

Snow King Community Workshop
Monday, January 22, 2018
Grand View Lodge – Jackson, WY
Meeting Summary

Introduction

Tyler Sinclair, Planning Director, welcomed all attendees. He explained that the purpose of this meeting is to have a community discussion about the future of Snow King and the base area. This effort to gather community feedback is coming out of a partnership between the Town of Jackson, Snow King Resort, and the US Forest Service. What makes this process unique is that it is meant to spark holistic discussion about Snow King and its impacts regardless of property boundaries or ownership. Having this broader conversation will allow decision makers across organizations to work within the same context of community feedback.

There will be two public workshops, as well as four stakeholder meetings. 60 people applied to fill only 12 open spots for the stakeholder group; the group was selected and has their first meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2018. These stakeholders will be considering the information from this community meeting, as well as other community interests, as they begin to create a variety of scenarios over four meetings together. The Stakeholder Group will present their potential scenarios to the community at another workshop in March. The Town of Jackson, the US Forest Service, and Snow King Resort have stated that they will take the community feedback coming from the stakeholder group and the workshops seriously.

The purpose of the meeting is to learn about the interests of the community and the surrounding areas in Snow King, as well as concerns about the future and suggestions for change. This is a chance for community members to offer their feedback separate from the plans of other organizations and is not a vote or tabulation exercise. The next community meeting will be held on March 12.

Heather Bergman of Peak Facilitation Group explained the rules of engagement for the evening. Attendees were asked to keep the following ground rules in mind as they shared their thoughts:

- Allow every voice to be heard.
- Participate in the discussion.
- Help ensure that everyone feels safe in the discussion.
- Treat everyone with respect.
- Talk about things that you know and let other people do the same.
- Listen to understand, not to respond.
- Focus on the topic at hand.

Ms. Bergman explained that this meeting would focus on interests rather than positions. Interest identification is particularly useful when identifying solutions to complex problems, as they allow more people to get more of what they want, rather than creating a

win-lose dynamic between the participating parties. Interests are the “why” that underlies the “what” that people request from decision makers. Below are the participants’ identified interests.

- Preserve wildlife habitat and migration corridors
- Create a viable, sustainable, and financially sound entity (Snow King) for the long haul.
- Incorporate science education
- Preserve free and rewarding access to the natural forest and terrain
- Safety
- Find a solution that benefits the community
- Provide a variety of affordable, year-round recreation for families and all ages
- Protect and respect the cemetery
- Maintain the quality of life for those in the community (light pollution, noise pollution, traffic, scenery, etc.)
- Maintain the ballfield and Phil Baux Park for public access and recreation
- Have a more streamlined organization for better customer experience.
- Improve uphill access
- Recognize unique opportunities for private funding to be invested in Snow King while maintaining public access and preserving wildlife habitat and migration corridors
- Create readily accessible parking
- Offer more beginner ski terrain
- Continue and maintain a place for public events
- Provide employee housing
- Have a place to store ski gear, change clothes, and relax
- Integrate past and future development and plans
- Minimize the impact on immediate neighbors
- Provide opportunities for world-class ski and board training and events
- Have a modern summit lift
- Human population control
- Incorporate wildfire protection
- Design for creative uses, such as innovative energy opportunities and cultural events such as arts and music
- Balance growth with development to maintain community character and avoid the Disney Land effect
- Minimize off-site impacts, particularly on public lands
- Minimize strain on the town's infrastructure, roads, and community services so essential aspects of community life can be sustained
- Incorporate environmental sustainability and green practices in building, design, etc.
- Increase community opportunities for ice skating and hockey
- Recognize that this is Jackson’s town hill that is unique among ski areas
- Improve safety as it relates to transportation (stop lights, crosswalks, etc.)

- Provide expanded ski terrain
- Incorporate private on-mountain investments that will sustain Snow King for the next 80 years.
- Continue to offer and develop after-school ski/snowboard training for local kids and adults
- Maintain human-powered recreation
- Preserve the historic character of Snow King
- Provide expanded ski opportunities, like terrain parks, ski jumps, etc.
- Contribute to the local food economy
- Maintain and expand opportunities for different types of recreation like mountain biking, paragliding, walking and hiking, snow sports, etc.
- Provide opportunities for contemplation of nature and quiet
- Maintain and improve connections to the pathways and improve connectivity year-round
- Provide good, stable, and sustainable year-round jobs that allow people and families to live, play and work in Jackson
- Create more opportunities to enjoy the top of Snow King
- Minimize impacts on surrounding wildlands and low-density trails
- Land conservation
- Incorporate existing planning documents in this process
- Plan for climate change
- Utilize locally based decision making in the long-term
- Invest in maintaining and improving the current terrain that is underutilized
- Invest long-term in mountain biking trails that benefit the community and encourage tourism
- Explore ways Snow King can bring new activities to the community and visitors
- Improve road access for first responders to Snow King
- Ensure future development respects and enhances the community character of Jackson and Snow King as the town hill
- Maintain the character of the community
- Respect the summit areas as a low-impact viewing and recreational site
- Improve the bathroom experience on the summit
- Maintain natural and undeveloped skyline
- Find creative funding opportunities to ensure recreational access for those of all incomes
- Protect the integrity of wilderness and wildlife habitat
- Financially protect the Town and its citizens against loss and liability
- Analyze potential impacts to the viewshed for both citizens and visitors when making decisions about future development on and around Snow King
- Maintain snowmobile events
- Provide sunny skiing opportunities
- Protect water quality
- Provide access for dogs
- Support astronomy and other activities that utilize the night sky

