



CWC DIGEST - SEPT/OCT



CENTRAL
WASATCH
COMMISSION

BOARD AND STAFF

- Registration is open for the inaugural [Central Wasatch Symposium](#)! Attendance is limited, and scholarship opportunities are available. See the CWC website for more details and to buy tickets.
- The CWC Board retreat is on November 1, 2024 at River Oaks Golf Course.
- The Transportation Committee will be meeting on November 20, 2024.
- We have released new episodes of the [In the Wasatch podcast](#), available on Spotify. If you'd like to be interviewed on the podcast, please reach out to Mia.
- Our 2023-2024 fiscal year audit has been completed and there were no concerns.
- Our Short-Term Projects Grant cycle will be changing next year. Instead of opening in the spring, the 2025 call for applications will be open from January 7 to February 7, 2025.
- The next CWC Board meeting is December 2, 2024.

STAKEHOLDERS COUNCIL

RECREATION SYSTEM COMMITTEE

- No new updates.

ENVIRONMENT SYSTEM COMMITTEE

- The committee continued its work on the survey designed to capture feedback and suggested improvements to the Environmental Dashboard.
- Reviewed feedback offered about the survey by others on the Stakeholders Council, and requested additional feedback from the Board's Executive Committee.
- Determined a timeline for distributing the survey to the Stakeholders Council, Youth Council, community groups, and the public.

MILL CREEK CANYON COMMITTEE

- The parties who applied for a Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Project in 2021 to improve the road in Upper Millcreek Canyon (Salt Lake County, US Forest Service, and the City of Millcreek) are now applying for a Phase 2 FLAP grant for the lower Mill Creek Canyon. The funds would improve the road from the fee booth to the Winter Gate and address issues such as widening the roadway to create safer travel for vehicles and cyclists, add infrastructure to enhance safety for all canyon users (motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians), install conduit to support emergency communications in the canyon, and enhance the overall visitor experience in the canyon. A public hearing on this application has been set for 5:30 on November 6 at Millcreek City Hall. Link to Phase 2 website: slco.to/FLAP-Phase2
- CWC staff is applying for a grant through the Utah Recreation Office's ORI program to fund an update to the Fehr and Peers study addressing the feasibility and issues around a shuttle program in the Canyon. The estimated cost of this study is \$30,000.
- A potential parking site for the proposed shuttle is on the west side of I-215 along Virginia Street, an area currently used extensively by Skyline High School students to park while the school is being rebuilt. To bring more order to the parking there, striping perpendicular to the road has been added to the east side of Virginia Street to designate about 190 parking spaces. This was done without any widening of the shoulder, which would be needed for more a more formal parking lot. When the central Skyline High School parking lot is constructed the area along Virginia street will likely be much less used by students for parking.
- Tom Diegel met with the new Salt Lake District Forest Ranger, Adam Shaw, and briefed him on some of the issues involving Millcreek Canyon including the FLAP grant for phase one, the issue of bike lanes, the absence of any telecommunications in the canyon, and the work that has been ongoing to try to implement a shuttle program in the Canyon.



ECONOMY SYSTEM COMMITTEE

- Discussions wrapped up on the Economy Committee Guiding Principles with some lack of consensus. The perspectives of the committee members were provided to the CWC staff who will finalize the Guiding Principles document to keep things moving forward.
- There was recognition that this committee may be too small to ensure desired broad representation. There is potential to add this point to the next stakeholders meeting to consider finding additional members.
- Some next steps under consideration:
 - Engage in conversations with all stakeholder chairs on areas of support from the Economic committee from which they would find value.
 - Include inputs for the environmental dashboard.
 - Include realities regarding funding for projects being considered, etc.
 - Research broad-scope visitor spending inside and outside of the canyons that is supported by businesses in the canyons.
 - Consider getting feedback from a similar visitor study recently done in Summit County.
 - Research the associated tax revenue flow to Salt Lake County general fund, and how these monies may or may not be appropriated to support the needs of the canyons.
 - Inclusion of input and perspective from the businesses in the canyons.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM COMMITTEE

- Traction Laws. There is renewed interest, possible updates in rules and implementation as well as enforcement. The Utah Legislature has directed \$400,000 for law enforcement staffing (Sandy City, Cottonwood Heights and SL County Sheriff) for the 24-25 season. Primarily for Snow Day Inspections and Parking enforcement - and a big push for pre-approval "stickers" verifying traction devices/equipment. This committee is also brainstorming other ideas on how to improve traction law compliance.
- UDOT is moving forward with the BCC Environmental Assessment (EA). Public hearings: Open House - 11/13/24 - 6-8PM; Public Comment Period - 11/13/24 - 12/13/24. More info and overview at udotinput.utah.gov. LCC EIS still pending lawsuits.
- Visitor Use Study - It appears that there are challenges with its utility and conclusions, including 1) its methods are a high-level visitor use survey/study that does not equate to detailed use and estimates of capacity, 2) sample sizes for some groups are inadequate for sound conclusions, and 3) it appears to be missing some user groups. The Committee will discuss options further in our next meetings.
- Parking options discussed for a possible Millcreek Canyon Shuttle, as well as for BCC and LCC, winter and summer: Skyline HS; Gravel Pit; Cowboy Properties and additional options for bus stops and carpooling.

YOUTH COUNCIL (CWCYC)

The CWC Youth Council will be meeting on Wednesday, November 13th from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Stakeholders -- please reach out to Mia if you have any interest in attending! Anyone is welcome!

OUTDOOR ACCESS COMMITTEE

- Most of the gear has been purchased with funds provided by the CWC's Short-Term Project Grant.
- Planning a construction day to help finish building the Gear Shed.
- Finding ways to do outreach.

EVENTS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Completed it's first Outdoor Film Festival in September! The event was a success thanks to the Front Climbing Gym, the Short-Term Projects Grant Program, and members of the committee.
- Moving on to its next project and brainstorming ways to help with CWC and Youth Council outreach.

ENVIRONMENTAL DASHBOARD EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- Continuing discussion regarding updating the Human Element on the Central Wasatch Dashboard regarding trail and winter data.

LOCAL EVENTS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Central Wasatch Symposium
 - January 9th and 10th, 2025 at Millcreek City Hall
 - Find more information [here](#).

QUESTIONS?

LINDSEY

- lindsey@cwc.utah.gov
- 801-706-1004

SAM

- samantha@cwc.utah.gov
- 801-834-5950

MIA

- mia@cwc.utah.gov
- 801-698-5556