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**From:** Zia ideas [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 6, 2024 3:43 PM  
**To:** FS-objections-southwestern-regional-office  
**Subject:** To: Michiko Martin

Hello,

I was trying to find out some additional information on the proposed Taos Ski Valley Gondola. I was hoping just to find someone to talk to. I see your name is listed on the proposal but I couldn't find a phone number.

My questions are:

1. How is the Gondola being funded? With private funds or from government funding (Infrastructure)?
2. I showed the proposal to one of the incident commanders who worked on the Calf Canyon fire and helped defend our local ski resort Sipapu. Looking at the proposal, he had some specific suggestions for fire mitigation. For instance, clear flight lines to where the heli-well would be located. In the event of fire, these are the people who would be defending the ski valley, therefore I think it makes sense to listen to any suggestions they may have - is there anyone I can send this information to?
3. In researching gondolas all over the world, I only found one other gondola that does not go to the top of the mountain. There is one gondola in CO that basically circumvents driving a long narrow road from the valley floor to the resort.

This proposal gives no rationale that I could find for the need to connect the front of the mountain to the back. Why doesn't the gondola go to the top? Like 99% of most resorts. Ski resorts have a metric to measure skiers enjoyment / minute on the mountain. High speed gondolas increase this metric significantly. But this proposal doesn't mention any such metric. No baseline for skier satisfaction has been taken. There is mention of reducing traffic on the Twining road - but no traffic study has ever been done and a simple shuttle service would appear to solve any traffic problem at a fraction of the public(?) expense.

If anyone there can explain, in one or two sentences, what problem the Gondola solves.. I'd be grateful. I may just be missing something.

Thanks for your time.

Cheers,  
- Alexander