- Hold community discussions that are more effective than this meeting
- Maintain dark skies
- Maintain adequate ski facilities for training and racing
- Maintain the love of Snow King
- Provide easier ski terrain so that more people will come and use Snow King
- Allow the profitable parts of Snow King to support community benefits
- Consider Snow King's design in the context of the downtown development and South Cache corridor

Mapping Exercise

After sharing their interests in Snow King, meeting attendees wrote individual comments about their interests and positions on maps of the area. They were instructed to keep in mind that although ownership boundaries were included on the map, all feedback should be made with consideration to the area as a whole regardless of whose property it is. Below are the themes from all of the comments.

Education

- Educate the public about the history of Snow King in a space with photos, ephemera, text, and timelines.
- Educate the public that if they want Snow King in Town, they are going to have to pay for it one way or another.

Ecological Impacts

- This area has the densest wildlife in Teton County and carcasses are uncommon. It is poor etiquette to even ski in the area.
- Thinning and fuel reduction are needed in the surrounding areas.
- Protect Flat Creek and Cache Creek water quality.
- More weed control is needed. Canadian thistle and other invasive species are out of control. New development typically means more weeds.

Community

- Increase community involvement in Snow King during non-crisis times, both emotionally and financially.
- Snow King needs to minimize neighborhood impacts.
- Factor in community benefits and address impacts such as housing, parking, traffic, and employees.
- Do not increase lighting or snowmaking noise on Snow King to not disturb neighbors.
- Impacts on neighbors should be avoided.
- There needs to be a consideration for streetscapes on both Snow King Avenue and Cache that address sustainability and cultural events.
- The Gateway design is fundamental as an anchor for the South Cache corridor. The design must be welcoming and open.
- Snow-making equipment should have noise mitigation.
- Build a community garden, similar to May Park.

- Maintain a venue for the People’s Market. In 2017, it brought in \$175,000 to the local economy and is a wonderful community event.
- Locals first.
- More concessionaires on the mountain mean there is more community buy-in.
- There is too much noise from the snowcats in Area D, right next to dense housing.
- There should be a senior club at the lodge with benefits, such as a discount or free ski instruction.

Events

- Hold more concerts.
- Have a space at the summit to hold events.
- There should be improved convention facilities with capacity for larger meetings that accommodate multiple uses, such as an ice pavilion and racing center.

Ski Hill Access

- Increase capacity of the lift to the top of Snow King that is faster than hiking or skiing.
- There is no beginner or intermediate skiing in the sun.
- There should be easy access to all of the mountain.
- Improve uphill access for skier enjoyment.
- Walkable access is needed throughout town and to/from the ski area and neighborhoods.
- Decrease the cost of uphill travel for skiing.

Expanded Ski Hill Boundaries

- The back of the mountain is not conducive to ski terrain but is good wildlife habitat.
- Clarify the lower boundary of Snow King Resort with the lowest limit of where the lowest cat track might be.
- There should be mountain bike trails and park on the backside of the mountain.
- Do not allow clear cutting of trees or roadbuilding beyond the current boundaries.
- Snow King should not extend its boundaries into US Forest Service land.
- Snow King should develop within its existing boundaries.
- Do not expand development onto the footprint on the south side of the mountain. Make due on existing north side of the mountain.
- Do not expand boundaries east or west of the existing slopes.
- Expand to either the south or the east/west depending on the results of the NEPA showing which area has fewest impacts on wildlife and habitat.
- Follow the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan concerning the footprint.
- The South area should be maintained the way it is to preserve wildlife, character, and peacefulness. This area is widely used by community members to deal with stressors of daily life.
- Only expand to offer more beginner skier terrain.
- Add intermediate trails in Area B on US Forest Service land.
- Offer equestrian uses on the south side of the mountain.

- Allow free access to the back side on USFS permitted lands for organizations.
- The boundaries should not be expanded since there are very few people that even use all terrain in the existing area.
- Build a surface life, regrade, and offer beginner terrain in Area B.

Snow King Summit

- Provide low-profile dining and event space near the top of Snow King that is nearly invisible from Town.
- Get rid of the structure at the top of the summit and relocate the cell phone tower.
- There should be a restaurant at the top of the mountain.
- Add beginner terrain at the top of the mountain.
- Build an observatory and planetarium at the top of the mountain.
- Purchase or rent a small property to use as maintenance and facility operations.
- Minimize road impacts for summit access.
- Nordic ski trails should be added to the top of the mountain.
- Improve the panoramic house, and possibly make it rotate.
- There need to be bathrooms at the summit.
- There should be a ski museum at the summit.

Access

- Maintain historical access
- There needs to be a new, safe road that goes all the way to the summit.
- Maintain public access to trails without having to pay.
- Summer access to trails should remain free for those who are hiking.
- Running and walking trails to the northeast of the mountain should be accessible in the winter.
- The mountain needs to be accessible from Town.
- Improve pathway access.
- Utilize Leeks Road to access the top of Snow King.
- Improve roads.
- Cutting a new road would leave a scar, improve avalanche mitigation, provide easier access for less skilled recreators, and perhaps cause landslide issues.
- Offer affordable ski pass options.
- Offer a free lifetime ski pass.
- Maintain and enhance non-motorized trail access to improve local neighborhood connectivity.
- Do not build any new roads or add pavement to the mountain.
- Foot traffic and accessibility need to be prioritized over cars.

