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Title:

Comments: I would like to voice my opposition to the suggested improvements. As a TSV skier, initially I was excited to hear that there were suggested improvements. However, I do not believe the current proposal is transparent enough to feel comfortable supporting it blindly. Below are my two main concerns- environmental as well as access.

1. The suggested gondola was the idea I was initially most excited about. However, I was offput by the lack of details. If the gondola is handled well in a free public transit style with many hours, pets allowed, and no blockage to the road, I would be in support. However, the lack of details leaves me worried the gondola may only be accessed with a lift ticket, during limited hours, and access to the road may be not allowed. With access to the Wheeler Peak Wilderness via the Kachina Basin, I often take advantage of driving the road early before TSV is open to recreate- additionally, I take my dog. Losing easy access to the National Forest due to gondola operations would be extremely upsetting. I know many- including myself- were incredibly upset by TSV closing the road for their race without warning this past spring, as the trailhead serves some of the best access to the wilderness. It is especially a factor in the winter, when many of the trailheads further down the canyon road are often plowed in and offer no parking access.

2. I believe that a full Environmental Impact Survey needs to be done before increasing snow making capacity and building new structures. With droughts becoming worse every year and bodies of water already struggling, it is unwise to take more resources without further study. I request full disclosure of TSV water rights and proof that there is enough water to support the expansion without further tapping of springs, groundwater, and streams. In addition, there must be a water treatment plan present that can handle peak tourism.

I believe improvements in TSV can be very positive. However, I wish for a bit more transparency before I can support any changes. Thank you for accepting my comments.