



Wasatch Adaptive Sports
9385 S. Snowbird Center Drive
Snowbird, Utah 84092

11/24/2025

Jordan River Commission
P.O. Box 526081
Salt Lake City, UT, 84152

Dear Soren and Board of the Jordan River Commission (JRC),

It is not lost upon everyone at Wasatch Adaptive Sports (WAS) how integral the JRC has been for the success of our Adaptive Biking Program. Between managing an accessible trail network and corridor that is a place of respite for our participants with disabilities to providing a renewed \$5,000 small-grant award, we are immensely grateful for your continued stewardship of WAS's programs. We are better together, making the parkway a welcoming place for visitors of all abilities, backgrounds, and circumstances.

2026 Adaptive Biking Program Outcomes

Between May 5th, 2025 and October 31st, 2025, Wasatch Adaptive Sports offered 2,241 adaptive biking lessons, group rides, equipment fittings, and equipment rentals. While WAS's programming occurred all over Salt Lake, Utah, Wasatch, and Tooele Counties, the vast majority occurred along the Jordan River Trail, where over the course of 73 program days, WAS stationed its trailers and equipment at Millrace Park, East River Front Park, or Dr. O. Roi Hardy Park, and provided adaptive biking experiences on the Jordan River Trail.

While WAS originally anticipated serving 625 unique participants through the 2025 Adaptive Biking Program, WAS actually served 591 individuals. This slight decrease can be attributed to more instructor resources being allocated to the Paddling Program, weather cancellations, and, most telling of the story: limited capacity. For example, from 2023 to 2024, the number of unique individuals served grew by 63%; however, from 2025 to 2026, WAS anticipates program numbers to stagnate unless it can develop new revenue streams and increased giving from existing supporters. Increases in funding would not only allow WAS to accept new participants into the 2026 Adaptive Biking Program, it would also increase the number of times that existing participants can bike with WAS over the course of a season. 81% of existing participants shared that they would recreate more frequently with WAS if the opportunities were available. While WAS tries to meet these participants at their goals by inviting them to group rides and increasing re-scheduling efficiency during cancellations, having more lesson slots available will only be possible with more funding.

Despite stagnation in program numbers, WAS and the Jordan River Commission have so much to celebrate in terms of the quality of the 2025 Adaptive Biking Program, as reported by participants. According to the most recent Student Empowerment Evaluation, which was facilitated in October and November of 2025...

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- 100% of participants reported improved overall quality of life or overall physical health
- 95% of participants reported improved overall mental health
- 91% of participants reported more independence in recreation or in day-to-day life
- 90% of participants reported stronger relationships with friends, family, and/or others
- 88% of participants reported improved communication / social skills

In addition to these statistics, perhaps more telling of the Commission's impact on Utahns with disabilities' health and well-being are the anecdotes from participants and community partners:

"I've taken part in all kinds of adventures with WAS from cycling to skiing to outdoor group events. Each experience with WAS is thoughtfully adapted and accessible. Whether it's through one-on-one instruction, top-notch adaptive equipment, or simply removing the financial barriers with generous scholarships, WAS has made the outdoors feel not only possible, but empowering... It means that I don't have to worry about if my balance, nausea, fatigue, or nerve pain flares up when I am outdoors because WAS is right next to me, there to help and adapt" - Emma, WAS Participant with Multiple Sclerosis

In particular, WAS is proud of the community partnership adaptive biking opportunities facilitated during the 2025 program. During the 2025 program, WAS facilitated group rides for 27 community partners, who spanned from healthcare facilities and schools to aging care and veteran organizations. Together, WAS instructors and community partner leaders co-create wellness through group rides, where four to 15 patients, students, or veterans experience the joy and belonging of biking with others who share their experiences. WAS also partnered a bit more with the JRC's event staff, advertising the Get to the River Festival to participants, attending Get to the River Festival events, and hosting JRC staff at WAS's Hustle Final Mile / Halloween Party. In 2026, WAS is looking forward to collaborating with the Jordan River Commission and getting the disability community involved in the annual Golden Spoke ride.

"WAS generously hosts and provides group adaptive biking lessons for past patients, free of charge. Children with new spinal cord injuries, strokes, and brain injuries join other children to accessibly learn new skills. Through WAS, children also learn socio-emotional skills to cope with a new diagnosis. WAS directly supports youth empowerment, skill-building, and connection with nature." - Zoe Brandon, Physical Therapist at Intermountain Health's Primary Children's Hospital

Furthering the Blueprint Jordan River: Comfort & Inclusivity in Recreation

While the JRC has done a tremendous job creating ADA-compliant infrastructure pertaining to width of trails, slope of trails, restrooms, ramps between trails and bridges, and even adding mirrors in tight turns and narrow underpasses (e.g. at 5400 South), and more, WAS is there to address the outstanding barriers for participants. For example, 91% of participants received scholarship assistance to cover the costs of their experiences so that they did not have to worry about choosing between other essential needs and movement. Additionally, WAS participants have access to more than 142 adaptive bikes and do not have to worry about transporting, nor affording one, which can cost between \$2,000 to \$20,000, that is suitable to their needs. Echoing the words of our Program Coordinator, "Showing up to a lesson is 90% of the challenge." The collaboration between WAS and the JRC is indispensable, allowing anyone to connect with nature and community, as well as move their bodies in the heart of Utah's biggest population center.

Thank you all for the continued support!

CLICK HERE TO WATCH: [Everything You Need to Know: Biking with Wasatch Adaptive Sports!](#)

CLICK HERE TO WATCH: [Maggi & Sarah: A Mother-Daughter Duo Rediscovering Biking Together](#)