Mountain Recreation

- Separate hiking and biking trails and maintain “sink or swim.”
- Keep hill climb, snocross, cowboy coaster, as well as other family-oriented adventures.
- There are not enough downhill mountain biking trails.

- There needs to be more mountain biking.
- The coaster should no longer be located in Town due to noise.
- There should be no zip lines anywhere on the mountain, as the screaming creates too much noise and cannot be prevented.
- If there must be a zip line, it should only be on the east side of the mountain.
- The coaster should have time limits. For example, it could close at 6 p.m.
- There needs to be more fun family activities.
- There needs to be more hiking trails.
- Snow King, both the north and the south side, should not turn into an amusement park.
- Snow King needs training and racing facilities that accommodate spectators. This should not be built on the gateway corner.
- Building a zip line and offering other summer recreational activities would be beneficial.
- Create an organized and rehabilitated summer trail plan.
- All year amenities should include connected bike paths, historical elements, children playgrounds, a transportation terminal for the downtown shuttle and trolley, and a multi-modal circulation concept.
- Summer and winter programming should include farmers markets, artists markets, a Christmas market, and a park with flexible design to accommodate diverse uses.
- Winter amenities should include sledding, a cross-country skiing practice track, and a base camp for the racing hill.
- Keep the terrain at Snow King steep and difficult.
- Keep some paths for walking only.
- The mountain should not have horseback rides.
- There needs to be an improved training facility for JHSC and other snow sports.
- The area in the middle of the north side of the mountain should be developed more to accommodate additional ski runs, particularly those in glades and along the fall line.
- Reduce the effects of snowmaking that block out the sun.
- Scotty's should not be turned into a ski run. It is not worth being responsible for Western Forest.
- Add a small strip of man-made snow at the top to appease beginners
- Maximize inbound ski terrain and build a half pipe and a terrain park.
- Downhill mountain biking is only appropriate on private lands if there is no impact to hikers or dogs and is confined to one noisy area.
- Decommission the alpine slide. It is obsolete with the coaster due to noise and liability concerns.
- Preserve bike trails in Area B.
- Offer more non-motorized loop trails.
- There needs to be more cross-country bike access.
- Skiing could be enhanced by making the trails follow the fall line.
- Paragliding needs an improved area.
- Build steps up the mountain.

- Protect and increase dog recreation opportunities.
- There should be a walking loop trail to the summit.

Snow King Base

- Add a second ice rink at the base of Snow King.
- Think long-term about congestion at the base of Snow King and neighboring area.
- The base needs to have a dog park.
- Provide free parking.
- Use the base to draw tourism and money to other areas of the town.
- Town of Jackson property should be used to host a second sheet of ice.
- The base area should be developed to benefit the community as a whole, not to serve as only a real estate transaction.
- Build a climbing gym.
- Phil Baux Park needs new bathroom facilities.
- The Snow King hotel should be approved – there is no need for an additional hotel.
- Offer additional underground parking.
- Provide community amenities at the base, particularly affordable housing.
- The base needs a lodge so that people can change their boots, leave gear, and have snacks.
- Keep Phil Baux Park playground.

Business Viability

- Allow Snow King to do as it pleases with the US Forest Service leader.
- Snow King needs to find the least invasive way to stay economically viable.
- Snow King should bring back the two-hour ski lift ticket.
- Improve the interest in Snow King and Cache Creek among transient workers.
- This is an opportunity for public/private investment on the mountain.
- Snow King needs to be held to the same standard as any other business or commercial property.

Safety

- Improve fire access to Snow King with better roads.
- There needs to be better access to the mountain for emergency personnel.
- There needs to be safer lifts to the summit.
- The green trail that comes off of Rafferty is dangerous and needs to be enlarged.
- Trails need to be marked correctly at the top of Rafferty. It should be a black diamond and not a blue.

Parking

- People should pay for parking at the base during peak season.
- Encourage people to use alternate parking sources and ride the START bus.
- More parking areas should be opened and available.
- The ice rink should be moved to the fairgrounds where parking is plentiful.

Uphill Access

- A gondola should not be built on Town land and should preserve the ballpark and Phil Baux Park.
- Use Leeks Road to access the summit to build a gondola all the way to the top. This would require permission from the Lockharts/Gills.
- Add a gondola to the bottom of the mountain and move forward with Phase 2.
- Upgrade uphill access with a gondola.
- The gondola should run on green energy.
- A gondola would be acceptable if built on private property and meant to improve the quality and quantity of public events.
- Build a T-bar that requires minimal disturbance and infrastructure.
- The gondola should leave from the Town Square to go to the top of Snow King.
- A Town or Rec District will help with the cost of uphill access.

General Comments

- Let people have fun.
- Bryant Park in New York City should be used as a source of multi-use inspiration.
- Many of the community's suggestions are mutually exclusive in favor of the ski/entertainment business and are contradictory with physical laws and logic.
- Consolidate Jackson Hole Mountain interests by creating a building to house the Jackson Hole Center for Mountain Culture.
- The snowcat operators groom well.

