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MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WASATCH COMMISSION STAKEHOLDERS COUNCIL MILLCREEK CANYON COMMITTEE. MEETING HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022, AT THE MEETING WAS CONDUCTED ELECTRONICALLY WITHOUT 3:00 P.M. PHYSICAL LOCATION, AS AUTHORIZED BY UTAH CODE ANN. 52-4-207(4).

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17 **Committee Members:** Chair Tom Diegel Paul Diegel 18 19 Del Draper 20 Brian Hutchinson 21 Ed Marshall Maura Hahnenberger 22 23 Will McCarvill 24 Barbara Cameron 25 John Knoblock 26 27 Others: Russell Vetter Melanie Topham Zinnia Wilson

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35 Staff: Ralph Becker, CWC Executive Director 36 Blake Perez, CWC Deputy Director

37 Lindsey Nielsen, CWC Communications Director 38

Kaye Mickelson, Office Administrator

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#### **Opening**

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1. Chair Tom Diegel will Open the Public Meeting as Chair of the Millcreek Committee of the Central Wasatch Commission Stakeholders Council and Read the Determination of the Chair.

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Chair Tom Diegel called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The Legislature, pursuant to Section 52-4-207(4), required the Committee to make a determination, which was as follows:

'I, as the Chair of the Millcreek Canyon Committee of the Stakeholders Council of the Central Wasatch Commission ("CWC"), hereby determine that conducting Board or Committee meetings at any time during the next 30 days at an anchor location presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who may be present at the anchor location. The COVID-19 pandemic remains and the recent rise of more infectious variants of the virus merits continued vigilance to avoid another surge in cases, which could again threaten to overwhelm Utah's healthcare system.'

#### 2. Review and Approval of the Minutes from the February 22, 2022, Meeting.

**MOTION:** John Knoblock moved to APPROVE the February 22, 2022, Millcreek Canyon Committee Meeting Minutes. Ed Marshall seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Committee.

#### **FLAP Grant Update**

# 1. <u>Helen Peters and Rita Lund will Provide a Project Update and Summary of the November 2021 Comment Period.</u>

Chair Diegel reported that Salt Lake County and Millcreek City both had meetings that afternoon. As a result, neither Helen Peters nor Rita Lund were able to attend this meeting. Chair Diegel, however, was able to speak spoken to both of them earlier in the day and was able to share updates with the Committee. On May 19, 2022, there will be an Open House at Millcreek City Hall. He noted that Salt Lake County, Millcreek City, and the U.S. Forest Service did not have a lot of details about the Federal Lands Access Program ("FLAP") grant project, since the work was currently being done by a consulting company.

A public comment period related to the grant took place in November and December 2021. Those results were still being consolidated. Chair Diegel explained that between 300 and 400 comments were received during that time. Due to the number of comments received, there would be a National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") process. He noted that when the Millcreek Canyon Committee initially discussed the project, it was reported that there would likely be a categorical exclusion. That would not be the case and there would be a NEPA process with an environmental assessment. This would impact the timeline and mandate future public comment periods.

At the Open House, a 30% design would be presented. Chair Diegel explained that there would be a 30%, 60%, and 90% design, and the public would be able to evaluate and comment on the design at each of those landmarks. Mses. Peters and Lund indicated that in one or two weeks, all of the public comments would be made public. The Committee would be able to see the comments and have a better idea of the public perception at that time. As a Committee, it was important to spread the word about the open house and share comments related to the 30% design. He was not certain whether the

Open House would be held virtually as well, but it was possible that there may be a live stream. The Open House would run from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

There was discussion regarding the comments received. John Knoblock noted that the comments would be grouped together. For instance, identical form comments would be combined. Chair Diegel explained that the comments would likely be categorized into different areas of concern as well, such as bicycle lanes and lane width. He was encouraged that the comments would be made public prior to the open house. This would allow the Millcreek Canyon Committee to have a better sense of what members of the public had said beforehand.

