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Comments: I am writing today to express my wholehearted support for the Telluride Mountain Club's trail proposal. As a dedicated member of our community for the past seven years and an avid recreationalist, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative impact that an expanded trail system could have on our region. Below are the reasons why I advocate for the adoption of this proposal:

1.Diverse Recreational Opportunities: As someone who enjoys hiking, running, and mountain biking multiple times a week, I understand the importance of having a variety of trails to cater to different energy levels and preferences. The inclusion of trails such as the Illium Flume Trail and Sheep Corrals Connector would provide our community with opportunities to engage in recreational activities on more gentle terrain while still enjoying the wilderness.

2.Alleviation of Congestion: During the peak summer months, our local trails experience significant congestion. By adding more trails, we can effectively distribute trail users, leading to a more enjoyable experience for both residents and visitors alike. Furthermore, an increased number of USFS trails could encourage individuals to utilize sanctioned trails instead of resorting to social trails, helping preserve our natural environment.

3.Enhanced Safety and Accessibility: Many recreationalists are currently forced to traverse busy roads to access trails. The proposed trails, including the Sheep Corrals to Sunshine Trail, Sunshine/T35 Uphill Trail, Sunshine Trail Connector, and Illium Flume Trail, would provide safer alternatives, reducing reliance on road travel. Personally, I have refrained from biking in Illium due to safety concerns on the roads, and I am confident that these new trails would encourage greater participation in outdoor activities.

4.Commuting Benefits: The Mountain Village to Valley Floor Singletrack Connector holds immense potential as a recreational and commuting route. . Boomerang road is too steep and loose for most people to travel safely. The establishment of this new trail would facilitate safer and more accessible travel for individuals commuting to town, reducing reliance on vehicles and the gondola.

5.Preservation of Community Culture: Recreation serves as a cornerstone of our community, attracting both locals and visitors alike. It fosters social interaction, promotes mental and physical well-being, and reinforces our region's identity as a premier outdoor destination. Therefore, investing in the improvement and expansion of our trail systems is paramount to preserving our cultural heritage and maintaining our status as a world-class outdoor recreation destination.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse the Telluride Mountain Club's trail proposal. By investing in our trail infrastructure, we not only enhance recreational opportunities but also uphold the values that define our community. Thank you for considering my input on this matter.