



Wasatch Transit Solutions (WATS)

Central Wasatch Commission Introductory Presentation





WATS seeks to enhance the quality of life by reducing congestion, improving air quality, enhancing safety, and increasing mobility in the Wasatch Region and beyond.

Mission Statement

Introduction to WATS



A 501(c)(3) nonprofit transit advocacy group



Emphasis on rail as part of the solution

Focused on long-range, multi-modal (rail and bus) transit vision



Promotes private-public collaboration and community engagement



WATS aims to support a Wasatch regional transit system with a strong rail network by:

GOAL 1

Substantially increasing the traveling public transit use through convenient, accessible improvements in infrastructure and service.

GOAL 2

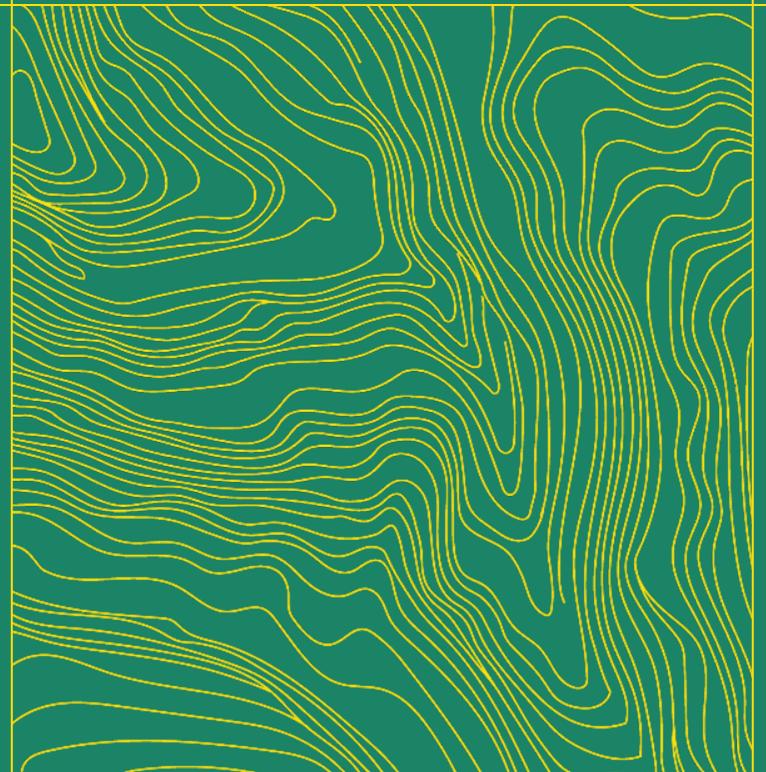
Using rail transit as a backbone, developing a comprehensive transit system incorporating all modes of transport

GOAL 3

Focusing on the development of a rail-related transit system that provides a potential viable solution including transit serving the southeast part of the Salt Lake Valley and the Central Wasatch Mountains.

Alignment with CWC Mountain Accord Goals

- Shared focus on sustainability, mobility, and air quality
- Expands upon CWC's Mountain Transportation System (MTS) vision and principles
- Supports Congressional legislative provisions and direction for lands and resources protection
- Builds on UDOT's planning efforts



Rail Transit Benefits

Reduces Congestion

Rail = 10 lanes of highway capacity

Improves air quality

72% less CO2 per mile vs. cars

Enhances safety and public health

Promotes tourism and economic growth

Rail Transit Benefits | Wasatch

- Flexibility for numerous stops in Canyons serving all users
- Potential for integration into regional transit system, reducing or possibly eliminating vehicle dependency
- Scalable and efficient solution to meet peak demand requirements minimizing bottlenecks
- Reduced impacts from rail compared to gondola or bus alternatives
- Zero-emission (electric & battery operated) and sustainable transit mode
- Can be incorporated into the Congressional legislation and funding to solidify a combined lands and resource protection and transportation solution

LCC Rail Considerations

- Watershed impacts
- Best alignment and how to implement
- Stops for all users in Canyon
- Ability to integrate with other vehicle and transit approaches to reduce or eliminate vehicles in Canyons
- How best to integrate into transit and transportation system



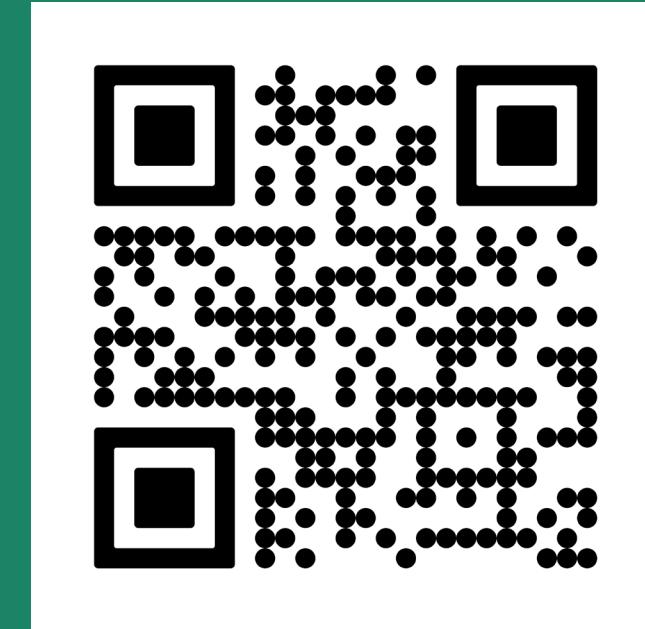
Approach and Timeline for Effort

- Engaging with the public and key stakeholders including CWC for insights and risk mitigation
- 1 – 1.5 year timeline leveraging available accessible data:
 - Issues
 - Alternatives (buses, aerial, rail), including combinations
 - Preferred approach
 - Agreement – possible amendment to Mountain Accord charter
- WATS at larger-scale aims to improve infrastructure and service throughout the Wasatch region





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