



MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WASATCH COMMISSION (“CWC”) STAKEHOLDERS COUNCIL RECREATION SYSTEM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026, AT 2:00 P.M. THE MEETING WAS CONDUCTED BOTH IN-PERSON AND VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM. THE ANCHOR LOCATION WAS THE CWC OFFICES, LOCATED IN THE BRIGHTON BANK BUILDING, 311 SOUTH STATE STREET, SUITE 330, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

Committee Members: Patrick Morrison, Chair
Craig Williams
Barbara Cameron
John Knoblock

Staff: Sam Kilpack, Director of Operations

OPENING

1. Chair Patrick Morrison will Open the Public Meeting as Chair of the Recreation System Committee of the Central Wasatch Commission Stakeholders Council.

Chair Patrick Morrison called the Central Wasatch Commission (“CWC”) Stakeholders Council Recreation System Committee Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and welcomed those present. He apologized for having limited availability lately due to his busy schedule. Barbara Cameron appreciated the efforts made by Chair Morrison. It was noted that there tends to be fewer meetings in the summer.

Chair Morrison reported that there is an item on the Recreation System Committee Meeting agenda about coordinating an outdoor activity or volunteer opportunity. He stressed the importance of building connections so there will be more engagement from other Committee Members in the future.

Craig Williams mentioned the new Wowza Trail that the Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation helped fund. Chair Morrison explained that there are a lot of benefits associated with the trail. Discussions were had about what is happening in Park City compared to what is happening in the Wasatch Front.

2. Review and Approval of the March 12, 2026, Meeting Minutes.

There was not a quorum of the Recreation System Committee, so a vote was not taken on the Meeting Minutes from March 12, 2026. It was determined that a vote will be taken at the next meeting.

STAFF UPDATES

1. The CWC Has Approved Funding for the 2026-2027 Short-Term Projects Grant Cycle.

Director of Operations, Sam Kilpack, reported that there was funding granted for 12 short-term projects as part of the 2026-2027 Short-Term Projects Grant Program. \$110,000 was awarded to various organizations. There were some familiar organizations and some new applicants. One example of a new applicant is Save People Save Wildlife, which is in Phase II of a long-term project to map wildlife patterns and find ways to improve wildlife crossings around SR-224. The funding will be used to install a camera to monitor behavior patterns. A variety of short-term projects were funded this year, and the CWC is looking forward to seeing how the grant-funded projects turn out. She added that the Wasatch Backcountry Alliance shuttle will be in Millcreek Canyon. The Transit to Trails program, which is a shuttle that goes to Bonanza Flat, will pick up passengers in the Wasatch Front near Big Cottonwood Canyon and Little Cottonwood Canyon in order to better disperse users.

2. Sandy City Contribution Update.

Ms. Kilpack reported that Sandy City has cut funding to the CWC. This is unfortunate news, but she appreciates the level of engagement from members of the Stakeholders Council. The organization will move forward and focus on the work that needs to be done. Ms. Cameron asked if it would be possible for Sandy City to return. Ms. Kilpack explained that the Sandy City Council ultimately decides whether the CWC will be funded. Mr. Williams noted that Dennis Goreham contacted Sandy City and received feedback that indicated the Council did not believe enough was being achieved.

Chair Morrison mentioned a previous Stakeholders Council discussion about the surplus funds. He asked how the surplus funds were ultimately used. Ms. Kilpack confirmed that there was a surplus this year. The CWC website will be redone because there are certain accessibility requirements. There was originally \$50,000 allocated to the Short-Term Projects Grant Program, but the CWC Board approved \$110,000 worth of projects. Part of the surplus was used to cover additional funding.

Chair Morrison asked if there are other opportunities to highlight the many accomplishments of the CWC. Mr. Williams pointed out that the CWC Board has the strongest influence. He assumed that Board Members attempted to speak to the Sandy City Council about the importance of the organization but wondered if a new approach has been suggested. Ms. Kilpack was not certain which Board Members reached out to the City Council directly, but former CWC Chair, Jeff Silvestrini, made comments in person. The CWC Board has been focused on the Central Wasatch National Conservation and Recreation Area Act ("CWNCRA"). The idea is to move that work forward.

