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Comments: I formally object to the proposed Special Use Permit and Zoning changes regarding item #68965. The change to the Forest Plan will adversely effect the character of the Pinecrest recreational experience and significantly impact the historical legacy all visitors enjoy. The USFS failed to provide an honest, robust evaluation of the detrimental impact to the entire Pinecrest Basin.

My family has been visiting Pinecrest since 1935, and owned a cabin since the end of WWII. Five generations have the shared experience of birthdays, honeymoons, weddings, sunburns, fishing, biking, hiking, campfires, celebrations of life, lifelong friends, and passionate commitment to the community.

I have visited the "Community Center" site numerous times, participated in events and met the new owners. I am keenly aware of their efforts, but have concerns regarding the direction they are moving with the apparent acquiescence of the Forest Service District. It seems the the USFS let changes proceed without sufficient checks, and now want to correct their mismanagement by changing the zoning and permit. This sets a dangerous precedence and is an abdication of the responsibilities to the public.

There is documented current non-compliance with the present Use Permit and failure to enforce Use Permit Terms. USFS should evaluate and enforce the existing Use Permit conditions and documented non-compliance before considering any expanded authorization. That is only fair, reasonable and their obligation.

Pinecrest has been adversely impacted by an insufficient response to current traffic, parking, vehicular and pedestrian circulation issues. An unchecked and improperly evaluated public venue would only exacerbate an already critical problem in the Pinecrest area.

I have concerns regarding the overly broad Outfitter/Guide Expansion reference. There seems nothing to prevent this expansion in the recreation residence area and prevent occupation of the very limited Day Use areas. Hikers on the PCT seeking respite are already served by entities along the 108 corridor and even within Pinecrest.

The USFS document provides an insufficient analysis of Emergency Operations' potential response (Public Safety and the already limited Law Enforcement capacity). I see nothing addressing the evacuation PCT hikers with no method of escape during a local disaster. There is nothing addressing the Attractive Nuisance Risk should unhoused persons claim standing or stay beyond a reasonable visitor.

I found no information on the projected occupancy as a lodge during high seasonal demands. A truly professional evaluation would provide details on the projected impact on the utilities and infrastructure. I found no serious evaluation of the impact to our PPA wastewater/sewer capacity and potential for risk to public health in the event of a failure.

I have deep concerns regarding the presence of school children on the site where liquor is sold and consumed. Furthermore the open sleeping quarters with unvetted, transient adults present poses a potential danger to children.

I found incomplete information on the economic impacts to jobs, existing businesses and concessions. The evaluation was cursory at best, and failed to demonstrate a serious exploration of positive/negative impact. It is well-known that staffing and housing continues to be a concern for current local venues.

I am deeply concerned about setting a Basin-Wide Precedent wherein any Use Permit can be unilaterally changed with insufficient research, factual documentation and robust public input and evaluation. The proposed amendment turns a blind eye to the the current concessions offered and overlapping services established with a commercial entity at the Lodge. There are services already available that are reasonable for the current outdoor experience desired by the public. The forest and the recreational experience is not supposed to be about commercial enterprise and profit. Pinecrest can barely support the present seasonal influx - let's not make it worse. The whole Pinecrest Basin deserves progress that supports present conditions and improves the environmental beauty. We risk losing the character and historical significance of the treasure we are entrusted with.

Respectfully submitted,
Cecile Focha