

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/26/2022 5:00:43 PM

First name: todd

Last name: mott

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a lifelong skier at Taos Ski Valley I've seen a lot of changes. We've seen a lot of changes in the climate. While I agree with some of the concepts that the ski area is trying to implement I believe a full environmental impact statement should be completed. There are many of these projects that have long-lasting consequences. Once areas are cleared of trees the erosion begins to set in. The trees unlikely will ever grow back. Under certain circumstances every option should be explored to utilize current infrastructure and minimize the footprint of any of these projects. I believe very strongly that no public money should be used for any of these projects as a vast majority of them benefit the ski area and its clientele as well as only the local population. I am concerned about a 5 million gallon water tank on the hillside near the base of lift too or proposed base area of new lift to. If there was ever a breach of this tank it would be a major catastrophe I haven't seen any details on what this tank is like where it would be located additionally no maps have been provided other than the map for the gondola. While the concepts of on Mountain eating art interesting demolishing the current Whistlestop and rebuilding something new and creating an entirely new restaurant at the top of chair 7 are a low Avalanche dream doesn't make a lot of sense. Let's not forget about the massive Avalanche from 1989 after Ernie's death that covered the entire back side road for months and obliterated the Tucker cat. Taos has some of the best laid schemes underneath chair to on the planet rerouting chair 2 and eliminating any of that Glade skiing because of a new lift path doesn't make any sense. I do like the idea of the gondola in as a concept but there are so many unanswered questions and in some ways it creates exclusivity. Granted there are traffic issues going up towards the Bavarian and the Williams Lake parking lot trailhead. In my mind create a more defensible space in these areas before any of these large projects are implemented would be in the best interest of the business of Taos Ski Valley the town of Taos Ski Valley and the public at Large. There are some serious ingress egress issues with a gondola or not the more people we start packing into the Wilderness Area the more likely there is going to be a catastrophe at some point given the possibility of a catastrophic wildfire. A serious conversation needs to be had about the amount of water that would be extracted from the Rio Hondo in order to facilitate an increase in snowmaking as well as uphill capacity runoff the use of masses of amount of power in order to make the snow. As a former snowmaker I am keenly aware of how much energy it takes to make the snow at Taos Ski Valley. How does that walk-in alignment with Taos Ski Valley being a b Corp are they going to use solar power to power all of their generators and compressors or is that just something there's throwing out the window. So much of this just stinks of expansionist real estate driven ski area business models that haven't worked in Montana or Colorado and ultimately leave the skiing Community with fewer options that are no longer affordable. Again an environmental impact statement should be completed no public money should be used for any of these expansions particularly the gondola and ultimately the most conservative Choice with the least amount of impact should be the choice this was once a wild area and now continues to be treated as a playground for the rich.