

Appendix B: Public Comments



Big Sky, MT Transit Plan

Mountain Mall Comments

- ▶ It's bad that the bus stops before the bars close. Snow Express should start at 4:30 for the snow reporter. I think the schedule is a little hard to find and decipher. The one driver I had was very pleasant.
- ▶ I would definitely be more likely to use Snow Express in the summer. The cold is definitely a factor, and I do have my own car, so it is more comfortable to get to my car than down the street to the corner. Also, I enjoy the freedom of making my own schedule. Privacy is also another factor.
- ▶ Don't like being on someone else's schedule, so I don't use it. But I think it's a great, great idea for the guests – EXPAND!!
- ▶ Summer service; local and to Bozeman.
- ▶ I believe that the Snow Express and any like transit system would and is extremely beneficial to my family and the community. Go for it. Joe Bannister 995-2013.
- ▶ The better our community transit system, the better our community. A good transit system will tighten up our spread out community and bring economic benefits to all!
- ▶ Visitor can't read schedule.
- ▶ Needs improvements; schedule availability; increased frequency; transfer improvements, inconvenient.
- ▶ Need buses that provide express service from Meadow to Mountain!
- ▶ Build sidewalks!
- ▶ I think that the current bus schedule does a good job for the local situation during the winter. Would like to see it expanded to this summer also. Two buses to and from Boze would be great help. Maybe 7 & 10 a.m. and back at 5 & 9.
- ▶ I am an annual visitor. Two trips per winter. I use the Meadow to Mountain shuttle at least 3-4 times per visit and love it. We also visit in summer, but then we have a car. Keep up the good work.
- ▶ Spend 4 weeks/winter, 2-4 weeks/summer. Have condo near Mt. Village. Would like the Snow Express to come by Alpenglow condos every 30 min. in winter. In summer, would like a trip to Meadow every hour or so. Love it here. Thanks.
- ▶ I would like year-round or at least summer service. Big hole in schedule between Mtn. and Meadow in the afternoon.
- ▶ Late night Meadow to/from Mountain. Every 15-30 minutes. Meadow to/from Mountain service afternoon, evening and late night.
- ▶ We may not need such large buses for rider usage. How about different size buses fit to appropriate routes and rider numbers. Large size bus not needed for evening routes. Number of evening times available could be reduced. Post bus schedule at each bus stop (sign). Please facilitate a customer service telephone number for comments/questions/problems AND need a prompt response from Snow Express office.
- ▶ 1. Skiing; 2. Walk; 3. 2 Days; 4. 45 min.; 5. \$0.00; 6. Agree to all; 7. N/A; 8. On time.
- ▶ 1. Live here full time; 2. Vehicle; 3. 4 days; 4. Every 30 minutes; 5. Already pay BSOA fees – so \$0; 6. courteous agree; 8. c,d,e, very important. Keep the bus service. Would use bus in summer to go to P.O. and Country store if available. I live in Hill).

- ▶ Rail for Ennis to Moonlight.
- ▶ Summer service; tailored towards golf; dining, hiking; local Meadow circulator; Spurs.
- ▶ A guest wanted to go to Meadow from Mtn. @ 2:30. Could get there but has to wait 2 hours to get back to the Pines.

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- ▶ Buses are much too large for current needs. Most we see are empty. Some have 2 or 3 people. Current vehicles are smelly and polluting. How about using fuel-efficient vans? It appears the numbers of trips needs to be cut. Too much resort tax money is allocated to Snow Express. As a long-time full-time Big Sky resident, I resent having my resort tax money poured down a rat-hole, the result being the pollution of my pristine air. Local businesses benefit from the transportation system and should be willing to support it on an ongoing basis. Why does this service need to be contracted out? How about Big Sky Resort, or local businesses combined, purchasing several small vans? Transportation system could hire drivers. (This surely would not cost anywhere near \$300,000 or whatever tax funds are now allocated.) Cooperation among businesses could result in the maintenance and upkeep of these vehicles being done by Big Sky Resort or Moonlight Basin Resort, for example. They have the facilities. Why free buses? We are not Aspen. How about charging, for example, \$1.00 per ride, deposited in a special locked, self-counting depository. (If ridership is what is claimed by Snow Express people, \$1 per ride should help a lot!) The Snow Express should benefit the community of Big Sky as a whole. Therefore, comments by Big Sky residents should be weighted more heavily than those of visitors, who we know would prefer free and frequent service. (Visitors have no particular stake in the long-term well-being of Big Sky.) Please consider these comments in duplicate, as for many years my husband and I have been in total agreement regarding our transit system.
- ▶ Transportation from Bozeman/Belgrade area I feel is crucial as employment opportunities grow and workers are predominately coming from this area. Kathy Moran.
- ▶ Snow Express sucks. They don't always wait for transfers from Route 3 to Route 1. Meadow Village stops get confusing in the afternoon and evening, especially 2 buses running on Route 1.
- ▶ Late night flights, late night service to area.
- ▶ Snow Express is essential to the guest mobility around this spread-out resort. Employees make good use of the service, as long as it remains free. Looking to the future, it would be great if alternative fuel vehicles could be used. NGV/hybrid, etc. Bozeman route would be great. Think big over the long term: light rail, "transport-tainment," creative ways to make the ride an adventure in the canyon, a high-speed detachable system for trail heads, kayakers, Big Sky commuters and YNP would be so environmentally/experimentally innovative. Buses should be more attractive and ski-resort oriented (ski racks, storage) more fuel efficient. gindreland@bigskyresort.com.
- ▶ Charge for service; need for available phone line for questions; bus.
- ▶ Mail to Library
- ▶ Wildwood Landscaping - survey
- ▶ More frequent; different color buses; bio-diesel

- ▶ Earlier service. Schedule – CANNOT READ! Service in the canyon - reduce traffic, developers should pay for it.
- ▶ I believe that we need twice daily service from Big Sky to Bozeman. Jerry Wortman, 995-2832, P.O. Box 160718, Big Sky, 59716
- ▶ Back to “white buses.”
- ▶ Would not use because I’m self-employed, does not fit my needs.
- ▶ The transit plan is very good for Big Sky, need more. Pick up hitchhikers that need to get back – took it one way. Employee of Moonlight was one hitchhiker - doesn’t get to Moonlight very often.

- ▶ Missed transfers from Bus 3 to Bus 1 @ 10:30 a.m.
- ▶ Ennis – Private Road; employment; Madison affordable housing; zoning code?; growth - behind Tra _____?; affordable housing possible

- ▶ Bus schedule was very difficult to read, hard to figure out the whens and wheres for routes.
- ▶ A taxi service
- ▶ I would much rather see dollars and effort to reduce US 191 traffic and provide residents transportation support to Bozeman Airport and services. This could also reduce commuting traffic and risk of accidents along a busy, curved 2-lane highway.