**MEMO**:

To; Central Wasatch Commission Board of Commissioners

Reference: Materials for Visitor Use Study Discussion

June 7 , 2021 CWC Board Meeting

Dr. Jordan Smith of USU will be available during discussion

**April 5, 2021** CWC Board Approves Resolution 2021-05 ILA Agreement with

Utah State University for Visitor Use Study

*“Agreement is written to state: Phase 2 work will be determined only after the Phase I work has been completed and University has submitted a revised proposal for Phase 2 which details the tasks and associated costs needed to complete Phase 2. Following the review of the selection committee (Visitor Use Study Work Group) and board (CWC) this agreement will be amended to formally adopt the Proposal”.* (Recall the work group is: Mayor Jeff Silvestrini/Mayor Harris Sondak/Jan Striefel/Will McCarvill/Annalee Munsey/Patrick Nelson/Helen Peters/Carl Fisher).

There have been numerous comments by a variety of commissioners, stakeholders and others regarding the need for this visitor use study, and a desire to expedite it’s completion. In response, the agreement with USU was written with language allowing for the development of a Phase 2 proposal to build upon the work of Phase I - the USU team has been able to develop a Phase 2 response while immersed in Phase I - hoping to help with the desire for an expedited visitor use study. This expedited proposal completes a visitor use study by November 1, 2021.

Phase I report is in process and will be presented to the board at the July 12, 2021 CWC Board Meeting.

Phase I webinar, regarding Phase I, will be presented as a webinar the week of June 21st or June 28th - exact date in time in process.

**May 20, 2021** Visitor Use Study Work Group meets to review the Proposal for Phase 2(expedited) as received from Utah State University. Each member of the work group is asked to respond to the following five questions:

1. Does this proposal answer the questions you currently have about the visitor capacity of BCC and LCC?

2. Does it answer questions you are aware of that exist in the constituency or organization you are connected with?

3. Does it answer the questions raised by the commission or commissioners you have heard in their public discussion settings?

4. What would you add or delete?

5. Is it your recommendation, as a member of the work group, to support this proposal? Yes? No?

The Work Group responds by identifying additional information needed as well as clarification to specific items.

Pate -2-

**May 24, 2021** Visitor Use Study Work Group meets with Dr. Jordan Smith regarding the proposed expedited study: intention to answer questions and gain clarification prior to next step - conversation to occur at the CWC Budget/Finance/Audit Committee meeting on May 26, 2021.

Conclusion of this meeting ended with a request for USU to put together a second proposal that would have a longer time frame, some specific additional indicators and would cover Big Cottonwood Canyon, Little Cottonwood Canyon and Millcreek Canyon.

USU was able to provide a preliminary timeframe and budget for a longer visitor use study which was subsequently discussed at the May 26, 2021 CWC Budget/Finance/Audit Committee meeting.

**May 26, 2021** Visitor Use Study conversation is reflected in the Budget/Finance/Audit Committee DRAFT Minutes included in the board packet.

Recommendation coming forward: there be a discussion and a request for direction from the CWC commissioners regarding the following:

1. Expedite the completion of the full Phase 1 and Phase 2 Visitor Use Study with a completion date of November 30, 2021. ($254,603.87)

2. Elongate the timeframe and include BCC/LCC/MC in the full Phase 1 and Phase 2 Visitor Use Study with a completion date of August 31, 2022. ($288,212.64)

Funding strategies have been discussed, however, no action has been taken on any strategy dependent upon the commissioners direction of “expedite/elongate”.

**June 7, 2021** Visitor Use Study discussion at CWC Board. Dr. Jordan Smith will be available for questions; a synthesis document comparing the two proposals is included in your board packet.