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First name: Tina

Last name: Sibbitt

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Fwd: Proposed Pajarito Ski Hill Water Pipeline

Hi, Lynn Bjorkland! I don't know if you remember me from Mr. Cernicek's Russian language class at LAHS. I know you have played a key role in battling our awful forest fires of the last ten years - keep up the good work!

I basically support the idea of Los Alamos County and the Santa Fe National Forest supporting the Pipeline project, both financially and otherwise. This last waterless winter is a depressing example of the effect of a dismal ski season, not only on the private partnership that has taken over the operations, but also on the entire town in terms of lost revenue of skiers who usually eat, drink and make merry in town, often even staying overnight. I don't even ski, but as you know, I am a native Los Alamosian and have spent years enjoying the Ski Hill through hiking and snowshoeing.

I very much support the Ski Hill for the above reasons and also because the ski operation is limited and prevents developers from trying to build more high end houses up there. The area is zoned recreational and needs to stay that way. I understand that as part of the deal between the County and the partnership that some additional structures might some day be built to facilitate ski operations and maybe even include a restaurant/bar and a small number of overnight accommodations. I am not opposed to such development as long as it is strictly limited and does not amount to people living full time up there other than the one or two folks who might already do that because they work there. A flourishing ski hill will boost business in town and head off attempts to re-zone to cover the slopes with houses. A reservoir capable of supporting robust snow making machines is essential given the direction our climate is heading.

Finally, the availability of water with which to battle forest fires is critical, as you yourself know from your intense years of fighting fires. Having water at the Ski Hill that can be used for this purpose protects not only the forest, but the town of Los Alamos. This purpose has my full support.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion!

Tina R. Sibbitt

923 Tewa Loop

Los Alamos, NM 87544

tsibbittsibblaw@unmalumni.com