

Correspondence ID: 1Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 12:45:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Possibly (see comments)

Comments: This would be great if there were a way to "attach" a timed entry permit to the transponder. Otherwise the transponder is not useful often enough to reduce congestion.

Correspondence ID: 2Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 12:50:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, please. Also include an expanded land to get to the fast pass gate.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 3Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 12:52:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Absolutely! This would be amazing! Especially for locals!!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 4Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 12:56:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, I would pay an additional \$15 per year in order to FastTrack getting through the line getting into the park. Sometimes it takes 45 min to get into the park and \$15 spread over the entire season would be well worth it to me.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 5Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 12:56:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes.

Comments: 1. It was not made clear in the Facebook post or on the website that the \$15 fee is a once-a-year fee. The post made it sound like it could be per-visit.

2. You do not mention how this will work with the timed-entry system.

3. The same transponder system should be in use in all National Parks.

Correspondence ID: 6Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 12:59:53
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, I have missed having the fast pass lane.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 7Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 13:01:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No.

Comments: In my view, adding a fee to a convenience once included in lifetime pass defeats the honor and savings of a pass purchased for a disabled veteran. I would propose instead perhaps for a SINGLE \$15 fee you upgrade lifetime passes to the new electronic entry. I understand you are busier than ever, but by adding fees for best and fastest entry to those who already committed to lifetime pass you're insulting those people.

Correspondence ID: 8Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 13:03:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, I would support the \$15 annual fee for lifetime pass holders like me.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 9Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 13:07:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 10Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 13:07:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes. Absolutely. But there must be a way to be able to use the fast pass lane during timed entry hours. Otherwise, what's the point??

Comments: I fully support the use of fast pass lane transponders, but restricting them to outside of the timed-entry hours would defeat the purpose! There is minimal traffic at the entries during these off hours, so where is the advantage? There must be a better solution that would allow annual and lifetime pass holders to access the fast pass lanes during the hours when using that lane would make a difference.

I have visited RMNP for the past 30 years. The addition of the fast pass lane significantly reduced the crush at the entry kiosks. The years that I was allowed to use the fast pass lane were a pleasant and stress-free experience. Not so much anymore.

Entry at the Beaver Meadows entrance often takes 30 to 40 minutes of crawling to the kiosk. My goodness, that's almost as long as it takes me to travel there from Fort Collins!

Please find a creative way to solve this issue.

Correspondence ID: 11Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:12:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No.

Comments: A no fee solution should be the goal to fix the problem of existing cards not working. Either issue the transponders free or fix the gate to allow use with existing cards, or replace cards to work with new swipe. Use the revenue you get from registration fees that seniors now have to pay after being promised free lifetime access.

Correspondence ID: 12Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:16:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 13Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:18:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No

Comments: Annual pass holders have had access to this for year without an additional yearly charge. I would rather you either update the gates technology via other means, come up with the funds internally, or petition for funds from the federal government. You can't just shift every cost onto the park user. This is a substantial perk of buying the annual pass in the first place.

Correspondence ID: 14Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:22:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes definitely

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 15Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:24:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes! I would also strongly propose RMNP determine how to link the transponder not only to the park pass account, but also the timed entry permit on Recreation.gov. That way the fast pass lane can also be used during the busiest times between 9am-3pm that require timed entry. Otherwise it's a bit silly to not have the ability to utilize the fast past lane during the busy times.

Comments: Yes! I would also strongly propose RMNP determine how to link the transponder not only to the park pass account, but also the timed entry permit on Recreation.gov. That way the fast pass lane can also be used during the busiest times between 9am-3pm that require timed entry. Otherwise it's a bit silly to not have the ability to utilize the fast past lane during the busy times.

Correspondence ID: 16Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:25:56

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. This was an option that RMNP had available before, but ended after 2019. If you have an annual pass, it was understood that you paid the annual fee to enter all National Parks in the US and benefitted from being able to get through the entrances quickly by purchasing it. An additional fee of \$15 for each entry on top of annual pass holders seems high when quick entry was already included in previous years.

Comments: At least open the fast pass lane to all CUA holders rather than just the Bustang. It sucks for licensed companies to have to pay annual fees for CUA use including added insurance premiums, yet we have to wait in the long lines. Most CUA activities are already exempt from having scheduled timed entry reservations, so it would be faster.

Correspondence ID: 17Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:34:47

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No, I would rather see a designated hut for those who do not need to buy an entry. So those who have an annual, 4th grade, lifetime pass, etc. that line would go much faster. Upgrading the system again will probably just be obsolete in a few years again. Remove that lane and add a new MANNED hut.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 18Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:38:20

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: How would the transponder work, if you are flying there and renting a car, and have a lifetime pass?

Correspondence ID: 19Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:40:14

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: This program needs to include the access pass.

Correspondence ID: 20Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:44:22

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I am not in support. This is a national treasure, not an amusement park. Fast passes and their fees do not belong here. Expand the park acreage instead to allow more people to enjoy the park.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 21Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 13:47:32

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No.

Comments: I would be supportive of a one time fee for lifetime pass holders. We only visit the part once or twice a year since we live 700 miles away. We used the automatic entry in the past with our card on our yearly visits. . But I would not want to pay every year.

Correspondence ID: 22Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 13:50:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes!!

Comments: We spend a lot of time in Estes. The waits in the summer are crazy. Having access via trasponder for yearly and lifetime pass holders would reduce lines for those not participating and allow those that do participate maximum time to enjoy the Park vs sitting in long lines with those purchasing day and week passes

Correspondence ID: 23Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 13:52:47
Correspondence Type:Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 24Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 13:54:05
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: This is a great idea to generate more revenue for the park

Correspondence ID: 25Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:00:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Absolutely, emphatically YES!

Comments: I would be willing to pay more than \$15 annually up to \$25.

What about making the transponder free for lifetime pass holders with a residence in the Estes area?

As the owner of a second residence in Estes Park, The timed entry pass system has ended any kind of spontaneous use of the Park while staying in Estes, basically spoiling our enjoyment of our house in the mountains.

Correspondence ID: 26Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:04:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I would definitely support this project. As frequent visitors, it would make entry to the park much simpler. This would also free up the rangers from having to check all visitors at the gates.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 27Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:06:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: The line up of cars will still occlude the short lane for fast pass unless you fix this. We would still wait 30 min when busy to get anywhere near the fast pass gate. It would also be nice if senior pass holders wouldn't need a timed res as many of us aging can't plan ahead without issue

Correspondence ID: 28Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:09:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No..it's not going to change much. It doesn't work with the timed entry. I would not buy it and it's annually .

Comments: I think the timed entry is hard for many people. Consider the odd/even license plate number that yellowstone did for a short time. It just seems so much simpler than the timed entry. I live nearby so if I plan ahead I can go most days before 9 or after 3..except I can't get to Sprague lake on a whim. I love the limited entries but still seem to be too many people. I know it's tough to manage all the people that love the park and you're doing a great job but there is always room for tweeking. Thank you. JS

Correspondence ID: 29Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:11:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

We like the idea of reopening the fast pass lane. We purchase an annual all-park pass every year, and used the fast lane many years. The transponder could be a one-time \$15 fee, and then reprogrammed every year. Otherwise, it just seems like a way to being the annual pass to \$100. A way needs to be figured out how to utilize the fast lane even during timed entry, maybe by embedding that information on your annual pass.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 30Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:14:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: I hope the \$15 fee is a one time charge and not a yearly fee

Correspondence ID: 31Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:17:30
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No

Comments: A fast track lane is a very good idea. Charging more money on top of already absurd measures like timed entry is

just another way to prevent people from accessing public land. Why can't RMNP work with the department of the interior to make park passes usable at the stations we already have? Honestly, I bet in the future, many parks will be implementing "fast lanes". I think anyone who supports our public lands by buying annual park passes and American the Beautiful passes have the right to skip ahead of people who don't and tour busses. It's a national park SYSTEM - not just RMNP out there. Solutions should look at the system as a whole - how can we use technology already in place to make things EASIER FOR CITIZENS and park supporters - not passing on charges for stuff you already messed up on in the past. You ARE the national park system - why the heck aren't you getting the Department of the Interior to actually do something about this? It can't be that hard to keep the current infrastructure in place and go back to changing park passes. Even if Interior had to make passes \$100 a year to implement technology in the cards themselves - that would be loads better than re-creating the wheel.

And seriously - a non-removable device for the windshield that can't be transferred between cars?!?! So many people own 2 cars - absolutely ridiculous to make this a 1 vehicle only system. I don't really understand how RMNP can't think this is so tone-deaf!

Get it together and actually work with the NPS as a whole on this one. Making park-specific entry guidelines is frustrating enough, then to add something like this on top is simply annoying and alienating.

Correspondence ID: 32Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 14:17:40

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

As an inholder [REDACTED] I believe that a fast pass is essential. While living in the park, we are exiting and entering the park multiple times a day. A fast pass would allow for this process to proceed in a more reasonable manner. Visitors likely only enter the park once per day making the traffic lines more tolerable. It is for these reason that we request you institute the fast pass as we have been allowed in the past.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 33Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 14:18:35

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, BUT only if yearly or Lifetime pass holders would also get the privilege of entering the park at anytime. Do not place reservation restrictions of these holders and I would gladly pay a yearly fee for Fast Pass.

Comments: It's already hard enough for people to get into the park when they want. Give people an incentive to buy fast pass with season or lifetime passes. In state residents shouldn't be placed under the same reservation system. With the park practically in our back yard, and not being able to say "hey, let's go to the park tomorrow- have lunch in Estes and head back in after that." You've taken all the spontaneity out of it for all Colorado residents.

I used to call RMNP my happy place. My park. It just isn't anymore with these reservation restrictions. Estes and Rocky almost go hand in hand. I'd be curious to know how this has impacted businesses in Estes and Grand Lake for that matter.

Correspondence ID: 34Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 14:25:10

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes. This is a great idea and it's good to see that you all might be able to upgrade your gate technology to do this. I have a Florida Sunpass and it works great.

Comments: One question might be if a person already has one transponder in their car will it interfere with having another one for ROMO? It would be nice to see some uniform quick pass transponder for all the parks actually. Like our Golden Eagle pass, only electronic. Thanks!

Correspondence ID: 35Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 14:25:40

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I have had an annual pass for many years. The self entry gate was useful prior to timed entry. With the timed entry it probably serves very little use. Entrance volume outside of that window is probably not super high. If it was implemented, linking the pass to a vehicle is super annoying. The method the state park uses with a window sticker is very annoying, and limits what I decided to drive to a state park.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 36Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 14:32:11

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes on the stipulation that yearly/lifetime pass holders also are not subjected to the timed entry reservation system.

Comments: So in reading some of RMNP spokesperson comments on FB, they informed us this fast pass would only be operational during times that are NOT included in the timed entry system. So basically, it will not be effective during the parks busiest times of the day?!?

How does this make any sense??

That is not incentive. Give those holders entry to the park without a reservation. Please!

Correspondence ID: 37Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 14:33:16

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes - but as conceived it misses the mark. My family has been annual visitors to RMNP every summer since my grandmother was a young girl - we now have our 4th generation growing up visiting regularly and have seen the severe increase in park visitation that has occurred over the decades.

To be effective, the transponder needs to have the following characteristics:

- Useable for Time Entry hours. This could be done by having the transponder supported by an online account to which you can upload your timed entry permits and/or through a switch system as is in use for HOV lanes in CA. Otherwise you're solving a traffic problem for off-peak traffic hours only.
- The pass validity cannot be through the honor system. I have unfortunately seen way too many people in RMNP that cannot even comply with regulations that are there for their own safety and the protection of the park; what is to make us think that people will comply with this voluntarily?
- You shouldn't have to get a new transponder every year. Again, link it to an online account like a toll tag and have folks upload their annual pass (and timed entry ticket) information before they come.
- The transponder needs to be able to be ordered in advance so you can have it in hand when arriving at the park for the first time.

If doing the above to make this actually effective ends up costing more than \$15, then so be it. I would much rather pay more for something that I can use during all hours and not have to landfill every year.

Thank you for all you are doing for the national treasure that is RMNP. I am hoping for another four generations of enjoyment, at least!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 38Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:43:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No I do not support additional fees.

Comments: This service was previously available and now the tax payers are being asked to fund restoring it. I do not believe additional fees are appropriate.

Correspondence ID: 39Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:44:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No.

Comments: We are a two vehicle family - this would require us to use only 1 vehicle to get into the park and/or purchase an annual pass for each vehicle from the way I am understanding this. Plus it does not override the timed entry. You will have a line of cars at the fast pass lane trying to get around the timed entry in the summer and there is no place to turn around there.

Correspondence ID: 40Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:52:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No. A "fee" is a tax voters have no say in.

Comments: No. A "fee" is a tax voters have no say in.

Correspondence ID: 41Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:56:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes! Please do this.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 42Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 14:57:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: There should be an option for a local annual pass that lets you enter the park at anytime. I understand trying to limit the amount of people in the park at certain times, but when you live next to RMNP and can't even get in.

I used to go into the park multiple times a week, and now it's next to impossible to enjoy my own backyard. Reservations sell out instantly and even if you're able to snag one, you have to wait in line for far too long. I'd happily pay more if it guaranteed me access into the park at any given time.

We need to find a solution to improve access to the park, allow residents of neighboring towns to enjoy it and speed entry up.

Correspondence ID: 43Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 15:02:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I would LOVE this! The hassle of having to deal with unprepared visitors is my biggest complaint. Allowing those annual pass holders a faster option to get in would be AMAZING.

As someone who comes weekly, this would be worth every penny

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 44Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 15:02:55

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No.

Comments: I feel like the wait to even get to the fast pass line is already so long and the reason most people buy year long passes is to use the fast lane.

Correspondence ID: 45Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 15:03:20

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: Love the idea, but is there SOME way to connect to timed entry? These are the times the park is most busy, and entrance stations are most congested and the fast pass lane is most needed.

Correspondence ID: 46Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 15:03:26

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, but if tied to some type of transponder, it needs to be moveable between vehicles so we can drive either of our vehicles, or we can keep it if we sell a vehicle.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 47Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 15:12:34

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: Perhaps it could also include camper re-entry. There is no reason to tie up the entry stations with folks that have already paid and are re-entering as campers have no specific timed entry period.

Correspondence ID: 48Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 15:18:00

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I would not be opposed to purchasing a transponder if time tickets were eliminated for Seniors with a lifetime pass.

Comments: I would also suggest that time tickets be eliminated for Seniors with a lifetime pass. It's nearly impossible to get a

5-7 ticket to go hiking on the days the weather is suitable for us. Realistically we have a limited number of years left for hiking (I have serious osteoporosis) and I would like to be able to go on a more spur of the moment basis, when I am feeling well enough. We retired to Timnath, CO and the recent reservation system has been a disappointment after waiting a lifetime to have the freedom to visit the parks.

Correspondence ID: 49Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 15:19:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes.

