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First name: Crystal

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear James Duran, Forest Supervisor c/o Paul Schilke

We live in NM and are property owners up in the Kachina Basin area of Taos Ski Valley. We love the activities in and around the ski valley in both the summer and the winter.

When we first heard the proposed plans to install a gondola between the main ski area and the Kachina Basin, we were very much excited and anxious for that project to start. We believe the gondola will enhance both the summer and winter access and activities to include more outdoor enthusiasts. The current road access is busy and throws up a lot of dust. The road is also very restricted width in certain spots. Other reasons we are in favor of the gondola include providing bi-directional access to include the residents being able to access the main ski village area and the front side skiing is the back side is close for any reason. It really provides full access to both people needing to get to Kachina Basin and for people needing to get to the main village. Too, the hiker parking lot overflows several times a year. People end up having to park upwards of ¾ miles down the road. At that point, the road becomes very difficult for bi-directional traffic flow.

As for all the other plans, the new lift to replace 2 and 8, and a new restaurant at lift 7 and the Nordic trails and other summer and winter trails, we are all in favor of the improvements. We believe all the proposed improvements will draw tourism dollars to NM. The people who visit from out of town and out of state will be spending a lot of money in our community during their stay. This will provide more income for small businesses in the area and will increase tax revenue through gross receipts tax and lodging tax.

Please approve these projects and help move these improvements forward as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Crystal Stein

Residential Property owner in TSV