

*The other side of the story...*

# Sorry Saga of 'Town Ski-Hill'

For decades, Town Council has been cutting deals and spending public money to save our Town Ski Hill. They've given in to owner demands and thrown good money after bad. Was it all for naught?

The Ski Hill has served generations so there's a strong community connection. It used to be ours, a part of the community. But now a stakeholder group's favored development plan is a billion-\$\$\$ real estate extravaganza. A massive big-growth manipulation is playing out before our eyes.

#1: This stakeholder group was comprised of mostly big-growthers that want more Snow-King expansion. They see \$\$\$-signs instead of a community ski hill. As the majority, they dominated stakeholder voting, and the minority rightly felt ignored and unappreciated.

The group was not a cross-section of the community. And the idea that they are 'independent' is a sham. They're appointed by the electeds because they favor growth just like the electeds.

The game is rigged. The electeds appoint stakeholders that, after long and thoughtful study, propose what the electeds want. Amazing!

#2: There was a time when community issues were hammered out in front of town council. Folks could see who was saying what. In times past, town council was sympathetic to the appeals of a locally-owned Snow King — forgiving debts, lending money, and granting sweetheart deals loaded with commercial entitlements.

The Ski Hill has also been used as a bargaining chip. Year by year Snow King owners tell town: 'approve these new developments or the Ski Hill

will have to shut down.' And town council has said 'yes' for decades. They could have used the money to buy Snow King at this point.

#3: Now they're dealing with Wall Street investors instead of the likable and local Manuel. These new owners are using a playbook stuffed with development rights that will change the face of town.

Transparency is the key. Discussions and negotiations need to happen in front of the public. The stakeholder group was not representative of the public at large.

#4: The new Snow King Master Plan adds about 100 acres of new ski terrain to the east and west. There's a new summit ski school, a restaurant, a planetarium, a sports complex with an indoor climbing gym, an open-air wedding pavilion, and

new downhill trails on the front. On the backside there's a mountain biking park, a yurt camp, expanded snowmaking infrastructure, new night lighting, and additional hiking trails. A new gondola will be plopped right into Phil Baux Park.

#5: Owner obligations found in the current Snow King Master Plan are being ignored. The new plan is for a 'Disneyland' to compete with the Village.

If town council approves this it will be another case of Soft-Corruption. They'll be approving something that voters would never approve.

Past Stakeholder groups have been a manipulation on the public. This group is no different.

Town Council is flirting with a huge giveaway that will change the nature of town.

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*Town Hill is  
headed down hill*

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