Comments: I would not purchase this pass thing, as I only make one or two trips a year to the park, and they are usually within the new permit periods. However for those who use the park more frequently could benefit with the transponder if they wish to pay an annual fee.

I do not think those of us who hold the life time passes should have to pay every year.

Correspondence ID: 50Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 15:34:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Maybe

Comments: Don't see much of a benefit when you still have to sit in line with tickets. During the rest of the year when tickets are not needed the lines are short. Also, during ticketed season you could only use it before 5am or after 6pm when heading to Bear Lake and before 9am and after 6pm when heading up Trailridge Rd.

Correspondence ID: 51Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 15:37:27
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, but under the condition I wouldn't need a timed entry reservation to enter. I buy annual passes almost yearly & would love the option (as a local) to be able to access the park whenever I want to. I get controlling the amount of people in the park at one time, but it is frustrating trying to get a time to enter the park when I already have an annual pass.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 52Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 15:43:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes but I have a better idea below in my comment

Comments: I propose the fast lane be used for folks who opt to pay the \$15 AND for all CO residents.

Another thought it to manage the line "Chick-Fil-a" style. Get team members out there with handheld devices to check people in and then once checked in, they can jump out of the line and enter through the fast lane. This would allow people to ask their questions without holding up the one person working inside the booth.

Correspondence ID: 53Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 15:54:58

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: I would rather see the fee go towards making the barcode on the annual pass work and making it possible for the QR code on the timed entry ticket to be scanned for entry. I already have a transponder for the toll road, one for the car wash, an emissions sticker, and a dash cam in my car window. My husband and I also share our annual pass and it would not be convenient to have to move the transponder from one car to another. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 54Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 16:13:17

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Make it \$20 for a local all access pass. U.S. who live here and actually respect and enjoy the park cannot get into it because of the amount of tourists that are allowed in. If you are going to implement a \$15 fast pass lane then appropriate signage needs to be placed so that someone who pays the \$15 is still not sitting in line waiting for paying customers.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 55Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 16:19:54

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

As a local who misses going to the park regularly... Only if the fast pass lane could be used 1) at any time, without need for reservation, and 2) if there was an actual lane the entire way up to the entrance station for fast pass users. Perhaps with an annual fee instead of a one-time transponder fee to offset the pressure.

It would be pointless to do this if it still required a visit reservation, or if you still have to wait in line for hours and hours behind general admission cars before you can move into the fast pass lane.

Comments: The lines to get in could be shortened and made less stressful for the regular visitors if there was a pulloff Q&A hut staffed to answer people's questions, give them maps, etc, and the entrance stations enforced a "no chatting, no questions here - pay, and move on" practice.

Correspondence ID: 56Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 16:27:11

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: As a lifetime pass holder I'd much prefer a solution where I don't have to change out the fast pass transponder annually. I have a townhome in Grand Lake and permanent residence in Lyons so it's half the distance to travel thru the park than go all the way around the park and better for the environment. The commuter pass is a pain and losing the fast lane has been a pain too. I'd like to think the park can do better at making access more convenient.

Correspondence ID: 57Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 16:31:08

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I 100% support a transponder fee to allow annual pass holders to enter the park. The biggest challenge will be getting past the line of cars to the transponder lane. Unless you make the northside entrance transponder only.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 58Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 16:36:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: Should help relieve congestion at the gates. Please consider installing one at the Fall River entrance.

Correspondence ID: 59Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 16:36:22
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, but with no timed entry requirement.

Comments: I believe that most using the fast pass option are local (within 50 miles of the park) who enjoy spontaneous excursions. Sadly, I feel you have taken advantage of Covid caused time entry and made it permanent taking away the visiting on a whim that so many of us have enjoyed. I would gladly pay \$100 for the opportunity of a locals fast pass instead of the \$15 you proposed to be able to access the park. We have three young children and planning is difficult and I believe that you should be focused on embracing those who want to enjoy the park rather than limiting it.

Correspondence ID: 60Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 16:36:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, but with no timed entry requirement.

Comments: I believe that most using the fast pass option are local (within 50 miles of the park) who enjoy spontaneous excursions. Sadly, I feel you have taken advantage of Covid caused time entry and made it permanent taking away the visiting on a whim that so many of us have enjoyed. I would gladly pay \$100 for the opportunity of a locals fast pass instead of the \$15 you proposed to be able to access the park. We have three young children and planning is difficult and I believe that you should be focused on embracing those who want to enjoy the park rather than limiting it.

Correspondence ID: 61Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 16:39:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, absolutely. That is cheap fee for the service.

Comments: My family always buys an annual pass and we had always loved being able to go into the annual pass Lane before covid. I feel like the \$15 proposed fee is more than fair as long as it is enough to cover what is needed to make this happen. I would even be in favor of having the north entrance be the only entrance where the automated system is available.

Correspondence ID: 62Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 16:44:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Hello,

As a current annual passholder and frequent RMNP visitor, I am very supportive of the proposal. Smoothing out the entry process would make visits much easier and more enjoyable.

Thank you.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 63Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 16:46:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No

Comments: The whole system as it is with timed entry is shutting out local day trippers and this will only make the park more inaccessible. Annual pass holders already have to pay a fee for timed entry, further fees for access outside those hours is excessive.

Correspondence ID: 64Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 16:46:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
YES!!!!

Comments: I have an Access Pass so I'm wondering if I will also have access to this & if I will have to pay for it, since I didn't have to pay for the Access Pass. Thank you!!!!

Correspondence ID: 65Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 17:09:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No. I don't think this is the best way to reduce traffic into the park.

Comments: I've been going to RMNP ever since I was a kid, and you can tell that the park is far more popular now. I think the answer to the long lines of cars trying to enter the park is to reduce the number of cars, not to make the park more exclusive, or to implement an additional vehicle entry lane.

First, I disagree with the idea that a fast lane with a transponder will decrease waiting times to a degree that would warrant its implementation. I'm not a city/traffic/infrastructure engineer/planner, but it's common knowledge now that adding more lanes, even restricted ones, does very little to increase flow. As anecdotal evidence, we've all sat in traffic next to a toll lane on the highway, or seen aerial shots of 6 lane highways at a standstill. Even if you have the data that suggests that the proposed plan will decrease waiting times, I argue that you will most definitely still have several gates where there're lines 10 cars deep (idling and polluting the park), because this method of a fast lane relies on the premise that few people use it. I imagine the outcome of this proposal will be just like a toll lane on the highway, where the majority of people are stuck in a line while the few who pay more are the minority, therefore doing very little to reduce traffic at all. And maybe the fast lane will be popular, and then it'll be more like opening another lane on a highway, that will quickly be filled with more traffic. I'm unconvinced that this system will reduce traffic at all.

To reduce car traffic, you need to expand mass transit, shuttles, and busses, to Estes Park, into RMNP and to the trailheads. I recently found out that Bustang is providing rides from Denver, Boulder, Westminster, and Lyons to the hiker shuttle in Estes. This is wonderful and I encourage advocating for expansion of this service. The tickets are affordable from what I can tell, which makes the park more accessible, whereas the proposed plan makes the park more exclusive. Additionally mass transit reduces emissions, something the proposed plan would not do. I was just on the hiker shuttle site and it says there that

the demand has increased, and now there's a reservation system. I would argue that expanding the shuttle service and marketing it to visitors is the best way to reduce entry traffic, reduce emissions, and make the park more accessible rather than more exclusive.

Correspondence ID: 66Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 17:09:21

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. I don't think this is the best way to reduce traffic into the park.

Comments: I've been going to RMNP ever since I was a kid, and you can tell that the park is far more popular now. I think the answer to the long lines of cars trying to enter the park is to reduce the number of cars, not to make the park more exclusive, or to implement an additional vehicle entry lane.

First, I disagree with the idea that a fast lane with a transponder will decrease waiting times to a degree that would warrant its implementation. I'm not a city/traffic/infrastructure engineer/planner, but it's common knowledge now that adding more lanes, even restricted ones, does very little to increase flow. As anecdotal evidence, we've all sat in traffic next to a toll lane on the highway, or seen arial shots of 6 lane highways at a standstill. Even if you have the data that suggests that the proposed plan will decrease waiting times, I argue that you will most definitely still have several gates where there're lines 10 cars deep (idling and polluting the park), because this method of a fast lane relies on the premise that few people use it. I imagine the outcome of this proposal will be just like a toll lane on the highway, where the majority of people are stuck in a line while the few who pay more are the minority, therefor doing very little to reduce traffic at all. And maybe the fast lane will be popular, and then it'll be more like opening another lane on a highway, that will quickly be filled with more traffic. I'm unconvinced that this system will reduce traffic at all.

To reduce car traffic, you need to expand mass transit, shuttles, and busses, to Estes Park, into RMNP and to the trailheads. I recently found out that Bustang is providing rides from Denver, Boulder, Westminster, and Lyons to the hiker shuttle in Estes. This is wonderful and I encourage advocating for expansion of this service. The tickets are affordable from what I can tell, which makes the park more accessible, whereas the proposed plan makes the park more exclusive. Additionally mass transit reduces emissions, something the proposed plan would not do. I was just on the hiker shuttle site and it says there that the demand has increased, and now there's a reservation system. I would argue that expanding the shuttle service and marketing it to visitors is the best way to reduce entry traffic, reduce emissions, and make the park more accessible rather than more exclusive.

Correspondence ID: 67Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 17:11:19

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: Lifetime pass holders should not need to purchase a new transponder every year, this is contrary to the intent of the senior pass program. Previously, passes purchased at Rocky would activate the gate as long as the pass remained valid.

Making transponders available to any pass holders, and not just those purchased at Rocky, is an improvement which should help reduce gate entrance lines.

Transponders should be transferable between vehicles, a pass holder can carry their pass in any vehicle. A transponder should be similar.

Eliminating the need to swipe a pass at the gate is also an improvement which should help speed up entrance.

Correspondence ID: 68Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 17:13:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes. I would find it helpful when visiting. Would be perceived valuable.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 69Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 17:13:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes. I would find it helpful when visiting. Would be perceived valuable.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 70Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 17:21:38
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No. As a local resident of Colorado, and a previous yearly pass holder, I am not in favor of this increased fee. In the past, I never had an issue or problem using the lane reserved for pass holders. Increasing fees have already happened, along with the time reservation system which is terrible. Gone are the days that families can access their local National Park on a whim and go hike. Increasing fees, regardless if its focused on this extra lane for people who want to use it is unwarranted.

Comments: Please do away with the timed entry for those of us who live in Colorado. Timed entry can be used for those who are visiting from out of state and have plans to visit this area. Those of us who live in this state like to visit and hike with our families/kids without having to plan months in advance and fight with out of towners for time slots. It's discouraging and has ruined visiting the park.

Correspondence ID: 71Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 17:49:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
As a senior with a lifetime pass I'd be willing to pay the \$15 transponder fee but with the current daily timed entry permit system you've stated the fast pass would not be available so not sure how you plan to meld these two inconsistencies.

Comments: As a senior with a lifetime pass I'd be willing to pay the \$15 transponder fee but with the current daily timed entry permit system you've stated the fast pass would not be available so not sure how you plan to meld these two inconsistencies.

Correspondence ID: 72Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 17:55:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No. As long as there is a timed entry system the fast lane presumably won't help because you still need to stop and show your entry time. For folks outside timed entry they likely will be a small percentage of overall day visitors.

Comments: I support continued use of timed entry to allow enjoyment of the park.

Correspondence ID: 73Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 17:57:21

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes!!

Comments: Please, please make this happen!! Those who don't want it, don't have to pay and use it. This would be wonderful for those of us with annual passes wanting to do the day trip without waking up at 3 am if we aren't lucky enough to get a reservation

Correspondence ID: 74Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 17:58:26

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: Please make this happen ASAP!

Correspondence ID: 75Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 18:06:18

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Not if it is added to the free lifetime access pass available to veterans or the disabled.

Comments: While the idea is great, keep in mind that many of the lifetime pass users are disabled, which may mean that they would be likely to be transported to the parks by friends or relatives and would not necessarily be traveling in their own vehicles. If the pass is easily transported into another vehicle, the system would potentially be effective, but the other problem is getting the pass effectively distributed to lifetime pass holders.

Although the current pass is able to be transferred from one vehicle to another, whatever type of pass the park moves toward should likewise be as mobile. If they are looking at something similar to what many states use for their express tolls, it would need to be a transferable device rather than the permanently affixed devices rental cars have, for example.

Correspondence ID: 76Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 18:08:22

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes!

Comments: I think you need to widen the entrance lanes at Beaver and allow the transponders at all entrances otherwise it's pointless - the lines are so long at Beaver Meadows that folks will still be in line for too long without expansion.

Correspondence ID: 77Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 18:14:17

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No, I do not support the additional fee for a fast pass lane. Logistics would be too great to overcome with a transponder - technical issues when system down, multiple vehicle households, windshield replacement, damage from years of sun, heat and cleaning, etc. We loved the fast pass lane and used it often. Unfortunately, at most times, we still had long wait times to just to get to the fast pass lane. We paid for a lifetime senior pass, we love RMNP and pay our taxes. We paid for weekly and annual passes for decades while only visiting a couple times a year. We already lost access due to the reservation system due to lack of compatible technology and inability to use electronic banking to cover reservation service fees. Enough is enough.

Comments: As former Estes Park residents, RMNP needs to find an equitable solution which provides better access for the

locals, while accommodating and controlling visitors. Yellowstone's even/odd license plate process is absolutely brilliant - its fair to locals and visitors alike. Otherwise, it's time to consider an all shuttle access (Zion) or partner with 3rd party touring or adventure companies which limits access and hopefully reduce incidents requiring park service resources to rescue "the stupid". This requires outside of the box thinking not nickeling and diming folks to death.

Correspondence ID: 78Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 18:40:16
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No

Comments: Would the transponder technology be compatible with other national parks if they expand the fast pass lane use? If not, the \$15 annual fee seems expensive for use at just one park.

A one time \$15 fee to get the transponder device would be a more reasonable cost than an annual fee.

How about adding more benefits to the \$15 annual fee such as entry to park anytime without a time reservation or parking spots marked for fast pass lane users.

Correspondence ID: 79Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 18:47:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: I really miss having this capability. From both an environmental and a personal cost standpoint, so much more fuel is burned and emissions released by a long line of waiting (gas engine) vehicles. Nobody wins with not having this amenity, as annual pass holders have no other advantage over other patrons and I'm sure Park Rangers are less happy about greeting frustrated customers.

Correspondence ID: 80Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 18:50:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: I'll be very happy to pay extra money just to have those express line open and not wait in lines,It's terrible when you come and visit the park and have to spend such a valuable time in the car waiting, I and my family would be very appreciated of those fast lines will be open,Thank you

Correspondence ID: 81Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 18:51:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 82Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 19:07:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I would be willing to pay an additional \$15 per year on one condition: get rid of the timed entry permits!!

Comments: The timed entry permits do not allow annual interagency pass holders entry into the parks without severe advanced planning. Part of the reason to get an annual pass is so you can go whenever you want. We should not be punished if we are spending this amount of money every year.