Ms. Cameron pointed out that the Mayor of Sandy City, Monica Zoltanski, continues to support the CWC. It was the City Council who did not approve the member contribution to the organization. Chair Morrison noted that this situation has increased the overall awareness of the CWC. He saw this matter mentioned in several different news outlets. Mr. Williams suggested that there be more advertisement of the Short-Term Projects Grant Program so the CWC accomplishments are known.

Ms. Kilpack explained that the Sandy City Council is aware of the various CWC projects and the benefits that Sandy City residents receive. She pointed out that the Ski Bus Priority Access Program directly benefits Sandy City. Ms. Cameron wrote to the City Council and received a response from one of the Council Members. One stated that Sandy City funded the Ski Bus Priority Access Program,

1 which was not accurate. Ms. Kilpack reported that the CWC funds the overtime that the Police
2 Department incurs when there are canyon closures that occur outside normal working hours. For
3 instance, if there is an overnight storm or a storm on the weekend, the CWC provides that funding.

4 5 **OUTDOOR ACTIVITY OR VOLUNTEER EVENT DISCUSSION**

6 7 **1. The Committee will Discuss Coordinating an Outdoor Activity or Volunteer** 8 **Opportunity.**

9
10 Chair Morrison reported that he sent out polls to Committee Members about an outdoor activity or
11 volunteer opportunity for the Recreation System Committee. He asked when the present Committee
12 Members might be available. Ms. Cameron explained that after this weekend, her summer vacation
13 will start, so she will be available throughout August and September. Mr. Williams reviewed some
14 of the items on his schedule and highlighted several organizations that he is involved with.

15
16 Chair Morrison suggested that something be scheduled mid-week in the morning. There are a lot of
17 events and volunteer opportunities within the Central Wasatch. Ms. Cameron pointed out that if
18 something educational is planned, it is likely that a lot of other Stakeholders Council would want to
19 attend. Chair Morrison offered to reach out to Summit County to see if there is interest in hosting
20 some of the Committee Members. There are a lot of meaningful mitigation projects in that area.

21 22 **UPCOMING EVENTS DISCUSSION**

23 24 **1. The Committee will Share and Discuss Upcoming Events in the Central Wasatch** 25 **Pertinent to the Committee.**

26
27 Chair Morrison discussed some of the upcoming events in the Central Wasatch. He shared
28 information about the Alpenbock film that the Salt Lake Climbers Alliance premiered recently. A lot
29 of work went into the film, and it is an interesting project. The premiere took place on July 6, 2026,
30 but there is another screening planned on September 3, 2026. The film shares a lot of history, but it
31 is through the lens of climbing. Committee Members might want to attend the scheduled screening.

32
33 Chair Morrison offered to reach out to Jessica Kirby from Summit County in September to see if there
34 is an opportunity to visit the area and learn more. He reported that the Wasatch Wildflower Festival,
35 hosted by the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, will be at Brighton, Solitude, Alta, and Snowbird.

36 37 **ENVIRONMENT SYSTEM COMMITTEE SURVEY DISCUSSION**

38 39 **1. The Committee will Discuss the Survey in Progress by the Environment System** 40 **Committee to Educate Recreators and Influence Recreation Behaviors in the Central** 41 **Wasatch.**

42
43 Ms. Kilpack reported that the Environment System Committee has been discussing the creation of a
44 survey that can be dispersed. The purpose is to educate the public on recreation etiquette and
45 influence behaviors in the Central Wasatch. There is a document that is being worked on by the
46 Environment System Committee, which can be shared with the Recreation System Committee. It is
47 possible for Committee Members to provide feedback on the content of the brainstorming document.

1 The Environment System Committee will meet next on August 11, 2026, and it is possible for
2 members of the Recreation System Committee to attend that meeting and provide input on the survey.

3
4 Chair Morrison noted that the Recreation System Committee previously discussed the Trail Steward
5 Program from the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation. There are some impressive volunteers. It is
6 meaningful to have clearly identifiable volunteers who can provide information. While it is a serious
7 commitment to volunteer in that particular program, there are other volunteer opportunities as well.

