

To the Parks Board,

I am writing in support of Birch Trail becoming shared-use. We have many great trails in our area, especially in Hixon Forest, and I'm very appreciative of your support of that.

I am a parent of two young children, the Team Director for the middle/high school youth mountain bike team, and a trail runner, hiker, and biker. The ability to share this trail would be significant to our youth. Due to the topography of Upper Hixon, there are very few trails that allow for new and young riders to get to learn on and experience single track trails. Adding Birch would complete the loop that would give kids the opportunity to ride on a manageable trail with a scenic overlook. I am always doing my best to get more kids outside, and I think adding this trail would help with that.

I appreciate the nuanced decisions you have to make and hope that you'll consider allowing everyone to access this trail.

Chris Stindt
231 23rd St S, La Crosse, WI