Correspondence ID: 83Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 19:11:56

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

As a senior citizen who has a lifetime pass, no. A one- time fee for life time passes would be ok, but not every year.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 84Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 19:33:05

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

It doesn't seem to be useful with the pilot timed entry system as the fast pass lane would not be open very often. Otherwise, yes, this amenity transponder and fast pass lane would be great!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 85Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 19:34:04

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. I don't know what these things cost, but any such fee should cover that cost and no more.

With the long lines to enter at popular times, this device would be next to worthless unless you add a lane on hwy 36 from the entrance kiosks back down to, say, BMVC.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 86Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 19:35:16

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

YES!

Comments: We would also very much support other National Parks adding the transponder feature!

Somewhat related: your Disclosure is a little scary...why would you make "publicly available"someone's name, address and e-mail? Seems unnecessary!

In any case, thanks for allowing us to provide feedback!

Correspondence ID: 87Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 19:46:59

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No, you already charged for a daily pass on top of the annual and lifetime and set hours to be there to get in so I think you're

asking way too much.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 88Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 19:51:33

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No! Just fix the pass swipe so we can use it again. If the new cards don't work, fix those so they do. Just another way to get more money out of us. If you get a different car then you have to pay again. Enough!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 89Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 19:58:18

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No

Comments: I do not think the transponder would work as the express lane is not long enough to make it worthwhile. Although it would save some time, the lines to get to the point where you can go through the express lane are usually very long in the summer and it doesn't cut off that much time. Perhaps if the far left booth lane were used as the express, cars could pass on the left to get through sooner and make it more worthwhile.

I'm all for paying more to support the park, but I don't know that this would be worth it with the current lane set up. Thanks.

Correspondence ID: 90Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 20:38:18

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: I read comments on Instagram from the RMNP official account that this would only be implemented during the off season, and that this would not be available during the timed entry season (June-midOctober), but that's really the only time it's needed. We have an annual pass, live local, so we frequently go into the park after timed entry in the afternoon, we sometimes have to wait 20-30 minutes in line for people to purchase tickets when all we need to do is scan our annual pass. We don't mind waiting because we love the park, but would happily pay the extra \$15 to skip the line since we have an annual pass and go the park multiple times a month throughout the year. A few times we reserve time entry in the summer to enter the park early, we don't mind paying the reserved time AND \$15 fast pass to skip the line because we come so often.

During the off season (midOctober-end of May) we have never waited more than 5 minutes, so I don't see the need for a fast pass during this timeframe. If the fast pass is only offered during non-timed entry then there is no point in purchasing it.

This seems completely backwards. Please feel free to contact me if there are any questions and we are happy to provide additional details on our own experience.

Correspondence ID: 91Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 20:46:14

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. I am a local and have an annual pass. And creating financial benchmarks that privilege those with disposable income make park access unequal.

Comments: I am a local and have an annual pass. And creating financial benchmarks that privilege those with disposable income make park access inequal.

Correspondence ID: 92Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 20:52:24

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I would support this option for all that are interested. I think it is reasonable to offer the option and see who might take advantage of this opportunity. I know I would certainly consider it.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 93Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 20:52:25

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. Can you please investigate alternatives that do not include a fee increase? I recall a fast pass lane that the annual pass cards issued were supposed to be able to use but were never functional. I would love the access but with the cost of literally every thing rising while this may seem a nominal fee most are fine with it's just another increased cost to live here for a strapped single parent who wants to enjoy of ease of access to the park.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 94Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 20:52:26

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. Can you please investigate alternatives that do not include a fee increase? I recall a fast pass lane that the annual pass cards issued were supposed to be able to use but were never functional. I would love the access but with the cost of literally every thing rising while this may seem a nominal fee most are fine with it's just another increased cost to live here for a strapped single parent who wants to enjoy of ease of access to the park.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 95Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 21:14:25

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes!!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 96Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 21:16:41

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I would support the extra fee. I miss the expedited entry process! The lines during peak season are frustrating.

Comments: Any assistance to simplify the entry process would be much appreciated! I split my time between Boulder and Estes precisely to be near the park. Thank you for opening comments to the public!

Correspondence ID: 97Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 21:28:14

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. You should just get rid of the booths and rangers at the gate. The lines exist because rangers engage in chit chat. Let people swipe a credit card or park pass and enter efficiently. If they want a map and a game of 20 questions with a Boy scout, let them go to the visitor center.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 98Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 21:37:38

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No

Comments: A fast pass lane should be continued, but not an any additional charge. The cost of the technology to handle the fast pass land should be included in the Annual/Lifetime Passes. I would rather the have Annual/Lifetime passes cost increase than having a separate fast pass fee. This will spread out costs and help to insure equity in access to our National Parks.

A special fast pass fee would decrease equity and seem unfair and become politicized.

Correspondence ID: 99Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 21:46:17

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes! I grew up in Loveland and have been very frustrated over the past few years with the growth and tourism in RMNP. I am also a wedding and engagement photographer, and many of my clients book with me wanting photos taken inside the park. Fighting entry traffic is very frustrating and unpredictable. I also find it difficult to get a tiked entry reservation for days off / personal use. The ability to skip the crazy lines and enter the park with a transponder pass is well worth whatever the price!!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 100Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 21:47:43

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I would not support annual amenity fee and don't feel the program is fairly conceived. For one, this favors RMNP pass holders over America the Beautiful pass holders. It also does not provide for use between two authorized pass holders who do not use the same vehicle.

Comments: Please consider express lanes for any type of pass holder and those with commuter passes for both timed entry periods and outside of these hours.

Correspondence ID: 101Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 21:55:19

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: As a frequent visitor this would be extremely helpful with traffic flow. I don't typically need a map and can pick up newspaper at visitor centers or online.

Correspondence ID: 102Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 22:02:54

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

yes. any effort to reduce wait times. idling cars are not good for the environment. please work on getting shuttles and buses through faster. buses are often loud and exhaust is not good. thank you

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 103Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 22:04:06

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

As this is currently proposed, NO, I would not support this, We live an hour from RMNP and used to purchase annual "America the Beautiful" passes and hike frequently. It has now become so ridiculously crowded and poorly managed that it is no longer enjoyable during the summer. I understand the point of the timed entry but it is awful. It doesn't alleviate the crowding and it is impossible to get a time that's reasonable to hike. If this transponder would allow for annual pass holders to enter during peak times and skip the lines it would be well worth more than \$15 but as the proposal currently stands it is utterly useless. The cause of traffic are the tourists stopping to ask questions. Perhaps a better solution is to not allow single day passes to drive into the park and instead park and shuttle from the RMNP or Estes Park visitor centers? This transponder will do nothing to truly fix the issue. It's also silly that the NPS changed the cards to be incompatible with the gate system in the first place!

Comments: This transponder will not alleviate the problem when it is most needed, so this is useless and I would not purchase one. They do need to figure out a way to help with the crowding and traffic, but this will not help. Annual pass holders should also either be exempted from timed entry if they are "local" (within 2 hours of the park) OR have an increased access to the timed entry system. It became so impossible to get times on the days we wanted them that we stopped buying passes and don't even go until October. Sad because we love it there.

Maps and information should NOT BE PROVIDED AT THE GATE! If you have questions or need a map you should have to stop at the visitor center. All the gates should be essentially unmanned so people can't hold up the line chatting up the rangers.

Correspondence ID: 104Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 22:04:42

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I would be supportive of this.

Comments: This would be beneficial for those of us that make our way to the park multiple times a year

Correspondence ID: 105Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,01 2022 22:28:15

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. In general, fast pass lane should be available for all pass holders. Why do we have to pay additional fee for it?

Comments: In recent years, NPS has made access to parks more and more difficult by introducing reservation and vehicle

entry systems. This make it incredibly hard to plan in advance, and, many of us are simply deprived of nature. I am not in support of any such system, and it should be abolished. Access to national parks should be made easy for all of us, not just few individuals that happened to click faster on recreation.gov website.

Correspondence ID: 106Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 22:28:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
ABSOLUTELY! Yes. Please! I'd pay \$100. Please institute ASAP.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 107Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,01 2022 23:29:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
I would very much support the fee if it meant being able to use the fast pass lane.

Comments: I absolutely support the fee if it means we can have a fast pass lane again. However, I'd also like to request that it be possible to purchase transponders on both sides of the park (or that we can purchase it and have it mailed to us within a reasonable timeframe (i.e., within a week, not within several weeks). Some years ago when we had an annual pass (back when one could still buy the ANRA/RMNP combined pass), we wanted to get ours programmed so that we could use the fast pass lane on the Grand Lake side. However, we were told we had to drive over to Estes Park because the machine that could program the card was only over there. We spend 98% of our time in the park on the Grand County side, so that never happened. Finally, this would be a great way to cut down on all the idling vehicles at entrance stations, seeing as many of us end up just sitting in a line while someone visiting for the first time has several questions to ask the ranger.

Correspondence ID: 108Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 01:28:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I would, except the only times it's really needed are during the reservation times which it's not eligible for. I used to use the fast pass lane all the time a few years ago. It was very convenient for people just looking for entry who didn't have a question and didn't need a map. I am always for fees that don't prevent someone from entering and are just a perk for those able/willing that goes back into helping the park. This, however, doesn't solve much of problem. I commute from Greeley to Grand Lake often when trail ridge is open, and the times not during the reservation system seldom provide the opportunity for the fast lane to be convenient. Maybe saves a few minutes.

I would love the opportunity for there to be a pass for locals to enter the parks without the reservation system. Whether that's true locals in the county or within the state of Colorado. We are your biggest supporters and advocates. I would absolutely pay more for that. This one just seems like a weird way for the visitors to pay for the obsolete system to be upgraded instead of adding real value to the park experience.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 109Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 06:11:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No.

Comments: To me, it would be useless if it was not available for use with the timed entry permit.

Correspondence ID: 110Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 07:04:55

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. Absolutely not. If I pay for a pass for my use it should not be tied to only one vehicle that I can drive. Thank you.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 111Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 07:07:53

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

We live in Granby AND have a lifetime pass so we would be VERY supportive of a transponder in order to use a fast pass lane. We would be happy to pay the \$15 in order to make that happen. We think that this is a SUPERB idea. We often go through the Park in order to bypass I-70, so it would make it much simpler to do that. Thank you for considering it.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 112Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 07:11:14

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 113Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 07:18:59

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

YES

Comments: Badly needed.

Correspondence ID: 114Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 07:54:31

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I think this would be very helpful! Especially when entering RMNP in the hours before or after a timed entry pass is needed. Traffic is very heavy at those times and a fast pass lane would be nice.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 115Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 08:19:53

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I fully support this initiative- I'm a Lifetime pass holder and found the value of the pass greatly diminished when the transponder stopped working. There should however be an exception for low income holders and any Native American should always be free.

Comments: More shuttle system would be nice as well as developing more alternative ways to park outside the park and backpack in.

Correspondence ID: 116Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 08:22:09

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes but I dislike the idea of the Fast Pass being attached to the windshield such that it is associated with the vehicle and not the individual pass holder. The NPS should think bigger and come with a standard Fast Pass protocol that is linked to the NPS Annual pass and can be used with Fast Pass systems currently at other parks or with Fast Pass systems that may be adopted in the future by other parks.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 117Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 08:24:23

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

There is no point in having the transponder if it is only useful outside the reservation timed entry period. That is when the lines are ridiculously long.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 118Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 09:18:18

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 119Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 09:24:53

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Maybe.

Comments: If the system isn't available during peak hours when you need a timed permit, I'm not sure I'd bother. At least in my experience, the crowds at the entrance gates dip significantly after 3 pm, even during the summer. Is that not the case?

Correspondence ID: 120Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 09:38:41

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Absolutely

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 121Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 09:59:19

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, this is a great idea. But, please remember that many modern cars have cameras and other devices built into the front windows. Transponders can interfere with the function of these devices. So, removable transponders seem a better idea, though there might be some people who would abuse such a scheme. At the very least, perhaps you can be flexible about transponder placement in/on the vehicle. We also strongly support the reservation system. Another way to deal with long lines at the park entries would be to have multiple lanes during congested times, with one lane dedicated to people with reservations and either annual or lifetime passes.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 122Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 10:08:17

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. I think that \$15 is excessive for one year. I would support the \$15 fee if people who had a lifetime pass were given lifetime fast pass admission with the transponder. Ideally I would like to see card readers that support both the old and new type of passes installed at the entrances, at no charge to users.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 123Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 10:17:14

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes !!!

Comments: Exciting idea and sure hope it goes thru process with a win, win.

Correspondence ID: 124Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 10:55:33

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No

Comments: Lifetime passes were a promise of access to the park system in return for a one time payment. I am not necessarily opposed to the transponder system to allow fast access, but any additional fees should not be applied to existing lifetime pass holders and the transponder must allow full access to the entirety of the park at any time without requiring an additional timed reservation or other impediment. This continuing imposition of dubious additional fees to improve the visitor experience must stop.

Correspondence ID: 125Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 11:36:13

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. This is a National Park, not an amusement park. Paying more money should not give you better access to the park.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 126Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 12:12:28

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
YES ~ great idea!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 127Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 12:36:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes.

Comments: I own a home in Estes Park, and also in RMNP with my family. I frequently travel through the park gates. The long visitor lines interfere with the use and enjoyment of both homes.

When we bought our home in Estes Park 30 years ago, the reason we did so was proximity to RMNP, and to our family residence within RMNP. Now I feel that I cannot enjoy either home, whether I just need to run a simple errand, or I want to access a trail within the Park. I believe all Estes Park homeowners should be able to use the park at any time, and that the fast pass option should be implemented to allow them to do so.

Correspondence ID: 128Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 12:53:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
I would be supportive of a \$15 annual fee in order to use the optional fast pass lane.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 129Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 13:30:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
I would gladly pay a \$15 annual fee if the fast pass lane provided access to the park at all times. If it did not provide access during timed-entry periods it would not have much or any value to lifetime or annual pass holders and I certainly would not be willing to pay such a fee.

Comments: Both my wife and I are over 65 years and purchased lifetime passes applicable to all National Parks, not just RMNP. I assume this proposal applies to us.

Correspondence ID: 130Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 13:54:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Not unless I could use it during reservation times

Comments: The only time my husband and I (who are annual pass holders) come into the park is during reservation times. We would love to reduce pollution and be able to use the automated lane, not have to sit in line behind people who have to buy passes or didn't know they needed a reservation. Would we buy a \$15 transponder? Not if the only time we could use it was outside of reservation times. That would be pointless. Perhaps the Park could staff a person to stand at the automated lane and check for reservations, thus reducing the line build up at the other gates. If that happens, we would likely opt for the transponder.

Correspondence ID: 131Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 14:36:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No.

