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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed elimination of Schuss Bus service along Noon Peak Road, as referenced in the **Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Section 4.1.2 and Table 4.2.1. I urge you to reconsider this proposal and the significant personal, community, equity, and environmental impacts it would have on the families and property owners who rely on this service.

Our family has been visiting the Valley for many years and has owned property here for a number of years. The Schuss Bus is not simply a convenience for us; it is a service we depend on to access the mountain throughout the year, and particularly during ski season. Our daughter trains at the mountain with BBTS, our son volunteers there, and my husband and I ski recreationally. Because each of us often has a different schedule, we may need to travel to and from the mountain multiple times throughout the same day. We do not have separate vehicles available for each family member, and the Schuss Bus makes it possible for us to participate in these activities independently and safely.

The shuttle is especially important for my husband. Although he is able to ski, he has mobility challenges that make navigating the distance from the parking lots to the base of the mountain difficult. The Schuss Bus provides him with significantly more accessible mountain access. I imagine our family is far from unique in this regard. The residents and visitors along Noon Peak Road and in the other neighborhoods proposed for removal from the route range from children and teenagers who cannot drive to older adults who may no longer drive or may have mobility limitations. Eliminating this service creates a very real access issue for these members of the community.

There is also an important issue of equity. Property owners along Noon Peak Road and in the other affected neighborhoods are taxpayers in the Valley. Removing a longstanding service from certain neighborhoods, particularly one that residents have come to rely upon, while continuing to provide it elsewhere feels fundamentally inequitable. At a minimum, the impact on the taxpayers and residents who would lose access should be carefully considered before such a significant change is made.

The environmental implications are equally concerning. Eliminating shuttle access will inevitably put more individual vehicles on the road. In our family's case alone, the loss of the Schuss Bus could result in multiple additional round trips to and from the mountain in a single day. Multiply that by the many families currently using the service, and the result will be increased traffic, congestion, fuel consumption, emissions, and demand for parking. At a time when communities should be encouraging shared transportation and reducing unnecessary vehicle trips, eliminating an established shuttle route seems directly counterproductive.

The Schuss Bus contributes to what makes the Valley a connected and accessible community. It allows young people greater independence, provides access for older adults and individuals with mobility limitations, reduces the number of vehicles traveling to and from the mountain, and supports families whose members have different schedules. These are meaningful benefits that should not be dismissed simply because they may be difficult to quantify.

For our family and, I am certain, for many others, eliminating service along Noon Peak Road would have a substantial impact on how we are able to access and participate in the community we have invested in for years. This proposal feels short-sighted and unfair, and its consequences extend well beyond the loss of a transportation convenience.

I respectfully ask that you **reconsider the proposed elimination of Schuss Bus service on Noon Peak Road and the other affected routes identified in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement**. Before moving forward, please meaningfully consider the voices of the residents, property owners, families, young people, older adults, and individuals with mobility needs who rely on this service, as well as the additional traffic and environmental impact its elimination would create.

Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to provide feedback on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Stefani Wasik