



CENTRAL WASATCH COMMISSION

Date: February 27th, 2019

To: Central Wasatch Commission (CWC) Board
Councilman Chris McCandless, Chair (Sandy City)
Mayor Jackie Biskupski, Vice Chair (Salt Lake City)
Councilman Jim Bradley (Salt Lake County)
Councilman Christopher F. Robinson (Summit County)
Mayor Mike Peterson (Cottonwood Heights)
Mayor Jenny Wilson (Salt Lake County)
Mayor Andy Beerman (Park City)
Mayor Jeff Silvestrini (Millcreek City)
Mayor Harris Sondak (Town of Alta)
Director Carlos Braceras (Utah Department of Transportation)

From: Ralph Becker, Executive Director
Jesse Dean, Deputy Director
Lindsey Nielsen, Communications Director

Subject: February Staff Report to the Central Wasatch Commission

Overview

In February, the Central Wasatch Commission staff made significant strides working with UDOT on transportation issues, convened the first meeting of its Budget Committee, and made additional progress with the Environmental Dashboard. The CWC hosted the February meeting of the Stakeholders Council, and met with consultants to update the CWNCRA Storymap to reflect the current CWNCRA draft.

Staff met with Utah State and Federal delegations to discuss the CWNCRA. State Senator Cullimore introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution 10: Urging Solutions for the Central Wasatch Mountains, which supports the work of the CWC. The CWC staff had continued interaction with Central Wasatch Mountain interests, community groups, and individuals.

Stakeholders Council Meeting

The Stakeholders Council convened its second meeting on February 20th at Millcreek City Hall, which will serve as its standing meeting location. CWC Chair and staff welcomed the stakeholders and briefed them on policies and procedures for the Stakeholders Council and the Stakeholders Council considered an alternate representation policy.

UDOT Project Manager John Thomas presented several early transportation action items underway in Little Cottonwood Canyon. Thomas also gave a presentation on Decision Lens, an online

decision-making tool that members of the Stakeholders Council will utilize to streamline their decision making processes.

Transportation Work

The Little Cottonwood Canyon Environmental Impact Statement and Canyons Corridor Transportation Action Plan work continued. Pilot “High-T” intersections were installed at Alta Wildcat Base parking area, and Snowbird Entry 4, and speed sensors were installed throughout Little Cottonwood Canyon. UDOT launched a feedback survey to collect data on intersection user-experience. The data from the survey will inform the permanent installation of the High-T intersections. Other short-term improvements were implemented, and UDOT and CWC staff continued to meet with impacted stakeholders in Little and Big Cottonwood Canyon to address transportation concerns.

UDOT and the CWC will host an informational open house on the Little Cottonwood Canyon Environmental Impact Statement and the Cottonwood Canyons Transportation Action Plan in April.

Environmental Dashboard

A meeting with the ESRI team and the consultants from The Brendle Group took place on February 5th, where next steps for the project were defined.

CWNCRA Storymap

CWC staff met with representatives from Wild Utah Project to discuss updates to the CWNCRA Storymap, which is a GIS-mapped representation of the proposed Central Wasatch National Conservation Recreation Area Act. The CWNCRA Storymap is currently live on the CWC website, but reflects earlier versions of the CWNCRA. Updates to the Storymap are scheduled to be completed mid-March.

2019 Utah Legislative Session

Senator Kirk A. Cullimore, District 9, introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution 10 (S.C.R. 10) to the Senate Government Operations and Political Subdivisions Committee on February 27th. CWC staff and Board members, Councilor Christopher F. Robinson (Summit County), and Mayor Mike Peterson (Cottonwood Heights) represented the CWC during the committee hearing. S.C.R. 10 passed with unanimous support from the Government Operations and Political Subdivisions committee. Senator Cullimore will now introduce S.C.R. 10 to the Senate floor for consideration.

If passed, S.C.R. 10 would affirm the consensus-based work of the Central Wasatch Commission and allow the CWC to continue working at the local level with all stakeholders to further solutions for the longstanding transportation and land use issues in the Cottonwood Canyons.

S.C.R. 10 does the following:

- Recognizes the tremendous value of the Central Wasatch Mountains
- Acknowledges the work of the Central Wasatch Commission to develop solutions that address significant transportation and land management issues
- Urges the President of the United States, Congress, and Utah’s congressional delegation to propose and secure passage of legislation that implements the Central Wasatch Commission’s recommendations
- Reflects the desires of local and state governments to work with all parties to further solutions to longstanding issues and desires of the parties of the Mountain Accord

Administration

The staff and CWC Chair have continued to work towards moving into new space. Construction on the office space at The Gateway has yet to begin as negotiations with the building owner are ongoing.

Additional GRAMA requests and appeals have been responded to, public comments have been recorded and responses prepared, and administrative costs have been carefully monitored.

CWC staff will deliver this report to the full Commission during the March public meeting, happening **Monday, March 4th, at Cottonwood Heights City Hall.** We hope to see you there.