Comments: I am deeply disappointed in the National Park Service for consider a solution that creates unequal access to the park. Though I am, at first glance, quite supportive of having a "fast lane" for those with passes, the way in which you are proposing to do it is deeply unethical and antithetical to the egalitarianism of parks. Those with extra money are now given unequal access to the park. This is inequitable, and like most inequities, will serve rich, white people more than economically-marginalized groups. Remember, those who get in the park more quickly get better access to parking, which means better access to popular trailheads, etc. You are creating a hierarchy, not just in the entrance, but also in who gets to go where in the park. You may solve a problem for your fees staff, but you do no favors to the public you are serving when you create haves and have nots.

My suggestion: Keep a fast lane. Allow anyone with an annual pass, lifetime pass, pre-purchased online pass, OR a 7-day pass purchased on a previous day to enter by utilizing modern, best practices around scanning technology. It's not that difficult to give people a bar code they can scan that will expire at an appropriate date and no longer let them through. If you can't afford the technology, find the money elsewhere, like through your friends group or others.

Thank you for your consideration.

Correspondence ID: 132Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 16:02:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: My husband and I are nightshifters and because of our schedules, it's very difficult for us to make advance reservations for the park. We hold lifetime senior passes and would count \$15 per year well worth the cost if it allowed us to do ad hoc park visits.

Correspondence ID: 133Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 17:01:05
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Absolutely. We go into the park almost every day. With the entrance lines so long these days, I would certainly support easier access for those with annual or lifetime passes even at a higher cost. Thank you

Comments: Please withhold personalized info if possible

Correspondence ID: 134Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 17:34:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: We have enjoyed lifetime passes for decades. We wouldn't object to higher fees, or reduced discounts at the RB facilities in any of the parks.

Correspondence ID: 135Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 17:54:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: I frequently enter Fall River before 9am and would like to be able to use that.

I would also use it at Beaver Meadows in the winter when there isn't a timed entry

Correspondence ID: 136Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 18:31:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: The timed reservations are an INCONVENIENCE to locals.
We have had an annual pass multiple years, and find it very frustrating that we cannot access the park on a Whim, just for an afternoon of hiking or a picnic.
Please open a lane just for annual pass holders. , or a way residents can bypass the reservation system.

While I appreciate crowd control, it is very frustrating to not have access to the park

Correspondence ID: 137Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 18:52:53
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Absolutely 100%
Best idea to reduce long lines for Senior Pass Holders

Comments: Please work towards this goal. Happy to pay the \$15.00 Annual Fee. Let's get this done!

Correspondence ID: 138Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 20:27:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, I would be supportive of this. The current timed reservation system is a real bummer and doesn't allow people who live locally to visit the park on a whim. Even though I am not a resident of CO, my husband has been, and before timed entry was put into place, he used to go to the park all the time whenever he felt like it. That kind of spontaneity is impossible with the current reservation system.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 139Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,02 2022 20:30:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
YES

Comments: It would be even better if you could tie it to the timed entry permit.

Correspondence ID: 140Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 22:08:18

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Absolutely. I will pay extra to fast pass and not wait in line. This is the perfect option for locals with annual passes, makes spontaneous hikes way less stressful.

Comments: The line can be so long to Rocky, even with the passes in place. The fast pass will help locals and frequent flyers have an easier time getting into the park. The reservation system is understandable, but trying to logistically plan when you are locals can be a pain.

Sometimes I want to wake up and head to Rocky but I can't, a fast pass would solve this problem, help emergency vehicles and improve wait times for those without passes as Well.

Correspondence ID: 141Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 22:09:50

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Hell no.

Comments: Are you kidding me? There is no benefit with the program you're proposing. You can't use it during peak times when the reservations are in place so it's not going to alleviate the long lines. Plus, you're not going to enforce that fast pass users actually have a valid annual pass? The whole proposal is pointless. What's wrong with you people? First, you screw up an actual effective fast lane for annual pass holders by making the existing system useless. Now you're proposing this system that literally serves no purpose and resolves none of the problems with entering the park? Someone should be fired for this. Why don't you just fix the existing fast lane and let annual pass holders use it regardless of reservation system? That would actually do something helpful.

Correspondence ID: 142Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,02 2022 22:11:20

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No

Comments: The fast pass lane is a benefit to RMNP - moves the lines faster, mitigates staffing shortages. Charging an annual \$15 for park visitors to use this technology is similar to if the grocery store would charge us a fee to check our own groceries.

Correspondence ID: 143Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 07:37:35

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No I do not support this fee for those seniors who have already bought a lifetime National Parks Pass. We are on tight budgets and costs have risen on absolutely everything. We already paid for our pass and still have to pay reservation timed entry fees. It is not affordable to pay another \$15/year.

The Fast Pass lanes were working when I bought my Lifetime Senior Pass. It is not my fault or responsibility that they do not work. We should have a Fast Pass Lane- but not on the backs of seniors who purchased their passes in previous years.

Maybe add that one time fee on for future Senior passes- but please give those seniors who already have a pass a break.

The National Park is the only place I can go often to get outside and it is affordable.

Please support the Seniors!

Comments: Please see my comments above . Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 144Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 07:41:12

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I would support this. But the larger question is how would. transponder work with the timed entry reservation system? I hold a lifetimes senior pass and have to make timed entry reservations. Would the gate open if I had no reservation? Would the system account for your timed entry reservation? Confusing.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 145Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 07:42:07

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No, if it is mandatory.

No opinion, if it is optional.

Comments: I really don't see the purpose. More technology,more cost, more upkeep.

Correspondence ID: 146Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 08:11:13

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes! I live in CO and love RMNP. This would be terrific to help skip the usual summer lines.

I am curious, as my group of Vespa riding friends were up there this Friday: how would this interface with the current timed entry. I once thought the timed entry was a pain and terrible, but I must say it is nice to not be in line creeping up Trail Ridge Road towards the visitors center.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 147Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 08:21:20

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, that will be excellent, will save a lot of time waiting in line and well worth \$15. As long as this new transponder/sticker won't interfere with 1) ExpressToll transponder we use for Hwy 470, or with 2) Estes Park local resident parking sticker, which are already on the car windshield.

Comments: Please be sure that this new transponder/sticker won't interfere with 1) ExpressToll transponder we use for Hwy 470, or with 2) Estes Park local resident parking sticker, which are already on the car windshield.

Correspondence ID: 148Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 08:35:42

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes I definitely support the yearly \$15 fee for the fast pass lane!

Comments: Is this option available for motorcycles?

Correspondence ID: 149Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 09:08:25

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No

Comments: As lifetime pass holders living in the eastern U.S., the proposed transponder device has little value to us. While the park may receive most of its visitation from people residing within a few hours of the park, I don't feel an attempt at getting that percentage of valid pass holders into the park "quicker" is going to be of much help with over-crowding, traffic flow, or reducing emissions. I also feel that park staff is already stretched to its limit, so I seriously doubt the promise of a spot audit for compliance will be regularly carried out.

We visited the park as registered campers in Sept. 2021, and sat in lines over a mile long to enter the park via Beaver Meadows. Given that scenario, (prospective) pass holders with transponders would also be backed up in this traffic, right along with the rest of us (with license plates from ALL across the U.S.A. and the multitude of rental cars/RVs), right up to the entry gate approach. This approach area is already congested with people confused about what lane they should be in, people who didn't know about the timed entry, and impatient folks jumping lanes because they thought another lane was moving faster. I feel that a transponder fast lane would just add to the confusion, and increase the potential for fender benders and flaring tempers.

Of our visits to RMNP, our 2021 visit was the least enjoyable due to the crowds entering the park ahead of the timed entry, and filling the trail heads, picnic areas, and look-outs to near or beyond capacity. The impact to wildlife, facilities, and trails was sadly obvious. I deem the timed entry concept a failure as it is, and I do not feel the proposed transponder idea will help. I would much rather see park resources, staff, and monies, working toward a tighter method of crowd control, as well as stronger enforcement against illegal camping and improperly parked vehicles. This is a National Park, not Disney World - let's get back to the task of protecting it.

Correspondence ID: 150Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 09:09:32

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes but how would this work for motorcycles and scooters? I have a sticker on my scooter now and the parks can't read it!

Comments: Please think about many of us that travel on 2 wheels! Would the transponder need to be visible on the motorcycle or scooter? That wouldn't work! I like the time entry but that doesn't work well for us with motorcycles/scooters riding in a group even though we have an annual pass or a lifetime pass! You should be able to make a reservation with your annual or lifetime pass and have an express lane for assess using that QR code on phone etc! Please think of us who travel to our national parks o 2 wheels!

Correspondence ID: 151Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 09:22:35

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

YES!

Comments: The wait at entrance gates has been obscene since 2019, despite the restricted entry. There are many tourists who take a lot of time with the gate guards asking questions, chatting about pass options, and paying. Many take time to argue about the reservation system, too, I have overheard such arguments 3x this summer alone. It frustrates me that there is no way for locals or pass holders to bypass this line, and that we must wait for, sometimes what seems an eternity, just to have our card checked. I imagine it's also stressful for the poor gate guards, and having a pass lane would lighten the load for them.

Please bring back the Fast Pass lane!

Correspondence ID: 152Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 10:15:43

Correspondence Type:

Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No.

Comments: . I feel you cannot separate this proposal from the current timed-entry policy because it adds yet more cost to visiting the park.

I believe a lifetime annual pass should allow fast-lane access, regardless of whether a timed reservation is needed for that visit.

Although I have a senior lifetime pass, the timed entry system has limited my visit options, and cost me more money in the form of being forced to make reservations weeks in advance because I cannot get to the park outside of the timed-entry slots. Then, it allows no refund when expected circumstances arise and I cannot visit at my reserved time. I have lost a good deal of cash because of this. Now you are proposing I pay more for fast lane lane entry, to presumably bypass all the cars without need to buy their passes, have questions, or are in line without a reservation.

I do not support paying another fee, annually, for a transponder that "allows" me to use the fast lane. Perhaps you could examine the amount of money being taken in by the timed reservations, and commit to updating the fast-lane technology to be compatible with the current annual passes.

Also: My windshields is cluttered enough already with a state park pass, a county park pass, and toll road transponders . I would not appreciate having to add yet another transponder.

I think this proposal is probably well-intentioned but creates more cost, confusion, and dissatisfaction for local annual pass holders how are already losing money and time (wasted on the computer at 5pm) on the timed-reservation system.

Beyond updating the fast lane technology to be compatible, I believe other options exist for shortening the long lines, such as: Designated spots for cars to pull off for information with a dedicated person to address their needs; much clearer signage about the timed reservations needed starting as far back as Estes; much clearer signage about the diverging lanes approaching the gate; a dedicated volunteer to deal with cars entering without needed passes.

No, I do not support the proposal.

Correspondence ID:

153Project:110317Document:121792

Received:

Jul,03 2022 10:47:33

Correspondence Type:

Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes I would

Comments: Even though we live on a fixed income paying \$15. To get in quicker would be great. The time waiting to get in is wasteful.

Correspondence ID:

154Project:110317Document:121792

Received:

Jul,03 2022 11:00:01

Correspondence Type:

Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes!

Comments: The fast pass is an excellent tool to expedite entrance and spread the congestion at entrance stations to other areas of the park, provided ample stations and access lanes are available. My main concern is that non-eligible vehicles will continue to block fast pass lanes unless adequate barriers and signage is utilized to prevent blockages and allow only eligible vehicles into these lanes. Also, additional fast pass stations will need to be constructed in areas without them such as the Fall River entrance in RMNP.

Correspondence ID: 155Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 11:06:30

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes. The fast pass is why I buy a Annual pass and I have considered not purchasing any more since the RMNP Fast Pass lane has been closed for the past two years. I enthusiastically support doing anything that will bring the Fast Pass Lane back to RMNP

Comments: I am a local of Estes Park and have had dozens of conversations with fellow locals who have annual passes and have been disappointed that the Fast pass lane has been closed. I believe everyone in both Estes and Grand Lake will enthusiastically support the fees to bring back the Fast Pass Lane.

Correspondence ID: 156Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 11:13:21

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 157Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 11:27:54

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I fully support!

Comments: Our family will fully support the \$15 annual amenity fee to be able to use the fast pass lane.

Correspondence ID: 158Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 11:28:29

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No because I would have a rental car and the transponder would not work for me

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 159Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 11:42:40

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

NO. In 2002, I purchased a "Life Time" Pass for the National Parks. Now I am restricted from entering the RMNP due to a time entry system as well as an additional fee. Now the Plan is to add an additional \$15 for a Transponder. JUST REPAIR THE PASS ENTRY GATES AND QUIT RESTRICTING MY ENTRY INTO RMNP!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 160Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 12:19:37

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Absolutely yes I support this proposal. I'm a senior lifetime pass holder and live nearby. Would love this amenity, and I consider \$15 a fair and reasonable (modest) fee for a transponder to make a visit to RMNP that much more pleasant.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 161Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 15:20:07

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I am strongly in favor of reopening the fast pass lane. I am also in favor of the proposed annual amenity fee for that purpose. I am a current inholder [REDACTED].

Comments: I also recommend that attention be given to allow property owners in Estes Park city limits to be considered as a special category when requesting entry into the Park, with a less stringent reservation system. For example, a number of slots could be kept open for EP residents only, rather than competing with all the tourists on the Internet.

Correspondence ID: 162Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 15:39:35

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Without a doubt I would support this!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 163Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 15:46:21

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No

Comments: Bad idea. This is an affront to people who bought lifetime/senior park passes. Led to believe they would have access to parks to enjoy - now they are being told to go to back of line Once again money buys privileges over others.

Many seniors are on limited budgets - why punish them??

If prior passes do not work with this system - correct the problem - reissue ALL new passes to everyone so they work OR change the system so the old passes work. Don't screw people.

Correspondence ID: 164Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 15:54:19

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I am all for the "fast pass" and will gladly pay for my two vehicles

Comments: Let's do this...as a local I would appreciate any help to enter RMNP quicker

Correspondence ID: 165Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 16:36:01

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I would support a fast pass, even for a fee, provided it was not yet another pass to attach to my windshield.

Comments: Please not another thing to attach to my windshield! How about we swipe our annual passes through a reader? I have state park passes, toll passes, passes passes passes all over my windshield.

Correspondence ID: 166Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 16:53:35

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I think something needs to be done to alleviate the long lines that form most often at the East Entrance to RMNP. I'm in favor of purchasing a transponder if this is the best solution to the problem. I waited nearly 30 minutes to enter the Beaver Meadows Entrance at 4:45 PM last week while holding a Camping reservation for the Moraine Camp Ground. It am not certain the fast track lane will completely solve the congestion issue but it could help.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 167Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 16:57:00

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes. However, I would want for this system to work with Timed Entry.

Comments: I'm troubled by the idea of having a device permanently affixed to my car's windshield. I spend about 4-6 weeks a year in the Estes Park area, so I'm very interested in a fast pass, but then I have to keep this device on my vehicle for the rest of the year when I return home to MN? What happens when I sell the vehicle? I don't think that would be good for resale value to have some device permanently affixed to my windshield.

Correspondence ID: 168Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 17:06:38

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: Would the transponder allow my family access to RMNP without making reservations. We are locals & would be more than willing to pay for that ease of access.

