

Bart Reuling  
BCCC

There have been a number of surveys that have been collected in the last 20 yrs., many pertaining to what people would like to see happen in the Canyons. The number one answer has been to maintain excellent water quality for SLC.

I brought up in my first comments to the CWC board, that we have had several periods in the past when the toilets were not being maintained in a manner that would be inviting for some one to use. (When the government was shut down the restrooms were closed, when the toilet vaults were full in the fall leaf viewing time, the FS shut it down, when the vault toilets stink so bad no one wants go inside, and when they are don't have any toilet paper)

People tend to go outside and go behind a tree or bush. With 1.75 Million visitors that should start to be a little concerning in regard to water quality. We are calmed by the fact that SLPU sends out their "Water Quality Report" once a year updating us as to the water quality statistics for the previous year. Ecoli, arsenic, zinc aluminum etc. This report represents one moment in time when they do that sample, and every year we are informed that despite whatever everyone is doing outside the restrooms, the water purification plant is doing its job.

If we are really trying to get a better handle on whether our water quality is that great, why doesn't SLPU do a study and report on how water quality has changed from the mid 70's (before the sewer went in) through the 80's and 90's (after the sewer went in) and to current 2017 timeframe (as visitation has increased). That might give us a clearer picture of how water quality has evolved and maybe a clearer picture on development and visitation.

One last concern is current thinking about removing several sewer connected toilets and converting them to vault toilets. State law and SL County Health Ordinances require that if you are within 300 ft. of the sewer you would have to connect to it. Big Cottonwood Cyn. Sewer Dist. & the BCCC are adamantly opposed to the changing of the law and the ordinance as they were established. This has always been about water quality for Salt Lake City. We think it would be completely disingenuous of SLPU and USFS to change current law just to maintain their budgetary and personnel requirements. We would hope that SLPU in conjunction with the CWC would come up with the funds for the most up to date, low flow toilets, heated facilities, with potable watering in at least 3 additional high use areas in Big Cottonwood Cyn. that are expected to be main transportation nodes in the future, to be an example of how important water quality is to Salt Lake City. The need for better public service notifications and signage would be another example to help educate visitors as to water quality issues.

If the FS and SLPU cannot maintain the toilet facilities in the canyons. The responsibility should pass onto UDOT, who now has the ability to charge for road usage, and have the capability with their funding source to hopefully manage the toilets a better fashion. Part of SLPU mandate is to "protect the environment and deliver high quality drinking water". The emphasis seems to be on delivering of the drinking water. I hope with some of these changes we might start to move in the direction of a transportation solution and provide the infrastructure that will maintain and protect the water quality that we all are interested in having.

Thank you.