

C15-Buttermilk Parking Management, \$

Project Description:

In the year 2000 the Colorado Department of Transportation and Pitkin County condemned 23.4 acres near the Buttermilk Ski Area for the purposes of expanding SH82 transportation infrastructure. The Stapleton Lots were specifically condemned for multimodal transit and recreation facility parking purposes. Pitkin County recently gained sole ownership of the parking areas. The lots were recently paved, which provided 347 parking spaces, signed for day parking only.

Buttermilk parking areas are used primarily in the winter time for skiers accessing Buttermilk Ski Area and for skiers using the Highlands Shuttle. During X-games the lots are used to help host the operational needs of that special event. The public parking area at Buttermilk is underutilized from April to December each year. Recently, more people are using it as trailhead parking for mountain biking opportunities at Sky Mountain Park. Because of inconsistent enforcement, most of the use has been unauthorized; commercial/construction staging/storage, long-term Burlingame resident/visitor extra vehicle parking, RV storage, camping and, most recently, small business services. These are also common parking requests for this lot throughout the year. Parking designations for 4 areas would be put in place when Buttermilk Ski Area is closed (Approximately April 2 through December 10) each year and have been created to begin a dialogue about a change in parking area use.

Project Cost Estimate:

Capital \$15,000 Annual O&M \$15,800

Special Considerations:

Implementation of this plan will require additional staff, additional signing and the installation of two parking meters to address the 72 hour parking area. It is recommended to contract with the City of Aspen to provide parking monitoring and enforcement services as is currently done with Brush Creek Park and Ride Lot. It is expected that this will require a half-time equivalent employee. Two parking meters will be required for Lot B and will match current parking meters in Aspen. Enforcement will occur on a daily basis.

According to the City of Aspen, a 50 percent allocation of a parking attendant for seven months would cost \$15,773. The current proposal with the City would share meter and permit revenue 50/50 and the County would receive 100% of parking ticket revenue. Assuming 20% of parking area B and 30% of parking area C are used throughout the summer season, total parking revenue (less ticket revenue) would be \$48,500. The City of Aspen would receive half of this revenue.