Correspondence ID: 169Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 17:23:36

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Absolutely not. I'm 65 with a lifetime pass. You need to figure out a way for me to easily enter the park without paying Amy additional fees.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 170Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 17:34:23

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes. Great idea.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 171Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 17:54:36

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I am supportive, HOWEVER, what good would it do. As a local, we only use the park after 3 pm or before 9 am. During these times, the booths have yet to be staffed so even with our lifetime pass, we never have to show it. Thus, if the lifetime pass is independent of reservations, the transponder would serve no purpose. Does it mean that those that do not have the transponder cannot gain enter in off hours? Does it mean that there will actually be staff in booths in off hours? Why would I need a transponder in off hours, if anyone can drive right in? If purpose is to track visitors, and after hours gates are wide open, why would anyone use the transponder line? No one buys passes during off hours, there isnt even a way to buy. It makes no sense?

Comments: See above

Correspondence ID: 172Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 18:34:36

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Absolutely!!

Comments: Would definitely support this to avoid extended wait times in line to show a copy of a purchased timed entry pass into the park.

Correspondence ID: 173Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 19:02:26

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I would be more than willing to pay \$15 annually for the fast pass lane capability...even up to \$25.00!!

Comments: Living so near to RMNP we used to visit it quite frequently, then of course COVID came (and went we hope!) and then all the reservation system was instituted, which we did NOT like!

We would find it much more sensible to charge for those who live in the contiguous states, who frequent the park often to be able to be admitted easily.

Correspondence ID: 174Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 19:06:05

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Being holders of life time passes and local residents, we would be in favor of the new pass proposal.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 175Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,03 2022 19:14:58

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No.

Comments: I see individuals driving into the park without paying for excess. You should allow readers to record the lifetime pas or previous paid access to entry the park and then have a key kiosk for payments. You are losing hundreds and possibilities thousand of dollars per day during times when no one is managing the entrances. I am appalled by the lack of controls surrounding the access to the park after hours. This new plan places more cost on the individuals that already following the rules and continues to avoid actually charging the individuals that don't pay. YOU NEED THE THINK ABOUT THE PROCESS!!

You need to think about process that prevent persons from going into the Park WITHOUT PAYING as opposed to individuals that have already paid. I have y used technology that could easily do this this and recover the cost within a few months. THINK!!!

Correspondence ID: 176Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,03 2022 19:21:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No

Comments: The plan to update the fast pass lane seems totally insignificant if it will not be operational during the timed entry phase. The most congestion at the park entrance is due to the timed entry system being confusing to people, so I would absolutely support the same fee increase if it went into improving the timed entry process to be quicker, simpler, and more streamlined. At this point, the fast-pass gate seems unnecessary and should be removed to create an employee and emergency entrance.

Correspondence ID: 177Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,03 2022 19:26:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. We purchased a lifetime pass 3 years ago and have gotten little use of it due to Covid and the Timed Entry System. We have two motor vehicles as well as a touring motorcycle that we use to visit or transit the park. I do not want to be forced to purchase multiple transponders nor do I want to be forced to pay a fee to use my "Lifetime" pass every year. In the private sector I believe they call that fraud and it is not a legally recognized tactic. If the pass is truly "Lifetime" there should be no reason for an expiration date. Perhaps you would consider issuing a card with a transponder on it similar to modern credit cards if you are truly interested in improving the experience for those of us who believed you and purchased a "Lifetime" pass.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 178Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,03 2022 20:09:05
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: Not a good idea to sell the transponders separate from the annual passes, they will be abused. Simply increase the annual pass to include the transponder so you know the pass has been obtained. Not doing this will encourage people to just buy the transponder and bypass the annual. I have always thought that annual pass holders should be exempt from the reservation system, especially since most are residents who frequent the park more often than tourists.

Correspondence ID: 179Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,03 2022 22:58:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I am not in favor of an amenity fee. This is a National Park and there should be no extra fee other than the daily or annual pass. Since the infrastructure is already in place, there should be no charge to activate it for use.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 180Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

yes

Comments: the transponder should be a removable type because most of the times I have come to the park with my pass it has been in either a rental car or my partners vehicle because mine is not reliable enough to take on longer outings. I would be for this additional feature only if the pass was able to move vehicles with the person/people who paid for it and is not limited to one vehicle.

Correspondence ID: 181Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 06:59:51

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes!

Comments: Sounds like a good option to help relieve traffic on the busiest days. We're hoping the transponder option would also apply to lifetime passes, otherwise we would not be able to benefit from the separate drive-through gate. If the transponder is a permanent sticker, that sorta of makes it lifetime as well. The account holder status surely could be specified in the transponder database and rolled over every year.

Correspondence ID: 182Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 08:51:59

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

no, in my instance.

Comments: I believe it would be more cost effective to update the annual/lifetime passes to work with fast pass equipment such as infrared scanners. I have a senior lifetime pass, as does my husband, and I would pay a fee to update my card, lets say \$25, but only once for the life of my pass. This seems a better way to handle, in the event a fast pass lane opens in another NP in the future. I love our NP's, but I do not want another piece of equipment on my windshield or dash, along with highway transponder, dashcam and gps. Besides, I am not a visitor that often during the high volume times for the park, We usually travel in the shoulder seasons, and not every year anymore. And according to your Q&A, could not use it during the high volume season, anyway, because there is a timed entry in place and it would not work with that system.

Thank you

Correspondence ID: 183Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 08:58:11

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, with some caveats; see Comments

Comments: Although the information supplied is quite clear on the fact that the proposed \$15 fee is annual, and that the pass is to be permanently affixed, it is not clear what happens after that year. Is the user required to buy another pass, or can the

existing pass be re-validated? State park passes must be reapplied annually, requiring removal every year or a high tolerance for windshield cruft by drivers. I hope this will not be the case for this new iteration of the speed pass.
I have no idea why you don't just scan license plates to determine subscribers, but suspect it is over privacy concerns. A pity.

Correspondence ID: 184Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,04 2022 08:58:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, with some caveats; see Comments

Comments: Although the information supplied is quite clear on the fact that the proposed \$15 fee is annual, and that the pass is to be permanently affixed, it is not clear what happens after that year. Is the user required to buy another pass, or can the existing pass be re-validated? State park passes must be reapplied annually, requiring removal every year or a high tolerance for windshield cruft by drivers. I hope this will not be the case for this new iteration of the speed pass.
I have no idea why you don't just scan license plates to determine subscribers, but suspect it is over privacy concerns. A pity.

Correspondence ID: 185Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,04 2022 09:30:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: While I'm supportive of the idea so people can make their own decisions, I don't see that it has much merit. If the fast pass lane cannot be used when the timed entry system is in place (5am-6pm), I don't see how it will be of much use. I will not be purchasing one. Back in the day before timed entry permits, the fast pass lane was amazing, especially for people from the area who know the park and don't have questions or need maps. But with timed entry I really don't see the benefit.

Correspondence ID: 186Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,04 2022 09:33:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No. I do not support. The park org has been making money on reservation fees since the pandemic. By opening up the fast pass lane, it will alleviate park personnel labor cost. So what is the \$15 amenity fee for? A cost for convenience? It's been more than inconvenient to go to any hiking trails due to the reservation system. If the people can't enjoy our parks and the nature, it's affecting peoples mental health and spirit.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 187Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,04 2022 09:33:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No. I do not support. The park org has been making money on reservation fees since the pandemic. By opening up the fast pass lane, it will alleviate park personnel labor cost. So what is the \$15 amenity fee for? A cost for convenience? It's been more than inconvenient to go to any hiking trails due to the reservation system. If the people can't enjoy our parks and the nature, it's affecting peoples mental health and spirit.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 188Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,04 2022 10:48:26

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Depends on answers to comments below.

Comments: If I'm understanding that you cannot use the pass during reservation times and only used after 6, then what is the benefit? If it can be used with a reservation & the reservation can be added to the transponder, then it would make sense and I'd use it. Otherwise, the benefit for the user isn't clear.

Correspondence ID: 189Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 11:41:58

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No! When will the Federal Government stop taxing and spending? When will the Federal Government streamline and cut wasteful spending. Do this and stop initiating Fees for everything. Less Government, More Freedom!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 190Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 13:16:19

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, however fee should be reduced for seniors

Comments: I support the implementation of express entrance lanes for holders of annual or lifetime senior passes. Fees for senior passes should be free or greatly reduced. Those paying a daily fee should have dedicated lanes to not slow down pass holders or prepaid fees. This will reduce carbon emissions.

Correspondence ID: 191Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 13:48:00

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: My family visits the park for several days annually. We arrive in a rental vehicle. What accommodation is made for rental vehicles to use Fast Pass. It appears the transponder cannot be attached to rental vehicle

Correspondence ID: 192Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 14:11:16

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes we would definitely support this amenity fee!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 193Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 14:50:58

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 194Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 14:53:44

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes - with Qualifications

Comments: I would be in favor of this idea presuming that (1) It was paid for ONLY by the pass holders who will have access to use this lane and (2) That the lane is actually accessible to use after the purchase. You defeat the entire purpose of the lane and enrage the purchaser if access to the lane is so clogged with other traffic that you cannot access the lane to use it. The lane would have to remain free of other traffic so that people who have paid this "amenity fee" would have access to the amenity they have purchased. ... A better idea might be to limit the number of people who can come into the park so you avoid this traffic nightmare, to begin with.

Correspondence ID: 195Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 15:43:55

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

100%, totally, no questions asked. And \$15 is under what I would be willing to pay to reinstate the fast lane gate. Considering that it now costs \$2 to get a timed entry permit (a very minimal fee) and I will probably by at least 30-40 of those this season, \$15 is a no-brainer.

Comments: Please please please get this done. I used the fast lane very frequently when it worked, and it was a fantastic way to enter the park.

I would also support very strongly adding the fast lane to the Fall River entrance, adding an extra fast lane at Beaver Meadows, and I completely support the using a transponder rather than or in addition to my pass.

Correspondence ID: 196Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 16:22:34

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes. Please adopt it.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 197Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 16:23:04

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No

Comments: It is extremely frustrating that upon purchasing the annual cards over the last several years, the format was then "changed" so that the fast pass lane was no longer usable. Change the format back! Instead, there is a proposal of a THIRD additional fee, on top of the annual park pass, the timed entry fee, and now a fast pass transponder fee?

It seems like government bureaucracy at its finest. How can we keep people out of (THEIR) park ? How can we nickel and dime people on top of everything else they are already paying, to experience the "free" outdoors.

More permits, more passes, more \$ paid. This was never the intent of the national parks system.

Correspondence ID: 198Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,04 2022 16:26:53
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
yes - for a one time transponder for disabled with the lifetime pass

Comments: With all the timed entry programs in our National Park System it makes it very difficult for disabled persons to go to the park. Often times things happen that might interfere with our day etc. so with these timed entries, we can already lose out on visiting due to our disabilities. The requirement to take a bus to bear lake is also frustrating for those of us who, due to the type of disability, would feel uncomfortable being on a bus either due to our health issues interfering with the enjoyment of non-disabled people or by people like me whose issue can be affected by others.

So, I already feel that my ability to visit and enjoy the parks has been limited. With a lifetime pass due to my disability, it seems that we could pay once for a transponder since our pass never expires. I could see paying another fee if we have to sell/buy another vehicle that may require reprogramming the transponder.

By requiring an annual fee on the transponders for disabled people who already have lifetime passes, you are causing an already financially pressured population to pay annually for this privilege. Many disabled have limited amounts of time where there bodies can enjoy activities, by spending an unnecessary amount of time in line, that can further limit the ability of disabled persons to enjoy the park.

Please take this population into consideration when making your decisions about how this process will work.

Correspondence ID: 199Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,04 2022 18:50:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes as long as there is a dedicated lane for it.

Comments: The long line at the entrance has reduced our visits to the park. The reservation system has helped recently. Would this only work outside of reservation hours? You Could still use the lane just to check the reservation. Entrance should be transactions only and questions should go to the visitor center.

Correspondence ID: 200Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,04 2022 18:50:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes as long as there is a dedicated lane for it.

Comments: The long line at the entrance has reduced our visits to the park. The reservation system has helped recently. Would this only work outside of reservation hours? You Could still use the lane just to check the reservation. Entrance should be transactions only and questions should go to the visitor center.

Correspondence ID: 201Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,04 2022 19:50:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
I would be supportive of the annual amenity fee in order to use a fast pass lane. It would help with the crowding at the gates for people who don't need additional park information from the park rangers. We are in holders in RMNP and it would help us (and extended family) to be able to get to our cabin a little more quickly.

Comments: I am in favor of continuing the timed entry currently in place for day use entry. That process has helped with crowding on the trails etc...

Correspondence ID: 202Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 21:39:14

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I am supportive of this proposal, but see limited value if it cannot be used during the Timed Entry period. In my experience the lines at the entrance stations are not busy outside of the Timed Entry period.

Comments: We are Inholders in the park. I'm wondering how Inholders will be accommodated? In our case we have 13 families. Will we all need to purchase Annual Passes or Lifetime passes in order to purchase a transponder? Will there be any way for us to use the transponders during the Timed Entry period? We would like to be able to use the Fast Pass lane same as Park Staff during Timed Entry period.

Thanks in advance for your consideration of this request.

Correspondence ID: 203Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 21:55:37

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Absolutely supportive! Living close to RMNP this would be an extreme time saver.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 204Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 22:44:45

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes. Simply because I'm local and can afford it. I also support the park through annual pass and contributions to supporting agencies and organizations. And while other parks including Disney have similar add on arrangements I'm concerned about maintaining reasonable and affordable access for all.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 205Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,04 2022 22:52:08

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No I would not support this fee or the plan for the transponder.

Comments: You need to FIX the Fast Pass Lane technology so that it works with the new format cards. This is just unnecessary chasing around a problem. The plan for the transponder to be permanent and on the windshield will not work! People replace their windshields all the time! I personally would not want to pay another \$15 for a new transponder because my windshield cracked! I do not want to pay any extra in the first place. Also, people with lifetime passes might be taking different vehicles, or changing vehicles. So, the transponder should not be unique to the vehicle. That is not right. This whole plan does not make sense.

Correspondence ID: 206Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 02:19:57

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No

Comments: I've had a lifetime pass for years. Then you made me buy a new one. The second one cost more than the original. All because you couldn't read the old one anymore. Now you want me to pay even more. I've purchased two lifetime passes, both of which I still have in my possession. Now you also want to raise fees on top of that. It's wrong.

Correspondence ID: 207Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 07:27:27

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Only with a guarantee that the fast pass lane gate would actually work! Those of us who had swipe-able passes in the past found that the gate malfunctioned at least 60% of the time. For local Coloradans who visit the park for hiking, snowshoeing, etc. year-round, the fast pass lane at Beaver Meadows has been an ongoing joke simply because it never worked properly. Any rangers at the kiosk would then shrug their shoulders and apologize. Ridiculous.