Comment Cards

Attendees were offered the opportunity to fill out comment cards with three questions regarding their interests in Snow King. All comments are included below, as written, broken into categories.

What is your interest in Snow King and the surrounding area? Remember, interests are the "why" that underlies what you want.

Recreation

- Provide a viable, sustainable community mountain that increases recreation opportunities and respects surrounding mountain lands and wildlife
- Free access to human-powered recreation, un-bettered!
- Expanded recreational/competitive opportunities- year round, shoulder months
- Keep lots of fun for family activities including snocross race and hill climb world championship
- Creation of expanded ski open opportunities: Nordic- combined, and diversify activities
- Mountain biking, paragliding
- Interested in seeing a velodrome-indoor built on the property.
- I'm interested in expanding recreation and business opportunities, along with ski terrain and mountain biking

- I recreate there year round. My children ski race there. I am ski patrol at Snow King.
- Snow King should continue to develop in the direction to support Jackson Hole Ski Club. The Club has provided financial stability to Snow King and continues to grow their program and enhance our Jackson community
- To continue offering and develop ski training to the local community. Develop on snow activities.
- A local place for recreation of all types
- A home base for local ski clubs to support youth ski and snowboard training- offices for admin, coaches, youth lockers
- Maintain and expand ice facilities
- The JHSC should be a top tier world class ski club, continue to allow for our club to grow and produce world-class athletes. Allow uphill traffic.
- Hiking and skiing, uphill winter skiing, hiking free
- Snow King is the home and lifeblood of the ski club and it's 500 local kids who depend upon Snow King to provide International quality opportunities for training competitive events.
- I want Snow King to remain the heart of our Jackson Hole with family rec access, and improved training for winter sports
- My interests are recreation and access to public lands. Opportunities for public social gatherings at base.
- Expand opportunity for cross-country, downhill and biking
- Robust and vibrant tourism economy in the town all year. Recreation opportunities for visitors and locals, including skiing, hiking, mountain biking, etc.
- Improve existing facilities and terrain prior to expanding
- ski/hike hill access, low/no cost
- Ski club- ski racing family
- A highly visible, highly utilized recreation space should reflect the values of the community-access to nature, consideration for the neighboring wildlife and their critical habitat and unique intact ecosystem, human-powered recreation and fitness, low impact operation
- Maintain existing summit trails, especially Bearcat.
- Lots and lots of green slopes and trails

Community Benefits

- Maintaining free public access to facilities and the natural area for the local community. Maintaining quality of life for community members continuing public events- farmers markets.
- Affordable access to the forest for everyone, keep the King community-based.
- I am an adjacent neighbor to Snow King and want to see improvements to infrastructure.
- Neighborhood quality, want current uses to be economic
- Preserving and celebrating the history, historic character, and cultural landscape of Snow King- not instead of new development, but in harmony. Old and new.
- Preserve town hall for local recreation, i.e., affordable, accessible, diverse, safe

- Long-term sustainability of Snow King as a community resource.
- I use Snow King for biking and mostly summer recreation. My kids use Snow King for winter skiing/ boarding. I want to see it be much more weighted toward local needs so that we don't have to have another resort in town that is overly expensive and catering to tourists only.
- Maintain areas for community activities
- Science should be celebrated / highlighted as community value, tool, love, art, etc.
- My interest is in protecting the character of the town hill and the quality of the experience for community members. Land conservation, public lands not for personal financial gain.
- Prioritization of sustainability and community character over excessive profitability at the expense of the above.
- This plan needs to reflect public ownership of most of the site- opportunity to create great asset for the community.
- That Snow King continues to be a welcoming and fun place for locals and visitors. Make Snow King as good as possible with improvements.
- Minimize the number of non-residents utilizing Snow King

Accessibility

- I would like Snow King to be more accessible with parking and walking from one lift to the other
- More access to the Snow King facilities, more runs, and a bigger parking lot for all visitors of Jackson
- Free public access to Town hill and trails year-round, accessible base area
- Interested in more effort to include the Latino population and nonwhite users. Keep winter pass costs low.
- Increase free access to existing trail systems, maintain access to public land
- Welcome the public, including the many tourists, to enjoy the best view of Jackson at the Summit by providing safe, reliable access to the top and a facility for them to enjoy. Inspire them by showing nature and advocating them on how they can help protect it by being good stewards of the land.
- Better uphill lift access
- To keep the mountain affordable to all. Any improvement will be great.
- Improve activity choice, develop special events venue
- Protect access to forest land for multiple uses.
- Free access to Forest Service Lands and town lands at mountain base
- Preserve affordable, year-round access.
- Keeping access to public land and preserving wildlife corridors.
- Preserve wild, untamed backcountry access. Maintain vintage, unique, classic appeal on public lands.

