

6/19/15

WE have seen the KSL proposal & listened to their spokesperson. The plan simply makes no sense.

They have "excuses", etc. People love their cars - they will NOT take the buses.

On a given day - snow or no snow - the road in & out of Ogden is extremely congested & the traffic is backed up for miles & hours.

KSL will only make this worse.

The valley is beautiful and we don't need more congestion, pollution, noise, traffic.

Please have KSL reconsider their proposal.

Ogden Valley and
Jabal longtime
residents.

Placer County Community Development Resource Agency
Environmental Coordination Services
3091 County Center Drive, Suite 190
Auburn, CA 95603
Attn: Maywan Krach

July 12, 2015

I have lived in Squaw Valley for well over 30 years. The skiing and many non snow outdoor activities have made this area an ideal home for our family. The development as currently proposed would definitely change this small mountain community into an urbanized development. I want to comment on 3 areas of great concern: 1) excess transient population and crowding, 2) traffic, and 3) ski plans

Excess Transient Population and Crowding

The area at the bottom end of our U shaped valley (within about a mile from the aerial tram station) is already too crowded. Adding the many planned bedrooms and condominiums, a large parking structure, a water park, and greatly expanded commercial operations in what is now about the only available space, the ski area's parking lot, would create an over populated glut. Such excesses would also make it much more difficult for families or individuals to reach the ski lifts in the winter just to start the day of skiing. High rise buildings beyond the existing height building codes incidentally would detrimentally affect Squaw Valley's distinctive mountain views and make us look more like a city.

Traffic

The increased transient population of traffic in and out of Squaw Valley would become considerably worse in the future than what we now experience on a ski weekend or on a special event weekend in the summer. The KSL developers even claim this to be an unavoidable problem with no apparent solution. The idea of making everyone including homeowners use a bus transit system to go skiing has to be a city planner's idea, and not from someone who has enjoyed the mountain living as it is in Squaw Valley today.

Ski Plans

This is KSL's first experience at owning and running a ski area. They seem to believe that more people on the mountain is better as evidenced by their comment that a 6 passenger chairlift being installed this summer to replace the 4 passenger lift on Siberia Bowl "will enhance the skier's experience". Unfortunately a higher concentration of skiers making their quickest descent down Siberia Bowl after getting off the chair will make the most dangerous run in Squaw Valley even more dangerous. The danger comes from an over abundance of fast out of control skiers and snow boarders. Plans for eventually putting 6 passenger high speed lifts on Red Dog without at least doubling the downhill skiing trails area will create the same safety problem that will predictably occur on Siberia next winter. Another example of too many skiers and snow boarders on a run at the same time is the Mountain Run at the end of a weekend day. Because of these kinds of crowds today many skiers who can manage to do so do not ski on weekends. The idea that KSL can make Squaw Valley into a "destination resort" where crowds during the week are near the same as on the weekend will never happen for at least 3 reasons. First Squaw Valley is by comparison to actual skiing "destination resorts" too difficult and dangerous for the intermediate and beginner skier. Second, the area is too close to large population centers which results in very large weekend crowds. Finally, Squaw has few if arguably any long continuous pitch intermediate runs comparable for instance to some resorts in Colorado and Utah.

Please seriously consider these carefully thought out objections to the current future plans for Squaw Valley. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views and opinions on such important pending changes to our hometown.