Comments: No surprise that the U.S. gov didn't think ahead to make all current annual and lifetime passes already compatible for future fast pass swiping. Sigh. Very unsure about purchasing a new device because the continual inability of the federal gov to use technology is a very real thing. Nobody I know can envision the grand plan going smoothly UNLESS you hire out the work to real engineers who know what they're doing.

Correspondence ID: 208Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 08:17:36

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. Fix the card reader.

Comments: Just fix the card reader to read the passes. No need to create another system. But if it was created the passes need to be able to be moved to a different vehicle. Truck vs camper, annual passes are not connected a specific vehicle, neither should these.

Correspondence ID: 209Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 09:04:53

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes I would pay \$15 to avoid the lines, but to make the fast lane convenient please figure out how to allow folks to go through the fast pass lane during their time entry reservation. If fast passes are only good for non-timed entry then it won't help me at all. I usually arrive mid-morning during the warm months, I have little kids so I can't come early/late.

Comments: Fast pass is a great idea and it's a shame the NPS procured annual passes that don't work with the fast pass system. This seems like a bad oversight and needs to be corrected to alleviate waiting in long lines for annual pass holders.

Correspondence ID: 210Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 09:09:29

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 211Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 09:30:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Absolutely.

Comments: Any reasonable fee - and I believe \$15.00 is reasonable - would reduce the long lines and waiting time at the Beaver Meadows entrance. Reduced time means reduced emissions and fewer people getting frustrated by the sometimes very lengthy wait times at the entrance.

Correspondence ID: 212Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 09:34:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No, I am not in favor of this fee as proposed. I would be more supportive of a one time fee for lifetime pass holders.

Comments: Many older adults have purchased the lifetime pass as this allows us to take advantage of visiting these Parks that many would otherwise be unable to afford. It would be more beneficial to try to make it easier for older adults to access the Park instead of making it more expensive for perceived convenience.

Correspondence ID: 213Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 09:56:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes I Would be supportive of an estimated \$15 annual amenity fee in order to be able to use the optional fast pass lane.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 214Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 11:07:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
YES!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 215Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 11:51:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: I can't find the answer on the FAQ or project page, but is the \$15 an annual fee, or a one time fee for the purchase of the transponder? The page just uses the term "amenity fee" over and over.

If it's an annual fee, do you need a new transponder every year, or can the current transponder be reprogrammed every year when a new pass is purchased? It would be wasteful to need a new transponder every year.

If it's a one time fee, what happens when you buy a new pass? Do you have to do anything with regards to the transponder?

I'm not sure if there's still time to update the project web page, but having these answers on there would make the program a lot clearer.

Correspondence ID: 216Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 12:02:52

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, absolutely. We mostly use our lifetime passes in the off season when entering the park is not a problem for traffic lines, but we would definitely be in favor of anything to reduce lines.

Comments: Would be great if annual and lifetime passes could be issued in separate kiosks or at visitor centers instead of at the working entrance gates, leaving those for those purchasing day and week passes, or current lifetime and annual pass holders. Would appreciate it if my personal info not be shared publicly if possible. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 217Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 12:43:25

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I would maybe be in favor of this proposal, but first I would want to know this:

- 1) How much money has been spent on the prior fast pass system, which no longer works and has caused the Fast Pass lanes at Rocky Mountain National Park to be unusable since 2019?
- 2) Is there a way to make a transponder or card system work with the prior installed equipment? If not, why not?
- 3) Will the amenity fee be useful for anything other than the Fast Pass lane? Will it give priority entrance times or any other feature?

The National Park Service has long neglected its responsibilities to grow and maintain its existing parks. For too long, the emphasis has been on expanding National Park coverage to all 50 states. This has caused a diminution in the public experience of the National Parks.

As a member of the public and a frequent National Park visitor, I would be willing to pay amenity fees under certain circumstances. The circumstances are these:

- 1) All bus tours must pay a much higher entrance fee, I would suggest 50X as high, since their passenger count is often 50X higher than a passenger car's. The bus tours disgorge hundreds of people at one time and overstress the natural environment and park services.
- 2) Tour bus entry, when allowed, must be timed on a limited schedule and assigned in advance on a first-come, first-served basis, much like the way camp ground sites and rooms in park lodges are currently made available. Tour buses must be required to stick to a specified route through the park. In other words, park visitors should be able to expect that tour bus patrons will not overwhelm the destination points.
- 3) The park service must allow limited food service throughout the parks, preferably through the use of food trucks, serving palatable fast food (burgers, dogs, tacos, salads, fruits & vegetables, bottled water, baked goods, sandwiches) at reasonable prices. The park service must provide vending service at sites throughout the park, offering bottled water, snack foods, and dried fruit/nuts at reasonable prices (less than \$2.00 for a 100-calorie item). Food service should be contracted out.

First tell me that these conditions are on the radar, then ask me to approve an amenity fee.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 218Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 13:06:13

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

YES! We are in favor of an estimated \$15 annual amenity fee in order to be able to use the optional fast pass lane.

Comments: Because we visit often we'd prefer to have a fast pass lane to avoid waiting behind visitors that need to ask questions at the gate.

Correspondence ID: 219Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,05 2022 13:57:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No.

Comments: This system will provide almost no benefit to the park or pass holders who choose to participate for two reasons:
1- there is only one lane of travel leading up to the entrance station. Unless an additional lane is added for fastpass holders this will do little to nothing to alleviate congestion or provide value to transponder holders.
2- During peak times RMNP has chosen to implement a timed entry reservation system. If the transponder will not work with this system it seems nearly pointless as the transponder would have zero purpose during the times most people visit the park.

Correspondence ID: 220Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,05 2022 13:59:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes!

Comments: I would gladly pay more for a transponder. I miss using the fast lane. It made things so quick and convenient.

Correspondence ID: 221Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,05 2022 14:25:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes I would. I live in Estes and it would make entering the park much faster and easier.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 222Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,05 2022 14:33:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes.

Comments: A transponder should not have to come with an additional cost, because it saves the Park staff time and reduces idling that causes needless air pollution. Also, it should be possible to connect a timed entry reservation to a transponder's account. Further, there's also no need for such expensive technology; all you need is a bar code reader at the fast lane. Finally, the lane on the east side of the park should be extended because it has limited utility in a real backup. But even with all these issues with this proposed program, I would still pay the fifteen dollars to help the Park do *something* here rather than just let this useful lane go unutilized.

Correspondence ID: 223Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,05 2022 15:13:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Fuck no I would NOT support it. Vehicles need winders replace for cracking, some people have more than one vehicle(I sometime drive my truck or times a motorcycle), my pass has two signature area, what if I got the responder and my partner wants to go into the Park. Better and cheaper to fix what you have...

Comments: Fucking dumb idea. I bias towards the the wealthy and discrimination against others.

Correspondence ID: 224Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 15:18:36

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I think that is a good and affordable idea

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 225Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 16:06:51

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I think it would be a great idea, however, we rent cars when we come to Colorado so it would need to be movable or something not permanent since we normally don't bring our own car. The fact that you are talking about something permanent seems to only be catering to residents of Colorado. We buy an annual pass every year so we don't appreciate being excluded if it's something permanent. We got married this past June in Estes and ended up not going to the location we wanted for pics in-between the ceremony and reception cause the lines were too long to get into Bear Lake entrance. It would have been nice to have a fast pass, please figure out a way to make it mobile.

Comments: I would gladly pay \$15 more for faster access but please make it mobile between vehicles!

Correspondence ID: 226Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 19:10:25

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, but it should integrate with timed entry permits so that the fast pass lane is operable during peak summer hours when it is most needed.

Comments: The fast pass lane should be operable during peak summer hours when timed entry permits are required. One way this can be done using a QR code scanner to scan the timed entry permit on a phone or printed QR. During timed entry hours, the QR code should be required in addition to the transponder.

Correspondence ID: 227Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 20:02:48

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes - the \$15 is not a big deal - it would greatly increase my enjoyment of the park.

Comments: Happy to see that Rocky Mt NP is an innovator when it comes to fee collection technology

Also pleased that park admin is open to more contemporary technology rather than the traditional 'ranger in a booth' method - of checking fee compliance.

This park is a model in innovation that should be emulated in more busy locations such as Zion and Grand Canyon, more superintendents should embrace, instead of fearing technology.

Keep up the great work - ROMO!

Correspondence ID: 228Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 20:32:27

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Absolutely! Please bring this back ASAP.

Ingrid Drumm

Grand Lake kid :)

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 229Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 21:00:17

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

As someone with a lifetime disability pass I certainly think this would be convenient, BUT I feel as if the park should be equally accessible for all. So adding an increase in price for those who can afford it, for "premium access" so to speak, seems wrong. To me it almost feels like the parks are being more and more commercialized like a theme park and I'm not in favor. In addition to this, when I visit the park I'm always in a rental car, as are many other visitors. So I'm not sure how the transponders would even work.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 230Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,05 2022 22:49:21

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes. Lines to get in the Beaver Meadows entrance have been especially long, so this would make entering the park more efficient. The fee I am assuming would benefit the park as well.

Also, It would be great to have annual or other passes use the same technology as the timed entry ticket QR codes instead of antiquated plastic cards that are easily lost or stolen.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 231Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,06 2022 08:28:11

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No

Comments: Additional fees are going to limit access and experience for the less privileged visitors.

Correspondence ID: 232Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,06 2022 08:50:45

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes. I am very supportive of an approach to get annual and lifetime pass holders more rapid access into RMNP. The use of a transponder is an excellent idea and I support the \$15 fee for this capability.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 233Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,06 2022 09:05:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No.

Comments: Since the now defunct automatic pass lane operated without an additional charge, any replacement for that should also be available for pass holders without incurring yet another charge (this is necessitated by a change the NPS made in the pass technology and is not really "new").

It has gotten so burdensome to visit Rocky Mtn NP that it's not worth the cost. Timed entry is required for nearly all visitors, the website says it's "free"; but one must pay a \$2 "fee" to get the reservation - so it's not free. Using the timed entry is also confusing. We planned to stop first at Wild Basin, then go to Beaver Meadows later. We had a 9-11 entry but expected we would be at WB past 11 (but knew that we could still use our entry at BM). However at 9:00 there was no one at the WB entry to check us in. We were concerned that we would miss out on the main park so we just went there. At the entrance the gate staff did not even scan our "ticket". It seems like this is so disorganized I doubt your ability to effectively administer a gate pass.

Correspondence ID: 234Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,06 2022 15:59:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: A transponder would help reduce wait times.

Correspondence ID: 235Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,06 2022 16:16:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No

Comments: Many people purchased senior entry passes or annual passes for RMNP, and those were coded to use the auto gate. The stated reason for the gate no longer working with these passes seems feeble. (Why would the Park issue passes that do not work with the established auto gate?) For several years, lines of vehicles to enter RMNP could have been shorter had we been able to use the auto gate. Now we are asked to pay extra to use the auto gate. But I read on the Park website that this gate "will not be operational when park's pilot timed entry permit reservations are in effect." Thus this gate will not reduce the long lines of vehicles entering the Park during these busy times. Currently I am not in favor of this proposal.

Correspondence ID: 236Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,06 2022 16:27:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I would very much like to be able to use the fast pass lane again, and if that means paying \$15 for a transponder I'm ok with that. However, it should be a one time fee for those of us who have Senior Lifetime passes, rather than having to get it reactivated year after year and, presumably, having to pay \$15 each year too.

Comments: The line to get in at Beaver Meadows has gotten so bad I've had to wait several hours to get in on more than one occasion this year. It makes visiting the park a much, much, much less fun experience. They need to either get rid of the

Timed Entry bottleneck or open the Fast Pass lane during the Timed Entry hours. What the heck good does it do to open the Fast Pass lane only during the hours that are not part of the Timed Entry system? It in no way helps the problem. I'm truly baffled by that caveat... it makes no sense.

Open the Fast Pass lane during Timed Entry hours - that will reduce the entry wait significantly and make those of us who live close by and visit the park regularly very, very happy. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 237Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,06 2022 22:00:06
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No!

Comments: This is yet another unnecessary, money-grubbing, needlessly convoluted plan. First of all, people aren't going to want yet another transponder on their windshields; many people don't want even one. Second, a pass holder may, for a variety of reasons, need to use a different vehicle on a given trip and shouldn't be penalized. Third, it would be simpler in the long run to use more advanced technology and have the lifetime and annual passes themselves be the "fast pass" (The original "fast passes", which were the cards themselves, worked beautifully.) A replacement lifetime pass would need to be issued only once per person (you shouldn't gouge by starting to charge seniors once a year), and an annual pass could easily be re-programmed upon renewal. Entry to the Park is complicated enough nowadays.... Why alienate visitors even more with this new scheme?

Correspondence ID: 238Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,07 2022 08:45:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, I would, though since my annual pass works no matter what vehicle I'm in, the transponder must, too.

Comments: The current annual pass card works no matter what vehicle I'm in or what park I visit. If I am to pay extra for a transponder, it must also work no matter what vehicle I'm in or what park I visit. The vehicle I use depends on who I have with me, which one we drove up to stay for the weekend, or what gear we are packing. Paying for a full extra pass for each vehicle is ridiculous, though I might be willing to pay the extra \$15 for each provided it is a 1 time fee that pays for just the transponders and that fee is never charged again and the transponder system is automatically updated every time I renew my pass. Also, since I purchase the annual America the Beautiful pass, I will need a card to use when I visit other parks via flights and rental cars.

Correspondence ID: 239Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,07 2022 08:59:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, However, more needs to be done to address the entrance congestion for inholders. Presumably the fast pass reduces the personnel demand at the entrance station. Using an increased fee to hire more entrance personnel would reduce more congestion than a fast pass that only operates during non-reservation times. Additionally, inholder fast passes should not expire on an annual basis.

Comments: Park personnel and inholders access the entrance gate on a daily basis, multiple times a day throughout May to October when the reservation system is in place. These users are different than visitors who access the entrance over a short vacation. Evidencing this difference, park personnel currently move the fast pass lanes cones to avoid the entrance congestion while inholders are not allowed to do that.

Short and long term steps should be taken to address congestion. In the short term, during busiest times, personnel could triage those entering into separate lanes directed to different kiosks or the fast pass lane for returning visitors, those buying passes, and inholders. This triage should occur as far away from the entrance as possible. Long term solutions involve

reconstructing the entrance road to create two approach lanes and more entrance kiosks as well as fast passes for park personnel and inholders that operate at all hours.

Correspondence ID: 240Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,07 2022 10:45:58

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, however as a RMNP in-holder with family members across multiple states, we may not all visit every year nor utilize the same vehicle when visiting, making the purchase of individual transponders for all potential vehicles inequitable. A separate solution for in-holders should be considered, as with the Fast Pass card solution, family members from out of state could share to gain access regardless of the vehicle being driven. As part of that solution forward, in-holders Park access technology should not expire annually and having a Fast Pass lane for in-holders, Park personnel, Fire, and Police to utilize during peak times should subsist.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 241Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,07 2022 18:13:47

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes!

