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First name: Samantha

Last name: Acar

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am thrilled to express my strong support for the Trails at Mena project. This project has the potential to create lasting benefits for the community, especially for the youth. By introducing chairlift-served mountain biking, these trails will provide an accessible and inclusive opportunity for riders of all skill levels to connect with the outdoors. For young people in particular, this means developing healthy lifestyles, building confidence, and fostering a sense of pride in their hometown-all while enjoying world-class trails in their own backyard.

Economically, the impact is undeniable. Mena's central location within the drive market of Bentonville, Dallas, Tulsa, and Little Rock makes it an ideal destination. It's close enough for day trips but far enough to encourage overnight stays, generating significant lodging and tourism revenue. Local businesses stand to gain from increased visitor traffic, and the potential for Mena to serve as a year-round training hub for downhill racers further elevates Arkansas's reputation as a premier mountain biking destination.

Most importantly, this project invests in the kids of Mena, giving them access to incredible outdoor opportunities and creating a foundation for future success. I can already imagine the excitement of a Bearcats NICA team training on these trails, representing their school and the next generation of riders. The Trails at Mena project is a win for the community, the economy, and the state of Arkansas. Let's make it happen!

-Coach Sam