

THE COMMON GROUND ALLIANCE
BLUEPRINT FOR THE BLUE LINE
FEBRUARY 2008

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INTRODUCTION

ALLIANCE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Common Ground Alliance is a forum for public-private collaboration. State and local governments, nonprofit organizations, stakeholders, and residents of the Park participate as equals. We work to recognize the common good of the communities, residents, and resources of the Adirondack Park, not to further specific organizational, institutional, or individual agendas.

The six-million acre Adirondack Park is comprised of both public and private lands and contains the largest protected area in the continental United States. The park is ecologically significant in that it constitutes one of the least fragmented temperate forest landscapes remaining anywhere in the world. It also contains historic resources, charming hamlets and villages, a rich cultural history, and access to recreational resources, small businesses and various commercial enterprises.

The Park is home for more than 130,000 full-time residents and is visited annually by 8 million people. The people of New York State value the Adirondacks as a cherished resource. There are Constitutional protections of the public lands of the Forest Preserve, and the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) regulates land use planning for private lands. While local communities are the stewards of this unique Park, the Alliance believes that they must also prosper in order to continue to provide the environmental benefits that are shared by all New Yorkers. Community leaders believe there must be a solid commitment by New York's leaders to address the complex challenges of sustaining economic development and the quality of life in the Adirondack Park.

The Adirondack Park has 103 towns and villages that differ in size, geography, character and demographics. Some Park communities are recognized internationally, while others are struggling for economic survival. Many communities lack the financial resources and technical expertise to respond to the loss of their Main Streets, the out-migration of their youth, the lack of business development and markets, and their inadequate and aging infrastructure, inclusive of water, sewer, telecommunications and roadways. Rising property values, coupled with increasingly high property taxation and a proliferation of second home development, have made it increasingly hard for local residents to live in the region resulting in a crisis in affordable housing. A lack of local land use plans and zoning in some communities can significantly contribute to their being unprepared for potential development.

The region faces a number of environmental problems including loss of critical habitat due to factors such as climate change, land use change, and invasive species. Other threats include the degradation of water and air quality due to acid rain and mercury pollution that threatens human and ecological health. A number of initiatives by the scientific community and environmental groups exist to understand and respond to these threats. Increasingly, community members and municipal leaders agree that these environmental threats can undermine the natural resources and infrastructure that contribute both to community quality of life and economic sustainability.

BLUEPRINT PROCESS

In the summer of 2006, *A Blueprint for the Blue Line* was endorsed by the Common Ground Alliance, a group of leaders representing non-profit organizations, municipal governments, businesses, economic development, and environmental interests that work directly with constituents within the Adirondack Park to help define and attain a collective vision for the Park. In July, 2007, a cross-section of 148 organizational and community leaders met in Long Lake, NY to share suggested revisions to the original Blueprint. Written and verbal input has been synthesized into the *Blueprint for the Blue Line*.

The order of the *Blueprint* points was decided by an entrance “poll” at the July 2007 forum. In response to subsequent input, the original 12 points of the *Blueprint* have been amended to include 2 additional issues of great concern for the Adirondacks – Property Tax Reform and the Primary Healthcare Crisis.

Although each issue is presented separately, the Alliance recognizes the interdependency between many issues. Each point includes a brief problem definition or “rationale” and a list of suggested actions. Some points also include a section for remaining issues that represent ideas that have not yet been adequately explored by the Alliance, but which could be revisited at this year’s forum in July.

The Common Ground Alliance respectfully proposes action on the 14 points outlined below to maintain and sustain the economy, environment and communities of the Adirondacks.

BLUEPRINT POINTS

1. AQUATIC AND TERRESTRIAL INVASIVE SPECIES

RATIONALE: Aquatic and terrestrial invasive species, including pests and pathogens, are a significant threat to the Adirondack Park's native species and can have a devastating impact on our native ecosystems, our forest products industries, and recreation and tourism industries. Aggressive non-native invasive plants and animals crowd out naturally occurring species and choke their habitats, such as wetlands, which are critical to supporting biodiversity, flood control and water quality.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Establish long-term support for the watershed stewardship programs and lake level management programs to continue utilizing effective education, early detection, prevention, control, and research.
- Increase funding levels from state and federal sources for prevention and eradication.
- Continue and expand education efforts.

