



May 19, 2014

PO Box 743  
Orchard Park, NY 14127

Mr. Greg Rollins  
President - Richmond MORE  
Via E-Mail to [greg@proforma-gis.com](mailto:greg@proforma-gis.com)

Dear Greg:

The members of the Western New York Mountain Bicycling Association (WNYMBA) wish to congratulate Richmond More on their victory in the East Coast BellBuilt grant competition. By now, it's pretty obvious that we were soundly trounced by a superior campaign, run by a group of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers. We're not ashamed to admit that we were beaten to the top of this particular hill by better riders. Congratulations!

It is also now more than obvious that WNYMBA owes the members of Richmond More a very sincere apology. Writing a letter of congratulations in a contest we'd hoped to win was never going to be easy, but writing a letter of apology for the unauthorized and unsavory misdoings of a single club member is much worse, I can assure you.

By now, many members of both WNYMBA and Richmond More are aware of the Dogecoin voting fiasco. While WNYMBA most certainly accepts responsibility for the entire situation, it is our hope that you in turn, can accept and will believe, that the pursuit of e-mail votes through this method was the result of the completely unauthorized actions of a single member. Neither our general membership nor our club executive board was involved in this scheme. From the very beginning of this campaign, we were determined to run a clean, honest campaign - one with no possibility of illegal votes. It is completely distasteful to us to realize that we must now confront a much different reality.

At this point WNYMBA can't do much more than ask that you accept our apology. We in turn would ask that, for the sake of unity within the mountain bike community and to avoid tainting the reputation of an excellent partner like Bell Helmets, all efforts be made at Richmond-More to discourage and eliminate the many negative comments we now see posted. Hopefully you can see your way clear to encourage your members to celebrate without negativity.

Again, our sincere congratulations!

Best regards,  
Jim Allen – President - WNYMBA