Community Impacts

- Positive and “negative” reflects to my property. I am a property owner
- Appropriate affordable housing for commercial impacts

- Protecting community livability
- All improvements that keep our town operating
- Keep it as “natural” as possible- there isn't a need to expand. It's a town, not a city.
- Development should mesh smoothly with the surrounding area, neighbors, current facilities, AND future facilities- Plan and build SMART
- I am interested in preserving the relative tranquility of the East Jackson area; I'd like to have less audible disturbance. I'd like to preserve open space and existing parks because I like open and informal gatherings.
- Feel like our town hill, not an amusement park. Because this place is special and deserves better than generic money making rides.
- Keeping the surrounding neighborhood character by limiting impact such as noise, traffic, lights.
- I am interested in saving the ball field, welcoming to pedestrians and people accessing their public lands via their own human power.
- Long time Jackson resident who is concerned about amusement park atmosphere that is fantastic at taking money from tourists but destroys the natural experience
- Respect the environment, history of skiing and non-motorized recreation. Low impact activities at summit. Respect wildlife and neighboring public lands.
- Quiet. Nature. Calm. Silence. Wildlife. History. Restraint.
- Improving/expanding the ski area base to provide more room for race finishes and the public to coexist. I would also like to see the lodge/ rink/ ski club modernized and expanded to better serve users
- Decrease the noise, light pollution and maintain wildlife habitat
- We deal with excess parking and noise with events like 4th of July, hill climb, etc.
- No one mentioned baseball- do not need to keep baseball. Just open space for concerts and peoples market

Economic Impacts

- Allow for a sustainable modernization of Snow King's amenities and facilities
- New enclosed summit lift to facilitate movement of people up the mountain; enhanced amenities at top
- Allow Snow King to develop into a sustainable resort, with emphasis on ski and snowboarding (including uphill travel) in the winter, while maintaining town hill feel, respecting wildlife habitat, natural beauty, and minimizing negative impacts on neighbors.
- Terrain, improved lifts, gondola, private investment to make Snow King economically sustainable and affordable to generations of coding Jackson Hole kids
- A unique opportunity for private funding
- To be a substantial contribution to economic growth
- Expand Snow King = skiing, hiking, restaurants, lifts
- A viable, year-round ski/mountain resort in town
- Improve activity choice, develop special events venue
- Commit to actually operating the mountain, not just expanding. Minimize new roads.
- To have Snow King survive financially

- Ensuring we have a sustainable, economically viable resort in town that supports downtown businesses
- A viable, vibrant town hill sustainable into the future
- Make Snow King economically viable. Advance the local economy. Increase educational opportunities for local youth
- Long-term economic success
- Sustainability, financial solvency, continued existence, and improvement/expansion

Environmental Impacts

- I am interested in Snow King because expansion would/could greatly impact the environmental integrity of Jackson Hole wildlife and public lands and strain the infrastructure of town public
- A balance of improved amenities and habitat safety
- My interest is preserving the wildlife that lives in the area
- Environmental sustainability and green decisions in design, building and business practice
- I am interested in the wildlife protection on Snow King, it is one of our core values in the comprehensive plan. We don't need a huge percentage of people visiting, but I want those that are here to have fun. But...there is so much to do already, and there are choices here that don't exist elsewhere- hiking, fishing, climbing, national parks, etc.
- Recognize that the diverse wildlife we all love has habitat needs that include safe areas, ability to move about to eat, to hear their own and other species.
- Do not destroy the mountain
- The existing National Forest Permit Area is exceptionally under-utilized. There is NO support for expansion!
- We have lived in Snow King estates for 44 years, want to preserve what is left of our wildlife and environment.
- Maintain habitat for wildlife by limiting forest destruction
- Preserve wildlife habitat and migration corridor
- Comprehensive plan speaks to the interests of environmental stewardship, wildlife habitat and permeability. Please review the plan and incorporate the core values identified by the community into this discussion.

General Comments

- Lived in Jackson 25+ years, live in East Jackson, spend 80-100 days/year enjoying Snow King and the Cache Creek area biking, bird/ animal watching, etc.
- A wonderful place to bring my family
- I live on Upper Cache Creek Drive / I am a part-time ski instructor at Snow King Sports School, working mostly with Doug Coombs Foundation Program
- Long-time resident of east Jackson
- I grew up here. I learned to ski here. I live here. My family lives here.
- 39-year town resident, current home borders Snow King and national forest. Since 2005

What, if any, concerns do you have about the future of Snow King and the surrounding area?

Access

- Limited access to summit facilities to uphill travelers
- Ticket prices to stay affordable for the general public
- Lift ticket getting expensive
- Increasing commercial access- pay to play/ expensive housing for the benefit of few, i.e., developers
- Keep Phil Baux park and baseball field for free community access.
- Limited public access.
- Concerned that tourism will dominate over local access and enjoyment
- Access will be pay to play; paragliding will no longer be possible
- Expansion appears to drift from community character, it is no longer affordable for locals, a ski pass has tripled in price in a very short time.
- Worried about it being another overpriced tourist destination. I am tired of high-end restaurants and attractions. Let's find a way to keep the soul
- Increased costs of uphill winter travel and possible implementation of costs of other currently free recreation.
- Mountain biking on traditional hiking trails has ruined hiking trails. Enforce rules for bikers. Educated bikers not to "cut" new trail on the downhill side of trees.

Community Infrastructure

- Parking and access- fix the post-ski/ hockey pick-up mess that occurs between 5-6 pm
- Concern for traffic congestion. Protection of night skies on private development. Concern of street parking, a parking garage is very important.
- Concerned with added facilities and amenities and the lack of added workforce housing
- Do not build a road that bisects "Exhibition" and "Bear cave"
- Concerned about long-term impacts. Strains on transportation, infrastructure, housing, living-wage jobs, community values (quality of life over short-term financial gain for a few people). We do not need this growth, in my opinion. It will increase roadkill of animals from extensive tourist traffic, miserable congestion, etc!

