Pedestrian & Vehicular Conflict
- Dangerous intersections where hikers and cars cross
- Co-alignment of trails with Perkins Memorial Drive and Bear Mountain Bridge

Nature & City Conflict
- Engine noise penetrating from highways into park
- Insufficient parking spaces
- Lawn used as parking while paved parking is available
- Parking lots and inner roads are eroded and have pot holes
- Insufficient data for amount of visitors and parking spaces
- Limited flow of traffic in and out of main entrance and parking lots
- Litter and pollution degrading nature

Volume & Trail Conflict
- High erosion and loose stones
- Damaged plants and tree roots due to widened tread ways
- Inexperienced hikers misunderstanding trail signs and blazes at crossings and alignment
- Inconsistent blazes and signs for trails
- "Ghost" blazes
- Overpopulated areas such as summit and Hessian Lake
- Lack of gateways to trails incorporating educational and general information to direct visitors

Access Conflict
- Unclear road directions and signage
- No shuttle from train as alternative to private transportation
- Optional bus stop at Inn is misleading
- Zoo closed in evenings for AT thru-hikers alternate route on road
- Insufficient ADA accessibility
TRANSPORTATION
ACCESS TO AND WITHIN BEAR MOUNTAIN

Estimated 1.6 - 3 million park visitors in 2003
Over 900,000 vehicles
Estimated 200,000 visitors using the A.T.

Proximity to major cities:
NYC & Newark: 60 miles
Boston: 215 miles
Albany: 100 miles
Philadelphia: 125 miles

Private Transportation

Major Highways
- Palisades Interstate Parkway - exit 19
- New York Thruway I-87 - exit 16
- Route 9W
- Route 1-84
- Garden State Parkway to I-87
- Route 17 to Route 6

Inner Roads
- Perkins Memorial Drive (closed at times)
- Woods Drive
- Seven Lakes Drive (closed at times in winter)
- Palisades Interstate Parkway

Public Transportation

Access by Train
Many trails in Harriman-Bear Mountain Parks are accessible by taking Metro-North's West-of-Hudson service (Port Jervis Line) to the Suffern, Sloatsburg, Tuxedo, and Harriman stations. Bikes are permitted on trains for a one time $5 fee. Special weekend trains permit more bikes.

Access by Bus
Coach Lines from NYC stop at the Bear Mountain Inn 3-5 times a day when requested (see www.shortlinebus.com)

Access by Boat
Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises stop close to Bear Mountain (see www.circleline.com)

Trails - Over 115 miles of Trails on Bear Mountain
- Anthony Wayne - 2.7 m. (white blaze)
- Appalachian - 21 m. (white blaze)
- Cornell - 2.75 M. (blue blaze)
- Major Welch - 3.3 m. (red ring in white rectangle blaze)
- 1773 - 9.6 m. (blue numerals in white rectangle blaze)
- 1777E - 5.3 (red numerals in white diamonds blaze)
- 1777W - 10 m. (red numerals in white diamonds blaze)
- Popolopen - 4.3 m. (red square on white square)
- Ramapo - 20.8 m. (red dot on white blaze)
- Suffern-Bear Mountain - 24.3 m. (yellow blaze)
- Timp-Torne - 9.9 m. (blue blaze)

Major Places Where Trails and Roads Connect
- Parking Lots
- Bear Mountain Inn
- Harriman Lake & Picnic Area
- Lawn Area
- Perkins Tower
- Bear Mountain Bridge

Parking Lots
- About 750 parking spots by the Inn and the skating rink
- Other parking spots and pull-offs for hikers close to trails (marked by yellow diamond marker with a black “H”)

The Gateways
Bear Mountain Bridge - Grand Entrance
Seven Lakes Drive - Scenic Entrance
9W & 202 - Local Entrance
Palisades Parkway - Utilitarian Entrance

EXPLORING THE A.T. AT BEAR MOUNTAIN

COOK COLLEGE, RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
INFORMATION CHARETTE
NOVEMBER 2004