

Approved: 11/3/2025

UTAH PASSENGER ROPEWAY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

September 8, 2025

UDOT Lester Wire conference room & Google Meets

Committee members at UDOT:

Russ Oberlander, Vice-chairman, Engineer
Patrick Cowley, UDOT ex-officio member

Committee members Google Meets:

Steve Thygerson, Public Representative
Seth Wallace, U.S. Forest Service, proxy for Curt
Panter, U.S. Forest Service Representative

Committee members absent:

Rich Taxwood, Chairman, Ski Area Representative
Jeff West, Ski Area Representative

Staff:

Brian Allen, UDOT
Rhett Arnell, UDOT
Leif Elder, UDOT

Others (at UDOT):

Simone Lawrence, public

Others (Google Meets):

Brad Hansen, Utah Olympic Park
Danny McRae, Powder Mountain
Jason Davis, Alta
Skyler Bair, Nordic Valley
Brandon Nelson, Sundance
Steve Kirner, Altera
Nick Dana, Park City Resort
Jeff Peterson, Iron Mountain Engineering
Richard White, A2O, Inc.
Gustavo Gonzales, MCP
Daylen Brown, public

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 5, 2025 meeting were reviewed.

Following the review Steve Thygerson made a motion to approve the minutes and Seth Wallace seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Public Hearing: proposed ropeway registration fee increase

Brian Allen introduced the proposed 15% fee increase for ropeway registration fees. The additional surcharge for summer operation will remain at 15%. The hearing was opened for questions or comments. Nick Dana, Park City Resort, asked what was driving the need for a fee increase. Brian Allen indicated that it was primarily the costs associated with the Ropeway Safety Engineer position. The budget, fees collected, gradually increases as the number of lifts grow from new installations. The program costs grow as the ropeway safety engineer position costs more from pay increases for state employees. There were no additional questions or comments.

Following the opportunity for comments Seth Wallace made a motion of support for the proposed fee increase, Steve Thygerson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The proposed fee increase will be forwarded to the governor's office to be included for discussion in the next general session of the state legislature.

III. Qualified Engineer application: Jeremiah Frazier

The qualified engineer application of Jeremiah Frazier was reviewed. Following the discussion Seth Wallace made a motion to approve the application and Patrick Cowley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Forest Service, Area, and Manufacturer Updates

Those present gave a brief update on the recent activities at the resort.

V. Open Discussion / Questions

The open discussion included a preliminary review of the air space exception request for the Park City Resort Cabriolet Gondola replacement. The request identified 7 points for discussion. Following the presentation and discussion of those 7 points the UPRSC had additional requests for 2 of those. More information is requested about the power line crossing, particularly a confirmation that the clearances met ANSI and Rocky Mountain Power clearance requirements. Also identified as a concern was the potential of a fire hazard created by the location of dumpsters located underneath the lift line. Relocation of the dumpsters or mitigation of the fire hazard was requested. Verification of clearances when the dumpsters were being emptied was also requested.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm.