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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I grew up right near Tinkertown Museum (very close to the Ski Area). Recreation year-round (skiing, riding the chairlift, and hiking) at the Ski Area was a big part of my childhood. I know what is so dear to me about the area is also what makes it so dear to other people: the natural beauty and quietness.

I'm concerned that the mountain coaster will be unsightly, but more importantly, loud. I'm also a bit worried that the presence of the coaster and the buildings that support it will make the mountain feel like a theme park, which is not the experience people seek when they visit the peak.

Additionally, the portions of the ski slopes that would be closed to accommodate the mountain coaster strike me as a significant portion of the slopes, and my opinion is that the quality of Sandia as a ski area would suffer.

Apparently, the mountain coaster is intended to appeal to a broader section of the population than the existing recreational offerings do, but I don't understand how it can be used by more people than the chairlift, restaurant, viewpoints, or tram.

Lastly, my largest objection is the carbon footprint of the mountain coaster. Although it is gravity-powered on the way down, I imagine it would use considerable energy hauling the carts back up. And there are also environmental consequences to the (presumably) virgin materials that would be used in construction.

I think it would be better not to build the mountain coaster. Sandia Peak Ski Area is a beautiful recreational area that has plenty to offer just the way it is.