8
9 Chair Morrison asked when the Environment System Committee plans to release their educational
10 survey. Ms. Kilpack reported that the intention is to have the survey ready ahead of the ski season,
11 so feedback and input are welcome. It is possible to add notes directly to the document or reach out
12 to Environment System Committee leadership. Kelly Boardman is the Chair and Meaghan McKasy
13 is the Co-Chair. She reiterated that the survey document will be sent out to Committee Members.

14 **MILLCREEK CANYON DISCUSSION**

15 **1. The Committee May Discuss Recreation-Related Topics Pertinent to Millcreek Canyon.**

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18
19 Ms. Kilpack explained that this item is included on all of the System Committee agendas to ensure
20 that Millcreek Canyon is discussed. The Millcreek Canyon Committee disbanded more recently.

21
22 Mr. Williams expressed support for the Short-Term Programs Grant Program funding dedicated to a
23 winter shuttle in Millcreek Canyon. He asked about the status of the construction work in Millcreek
24 Canyon. Chair Morrison shared information about the Federal Lands Access Program ("FLAP")
25 grant. Once the work is completed, conditions in the upper portion of the canyon will be improved.

26 **OTHER ITEMS**

27 **1. The Committee May Discuss Other Topics, if Desired.**

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29
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31 Chair Morrison noted that he previously suggested inviting guest speakers to Recreation System
32 Committee Meetings. He asked if a guest speaker should be scheduled to attend every other meeting.
33 Mr. Williams confirmed that there is support for a guest speaker at future meetings. Chair Morrison
34 wondered if it would be worthwhile to reach out to Salt Lake County to speak to the Project Manager.

35
36 It might be meaningful to have a Millcreek Canyon construction update at the next Recreation System
37 Committee Meeting. Chair Morrison explained that he would like to view it through a recreation
38 lens. Ms. Cameron requested more information about the Tri-Canyon Trails Plan and what is planned
39 for Donut Falls. Chair Morrison noted that Donut Falls is a busy area and it is often the first point of
40 introduction for visitors. He suggested that someone from the Salt Lake Ranger District attend a
41 future meeting and answer Committee Member questions about trails and recreation. Chair Morrison
42 offered to reach out to Adam Shaw and Zinnia Wilson with the U.S. Forest Service about this.

43
44 It was noted that the next Recreation System Committee Meeting is scheduled for September 10,
45 2026. Discussions were had about another date that might work for that meeting due to scheduling
46 conflicts. Chair Morrison suggested either September 3, 2026, or September 17, 2026. There was
47 discussion about the Utah Outdoor Recreation Summit, which will take place in Cedar City on

1 September 8 and 9, 2026. Chair Morrison also shared information about site visits that will take place
2 in the future. The Utah Association of Counties Conference is scheduled for September 10, 2026.

3
4 Ms. Cameron asked whether the Environment System Committee would be interested in an update
5 on the Tri-Canyon Trails Plan. There could be a combined meeting that includes both the Recreation
6 System Committee and Environment System Committee. Ms. Kilpack reported that members of the
7 Stakeholders Council could be invited to the next Recreation System Committee Meeting in
8 September. This would ensure that anyone interested in listening to that discussion is aware of the
9 schedule. Alternatively, it is possible for Recreation System Committee Members to attend the next
10 Environment System Committee Meeting, which is scheduled to take place on August 11, 2026.

11
12 Chair Morrison reiterated that he would reach out to Mr. Shaw and Ms. Wilson with the Forest
13 Service. The date of the next Recreation System Committee Meeting can be finalized soon.

14
15 Chair Morrison shared information about the Outdoor Recreation Initiative. He explained that people
16 want a better sense of connectivity on natural surface trails, paved trails, within communities, and to
17 other communities. He noted that Park City is well connected and well thought out. There appears
18 to be a desire for something like that in the Wasatch Front as well. Chair Morrison next provided
19 information about the Utah Trail Network. He explained that there is a detailed prioritization system.
20 The Colorado River Trail Gap project in Moab will complete a segment of paved trail in that area.

21
22 Chair Morrison noted that another theme that came out of the Wasatch Front feedback was the need
23 for maintenance. There is a lot of existing infrastructure, but there is a backlog of restoration work.
24 There appeared to be a desire to use funding to restore what already exists in the Wasatch Front.

