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Comments: Overall, this is an ambitious plan being rushed through the approval process without adequate exploration of how it will affect such a fragile environment where the Taos Ski Valley is located. An Environmental Assessment is woefully inadequate. A full scale Environmental Impact Study (EIS) should be conducted. The resistance to an EIS is revealing as it suggests undue influences behind the scenes.

TSVI prides itself on being a B Corporation but this irresponsible and far-reaching proposal without a proper and in-depth environmental study points out the hypocrisy of TSVI using the designation to hype the company and make people think TSVI is environmentally responsible.

The only feasible piece of this plan is the proposed hiking trail around Lift 4. Mountain bike trails have already destroyed what was once a semi-pristine slope under Kachina Peak and bordered by forest. A foot trail could not ruin it much more.

Replacing Lifts 2 and 8 with high-speed lifts will give TSVI fuel for commercial hype. In truth, spilling out so many people at the top of Lift 2 is pure folly unless TSVI does even more massive earth moving like it did on Strawberry Hill. The current lift already creates a traffic jam resulting in injuries. The top of Lift 8 is a bit more advantageous in terms of space but will also need some earth moving to accommodate more people. Or, as a former GM told me, "We'll just slow down the high-speed lift!" when I pointed out the above congestion possibilities.

As to two new mega-sized restaurants, a new one at Lift 7 and an expanded Whistle Stop, their footprints are much, much too big. Modest facilities to buy food, bathrooms and warmth are adequate.

Whereas a gondola from Lifts 1 to 4 sounds like an attractive idea, one must look at what that might ultimately look like, especially with a capacity of 1800 people per hour! And just what are those people supposed to do when they get to Kachina Basin? Are all of them going to try and eat at the Bavarian? Will they spread out onto the few trails starting from there? What this ultimately means is that TSVI and other developers will make a case for more eateries, more shops, more amenities like maybe pickleball/tennis courts, basketball courts, disc golf, etc., etc. In the not-too-distant future, the entire upper valley will have every inch filled with development of some kind.

Where will the water come from for the development that is surely to come in the upper valley? (TSVI can't even get water guaranteed for a new St. Bernard. That project is a good one although greed has increased that footprint too.) The current water crisis should teach a valuable lesson of what happens with over-development.

Where will the expanded amount of sewage go? How big a treatment plant is necessary for the need that will surely develop? Will the road up the canyon need to be enlarged? Who will pay for that and maintain it? I am only scratching the surface of the many questions to be asked without even beginning to have any solutions...except to give up these plans.

It was encouraging to hear the Village at Taos Ski Valley has a means to legitimately prevent their village from this over-development. My advice to the Village is to deny the easement and save what little you will have left after TSVI gets through with you.

Fragile environments should be recognized and protected. It will be too late if this overly ambitious plan is allowed to go forward. It is totally irresponsible not to do a full-scale, independent EIS, one which will be assured

of having no input from TSVI or elsewhere.