

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/26/2024 8:05:58 PM

First name: Jason

Last name: Wood

Organization: UA Rich Mountain

Title: Associate Vice Chancellor of Administration

Comments: I am in full support for the development of the bike trails on the Ouachita Mountains in Mena, Arkansas. This project holds immense potential to bring about transformative benefits for our region, encompassing economic growth, health and wellness, community engagement, tourism, and youth opportunities.

Firstly, the introduction of these bike trails is poised to be a catalyst for economic growth in West Central Arkansas. By attracting tourists and outdoor enthusiasts, the trails will drive increased revenue for local businesses, from hospitality to retail. This influx of visitors will not only boost our economy but also create new job opportunities, fostering economic resilience in Polk County.

The tourism potential of the Mena bike trails is significant. With proper promotion, the trails could attract biking enthusiasts from across the country, establishing Polk County as a premier destination for outdoor recreation. This increased visibility will further enhance our region's reputation, encouraging even more visitors and investment in the area.

The development of the Mena bike trails represents a pivotal opportunity for West Central Arkansas. It is a project that promises to bring economic prosperity, improve health and wellness, strengthen community bonds, attract tourists, provide youth opportunities, and offer long-term benefits to visitors and residents alike. I wholeheartedly support this initiative and cannot wait to witness history being made.