REMAINING ISSUES:

- Establish annual adequate funding for local implementation, especially a rapid response and detection capability on public and private land.
- Provide education to the public and support local monitoring programs.
- Address sale and transport legislation to reduce spread at regional or national scales.

2. ACID RAIN

RATIONALE: The Adirondacks suffer from air pollution from mid-western coal-burning power plants that has resulted in acid precipitation, mercury deposition and deposition of other contaminants which threaten terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, and public health. Many of the Park's water bodies currently have a ban on fish consumption. In a Park where outdoor activities are a focus for both local residents and visitors, this is threatening the quality of life and tourism economy.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Support Congressman John McHugh's proposed federal "*Healthy Air and Clean Water Act,*" designed to drastically reduce toxic emissions from power plants across the nation.
- Sustain and increase NY State funds for organizations to monitor acid rain and mercury emissions in the Park; to expand research into the ecological impacts of acid rain and document scientific evidence to support policy change.

3. GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

RATIONALE: There is widespread scientific certainty that global climate change is occurring due to increasing amounts of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. Global climate change has the potential to alter the region's climate in a manner that could significantly influence the region's economy, landscape, character, and quality of life. Climate change will affect the region's seasonal tourism economy—particularly in winter—and will affect our forest ecosystems, and change the composition of native plant and animal

communities. Already under stress from acid rain, invasive species and salt runoff from treated roads, our ecosystem will suffer added risk from climate change.

Currently, New York State is a leader in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), which calls for the reduction of the state's carbon emissions. A regional cap-and-trade program, such as suggested by RGGI, will assist all participating states in reaching such state-specific goals.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Update and strengthen the RGGI initiative.
- Institute government incentives for green technology, local initiatives to reduce emissions in our communities, market opportunities for carbon offsets, and opportunities for developing and marketing new energy efficient products.
- Enable each Adirondack town and village to make the necessary changes to reduce its carbon footprint by incorporating energy efficient practices at all levels (residential, institutional, and governmental) to achieve low carbon emissions in the region.
- Provide opportunities for regional research that will help us understand the impacts of climate change on our ecosystems and local livelihood.

REMAINING ISSUES:

- Create a stronger partnership to effectively advocate for change at the federal level to help mitigate climate change at the local level.
- Explore when and how to identify ways our communities can adapt to climate change.

4. MAIN STREET REVITALIZATION

RATIONALE: The unique historic character of the Adirondack Park's 103 towns and villages presents outstanding opportunities to showcase their individual and special character through the revitalization of their main streets. Relatively sparse year-round populations maintain downtown business communities in hamlets which are limited in expansion potential. Achieving Main Street Revitalization requires customized technical assistance and tailored financial incentives that recognize the physical and economic environment that exists in these Adirondack communities. Maintenance of architectural history contributes to the region's unique character and builds historic tourism, while providing 2nd and 3rd floor housing options which could help alleviate some of the critical community housing shortage.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Provide technical assistance for communities to envision their future through planning, architectural design assessments, façade improvements, and support for small business entrepreneurs to market their communities as quality destinations.
- Restructure state economic development tools to include the unique needs of small, rural businesses.
- Convene groups of community based organizations, NGO's and involved residents and municipal leaders to design grassroots revitalization initiatives.
- Establish a "clearing house" office to coordinate federal and state initiatives to ensure true benefits to local communities.
- Promote adaptive-reuse of existing main street historic properties and "in-fill" of vacant lots with complementary new uses. These may include a mix of commercial and residential uses, including businesses that cater to the growing senior population.

- Create state and federal incentives to local governments and non-profit organizations to enhance and develop the public and cultural amenities, such as sidewalks, public restrooms, parks, trails, arts and cultural venues, and forms of public access for recreation and tourism that complement business development on Main Street and provide senior friendly amenities.

5. WATER, SEWER AND STORM-WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

RATIONALE: Many small communities in the Adirondack Park have inadequate, aging water and sewer infrastructure that often do not meet current NYS health standards. Existing water and sewer treatment capacity needs to expand if town and village growth is to occur; new ways to address the water and wastewater improvement and maintenance needs in outlying areas must be addressed to realize important community development gains. Given their relatively sparse year-round population size and diminished political clout, Adirondack communities are at distinct disadvantages in competing for federal and state funding.

The development of centralized wastewater treatment systems and alternative technologies to solve related problems is impeded in the Adirondacks by the area's wide assortment of community types, and by the physical distances and barriers typically occurring between them. Lacking needed financial resources, they then are unable to capitalize on the economic benefits that generally stem from investments in infrastructure.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Provide significant State support for costly water, sewer and storm-water improvements.
- Develop and implement alternative infrastructure technologies, funding mechanisms, special standards and creative controls such as septic maintenance districts to sustain habitable living areas regardless of development levels.
- Coordinate the expansion and connection of communities through investment in infrastructure.
- Undertake community infrastructure innovation and improvement on a Park-wide basis and in a well-coordinated process that involves the wide-spread sharing of information, planning and synchronized scheduling of projects by all effected local governments, landowners, and State agencies such as the Adirondack Park Agency, the Department of Transportation, the Environmental Facilities Corporation, and the Department of Health.

REMAINING ISSUES:

- Standardize State agency regulations governing the use of alternative designs for individual and small-scale on-site sewage disposal systems.

6. MARKETING/ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT

RATIONALE: In the Adirondack Park, government is the largest sector of employment, followed by healthcare, retail and the hospitality/tourism sector. A wide range of small businesses, including wood products companies, giftware manufacturers, services, historic tourist attractions, and lodging establishments, benefit from the area's abundant natural resources. But small businesses in particular experience challenges in business planning, marketing and the development of competitive, value-added products for distribution at local, national and international levels. There is a continual need for services, training and capital investment to assist businesses. In some Park locations, existing industrial sites are available for a wide range of business activities, but investment in their clean-up, development and marketing is significantly lacking.

The Forest Preserve and privately owned forests of the Park offer significant opportunities for public recreational access. Yet, tourism and hospitality businesses need assistance and financial investment to develop services for visitors and residents that take advantage of recreational assets.

Transportation and product distribution throughout the Park are major impediments for all businesses, but more so for small-scale agricultural producers. There is a need for planning and investment to rebuild the region's agricultural base as some farmers consolidate to larger operations and others strive to find niche markets for locally grown and value-added products.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Establish a centralized Adirondack Park economic development office to address the particular economic challenges of the rural, geographically isolated Park communities.
- Promote tourism in the Adirondacks on a whole-Park basis that builds a cohesive Park identity, preserves sub-regional distinctions, and encourages business linkages to facilitate access to recreational assets.
- Strengthen private forestry programs and incentives for long-term management, including holding local governments "harmless" for lands enrolled in incentive programs such as Section 480/480a of the State tax code. Simultaneously, develop programs and long-term access for shared, public recreational use of conservation easement lands acquired by the State.
- Build a diverse, skilled labor force through job placement, training, internship, creation and retention programs that meet small business, technical assistance and entrepreneurial development needs.
- Develop product diversification, marketing and distribution channels for locally produced industrial, artisan, and agricultural goods.
- Develop public/private collaboration with educational institutions in support of start-up and incubator-stage enterprises that simultaneously capitalize on and sustain the natural resources, qualities and ecological services of the Park.

REMAINING ISSUES:

- Begin a concerted effort to address the future of State conservation easement lands in terms of their economic significance for the entire Park.

7. HIGH-SPEED TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RATIONALE: The Adirondack Park is in a true, rural digital divide with very limited broadband access available at affordable rates within the Blue Line. Improved wireless and wired accessibility is needed along the roadways and in the villages and hamlets. The lack of adequate cell services throughout the Adirondack Park is a threat to the millions of annual visitors and residents often making it impossible to request or coordinate emergency services. The lack of advanced telecommunications services adversely affects the ability to attract businesses to the region. Tourism facilities lack broadband and cellular connections, which adversely impacts the region's ability to be competitive in a tourism market where travelers expect high-end amenities such as wireless services and consistent cellular coverage.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Develop a plan for cellular and broadband capacity throughout the Adirondack Park.
- Inventory locations for the co-location of towers in communities throughout the Adirondack Park.
- Inventory in-Park fiber-optic cable owned by current providers.
- Secure federal and state investment in broadband infrastructure in the Adirondack Park.
- Encourage "digital literacy" by providing support services to educate our municipalities, non-profits, businesses and residents on how to make the highest and best use of better broadband.

- Support current discussions between telecom providers and New York State leaders on the potential for the placement of temporary cell towers in the “dead zone” locations along the Adirondack Northway. Expand discussions to include all Park roadways.

REMAINING ISSUES:

- Discuss the question of opening State lands for cell towers placement on State forest preserve lands.
- Explore an incentive program to encourage and enable the private telecom providers to work with municipalities and businesses to expand cell service and broadband throughout the Park.
- Explore Park-wide use of the Community Broadband Network (CBN). CBN is a model initiative in Clinton, Essex and Franklin counties of a wholesale “carrier’s carrier,” which will provide wholesale transport services to service providers, making it possible for most rural and underserved areas of the Park to have a choice of providers servicing many users.

8. WORKFORCE/COMMUNITY HOUSING

RATIONALE: The increasing purchases of Adirondack housing stock for second homes, coupled with high property taxes, has raised the prices of Adirondack property beyond the ability of year-round residents to afford a home. Workers from all economic sectors, including hospitality service workers, town employees, medical technicians, teachers, and other professionals, often cannot find affordable housing in the towns and counties in which their jobs are located. The result is a fraying social fabric in many local communities: young people are leaving, schools are closing, and emergency service entities are losing volunteers. Residents are severely limited in their ability to live, work and play in the same community. Affordable housing stock must be established in order to sustain Adirondack communities and “keep the lights on” year-round.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Create long-term support for the Adirondack Community Housing Trust to establish “forever affordable” year-round housing in the Adirondacks.
- Address property tax reform to relieve the undue burden on year-round residents.
- Address density issues and health department regulations, which currently discourage affordable housing development.

REMAINING ISSUES:

- Explore local Adirondack systems to construct affordable housing using in-Park material and workforce.
- Research ways to ensure affordable assessments for Housing Trust homes.

9. TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

RATIONALE: The region’s major roadways, many of which are designated as Scenic Byways by the Federal Highway Administration and NYS Department of Transportation, are often slow to receive improvements due to funding being allocated to regions of the State with higher populations and traffic volume. With the Park located within a day’s drive of nearly 100 million people, the region’s infrastructure of roads, rails and air connections has been inadequate in providing an integrated network for commerce, residential and visitor travel.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Build communication linkage between communities and the NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) to increase early input on DOT construction projects.

- Explore increased development of air service in the Park and at nearby airports serving the Adirondack Region.
- Increase bus transportation between communities to create connections for visitors and the workforce.
- Increase multi-purpose trail networks, recreational trail planning, and corridor management plans for existing corridors throughout the Adirondack Park.
- Continue public and private investment in upgraded rail service for tourist excursions.
- Increase attention to multi-modal use of the region's transportation infrastructure including an additional commitment to bicycle planning, both on-road and off-road.
- Establish regional signage in the areas of the arts, cultural, recreational and historic sites to capitalize on the region's resources.
- Promote further research and dissemination about the impacts on groundwater from the deicing of roadways.
- Explore the need to fund retrofitting of community storm water management devices to address potential water quality problems.

10. ENERGY

RATIONALE: Clean, affordable and reliable energy is a necessity to build a sustainable economy in the Adirondack Park, to continue to promote energy independence from foreign sources, and to mitigate the widespread environmental damage we incur from burning fossil fuels.

The current energy picture is grim and includes: high prices for oil and propane fuels, high costs for non-municipal electricity, a decreasing electric power allocation from the New York Power Authority (NYPA) for municipal utilities, increasing peak power and energy needs for business and homes, the very low probability that electric transmission line capacity will be increased throughout the Park, the lack of natural gas infrastructure, and the use of diesel generators for peak power and reliability.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Use subsidies, grants, incentives, research, and model project development to create new jobs and business development in energy-related fields. .
- Emphasize energy conservation and efficiency, peak electric demand reduction, and the use of renewable and alternative energy where it makes economic and environmental sense.
- Develop a plan for best strategies for achieving increased energy independence and energy development opportunities.
- Increase the availability and affordability of public transportation for work force and tourism use.
- Encourage communities, organizations, and businesses to consider the benefits of becoming partners in the Adirondack Energy Smart Park Initiative (ESPI)..

REMAINING ISSUES:

- Explore the *Revised 2007 New York State Universal Building Codes* regulations used by local governments and State agencies that regulate energy saving features in the construction of residential and commercial buildings.
- Explore ways to address the issues of scale related to size of businesses, agencies, and geographic distances in relation to energy production, distribution and conservation.

- Encourage development of an ethanol production plant, which also produces other hydrocarbon substitute chemicals, with the appropriate capital investment and partnerships, including private forest landowners and wood products industries.

11. EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE AND A POLICY FRAMEWORK

RATIONALE: The Adirondack Park Agency (APA) Act and Land Use Plan, which regulate land uses and development densities, have not been substantially amended since they were adopted in the early 1970's. Approved local land use plans, one of the mandates of the original APA Act, have been adopted in only 19 of the Park's 103 towns and villages, in part due to a lack of resources for local planning.

In addition, a myriad of governmental agencies have Adirondack Park oversight responsibilities directed from various levels, often attempting to regulate the same or similar functions. The Department of Environmental Conservation splits the Park into two administrative regions which often demonstrate different management philosophies and practices. Likewise, the Departments of Health, Education, Transportation, Economic Development, and others, all have differing jurisdictional regions that overlap the Park, resulting in bureaucratic inefficiencies and a lack of clear guidelines and information for business, residential and community development. The delivery of social services, local planning, and management of the Park's natural resources is fragmented and ineffective in many aspects.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Create a task force with broad geographical representation from the public and private sectors at the local, county and regional level to address the interactions of local communities with governmental agencies that directly affect the Park. Engage the public to provide input on economic, community and environmental issues, and to resolve existing conflicts in ways which will provide long-term benefits for the Park and its people.
- Undertake comprehensive Park-wide planning, focusing on the points in the *Blueprint*.
- Adequately fund the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board to actively participate in the APA processes.
- Support local planning to address Adirondack communities' future infrastructure and economic development capacity with necessary coordination at the county and State levels. Consider a circuit rider model for communities without access to grant writers.
- Identify expert groups to disseminate the information on Smart Growth, policies and regulations that affect development in the Park.

12. LAND USE CHANGE

RATIONALE: A major debate continues about additional land acquisition for the Forest Preserve, conservation easements on private lands that eliminate future development rights, and concerns for the economic survival of local communities. Today, 56% of the Adirondack Park's lands are protected, between conservation easements on 767,000 acres of large private land-holdings (13%), and 2.6 million acres of publicly owned Forest Preserve lands (43%). The Nature Conservancy's recent acquisition of 161,000 acres of Finch Pruyn forest lands increases the concerns of local communities that are "land-locked" by State lands; in extreme cases, State lands comprise more than 90% of a town's lands, hindering future expansion.

Even though the State pays property taxes on Forest Preserve lands, many communities are asking, "How much protected land is enough?" Conversely, several second home subdivisions and other developments are proposed for resource management land use areas that were originally zoned to protect working forests and farms, raising environmental concerns.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Undertake an independent assessment of public and private lands management and development to determine what has and has not worked well, and where improvements are needed.
- Provide the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) with resources and direction for comprehensive long-term planning, including analysis of major ecological, environmental, economic, and social trends. Pass a “finer filter” over the public and private lands of the Park to identify the areas most critical for the protection of its ecological integrity and biological diversity, and those areas more suited for recreation and development uses.
- Provide State-level technical experts and financial resources to update on a periodic basis the APA Act, Land Use and Development Plan, and State Land Master Plan (SLMP.)
- Consider the creation of a Park-wide land bank or exchange program for specific projects of public utility (e.g., water supplies, power lines, road safety, affordable community housing, etc.) that may use Forest Preserve lands.
- Develop land use policies based on scientific information from organizations that undertake scientific research on critical issues.
- Complete all Unit Management Plans (UMPs) using ecosystem-based management principles, and common-sense approaches to address community needs, and review UMPs on a timely basis as per the legislative requirement.
- Provide additional human and financial resources to properly manage State lands and to enforce existing regulations.

13. PROPERTY TAXES

RATIONALE: As currently structured, property taxes are used to finance too many programs of our ever-growing government and are contributing to the destabilization of Adirondack communities. Attempts by the Legislature and Executive Branch to lower taxes have usually focused on income taxes. While there have been significant reductions in income tax rates, government spending at the federal, state and local levels have continued to grow. This shift has resulted in huge federal deficits and has moved the tax burden for mandated programs to state and local governments.

Adirondack communities and other rural areas of upstate New York can no longer afford to fund schools with property taxes. School taxes now exceed local government taxes in many places in the Adirondacks, (e.g., the Saranac Lake Central School District).

Property tax assessment rules have a negative impact when they result in annual taxes going up in “lock-step” with rapidly rising property values, especially when an adjacent property sells for a much higher price than paid for the property. Low and middle-income people are finding it necessary to move out to avoid prohibitively high tax increases. Some states have instituted “welcome stranger” laws, where assessments are NOT raised on nearby properties when a newcomer pays above-market prices for a home or land.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Appoint a non-partisan, blue ribbon commission to undertake a complete review of the property tax system.
- Fully reimburse municipalities for the forest tax abatement program. Abatement of taxes on forest land should consider the social benefits derived from these forests, not just the timber harvesting.

REMAINING ISSUES:

- Establish “Welcome Stranger” procedures that restrict increases in the tax burden for existing owners to no more than the CPI (or some other inflation index) until either a building permit for a material change to the property has been issued, and the work completed, or the property changes hands.
- Move school support to a progressive income tax administered at the State level.
- Consider a real property tax policy that provides a differential ability to pay property taxes, which represents the social and economic stratification within the Park. Explore offering a stewardship/homestead two-system arrangement or other form of “star tax relief” benefit for year-round low and moderate income homeowners.

14. PRIMARY HEALTHCARE CRISIS

RATIONALE: Like other areas in the country, the primary health care system in the Adirondacks is facing significant challenges. Should the system collapse, there is no other option for health care and the out-migration of year-round residents will escalate. The growing crisis reflects two interconnected issues: the underpayment by commercial insurance companies for the services provided to patients in rural areas, and the inability to attract and retain primary care physicians.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS:

- Reform the medical reimbursement system that currently underpays and undervalues primary care, especially in rural areas.
- Create a State pilot program that emphasizes cost-based reimbursement in rural areas to preserve access to primary health care.

APPENDIX

COMMON GROUND PROCEDURES AND SCHEDULE

1. The Core Team will assemble an annual draft *Blueprint* of timely issues.
2. The draft will be distributed throughout the Adirondacks. This process will continue to be an open one in which anyone is welcome to comment. Written comments will be compiled.
3. Verbal input will be received at an annual meeting each July in an outdoor location. (An additional winter meeting may be added).
4. Final input will be compiled and redistributed for endorsement by the Alliance. Any items not endorsed by a cross-section of diverse Adirondack interests will be tabled for future consideration.
5. The final *Blueprint* will be submitted to State and federal officials for consideration in policy initiatives.
6. All participants will be reminded to leave “Axes, Egos, Agendas, and Logos” at the door. We will empathize with others, strive to get to the heart of matters, think with fresh perspectives, and work toward the common good.
7. Representatives of participating organizations will not use our relationship with the Common Ground Alliance to advance individual/organizational agendas.

FOUNDING SPONSORS

This revision of the *Blueprint of the Blue Line* is being sent to all participants in the 2007 Common Ground Alliance Forum held in Long Lake, NY and to other leaders and organizations within the Adirondacks whose voices help shape the future of Adirondack Park communities. We hope that you and your organization will be able to endorse the Common Ground principles of this *Blueprint* by signing on as those below did for the original document.

Signatories to the original 2006 *Blueprint for the Blue Line*

Adirondack-Champlain Community Broadband Network, Andy Abdallah, Chair of the +Advisory Board;
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Town of Webb, Robert Moore, Supervisor
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