45 AM	10:15 AM	19:30 AM	8:35 AM	10:30 AM	\$5:45 AM	10:30 AM	10:45 AR	\$\$100 AM	\$5,50 AM	\$5:30 AM	10:45 AM	10:30 AM
12:00 PM											40							
Volume	*	*	9	7	11	10	10	10	15	13	17	9	11	11	9.5	8.5	10.2	9.3
Factor	•	*	0.56	0.44	9.69	0.42	0.63	0.50	0.63	9.54	0.53	0.56	0.55	0.46	9.86	0.65	0.85	0.70
20.48.XII																		
12:00 PM -	4:30.98	5:00 998	1:45 386	12:00 88	12:15 799	12:00 986	3:15 786	2:00 396	2:15 016	1:00 795	12:00 986	1160 886	1:15 591	2:30.06	2:00 996	12:00 PM	12:00 898	2:15 9%
12:00 AM							7.0		200			**		3.92			48.0	
Volume		13	10	11	9	10	10	13	17	16	. 23	26	12	. 13	9.3	9.3	10.3	10.8
Factor	0.58	0.54	0.63	0.69	0.75	9.63	0.31	0.54	0.61	0.67	0.96	0.81	0.60	0.81	0.58	0.77	0.86	0.86

274

Sites

## Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission Traffic Counting Program

Town: Road:

York Mt A 100 yd up from gate Location:

Seven Day Volume

Interval		Tue 8/19/2008		Wed 8/20/2008		Thu 8/21/2008		Fri 8/22/2008		Sat 8/23/2008		Sun 8/24/2008		Mon 8/25/2008		Mon - Fri Average		ek age
Begin	up	down	up	down	up	down	up	down	up	down	up	down	up	down	up	down	up	down
12:00 AM	0	0				*			+		-	+			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1:00 AM	0	0			14		+-	-	*	-		+			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2:00 AM	0	0		-	S#			1.2	+3	+ 1		+	1.5	- E	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
3:00 AM	0	0	+	-	- 2			-		+	- 2	+		- 4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4:00 AM	0	0		-	- 1	-		+	+	+		-			0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5:00 AM	0	0				-	+	+		*		-		-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
6:00 AM	2	0		-		1.7		-	+.	-	-	-			2.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
7:00 AM	4	2		-	1	*		-		-		+	-	+	4.0	2.0	4.0	2.0
8:00 AM	0	1						+	+	*	-	+		+	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0
9:00 AM	6	3	+		14	+	1+-	+	*	+		+			6.0	3.0	6.0	3.0
10:00 AM	5	8	+	-	34		+	-	+0	(+)		+		84	5.0	8.0	5.0	8.0
11:00 AM	9	4		-	- 12		+	-	*	+	- 2	+			9.0	4.0	9.0	4.0
12:00 PM	5	6	-	-	-	-		+		-	-	-		-	5.0	6.0	5.0	6.0
1:00 PM	8	7	- 2	-	- 2	-	4	+	-	-	-	-		-	8.0	7.0	8.0	7.0
2:00 PM	-	-		-			-	-	+.1	-	-					-	1.74	-
3:00 PM		-		-	+	*		-		-		+		+	-			*
4:00 PM		-				-		+			-	+		+		-		-
5:00 PM		+	+		14		1+-	-	*)	+		+			*	+		+
6:00 PM	+		+	-	34			-	+0			+		34				-
7:00 PM	+	-	+	-		*	(+)	-		+		+		-		+		-
8:00 PM		-	-	-	-	-		-	+	-	-	-	-			-	-	-
9:00 PM	-	-			- 4	*	- 41	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4		-
10:00 PM		-		-		-	-	-	-	-		-			1.7	-		-
11:00 PM		-		-	+			-		-		+		+	- 43		+	-
								- 0							(			
Totals	39	31	-			*		-	*		-	-		*	39.0	31.0	39.0	31.0
Combined	70	8			25		12		- 1		1.20				70.	0	70.	0
Split (%)	55.7	44.3		3	3	-				2		្	-	13	55.7	44.3	55.7	44.3
Peak Hours		225020-00													AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON	The way		
12:00 AM - 12:00 PM	9:45 AM	9:30 AM		17	- 2	1.7	*		73	- 5		*	ं	12	9:45 AM	9:30 AM	9:45 AM	9:30 AM
Volume	9	9		-					+	+ 1		+			9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
Factor	0.56	0.45	-	-	-	-	+	-	*	2	-		-		0.56	0.45	0.56	0.45
12:00 PM - 12:00 AM	12:45 PM	12:45 PM			92	-				-		-		-	12:45 PM	12:45 PM	12:45 PM	12:45 PM
Volume	. 9	10		0.0	2.4			2.00	**			+			9.0	10.0	9.0	10.0
Factor	0.56	0.83		-				-	-	-		+		-	0.56	0.83	0.56	0.83

274

Site: