

CWC Recreation Committee

January 2024



RECREATION COMMITTEE PRIORITY RESPONSES

The following comments were submitted by Recreation Committee members as possible priorities for action.

FROM KIRK NICHOLS

Three top values from the Mountain Accord

- **Protection** of the environment-base such that all the goals have a place to happen.
- **Safety** for naïve outdoor visitors (part of accessibility)
- **Diversity of opportunities** with greatest emphasis on greatest number of casual visitors. (“Experienced” visitors are presumed to be better at taking care of themselves.)

Three top goals from the Mountain Accord

- **CWNCRA** - Federal Legislation creating the Central Wasatch National Conservation and Recreation Area
- **Transit with reservations** to recreation sites.
- **A Visitor Use Management** study with Indicators and Standards (thresholds) based on the Limits of Acceptable Change Model (LAC)

Priority projects and goals for Recreation Committee

1. **CWNCRA**
2. **A legitimate P-EIS:** Cottonwood Canyons transportation Programmatic (Regional) Environmental Impact Statement and study that includes Both Cottonwood Canyons, Millcreek, Parleys, and the Wasatch Back.
3. **Highway realignment** at recreation sites such that the parking is on the same side of the highway as the picnic areas and/or trailheads.
4. **Education** for the casual visitors, particularly environmental care and environmental interpretation such as signs and ranger walks and talks.
5. **More toilets.**
6. **Road cycling safety** measures and plan.
7. **Trail repair and maintenance, hardening,** relocating some segments before adding new trails.

FROM JOHN KNOBLOCK

I think the Rec committee could hammer out a draft 'road cycling plan' in a half hour if you assign everyone pre-work to think about what the problems are and what's needed. My initial thoughts are:

- Ensure the chip sealed pavement on the Wasatch Blvd bike lane is improved.
- Improve the bike turn lane into BCC
- Widen the BCC Rd by 4 feet just before the BCC power plant where there is no shoulder.
- Paint parallel white lines delineating the bike lane through the S turn area.

- Construct a bike trail up Parleys Cyn to Parleys Summit.
 - Complete the 4 ft bike lane to the top of Millcreek Cyn.
 - Fix small hazard spots on Wasatch Blvd bike lane.
- Hmmm, I'm not sure of what needs there may be on the Summit County side. And I think the Parleys Cyn East Cyn Rd is good, eh?
- The Mt Dell to Parleys Summit and the bike lane all the way up Millcreek Cyn are timely items since they are both in decision-making periods right now!

FROM PAT SHEA

I hope you will take time to read this article about how the National Park Service is implementing a permit system in the Shenandoah National Park because of overuse. It is exactly the same problem that increasingly exists in the Cottonwood Canyons and Millcreek. For future generations, both for recreation and culinary water, we must begin to take similar actions. We should ask Dave Whitiekend what and when will the Forest consider taking the same type of conversation measures in the Wasatch?

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2022/02/26/old-rag-permits-hikers-virginia/>

FROM BARBARA CAMERON

- Consider engaging a consultant to compile a comprehensive bicycle trail plan.
- Support an off-highway bicycle trail that connects Cardiff to Brighton Circle.
- Suggest interpretive signage that includes trail etiquette, natural and cultural history at Cardiff/Donut Falls, Willow Heights, and Maxfield/Storm Mountain area.
- Advocate for new vault toilets at Willow Heights.
- Advocate for year-round FREE public transit to major trailheads.

FROM EMILY SALLE

My top 3 values from Mountain Accord:

1. Adaptable design for growing demand
2. Supportive of diverse trail use cases
3. Sustainable infrastructure that protects the natural environment