

## Jamie Gray

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**From:** CJ Sterling <cjsterling77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2023 2:40 PM  
**To:** Jamie Gray  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Town Council meeting tonite

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi Jamie-

I would like to submit the following comment below for this evening's Town Council meeting. Could you please confirm you're received this and that there is no further action needed on my part?

Thank you,  
-CJ

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Town Council, Staff and Members of the Public:

As a full time Mammoth resident for over 20 years, I am strongly opposed to both MLT and the proposed 10 year TBID renewal in their current forms. Although MLT has a valuable place in this community, I do not agree with the "growth at any cost" mentality, their one-sided spending plans and an accountability to no one.

At last week's joint Council and MLT meeting, I was appalled by MLT's argumentative and defiant attitude towards Town Council and the Public. I listened to numerous positive and constructive spending suggestions get presented, all of which were seemingly shot down by condescending lectures and an unnecessary tone of defiance. There needs to be serious changes made before a renewal is considered. I'd like to see this board listen to and represent the wants and needs of everyone in this community. Unfortunately, last week it became apparent to me that they have other priorities. The \$67 million dollar estimated spending budget laid out for the next 10 years, shows that nearly 93% of those dollars will be spent on airline subsidies and marketing, leaving the other 7% for administration fees and reserves. What happened to the very community TBID is supposed to benefit? The residents here deserve not to be ignored or disregarded. Mr Urdi last week literally said "everything we're doing is resident focused". I couldn't disagree more.

Please correct me if I'm wrong here...All current members on the MLT Board are not voted in by the public, but instead are hand-selected and appointed at the sole discretion of the Director. The Director's current quarter million dollar salary, including any past, present or future raises gets voted on and approved solely by those hand-selected members. In other words, there's ZERO input from Council, Town Staff or the Public. How does that make sense? Tens of millions of our dollars are spent on whatever the members decide on. That is the most undemocratic thing I've ever heard of.

Council: Please insist on... or at least consider a more fair and community-inclusive process for TBID's spending, as well as for Council's current TBID renewal consideration. 10 years is too much.

Please, no more new airline subsidies until they can prove that Denver and San Francisco can be profitable. Airline subsidies were NEVER meant to be permanent when TBID was formed. Dallas and Chicago next??

Not until the two current airline routes are proven successful. Let's consider adding year-round service in Bishop first, so locals can fly somewhere on vacation during our shoulder seasons. That's one benefit a lot of us could use. Why is Bishop and Inyo County not contributing to the airline subsidies? They are a direct beneficiary of MLT's marketing machine. Can we ensure that a tiny sliver of their budget gets allocated towards, infrastructure, parking, road and signage improvements, etc? Can we please enforce the speed limits, chain requirements and no parking signs in town? Let's not be afraid of hurting someone's feelings here, at the sacrifice of safety. Our guests are quickly learning they can do whatever they want, with virtually no consequences and at the detriment to public welfare. This town simply does not have the capacity, workforce or infrastructure to accommodate the 75,000 daily emplanements they so dreamily would like to see.

Thank you.