Comments: I am a frequent visitor of Rocky mountain Nat'l park and have for several years had America the Beautiful card instead of Rocky card. so shut out completely despite having a pass that "could" work. we use these transponders on WA state highways, and they are used in Colo for E-470 and I-70. sign me up

Correspondence ID: 242Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,07 2022 22:29:23

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No, I do not support this idea. You already have put in place an unfair system for visitors.

The timed entry system negatively impacts the ability of lower income people, people who are not tech savvy and do not have fast internet speeds, working people who cannot access a computer at 10 am on a workday to make reservations, etc. A transponder fee will further divide the experience visitors have. There are a lot of other solutions on the entrance issues. Be more creative.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 243Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,08 2022 09:02:24

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes. This is a good idea and will help to reduce time and traffic backups at entrance stations. Extending the bypass lanes would also help.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 244Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,08 2022 15:18:08

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I have mixed feelings about the fee. But I would not be completely opposed to it. I can certainly personally afford it. My concern, is that the park system is supposed to be properly funded by the US government for all to use. By continuing to raise fees you are essentially raising taxes in a non progressive way. I don't feel my taxes are being spent the way I'd like them to be. We are spending more and more on programs that aren't working in way to many cases while letting parks, roads and other essentials fail. Not under you control, I know, but still.

Comments: The biggest problem I see is the permanently attached sticker. If I put all the state, county, city, toll road, and now proposed Rocky pass on my window, it would probably violate state laws for not being able to see out the windshield. It is certainly not safe. Some years, I have to cheat and put them on removable plastic since I visit many different parks of different types - local through national. While less secure perhaps, I strong recommend you figure out a less visibly intrusive solution.

Correspondence ID: 245Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,08 2022 15:44:56

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No, I am not supportive of an estimated \$15 annual amenity fee for use of the optional fast pass lane. Transponders for use in this lane should be given, free-of-charge. They should be provided to the same categories of users who were able to access Rocky Mountain National Park via electronic access cards enabled to lift the Beaver Meadows mechanical entry arm prior to 2019. These users were annual and senior citizen pass holders, National Park employees and property owners within Rocky Mountain National Park. Transponders should not need renewing annually but last for years as toll road "Fast Passes" and transponders often do.

Comments: After the fourth entry or transponder lane is reestablished at the Beaver Meadow's entrance to expedite park entry, RMNP might consider new ways to manage entry gate congestion. The multiple lanes just before all the entrance stations might be lengthened, more employees hired so that all entry huts are in service between 9-5pm, and perhaps informational maps given and questions answered in other locations than entry huts.

Correspondence ID: 246Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,08 2022 16:41:26

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Definitely yes. It will save time and reduce the wait times.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 247Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,08 2022 18:10:21

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

While a good idea, the convenience of this is moot. The fast pass lanes are only a dozen cars long. Entry lines on Beaver Meadows Entrance lanes are often over a mile in length during the summer daytime hours. The time "saved" by passing the last half-dozen cars to use the fast pass lane is insignificant. For that reason I don't think many would value the \$15 fee.

Comments: What is desperately needed is some way for employees and volunteers to be able to enter RMNP during peak daytime hours without spending 30-45 minutes in entry lane traffic. For the same reason, not many visitors would consider the \$15 fee worthwhile.

Correspondence ID: 248Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,09 2022 10:39:54

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I would, with conditions. Get rid of the timed entry system for Colorado residents who purchase this. Or, bring back the commuter option to get from Estes to grand lake. We routinely have to detour around I70 because we can't get into the park. It was a horrible idea with a horrible implementation. Under this proposal the "fast pass" will only be able to be used for half the year anyways. Complete waste.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 249Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,09 2022 15:44:15

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, definitely. I have used it in the past and it was a great way to avoid the long entry delays.

Comments: Please consider implementing this asap. Also, I strongly recommend that you offer a portion of the timed-entry reservations to Colorado residents by reserving them separate from out of state visitors. It is almost impossible to get reservations to visit the park, especially when we would like to visit on short notice. The timed entry system is one of the worst systems ever implements at the park, and I would actually prefer that it is eliminated altogether. As a long-time visitor to the park, my previously frequent visits have been greatly curtailed since the reservation system was implemented. The pandemic is over, and the need for this is past. Thank you!

Correspondence ID: 250Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,09 2022 16:11:16

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

yes

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 251Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,09 2022 16:38:07

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Yes, very much so!

Correspondence ID: 252Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,10 2022 15:15:32

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes but only if the fast lanes are extended beyond what they currently are. At the current length of the fast lanes, you would still wait hours to get to them in the Beaver Meadows entrance because of the backed up vehicles that don't have the optional fast pass.

Comments: its not as bad on the grand lake side as there are fewer vehicles entering the park however it could still be a major problem.

Correspondence ID: 253Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,10 2022 15:15:32

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes but only if the fast lanes are extended beyond what they currently are. At the current length of the fast lanes, you would

still wait hours to get to them in the Beaver Meadows entrance because of the backed up vehicles that don't have the optional fast pass.

Comments: its not as bad on the grand lake side as there are fewer vehicles entering the park however it could still be a major problem.

Correspondence ID: 254Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,11 2022 09:40:41

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Only IF one could get to the fast pass lane. However, the lane is blocked by miles of traffic waiting to even get to the entrance station.

Comments: The only way this will help at all is if the fast pass lane starts all the way back at the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center. Otherwise, everyone still has to wait in a miles' long line to even get to the fast pass option.

Recommendations:

- Move the BME to the BMVC location.
- Ensure that the fast pass arm actually works, don't strand fast pass capable visitors in the fast pass lane.
- Stop allowing people who are waiting on their reservation entrance time, to block the road for others.

Correspondence ID: 255Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,11 2022 10:31:25

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: In past years, using a fast pass lane with my senior pass would be frustrating due to the narrow roadway leading to the fast pass lane. It was hardly fast, as the cars queuing up at the regular entrance kiosks block the fast pass lane. So it is not very practical unless the lane opens up for at least half a mile before the gate.

Correspondence ID: 256Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,11 2022 10:35:13

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, if it is worthwhile. I am not sure it is with the rules you currently are proposing. If we have to have a timed entry reservation to get into the park, BUT we CANNOT use the fast lane at that time then what is the point of having it?

Also, I am not in favor of having something that permanently attaches to a vehicle. I use different vehicles depending on the occasion. I prefer the way it was done before, where I slid my card through the device.

The other REAL problem is that it takes a LONG time waiting in line to even reach the fast lane. Sometimes I have waited 20 minutes. Maybe once the fast lane is up and running again the lines will go faster. I HOPE. I don't know why you are not letting the people who have the old lifetime passes like me to use the current fast lane??? I am willing to pay for whatever helps me have better access to the park. Right now it is an extremely difficult process.

Comments: I tried calling the phone number you put in the newspaper article, but that person did not know anything more than what was in the article. After 2 tries I finally was able to access the Q & A's to get my questions answered. If there is anyway that someone would want to reach me, (b) (6) (b) (6)

Thanks for letting me put my 2 bits in.

I know this is a difficult situation that is hard to come up with the best solution.

Correspondence ID: 257Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,11 2022 11:56:05

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

ABSOLUTELY!! GREAT IDEA. I LIVE IN ESTES AND WOULD APPRECIATE IT.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 258Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,12 2022 01:34:29

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No. The park should focus on implementing a better park entry system that is modern and efficient.

Comments: Rocky Mountain National Park protects and makes available to the public, some of the most beautiful and amazing land in the country. Improving the accessibility is of utmost importance to increase the enjoyment of the millions of visitors. However, the implementation of vehicle transponders fail to address the problem in favor of a very short term and ineffective band-aid. Per your plan the fast lane would only be operational during non-timed entry hours. Currently those consist of only a few of the busiest hours of the day, and within the next few years will only continue to be reduced. This will make the fast lane transponders even less useful and a waste of time and money. Instead of implementing this proposed idea I suggest a more effective and forward-thinking solution. Since everybody has a smart phone let's use that to improve the efficiency of the entry station. When you buy a timed entry ticket (which should be free btw) you could receive a QR code that you can scan from your phone at a device at the entrance station lane and a gate arm opens and allows you to enter. Having a system similar to this at multiple lanes will allow more efficient and quicker access for visitors to enjoy the beauty of the park. This is not an overnight solution, nor is it problem-free, however this type of idea is what resources should be devoted to instead of ineffective band-aids.

Correspondence ID: 259Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,14 2022 07:58:37

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No

Comments: Can't be used from 9-3. - seriously

Correspondence ID: 260Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,14 2022 09:20:41

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes

Comments: I am a Commuter pass holder. We, (along with spouse) make a round trip to Fraser biweekly while Trail Ridge Road is open. We have been stuck in the backed-up traffic at both West bound entrances. A transponder and a dedicated lanes to bypass traffic would resolve the grid lock. I would pay \$30 annually, or more.

Regards, (b) (5)

Correspondence ID: 261Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,14 2022 09:24:49

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, anything to get you through the line quickly. I live locally and had a yearly pass for years and enjoyed coming up to the park and hiking. Having to wait in these long lines is irritating to sit and wait so long.

Comments: I think that for local residents we should not have to schedule times to get into the park with a yearly pass.

Correspondence ID: 262Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,14 2022 09:51:52

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I have mixed feelings about this proposal, since I enjoyed using the pass lane in previous years. I understand that the park wants to make the option revenue neutral. I am supportive of that concept - not taking monies away from other park priorities. I think it is too much to expect visitors to pay \$15 annually to use the fast pass lane. If the cost includes the transponder, why is the cost for subsequent years the same?

Comments: I read the FAQs but didn't see answers to the following questions: 1) how would a user renew the pass lane transponder? Could it be done online? Or require a visit to the park offices? It seems that there should be a very easy, user friendly way to renew, such as online. 2) why can't the transponder be used in another vehicle? I can use my annual pass in any vehicle and would like that option with the transponder. 3) is there some way to coordinate with CDOT or the agency that issues the existing transponders so that an additional unit is not necessary? I already have a transponder for the E-470 tollway and express lanes in Denver.

After thinking about the proposal, I think I do not support it as presented. It seems like having a second card instead of a transponder would be a more flexible option and possibly less expensive. I think the concept is a good one, but needs more thought and/or different technology.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 263Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,14 2022 11:45:02

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No, not in the current proposal. The majority of the benefit associated with the fast pass transponder would be during peak times, but the current proposal says that the fast pass lane will be deactivated during times when the timed entry permits are required (aka the peak times).

If the proposal would alleviate congestion and simplify entry during peak times when the timed entry permits are required, then I would be supportive. But in its current form, this is not the case.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 264Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,14 2022 11:57:48

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

YES - but fast pass needs extensive features to be useful.

Comments: I have the lifetime pass that previously worked at the Beaver Meadows fast pass lane.

The problem is that you get stuck in traffic well before you can move over to the fast pass lane. It's almost as though you need a completely separate entry road for the fast pass. This could also accommodate buses, shuttles and emergency vehicles.

I propose that the fast pass lane is open all day. When someone purchases a Timed Entry Permit, allow them to also enter their transponder ID. Then when they drive through the fast pass lane, your computer system can recognize that they have a transponder AND that they have an associated Timed Entry Permit. If they lack either, have your system take an automated photo and send them a fine in the mail. I suspect you can do this using a license plate database like toll roads do.

I believe these features would ease traffic congestion and greatly improve the customer experience.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Correspondence ID: 265Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,14 2022 12:18:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes.

Comments: There should be some way to have more than one transponder per pass so that a family can visit the park conveniently with one or another of their vehicles. It should be possible to ensure in the computer system that only one of the vehicles associated with the annual pass is currently inside the park and deny entry to more than one vehicle into the park on the same annual pass at any given time.

Correspondence ID: 266Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,14 2022 14:32:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Maybe after clarification

Comments: We have an annual commuter pass and, except in the evenings after 6 pm, don't go in to Rocky Mountain National Park to recreate.
The way I understand what I have read...During the hours when timed entry permits are required, we would still need to go through the regular entrance lanes.
If the above is the case...no point in paying the \$15 annual fee to be able to go through the park or into the park (up Bear Lake Road after 6) as there is no gain to having the ability to use the fast pass lane.
Am I missing something?
If the fast pass lane is going to be monitored by a park representative, it is likely no longer a fast lane.

Correspondence ID: 267Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,14 2022 14:39:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
No

Comments: I don't disagree with the proposal for a \$15 "amenity fee" for the transponder/fast pass, but I feel compelled to express some frustration at the way the change was handled by RMNP. When RMNP changed the annual pass so it was no longer compatible with the gate system, they told visitors that compatible technology would be arriving "soon". I heard this for months at the entrance station, until I finally just stopped asking. With this new transponder proposal, it seems as though making the annual pass cards work with the existing fast pass gate was never really the plan. Some thoughts about the current plan based on the FAQs provided. 1) Not having the transponder available during the busy season, or the timed entry permit season, decreases the value I would place on having a transponder. 2) As a family, we have two vehicles and one annual pass. Having the transponder limits the flexibility we have to choose which vehicle is better suited for the outing in RMNP. With this proposal, our family would have to purchase two transponders and two annual passes in order to be able to access RMNP as we currently do. That would be an extra \$100 rather than just an extra \$15. 3) Because the transponder is linked to the annual pass, do we need to replace the transponder on the windshield each

year? This could be messy. 4) I would rather pay more for an annual pass and have it be compatible with the gate system than have this new transponder system.

Correspondence ID: 268Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,15 2022 02:41:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: I have a lifetime pass. Payment is the big holdup in the entry line. Annual or lifetime pass holders would eliminate much traffic waiting in line for that part of the entry process.

Correspondence ID: 269Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,15 2022 06:20:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I am very much in favor of the proposal. I normally enter the park early mornings when lines are short but I would still welcome the chance to purchase the fast pass option. I would even favor a higher price as long as the funds were used for improvements to the park.

Comments: There should be no opposition since added fee is completely voluntary and those willing to pay it by moving to the fast pass lane would only shorten the wait for everyone else. Only suggestion would be finding a way to make sure signage is clear early and find a way to allow fast pass access easier when lines are so long that you would be stuck in traffic with everyone else before getting to the breakout area

Correspondence ID: 270Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,15 2022 06:40:30
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I think it's a great idea. I'm not sure that I would pay an additional \$15 annually though. In addition to the annual park pass, I would support a one time amenity fee for the device needed to use the optional fast pass lane.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 271Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,15 2022 06:40:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I think it's a great idea. I'm not sure that I would pay an additional \$15 annually though. In addition to the annual park pass, I would support a one time amenity fee for the device needed to use the optional fast pass lane.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 272Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,15 2022 07:19:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Absolutely yes!

Comments: Kudos to the teams who are developing these creative approaches to maintain this national treasure. We need to

collectively preserve its natural beauty and ecological habitats for generations. Sitting in line(s), spewing pollutants is counter to this. The fast pass system will help reduce the wait.