Community Impacts and Benefits

- Negative impacts on neighbors. Financial viability and financial objectives of Snow King. Balancing financial relationship between town and Snow King resources. Getting home skiers to use the hill
- Over-commercialization
- Allow upgrades that will ensure Snow King sticks around- well thought out to work with town concepts- i.e., Cache
- I don't want a circus environment and id like the neighbor's privacy and quietude respected

- We would love to see Snow King have success and find balance with community in tourism
- My concern is that Snow King could become a Disneyland environment. I am interested in Snow King not losing its identity- the Town Hill!
- Impact on environment, neighbors, and wildlife.
- Snow King plans go too far. Where are the parking and employee housing? People don't come here to go through a maze. They come here to float the snake, fish, hike, go to the parks, etc. things they can't do at home. Those are the things that are important. Being educated about the value of open space and keeping public land public. Environmental education to take home with them, an appreciation for open space and nature.
- How can the surrounding area support expansion? What is the impact on the neighbors? Can the current roads support expansion? Noise level.
- Keep Snow King the town hill; it's not a resort. Don't add a bunch of gimmicky crap for summer tourists. Keep the summit pristine, no need for a lodge and hotel at the top. No need for a gondola.
- In order to achieve their business goals, Snow King will have to grow larger than community can handle
- Base area will become too cluttered with homes for non-resident owners
- Concerned that Snow King will become an amusement park that cheapens the lives of the people who live here and doesn't fit the character of the community
- Worried that more amenities will add more noise, congestion
- More people, traffic, trash, noise, etc.
- Concerned about noise from proposed zip lines.
- Concerned about summit restaurant acting as an exclusive club, being too large, very expensive, drunk people. I am concerned a gondola may not be the best option for new lift, but not directly opposed to it.
- Concerned about expansion and the negative effects that will entail.
- Make sure this is not a one-sided deal where town makes concessions to Snow King.
- Light pollution

Community Involvement and Trust

- Make sure community really has a voice in decision-making process, and that it's not just for show
- Concerned that the last time we went through community discussion about Snow King (with in Design Workshop 2013-2014), many great ideas were not captured in final recommendations ("Master Plan") So much lost and ignored. Not again!
- Lack of transparency with community- we give Snow King a lot, without knowing how much profit it makes (and community benefit ends up low)
- The very local and very organized minority overly influence the future and to the detriment of the majority
- People who have moved into the area with no historical ties to the mountain or community pushing their own self-serving agendas
- Concerned that Snow King mountain does not reveal its financial info when it gets land that is subsidized by the town

- Local government interference
- Huge easy terrain + family friend area + lodge
- Concerned that nothing changes
- That improvement and enhancements will be fought by a minority but very vocal minority of our community. Some groups will say no without hearing all parts of plans/ideas.
- That Snow King gets whatever they want
- Balance events with living- 365 days a year, town shouldn't absorb every event
- Constant resistance. Snow King needs to get ahead of the curve. Love the bold, big plans

Economic and Business Viability

- That Snow King have a financially successful future because this is important to the working class in the community.
- That it is built properly with durable infrastructure
- I want the mountain, our town hill, to survive as a center for recreation. For the area to survive, it must make financial sense. Viability to continue controlled development.
- Snow King is an amazing resource and I would like to see it as a sustainable enterprise
- Economic Viability while preserving Historical uses - skiing, hiking, golf
- I don't see long lines- can Snow King afford an expansion for skiing?
- Not letting investors willing to pay for improvements with constant fight
- That Snow King mountain will be restricted in planning and not able to be a viable business
- Restrictions that limit its business viability
- If Snow King is unable to operate as a financially viable business, local youth and community will not have a location to train and race.
- We, as locals in Jackson, need to welcome the many visitors that come to see this special place. We need to have an "aloha" spirit, realizing that these tourists help contribute to the financial success of Snow King so that we can enjoy it
- That the local ski hill will not be viable to develop into a world-class training center
- If Snow King is not allowed, and encouraged, to grow and become economically viable, it will not be around for my children and their children to enjoy
- I worry that it will go out of business and that we will lose it forever
- Concerned that the management and investors are not committed to supporting operating expenses- all emphasis seems to be on capital improvement.
- Same top dogs benefit from development; most influential architects, engineers, contractors, developers get the whole pie
- Lack of trust in Snow King management. Loss of livability on Snow King and town.
- I want Snow King to be profitable without being expensive for locals
- Town will have to backstop a failing resort
- That the incredible potential of Snow King may not be realized.
- Protecting the rights of private business

- Overbuilt, over expensive to pay for.
- Need to modernize and increase skiing infrastructure

Environmental Impacts

- Wildlife habitat reduction in winter needs to be protected
- Concerned about migratory patterns and preserving environmental quality.
- An expansion could negatively impact the quality of public lands (USFS) for recreation for the greater of Jackson and decrease viable year-round habitat for wildlife including moose, bears, mule deer, etc.
- Wildlife continues to be displaced with mountain bike trails, aerial rope course, and increased recreational uses. Invasive weeds. Support proposed conservation alliance plan.
- You desperately need a REAL environmental engineer to do this properly
- What about the changes in viewshed (approaching Jackson from the North)
- Fear that residents and visitors do not understand the complexity of our biodiverse lands, and how precarious and vulnerable this wildlife balance is!
- Do not destroy the nature
- That the development does not cut forests and then go bankrupt and leave scars
- Education of youth can be as powerful, if not more powerful, than strict preservation

