



Jackson Town Council

September 5, 2017

Re: Two Snow King Topics: Resort Master Plan and New Large Snowmobile Race

Dear Mayor Muldoon and Town Councilors:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on two topics regarding our Town Hill tonight: the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Snow King Resort Master Association (SKRMA), and Snow King Resort's special event request to cause major community impacts by holding a large snowmobile race in town in December. Please accept this one set of comments regarding both topics.

Snow King Base Masterplan Memorandum of Understanding (P17-074)

As you know, the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance desires significant public involvement in deciding the future of our Town Hill, and has commented in support of a concurrent plan for all of Snow King – including both the ski hill Forest Service "NEPA" process and the entire "base master plan" including the KM6 parcel. We are grateful that in your last meeting on this subject, a majority of the Town Council listened to the community and was willing to strike a reasonable compromise that respects the requests of both the community and Snow King's owners.

We believe the MOU in your staff report successfully implements your compromise. If you change the MOU tonight, please change it in support of the community (include Sub-Areas 1 and 2, the hotel and KM6 parcels), don't make it more advantageous to Snow King's investors.

Special event permit: ISOC Championship Snow Cross at Snow King

We read Snow King Resort's Special Event request to start a new, for-profit, snowmobile race in town this December, with great concern. Snow King management wants to significantly disrupt our community for eight days with a two-day event bringing 5,000 people, causing major traffic detours and parking diversion, later noise and alcohol service than other events, overtime police work, and another fireworks show – which have negative impacts on neighboring people and wildlife. Unlike other community events that cause impacts but also provide major public benefit, Snow King also proposes keeping 95% or more of the profits.

This idea is especially disconcerting given the context of a years-long discussion over how Snow King should involve the public in planning for the future of the resort. We ask that you require a real study and analysis of the impacts such a big event will have on our neighbors, including our wildlife, and that you ask our community whether people actually want such an event before approving it for Snow King's profit.

More immediately, we ask that you continue this discussion until a future meeting when the public has more time and notice – instead of approving such a massive new event on an irregular Tuesday meeting the day after Labor Day.

Please be in touch with any questions, and thank you for your commitment to our community.

Sincerely,

Skye Schell
Civic Engagement Director
Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance

Protecting the wildlife, wild places, and community character of Jackson Hole.

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