Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/30/2021 8:46:11 PM

First name: Lita Last name: Loeppke Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am greatly saddened to hear about the proposed Sandia mountain coaster and am taking the time now to request that this project won't be approved. The Sandia mountains are not only a place I grew up in, but also worked at during my early college years so it is very dear to my heart. After looking through the proposed routes and growth in the Sandia Peak Ski area I am greatly concerned about the short and long term effect it will have on the flora and fauna. This change will not only directly change the area it will be at but it can greatly change the watershed it belongs to and most likely will have a negative impact.

First ski areas proposal's goal is to"increase the variety of multi-season recreation opportunities available at Sandia Peak to accommodate a more diverse range of visitors." While being more inclusive to have people who are more passive and not quite as physically able to participate in other activities. However this only gives another passive option and doesn't include many of those who are disabled. If you want a passive experience on the Sandia mountain you can ride to the top with the tram, ski lifts or drive up. This coaster doesn't really fill a need that is uniquely exclusive to those who would be excluded from activities.

It will also by intent bring more visitors to the region during the summer when most wildlife will be active and can be directly harmed by this. There will be more car traffic up and down the mountain which means more possibilities for wildlife to be hurt. I have also personally encountered a bear close to this area during the summer which leads me to believe that having all those extra people in that particular place is mishap just waiting to happen.

Which leads me to the yurt like structure will be another outside food supply where you will have to have more people moving supplies in and out of the area and most likely will not be compostable. Then trash will have to be again moved out or end up littering the area. The extra food in the area will most likely have a negative impact on the local animals food supplies and might make some animals dependent on humans as a resource.

In conclusion I hope that this proposal is denied so that the ski area can just focus on making a ski area and let our mountain stay beautiful, and be more appropriately managed. Maybe do an addition at the lodge to do landscape and wildlife photography classes, or something that will be more wheelchair accessible.