Community Character Impacts

- Over-commercialization of Snow King mountain. Loss of Snow King experience.
- No expanded lighting. Limit commercial activity.
- Disney world like development with no connection to place. Loss of uniqueness and community character. Private interests take priority. Unrecognizable from 80+ years of historical look, feel.
- Extreme visual impacts
- If construction/development begin, over time the natural beauty of Snow King will disappear
- Concern that we will build things that already exist at Teton Village at the expense of wildlife and natural setting

Boundary Expansion

- Expansion of the ski area boundaries!!
- No clear cutting or road building outside of current resort boundaries.
- Expanding when already underutilized.
- No need to expand, Snow King has a hard time managing what they have
- I would not like to see any future expansion east or west of existing boundaries, keep all improvements within existing ski area
- I'm concerned about carving up Snow King with a new road to the top when there is access up the backside (Leeks).
- No need to expand, Snow King has a hard time managing what they have
- That public lands are used to enhance and support private business

- Vistas from Snow King have already been compromised. Limit new construction on mountain.

Safety

- Investment is critical to replace aging assets- public safety
- Concern about outdoor events- safety for public (pedestrians vs. cars)

What, if any, specific ideas or suggestions do you have about what you want to see at Snow King and the surrounding areas?

Uphill Travel

- Open free access to uphill travel
- New lift to the summit
- I would like to see continued free public access for uphill travel- affordable uphill or free uphill ski passes (around \$30).
- Gondola.
- New gondola (relocated)
- Gondola to summit (or enclosed lift- safer, warmer, faster, more comfortable). Easy (more gentle grade) access uphill and downhill
- Continue uphill use of Snow King for locals
- Improved summit lift.
- Gondola to summit to better enjoy the sun and beauty up there
- Replace old lifts, possibly with gondola, high-speed quad, etc.
- High-speed lift access with mid station, separate race/ freeride venues. Connected pathways with safe crossings.
- Removal of the Cougar lift and installation of a gondola with a midway station to access the lower mountain during early season or low snow conditions would increase the available terrain to enhance user experience at the base
- No gondola! High speed covered quad.

Environmental Impacts

- I want wildlife to be considered prior to any decision being made. I do not want Snow King to become too commercial.
- Keep wilderness wild, but recognize that the ski area is not wilderness and that it is unnatural that wildlife live there.

Mountain Development and Infrastructure

- Better Safe road to top and restaurant at summit.
- Ski patrol facility improvement at top. Develop beginner area at top.
- Restaurant at the top, for public and private events
- No expansion of ski area boundaries or added chair lifts and other mechanized “recreation” (zip lines). Protect current wildlife habitat.
- I like the previously presented site plan. New summit facility
- Larger and more skiable terrain on the mountain

- Preserve existing infrastructure and primary ski slope, while developing other areas.
- All improvements that keep skiing and racing on the town hill improvements to the summit and lift.
- Building at the top, gondola, zipline, road, mountain biking
- Improved bathrooms at summit. Upgrade and improve ski lifts.
- Create a place where our youth can grow and learn to love this special place. Think safe access to the top (gondola) and a facility to learn (observatory)
- Mtn biking trails within the ski area boundaries. Nordic course at summit. Multiple uphill pathways in winter.
- Improved facilities and offerings that appeal to locals and visitors, so the town hill is an attraction for all. Make Snow King the best "town hill" in the country!
- Use the road up Leeks Canyon to get to the top. Put zipline on east side of mountain along with other amusement park like rides. Do a proper study on best lift. Make sure restaurant development has something for everyone.
- Restaurant and observatory make sense.
- Summit restaurant should be locally owned, operated and maintain the peace and tranquility of the experience.
- Big restaurant at the summit with foot passenger year-round access
- Reduce and/or limit the amusement park. No more snocross! Keep the hill climb as it is.
- Development that doesn't create significant additional noise (and revenue for Snow King) impacts (such as Zipline)
- Restaurant/event space at top
- Use and improve existing facilities without massive commercial expansion!
- Gondola to restaurant on top. No new development on east side in proposed permit boundary area
- Building at the top, gondola, zipline, road, mountain biking
- Better upper mountain dining (bar/restaurant/sandwiches?) or nothing. Updated lift to the top.

Ski Terrain

- For teaching, a gondola to terrain on top of the mountain would provide excellent terrain for beginners, as well as sun!
- Larger and more skiable terrain on the mountain
- Beginner skiing on ridge.
- Easier terrain
- Zipline, more trails, re-develop Panorama house, gondola for Summit access
- Utilize existing ski area. Clean up woods of down fall. Clear some trails on upper portion of ski area. Belly roll, etc. terrain parks and halfpipe
- Beginning ski area at the top.
- Expand ski glades, integrate with town trails, provide parking and access
- Maximize inbounds! Terrain parks! Halfpipe! Affordability
- Improve current terrain, no new road

Growth and Community Character

- Grow slow, grow smart
- Include market specialists to sell/promote Snow King around the world.
- If the base becomes too built up - it will lose accessibility to locals - it will become a resort, not a town hill.
- A town ski hill. And ski hills have evolved.
- Improve the resort while holding support from town, make me want to wear my “ I’m loyal to the king” hat again
- Do what you need to do to stay afloat, don't be greedy. Building a super fancy "resort" does not serve town and community character. If it is too nice and fancy, locals won't be able to afford it. I have bought a Snow King pass in the past four years and did not this year with the increased price.
- Less commercial development of town and public lands
- Small, less can be more.
- Low-density development (commercial and residential)
- If there is development, it should be done by people who have lived in the area for a certain period of time
- Because of the added employees, there needs to be employee housing.