Brian Hutchinson found it interesting that Salt Lake County, which has money invested in the project, did not know what was going on. He asked how the Purpose and Need Statement would be constructed and the timing involved in that. Chair Diegel noted that there had not been an update on that. The 30% design presentation would likely include that type of information. It was important to determine whether the purpose and need were the same after all of the public comments are received. Mr. Hutchinson agreed that it was important for that to be clarified.

Mr. Knoblock pointed out that the update on the County website stated that the Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA"), Utah Department of Transportation ("UDOT"), and the Utah Association of Counties ("UAC") were the decision-makers. It seemed odd that the Forest Service, Salt Lake County, and Millcreek did not make the decisions. Ed Marshall believed those were the organizations that approved the FLAP grant in the first place. It might have been an old notice on the website. Mr. Knoblock reported that it was posted on April 8, 2021. He hoped that meant the decision-making process had shifted since then.

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#### **Trails Update**

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### Millcreek Canyon Trails Update.

Mr. Knoblock shared updates related to trail projects. He reported that the Rattlesnake/Bonneville Shoreline Trail segment was open. It seemed to be fairly busy so far. Some maintenance was needed where there was some minor rockfall. That work would be organized through the Forest Service but volunteers may also be needed. The trail section from Alexander Basin to Big Water trailhead was open to the public as well. However, the section below the Alexander Basin trail to Elbow Fork was still awaiting the bridge. He hoped that would be installed over the summer. Mr. Knoblock reported that in August 2022, the connection from the end of the Pipeline Trail down to Parleys Canyon would be done. He asked Zinnia Wilson with the Forest Service to share updates.

John Knoblock will Provide an Overview of Trails Project Updates.

#### 2. What Forest Service-Driven Trail Work is Planned for Millcreek Canyon this Summer?

Ms. Wilson introduced herself and explained that she is currently acting as the Recreation Staff Officer. She typically runs the Trails and Wilderness program. Ms. Wilson thanked Mr. Knoblock and Trails Utah for working with the Forest Service on the Rattlesnake/Bonneville Shoreline Trail segment. As for the bridge, there was going to be a 35-foot bridge to replace the bridge that was

previously destroyed. It would be done in a partnership with the Forest Service and the County. The County would use its small contractor bidding process. She did not believe the bridge would be installed until the end of the summer due to supplies. Ms. Wilson hoped a temporary fix could be implemented until that time so the trail could be opened beforehand.

Del Draper asked about Rattlesnake Trail. When he visited, there were 28 vehicles parked along the highway because the parking lot was full. He felt the lot was an improvement, but on busy days, there were still a lot of excess vehicles. Mr. Knoblock reported that at 6:30 p.m. the night before, the parking lot was full. Ms. Wilson confirmed that she had observed the visitation levels.

#### 3. Forest Service Clarified Dog Leash and E-bike Policies.

Ms. Wilson informed the Committee that the odd/even day leash laws, which were in effect, had not been a Forest Service enforceable regulation until recently. There was now a Forest Service regulation that mirrored the County rules. As a result, the odd/even day leash laws could be appropriately enforced in Millcreek Canyon. She asked that the Committee spread the word. The intention was to start to enforce it using Forest Service personnel. Chair Diegel reported that Ms. Wilson shared the proclamation sign from Forest Supervisor, Dave Wittekiend, as well as a map illustrating where the odd/even day leash laws applied. He felt the messaging was very clear. Chair Diegel was glad there was now consistency as this would reduce confusion.

Mr. Knoblock reported that in the latest rewrite of the Animal Control Ordinance, the County decided to eliminate the verbiage about Millcreek. It was now only in the Forest Service Ordinance. He asked about Enforcement Education Rangers. Ms. Wilson confirmed that there were Enforcement Education Rangers and another would be brought on in the summer.