Correspondence ID: 273Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,15 2022 07:23:05

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes I would support this.

Comments: But we still have a problem with signage. Because the lines are so long, people cannot see from about 10 cars back the very small sign that indicated the right hand lane was a 'fast pass' lane. Many cars go through there and get stuck, a person has to come out and most times I've seen them just send the car along not paying a fee at all! A large sign needs to be install that indicates 'fast pass only'. Also signage should be installed farther back so the that people can be prepared to pay the appropriate fee.

Also why not do a reduced park entrance fee like \$5.00 per use when using the transponder? These people will more certainly go into the park and more fees will accumulate. I grew up in Destin Fl next to a bridge that was paid for with transponder fees. The transponder program was so popular they paid for the 3 million dollar bridge a year early and built more lanes. Fees were only about \$5.

I am one of a large group of people that only utilizes the park about 1-2 a year (most times once) max. However I buy the parks pass hoping to get to use it more.

We definitely need to spend more on regulating park visitation, and that can/should be done with park fees. The way the fee system is set up doesn't make sense. \$20 for one day but only \$80 (these are old numbers off top of my head). Use should be paid for like everything else in life. What makes more sense is \$20 for one day but \$120 for a week. Pay for use.

Please look ahead to the future and possible technologies before implementing this system. Stay ahead of the game, not behind it.

Sincerely, (b) (6) former wildlife biology tech and frequent hiker

Correspondence ID: 274Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,15 2022 10:13:35

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 275Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,15 2022 13:34:30

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes but I would not buy it if it cannot be used during the reservation season, which is the only time we tend to wait for long periods.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 276Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,16 2022 07:32:38

Correspondence Type:Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
YES - 100%!

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 277Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,16 2022 08:35:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes.

Comments: The Q&As and proposal don't address:

How will the transponder be renewed each year? Does the pass holder need to purchase a new transponder and somehow remove the old one? Can the transponder be remotely re-programmed by RMNP and not need to be removed from the windshield?

Why can't RMNP re-program the existing gate to work with both the old and new annual and lifetime passes? That would seem to be less wasteful than having to buy a new transponder each year and recycle(?) the old one.

Correspondence ID: 278Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,16 2022 14:06:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

No, additional fees should not be required to continue pre-Covid amenities. The Park continues to reduce services and/or beg for additional funding for basic offerings. Park access has steadily declined for local EP residents and little confidence is present that an additional \$15 fee will help.

Comments: 1. Annual pass price should cover auto-gate access, especially given on-going reservation system and limited access times.
2. RFID cards should be standard offering w/ corresponding modern auto-gate operator; window transponders limit access to a single car and prohibit carpooling.
3. RFID eliminates "swipe" requirement; previous system(s) have been finicky w/ reading the strip.
4. Bicycle access via the auto-gate is also requested.

Correspondence ID: 279Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,16 2022 14:33:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Absolutely. We also have a home in Estes. It's absolutely ridiculous that the park service doesn't have another entry gate for those people that have gone to the park to get their timed entry pass at 6am and then go back at 8am. The lines are long and it's not fair to have to wait again. This has not been thought through effectively. I would have thought by now with having g the pilot system in place for a few years, this would have been addressed.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 280Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,17 2022 10:22:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes, but only if it can function with timed entry permit

Comments: The announcement that I saw said that this would not be usable during timed entry permit hours. If that is correct, implementation would be a waste of money. If this can be integrated with timed entry, e.g. by connecting the account that purchased the timed entry to the account owning the electronic transponder, then it would be useful.

Correspondence ID: 281Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,18 2022 09:45:10

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

ABSOLUTELY NOT! When I purchased my Senior Pass for RMNP eons ago, I was told that it would be good FOREVER, and until a few years ago I could use it in the swiper lane. RMNP should not renege on its word. People with Senior Passes should get the windshield sticker for the new fast lane FOR FREE. Seniors should NOT be required to pay ANYTHING for ANY YEAR for the fast lane.. That was your past commitment when we bought the pass.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 282Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,18 2022 15:22:37

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes. This seems reasonable for the benefit it would provide. Any effort to reduce idling vehicles is welcomed and needed. Thank you.

Comments: I support the timed entry and the fast lane proposal. These are improvements that will help to address sustainability of this asset, RMNP. These changes are not easy but necessary. We need to work extra hard to keep our natural areas as safe and protected as possible because of the significant challenges: climate change, increased visitation, etc. Thanks to RMNP staff who work on improvement ideas and thank you for allowing public comment.

Correspondence ID: 283Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,20 2022 13:35:37

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes.

Comments: I fully support this as long as I can transfer my current lifetime pass and only pay an additional \$15 just for the transponder. How will you be incorporating the timed-entry to this? Hope the other NP's do the same thing.

Correspondence ID: 284Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,20 2022 13:43:45

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I wish this was not restricted to Rocky mountain national park but expanded to all National parks. The worst part of the national park experience is waiting in line to enter the park because people need to pay for entrance fees or otherwise. A transponder would be great to accommodate those who have already purchased annual passes or otherwise.

Comments: The point of the parks is to see nature, not to sit in a car line breathing in other peoples exhaust fumes. Get us into nature quicker

Correspondence ID: 285Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,20 2022 19:40:26

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: I would happily pay \$500 if it worked during timed entry periods. I'd be willing to pay \$1000 a year if it had a dedicated pass holder lane starting at the visitor center. Anything to minimize time spent idling in line would be a huge plus.

Correspondence ID: 286Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,21 2022 19:59:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
I would be supportive if the transponder would be easy to obtain.

Comments: I do not want to wait in another line to buy one.
I know that the E-470 transponder came in the mail and I am assuming that this would be the case. I also want to know if we can buy more than one transponder for multiple cars that use the Park. When will the transponder be available? Will both entries on the east side have the fast-pass lane? I do think the \$15 price is high for the short usage time that an annual one will be used. Most people come from distances and only visit a few times a year to the Park. Many are only there one time a year. How quickly can they buy a transponder when they get to town and don't know about the availability ahead of time? What about rental cars? Many use those to visit the Park. Will we have to buy another one when we sell or trade our car during the year? Again, E-470 supplied another transponder when we sold our car. It would certainly be great if this transponder interacted with other systems and their technology. How many transponders can a windshield hold? Will it work at other parks in Colorado? We have to use recreation.gov website to buy passes & reservations. The transponder should be recognized at other parks and we hope they will install fast-pass lanes.

Correspondence ID: 287Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,23 2022 20:38:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: How are you going to accomodate employees trying to go to work during the times when the transponder does not work? Will you just have the swing gate open with cones , as you do now? Will you supply a diff frequency transponder for park employees and shuttle bus drivers that WILL work during the hours that a permit is required?

Correspondence ID: 288Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,24 2022 17:08:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Probably not. Since the transponder tag would only be available for use when timed entry permits are not required, I don't think it will be very beneficial. I am a lifetime senior pass holder, and I don't think lines are long enough when timed entry is not in effect to justify paying \$15 a year. Before the timed entry system and when the automated pass lane was working at RMNP, I was an annual pass holder and did use the automated pass lanes. Since my spouse (also a senior lifetime pass holder) and I don't always take the same car each time we travel together to RMNP, we would need to buy two transponder tags. Paying \$30 a year would be a definite no.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 289Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,25 2022 09:25:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: Several comments. First, it was very hard to figure out where and how to just make this comment. Your site needs to be easier to navigate to get here! As a lifetime pass holder who is 79 years old, I think this is a good idea, and that it should be expanded to allow those of us who are old to enter the park at all times. Having a home in Estes Park and being a lifetime park card holder, we should be able to bypass the time limited park entry. Otherwise we are almost eliminated from being able to enjoy the limited things we can do in the park over the months the timed entry is operating.

Correspondence ID: 290Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,25 2022 09:44:06

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, anything would be better than sitting in line for an hour behind all the chatty people.

Comments: Perhaps an easier solution would be to replace the old card reader with a new one that is compatible with the new code format.

Why make lifetime pass holders get a new transponder every year? Just to get another \$15?

The entrance road is only one lane wide so that will still be a problem.

Correspondence ID: 291Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,25 2022 12:07:16

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes, I support paying \$15 for a transponder for one vehicle.

Comments: I would want a transponder for each of my two vehicles. The pickup truck or the EV are used to enter the Park depending on what we are doing. To get a second transponder under the current Proposal for Expanded Amenity Fee for Transponder Device, we would need to purchase two Annual Passes. Please consider allowing the purchase of two transponders for valid passholders.

Correspondence ID: 292Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,25 2022 14:34:54

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Yes.

Comments: I think it's a great idea and am glad to see the park moving this forward.

Correspondence ID: 293Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,29 2022 14:41:33

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

Rocky Mountain Conservancy is in full support of the proposed Fast Pass Transponder Device installation within Rocky Mountain National Park

Comments: Dear Superintendent Sidles,

Since 1931, the Rocky Mountain Conservancy has served as the primary nonprofit partner of Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP). For nearly 90+ years, the Conservancy has supported the park through funding tens of millions of dollars' worth of projects, partnering in acquiring and transferring property, and overseeing the Nature Stores that operate within the park, and supporting the park's educational mission. It is with our treasured relationship in mind, along with the 3000+ annual dues-

paying members who visit Rocky Mountain National Park, that we write to you in complete support of RMNP adopting an expanded amenity fee for a transponder "fast pass" entry device.

Since 2000 , RMNP has seen a massive increase in visitation that has led to delayed entry, frustrated visitors, and overworked entrance station staff. In the last seven years, there has only been a single instance when visitation has dropped below four million annual visitors, which was due, in part, to the COVID-19 pandemic that swept the country and caused the park to be closed for multiple months. Since the implementation of timed entry in 2020, the park has returned to 4+ million visitors, and 2022 is shaping up to be no different. As visitation continues to grow, it seems clear that the adoption of a fast-pass entry outside of timed entry hours would benefit park visitors and commercial operations that operate within the park by increasing the amount of time people can spend inside Rocky. Visitation continues to rise in 2022 and is predicted to continue to increase in the coming years, the adoption of a fast-pass transponder device would allow RMNP to return to a functioning fast-pass entry lane that was in operation from 2004-2019.

In addition to improving park entrance rates, this device would also help organizations like the Conservancy that enter the park throughout the day for work purposes. For example, from May-October, the Conservancy sends, on average, 5-15 vehicles with 2-10 employees in each vehicle on a daily basis. These vehicles frequently enter the park between 07:00 and 09:00, which is a peak time for visitors without a timed-entry permit, which then often results in Conservancy staff waiting to get through the entrance station line, taking valuable time that could be spent working on important projects to improve the park. The Conservancy is appreciative of the fact that this fast pass proposal won't interfere with timed entry procedures, as the pass will only be activated during the hours where timed entry isn't in effect. The implementation of a fast-pass transponder device is a simple solution that will expedite the movement of visitors, partnering staff, and commercial operators through the entrance stations to gain access to the park more easily during non-timed entry hours.

Not only will the fast-pass transponder allow people to enter the park more quickly, but for Coloradans throughout the Front Range area, it would be an approach that is already commonly used throughout the state on freeways and to gain access to local public lands areas. This kind of system mimics the Colorado Department of Transportation ExpressToll system which will be familiar and, as such, be an easy transition for most users, and the annual \$15 fee is a reasonable cost for frequent visitors of the park.

Finding solutions that encourage local and frequent visitors to recreate in their local public lands is a positive goal, and as long-term partners of RMNP, the Rocky Mountain Conservancy strongly encourages the park to adopt the Fast Pass Transponder Device. Adopting this strategy at the three major entrance stations (Beaver Meadows, Fall River, and Kawuneeche Valley) optimizes efficiency for Conservancy staff that work within the park, allows frequent users to bypass long entry lines, and creates a relatively low-cost system with which many users will already be familiar.

Thank you for the consideration of the Conservancy's perspective, and for working to find a solution that could benefit a broad range of users of the park.

Sincerely,

Estee Rivera Murdock Ian Stafford
Executive Director Director of Stewardship and Policy
Rocky Mountain Conservancy Rocky Mountain Conservancy

Correspondence ID: 294Project:110317Document:121792

Received: Jul,29 2022 18:42:06

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Topic Question 1:

I would very much be supportive of this idea. This is a great solution to a difficult problem. This causes no NPS dollars to be applied to this project while also helping to solve a problem. \$15 is very affordable as well. I look forward to the opportunity at possibly getting one of these in Spring 2023.

Comments:

Correspondence ID: 295Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,31 2022 14:40:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: I miss the fast pass lane. I want to access the park when I feel like it and not be restricted by reservations. That is why I live here. Do something to support local residents so we don't compete with everyone in the world for access to the park.

Correspondence ID: 296Project:110317Document:121792
Received: Jul,31 2022 22:01:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Topic Question 1:
Yes

Comments: I have been enjoying Estes Park and RMNP my entire life, as my mother did for her entire life before me. It is an extraordinary place that people from all over the world enjoy and hopefully will continue to do so. With this increase in visitors each year, it is imperative that the issues with handling visitor traffic, safety, and accessibility continue to improve, including:

- Efficient, safe access for emergency vehicles/personnel (Park, fire, police, etc.) at all times
- Efficient, safe access for inholders, their family members, and their guests at all times
- Efficient, safe access for RMNP visitors
- Clear, visible communications regarding RMNP requirements (and identification and resolution of why many folks are still trying to enter the park without the appropriate permit and/or pass, which wastes RMNP personnel time and other visitor time in lines)

To accomplish this, it seems the following is needed:

- Widen the incoming lane for Beaver Meadows park entrance between Beaver Meadows visitor center and the RMNP booths
- Clear, early (further down the road) electronic signage above each lane of RMNP entrance, clearly identifying which lanes are open and which lanes are for RMNP park personnel, shuttle buses, inholders
- Clear communications (online and signage) distinguishing between "pass" and "permit" and how each of these are required and must be used. There is much confusion.
- A way for folks who should not be in the automatic lane to exit if the gate cannot be opened, so that the automatic lane is not clogged

Concerns with the current proposal:

- If the automatic lane is accessible only during non-peak hours, this will not likely significantly reduce traffic flow when traffic is the most congested during peak hours
- If each entry lane is not clearly and accurately labeled (open, closed, etc. and who can enter the auto lane) and visible further down the road and also close to the booths, then traffic congestion will still occur
- Inholders need a way to designate and provide entry for all family members and guests without additional costs or time.
- What will change and what new issues can occur if the "Estes Park Loop" is completed?

Please consider:

- A new separate entrance only for RMNP staff, trolleys, shuttles, and inholders (and family members) that must have transponders with an automatic lane (that doesn't have to be staffed?). These should not expire. Can this be accessed through the High Drive area? The old entrance to the park near the old Dunraven? The RMNP administration area? The Fall River Entrance? Or parallel to the Beaver Meadows entrance?
- Any new solutions to these issues must be scalable as visitors to the park continue to increase

Thank you for your time and effort with resolving these issues for all to enjoy RMNP.

(b) (6)