Community Benefits and Impacts

- Free community access to public land year round
- Protect the neighborhood- keep residents safe- don't have the quality of life decline for those who live on the border
- Limits on noisy recreation. Areas of tranquility for nature contemplation. Community first, ahead of resort first (but wildlife more first).
- Continue and expanded local programs for kids.
- Use an on-going tax to support activities and partnering with commercial interests. It will allow the taxpayers greater oversight over the expansion and affordable, year-round activities.
- Public ownership, nonprofit management, community ownership and stewardship. Snow King mountain college- ski area operations and guest services/hotel industry.
- Establish and enforce decibel levels for events: loudspeakers, music, etc.
- Have concerts end no later than 8-9 pm
- Do not add more noise (from activities, snowmaking, etc.) light impact on neighbors and town.

Economic Viability and Impacts

- Leverage private investment to let the market pursue development
- Lift access and a viable way for Snow King to continue operation
- Invest in operating the mountain to professionals: large format trail signs at bottom and top of every lift.

- Snow King needs to demonstrate that they can run their existing operation before they should talk about expanding. They are not maintaining what they have; night skiing lights are out. Lifts break down. Trails not groomed.
- Support private business
- Maximize private investment and local partnerships
- Snow King has supported racing since the 1930's- keep this in the mix- visiting racing families generate a lot of money for town
- An economically strong entity so that we can be proud of our hill and not always worried if it has to be bailed out. Let them make some money!
- There needs to be a disclosure of the financial impact of these improvements. Will the future facilities be profitable? No public money is to be used.

Accessibility

- More affordable season pass. Free uphill access.
- Pedestrian Friendly Design
- More year-round sports access and availability
- Want a 4 season program for the whole site that includes multiple uses, diverse interests, lots of community access at no cost and lots of room for creativity and history, in keeping with town hill spirit.
- Flexible ticket options.
- Free public access maintained
- Providing more parking may not be necessary if autonomous vehicles become a major source of transportation in the next 5 years. Any parking plans should be focused on the very near term- less than 5 years or plan parking to easily transform into a future non-parking use. Focus on drop off access and mass transit (bus) access.
- More parking in keeping with the facilities that are approved.
- Improve pathway system to Snow King to alleviate driving need.

Recreation and Base Amenities

- Shut down other external uses outside resort confines (during winter)
- Build an indoor velodrome which could include a full gym and tennis courts for the public. Affordable
- Base area at ball field.
- Clearer signage for bike trails and winter uphill access
- Community events, races, fairs. The ball field has great events already for locals, good work! I like mountain biking and am open to expansion but stay affordable.
- Public ice skating/hockey
- Preservation of baseball field / Phil Baux
- I think a community center with a rock gym would be beneficial to the locals. I think we should maintain the community character and avoid the Disney World effect maintain recreational opportunities and keep community events: Jackson Hole live, Peoples Market, etc.
- A climbing gym. Lift served bike trails, specifically "flow trails."

- Human-powered recreation to preserve wildlife habitation
- Workforce having a climbing gym, improved ice skating facilities (more rinks), better pedestrian/bike commuting access
- MTB tourism is the future! Long-term investment in MTB trails and facilities that benefit local MTB community and encourage M + D tourism (bike park)
- Multi-purpose facilities. Support shoulder season activities for locals.
- I'd prefer not to develop Phil Baux park in any way. An indoor training facility would be a community asset and money maker. Expanded facilities of a freestyle nature (jump kickers). Mountain biking facilities (downhill style like Whistler) is a good idea.

Boundary Expansion

- Do not expand beyond existing boundaries, impinging on critical game ranges. Instead thin trees on existing terrain, thus opening up more skiable terrain without increasing the overall footprint of the resort.
- Limited incremental increase of development within current boundaries
- I would hope the current land use boundaries would not be enlarged
- No boundary expansion to the east and west sides and top backside.
- Id prefer expansion to happen on the backside of the mountain.
- Maximize all improvements within the current permit area.
- No area B expansion into additional public land
- I want to see current resort boundaries maintained, as well as uphill access
- Expand terrain to the "sunny side." Allow for new uses and innovation. Improve base and summit facilities.
- Expansion, improvement, better lift to replace summit (Gondola), increased recreation opportunities for multiple uses.

General Comments

- Call Shane Semano 907.227.7524. (State of Alaska) President of Dept. of Environmental Control
- Implement Snow King plan 2
- Approve Phase II as proposed

Next Steps

All the feedback from this meeting will be shared with the Stakeholder group at their next meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2018. Peak Facilitation will prepare a summary of all the interests, map comments, and comment cards and Tyler Sinclair will post it to the Town website. The Stakeholder group will present scenarios at another community workshop on March 12 to gather feedback and likes and dislikes. The Town of Jackson, Snow King, Resort, and the US Forest Service will take all public feedback on the scenarios into consideration. Any future questions should be directed at Tyler Sinclair at tsinclair@jacksonwyo.gov.