Mr. Hutchinson wondered if the Forest Service had a policy to address the protection of wildlife. Animals in the wild were often threatened and challenged by dogs that were running off-leash. Ms. Wilson explained that there were regulations related to wildlife. If a Forest Service Protection Officer observed that a dog was harassing wildlife, that could result in a citation for the owner. This could be done on both odd and even days.

Ms. Wilson shared updates related to e-bikes. She explained that the Forest Service issued an e-bike directive. Currently, on Forest Service land, an e-bike could only be used on a trail or route that was open to motorized forms of transportation, such as ATVs and motorbikes. Those areas would be identified on the motor vehicle use map. She explained that those were areas where e-bikes could be used but the directive gave units, like the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, the ability to identify trails that would be suitable for Class 1, 2, or 3 e-bikes. To designate them, a NEPA process was needed. It was not likely to happen immediately, but could in the future.

Chair Diegel wondered if the Forest Service had the resources to address e-bikes over the next several years. Ms. Wilson believed there would be resources to identify the trails and move through the NEPA process. Paul Diegel asked if the decisions would be made by the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache or the Forest Service. Ms. Wilson clarified that identifying suitable trails would be done at the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache level. The directive about e-bikes was across the entire Forest Service system. There would be a certain level of analysis across the forest.

 Maura Hahnenberger asked a question related to the odd/even day leash laws. She asked if there would be improved signage for users. She noted that many visitors did not know about the rule. Ms. Wilson believed there was an intention to improve signage in the canyon. It was possible that there would be discussions with the Millcreek Canyon Committee related to sign placement. Chair Diegel noted that the Forest Service had been putting out sandwich board signs. He felt that was a good way to lay the groundwork for future signage but believed more formal signs would be better.

Mr. Knoblock discussed the Wasatch Crest Trail, coming to the top of Millcreek Canyon. Trails Utah asked the CWC for \$14,000 to match Forest Service money so a contractor could do maintenance work in the area. However, it was not chosen by the Short-Term Projects Committee. It may be necessary to regroup and determine a plan forward for that work.

#### **Camp Tracy Update**

## 1. <u>Del Draper will Provide an Update on the Camp Tracy and Boy Scouts of America</u> Status.

Mr. Draper shared updates related to Camp Tracy and the Boy Scouts of America. He reported that he went down to the Salt Lake County Recorder's Office to follow up on information shared by Patrick Shea. Mr. Shea stated that the property originally came from the Steiner family and there may have been some sort of non-development rights in the original deed. Mr. Draper had done a title search but was unable to find a deed from the Steiner family or any other deed that reserved those types of rights. The Salt Lake County Recorder's Office suggested hiring a title company to perform the search, because they may be able to uncover information from further back. This was something that the Millcreek Canyon Committee could consider.

Mr. Draper came across some interesting deeds from approximately five years ago from the Trust for Public Lands. He felt it was important for the Committee to continue efforts and to look into potential conservation easements or reservation of rights. Mr. Draper offered to contact the Boy Scouts of America again and remind them that if there was a desire to sell the land at any point, they would like the opportunity to raise money to buy a conservation easement. Chair Diegel asked about the status of the Boy Scouts of America at a national and local level. Mr. Draper had heard about lawsuits but the Boy Scouts of America in Ogden was not concerned.

Mr. Knoblock noted that adjacent to the fee station there is a triangular parcel that was owned by Canyon Property Holdings. It was purchased from the Boy Scouts of America one decade ago. The owner believed that the land was developable and wanted to build three large homes there. Chair Diegel asked what the plant was on the south side before the gate. Mr. Knoblock believed that was a Salt Lake City Public Utilities owned parcel and water tank. Mr. Draper asked Mr. Knoblock for his assistance looking into the deeds and chain of title for Camp Tracy. Chair Diegel wondered if the CWC would be willing to fund a deed search. CWC Communications Director, Lindsey Nielsen noted that funds were not allocated in the budget for that, but there was always the possibility that funds could become available. Mr. Knoblock felt it would be worthwhile to speak to CWC Chair, Christopher Robinson about the land.