25
26 When the agendas are built for the Recreation System Committee Meetings, CWC Staff reaches out
27 to the Chair and Co-Chair a few weeks before the meeting. There is communication via email about
28 possible agenda items. Chair Morrison would like to receive additional suggestions from other
29 members of the Committee. He wants to make sure all Committee Members can provide input about
30 the Recreation System Committee Meeting agendas. It was noted that John Knoblock had joined the
31 meeting. Chair Morrison provided a summary of the discussion. He reported that there will be
32 outreach to Salt Lake Ranger District staff ahead of the next meeting. In addition, there is a desire
33 for future Recreation System Committee Meeting agendas to be created by all members.

34
35 Mr. Knoblock reported that he wrote a letter to the Utah Department of Transportation (“UDOT”)
36 about Big Cottonwood Canyon Road. There are spots near the power plant, Storm Mountain, and the
37 S-Curves where there is essentially no shoulder, and people are forced into the lane of traffic on blind
38 corners. He shared some suggestions about what could be done in those areas. However, the response
39 was that there is nothing that can be done due to road widening rules and the potential impacts.

40
41 Mr. Knoblock asked if the Recreation System Committee would like there to be continued outreach
42 to UDOT and others about the issues that have been identified. Chair Morrison wondered whether it
43 would be worthwhile to reach out to Rocky Mountain Power about a possible easement. He
44 understands the challenges that were outlined by UDOT, but there might be another option to explore.

45
46 Chair Morrison noted that infrastructure is one solution, but behavior modification is another. The
47 issue is that there is not enough room on the road for both bicycles and vehicles to operate safely at
48 the same time. He wondered if there might be a creative system that would make it possible to better

1 control traffic in these areas. This would not necessarily require road widening. Mr. Knoblock
2 reiterated that the three spots identified are on blind corners, so there are serious visibility issues.

3
4 Ms. Cameron mentioned Dr. David Eckhoff, who did work with engineering students at the
5 University of Utah. UDOT was not considering widening the road to the south, but he felt it could
6 be done. Since this is something that he envisioned, it might be possible to look into that further.

7
8 Mr. Knoblock noted that there could be additional outreach to UDOT. There could also be some
9 outreach conducted with the Forest Service to find out what they think about the current situation.
10 Chair Morrison asked Committee Members to consider whether there are alternatives and if the same
11 outcome could be achieved through simpler means than road widening. He shared an example
12 scenario in his neighborhood and discussed social traffic calming. There could be different signage,
13 road striping, or a reduction of speed limits in certain areas. Approaching UDOT with some different
14 alternatives might be worthwhile. Discussions were had about road narrowing in different areas.
15 Mr. Knoblock explained that on Jupiter Drive in Olympus Cove, the road is wide and people were
16 driving too fast. The City Engineer painted a narrower traffic line, which made the road feel smaller.
17 As a result, there were reduced speeds on that road. That might be another option to consider in the
18 area.

19
20 Mr. Knoblock asked if there are any scheduled meetings with UDOT. Ms. Kilpack denied this,
21 because it is not the ski bus season. Mr. Knoblock offered to conduct additional outreach and mention
22 potential behavior modifications that could be achieved through signage or different road striping.
23 Chair Morrison commented that road expansion is not the only way to achieve a positive outcome.

24
25 Chair Morrison noted that there was not a quorum during the Recreation System Committee Meeting,
26 so it is not possible to vote on the previous Meeting Minutes. He hopes there will be a quorum at the
27 next meeting. Mr. Knoblock was informed that there is a desire to plan a site visit in September.

28 29 **CLOSING**

30 31 **1. Chair Morrison will Call for a Motion to Adjourn the Recreation System Committee** 32 **Meeting.**

33
34 **MOTION:** Craig Williams moved to ADJOURN the Recreation System Committee Meeting.
35 Barbara Cameron seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the
36 Committee.

37
38 The Recreation System Committee Meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

1 *I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Central*
2 *Wasatch Commission Stakeholders Council Recreation System Committee Meeting held Thursday,*
3 *July 9, 2026.*
4

5 Teri Forbes

6 Teri Forbes
7 T Forbes Group
8 Minutes Secretary
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10 Minutes Approved: _____