

CARL GILMORE *WEMT-I-MI/C*
209 STATE ROAD 240
TAOS, NEW MEXICO 87571 -9402

Office & Cell Phone (575) 758 2719

Email Carl@Taosnet.com

May 5, 2022

James D. Duran, Supervisor
Carson National Forest

Re: Taos Ski Valley Gondola and Other Improvements Project

Mr. Duran,

I am a 45 year resident of Taos County who is intimately familiar with Taos Ski Valley, it's terrain, roads, ski lifts and other amenities. I have reviewed the Scoping Letter in detail and wish to offer my comments on the project. For Taos Ski Valley to continue to benefit the citizens of and visitors to Taos County I feel these improvements are all needed.

Base to Base Gondola & Ski Lift Replacement/Improvements:

I have personally damaged a vehicle while negotiating the existing road to the Kachina basin and know of many others who have similar experiences. I have also had discussions with the public works personnel from VTSV about the road. Given the gradients, narrow canyon and improved private property adjacent it would be extremely difficult to improve the safety of this road. The Base to Base Gondola is an excellent solution to this issue which would reduce the traffic on the road while providing an esthetic and environmentally beneficial access to the Kachina basin area. It would improve the access of guests to TSV snow sports terrain and better balance enthusiasts' distribution, while also greatly enhancing the summer visitor experience. Lifts 2, 4, 7 & 8 are all nearly or more than 30 years old. They are in need of replacement soon, both from a useful life and an industry standard perspective. I completely support these improvements.

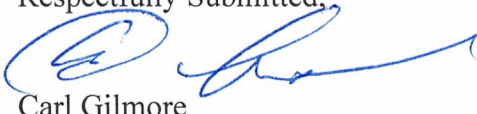
Water Tank & Booster Station:

As a retired volunteer fire fighter, I understand clearly the need for this improvement to increase human, property & forest safety in this dead end, fuel choked canyon. Increasing the efficiency of the snowmaking operation is a true environmental benefit also.

Nordic & Snowshoe Trails & Lift 4 Hiking Trail:

These will clearly benefit snow sports enthusiast visitors by providing more types of recreational opportunities. And the Lift 4 Hiking Trail would access gorgeous terrain and provide a needed alternative to the Wheeler Peak Wilderness and often busy Williams Lake Trail.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carl Gilmore