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Comments:

As someone who regularly spends time hiking and relaxing in the Sandia Mountains, I am very much opposed to this mountain coaster. I am very concerned about how this would affect existing recreation opportunities and how it would impact the wildlife and ecosystem.

The project website suggests the noise level from the coaster would not be different from the existing ski lifts. However, that is not true. Unlike the ski lifts, the coaster would run year round and accommodate much more traffic than the ski facilities do. I have been on roller coasters and I have been on ski lifts, and I can absolutely attest the the noise level of the two are not remotely comparable. The noise from the public on coasters is much louder, even at low speeds. Noise travels far in the Sandias and would adversely affect peaceful enjoyment of the trails and scare wildlife from the area even outside of winter hibernation season, which would fracture the flow of the ecosystem.

The increased traffic to the Sandias which the coaster would attract would have a proportional increase in human voice noise, vehicle traffic, trash and pollution. The existing tramway car, overlooks, picnic areas, trails, and ski facilities already make the mountain accessible to the general public while maintaining a tranquil environment for humans and wilflife. A coaster would be more likely to attract people who have less respect for the serenity of the mountain and are more interested in a fast thrill.

Please do not proceed with his project. I would be less inclined to spend time in the Sandia Mountains if there was a coaster full of human noise running every six minutes so close to some of the most majestic trails such as Tree Spring and 10K.