

Mammoth Lakes Bell Shaped Parcel Park 2025  
Mammoth Lakes Central Park & Event Venue

Over the year's members of the community have gathered with town staff to study the potential properties that could serve as event venue sites. We agreed that no one venue would meet the criteria for the vast variety of events but The Wood Site, The Snow Pit, The Bell Shaped Parcel and Canyon Lodge were highly ranked to support the growth and development of an event site that could host a larger event.

It has been hoped that the The Wood Site would be purchased by the town and transformed into an event site with basic facilities to serve up to 5000 people. That dream of an event venue 'in the woods' never materialized and this parcel has been sold and will be developed for housing that will also benefit the community.

We know that there are a variety of venues in town that currently host events both large and small based on the type of event. We realize that The Village and Canyon Lodge have become the most popular sites by event producers over this past decade. We also realize that there are ongoing conversations with MMSA about partnering with producers to host events with a variety of partnership relationships at Canyon Lodge.

I would like to suggest that the Bell Shaped Parcel becomes an element of the event venue conversation as this open green space is owned by the Town. We all know how important green space is to improving the quality of life and there have been multiple Town Council agenda items over the years outlining the possibilities that this parcel could bring to this community throughout the year.

We know that the Bell Shaped Parcel has been studied over the decades and is 16.7 acres of green space that was rezoned from resort to open space in 2007 when members of Council desired to make it Mammoth's Central Park. Council Member Skip Harvey said that 'he hoped that this space could be a benefit for the town as a park, entertainment venue, and holiday/community event gathering spot.' and in a legal review Judge Forstenzer stated that the northern 7.9 acres calls for 'recreation and the arts'.

There was also a Wetland Delineation Study conducted on this parcel and presented to Town Council in January of 2017 in which it was stated that 'A total of 0.63 acre of wetland and non-wetland waters were identified, consisting of drainage, a seasonal wetland and a wetland swale. The 0.63 acre of wetland and non-wetland waters identified in the Bell Shaped are considered to be potential waters of the US subject to the Army Core of Engineers jurisdiction.

This flat parcel has a similar ambiance as The Wood Site with trees and large flat areas that could host a variety of events throughout the year and would require funding to create the basic infrastructure to initiate the development of this parcel for events. The time has come to come to terms with this parcel that has been placed on the back burner for decades.

I would like to suggest that the small committee that has been created to revisit with potential event parcels include the exploration of the option that the Bluesapalooza Festival being hosted in partnership with the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mammoth Lakes Tourism in the summer of 2026 on the Bell Shaped Parcel and that further it moves towards the concept of being named Mammoth's Central Park.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this request.

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