#### Other Business and Updates Relating to Millcreek Canyon.

 Chair Diegel reported that he asked the Stakeholders Council to clarify the leadership and membership of each of the subcommittees. He felt it was important to better understand the role of the Committee Members versus the community members who regularly participated in the Millcreek Canyon Committee Meetings. There was a Stakeholders Council Meeting scheduled for April 20, 2022, and he hoped additional clarity would be provided at that time.

Chair Diegel believed those who were not formally on the Committee were equally important to those who were formally on the Committee. He wanted to make sure that everyone felt welcome and communication is open. There had been discussions with Ms. Nielsen about additional email communication. He wanted information to be accessible to those outside of the formal members of the Committee. However, it was important that members of the CWC Staff were included in those emails and that the conversations remained public. Chair Diegel asked that anyone not formally on the Committee that was interested in further participation to email him.

Mr. Marshall pointed out that at the last Millcreek Canyon Committee Meeting, there was a conversation about who was actually a member of the Committee. That clarity was needed in order to know when there was a quorum. Stakeholders Council Members were welcome to be formal members, but there should not be a situation where those who had never participated were able to vote. He felt it was important to know who was officially on the Committee in order to regulate and manage voting. Chair Diegel hoped there would be clarity provided on that during the next Stakeholders Council Meeting.

Chair of the Stakeholders Council, Will McCarvill explained what would happen at the next Stakeholders Council Meeting. All subcommittee Chairs and Committee Members, as well as non-voting members, had been submitted to the Co-Chair of the Stakeholders Council, Barbara Cameron. During the meeting, the subcommittee Chairs and Committee Members would be approved by the Council. This process would take place each January moving forward. Voting members needed to be part of the Stakeholders Council according to the current rules. Additionally, those voting members needed to be approved by the Stakeholders Council. Members of the Committee would be fixed. Members of the public could attend, but could not vote.

Mr. Hutchinson believed it sounded cumbersome to join a subcommittee. He wondered if that was the intention. Mr. McCarvill explained that Committee Members needed to be approved by the Council. That was clearly stated in the Rules and Procedures. He did not believe it would be cumbersome, because someone interested could participate in a meeting without being a voting member. Once that person was approved, it would be possible for that person to vote. This would be done to manage the attendance of the Committee.

 Chair Diegel asked about applications to join the Stakeholders Council. Mr. McCarvill reported that there were four openings due to resignations. Recently, Stakeholders Council leadership and CWC Staff interviewed 16 applicants. The decisions were based on several factors, such as interest, participation in the Wasatch, and diversity. Four nominees would be proposed to the CWC Board and there would be 35 Stakeholders Council Members in total. He explained that the new members would fill the existing terms of those who had resigned.

1 Ms. Cameron reported that the voting members of the Millcreek Canyon Committee currently included the following:

- Chair, Tom Diegel;
- Vice-Chair, Del Draper;
  - Ed Marshall;
- Paul Diegel;
- Roger Borgenicht;
- Mike Christensen;
- Brian Hutchinson; and
  - John Knoblock.

Ms. Cameron made note of the non-voting members. She felt it was important to acknowledge their time. The names of the non-voting members were as follows:

- Polly Hart (private citizen);
- Hilary Jacobs (private citizen);
- Rita Lund (City of Millcreek);
- Helen Peters (Salt Lake County Regional Development); and
- Bekee Hotze (U.S. Forest Service District Ranger).

She asked if any names were missing or needed to be removed. It was noted that Christian Johnson, Melanie Topham, and Patrick Nelson had asked to be non-voting members. Mr. Marshall felt it was important that any voting members of the Stakeholders Council were active participants. Mr. Hutchinson stated that there were several Stakeholders Council Members who had expressed interest in joining the Committee. He believed Maura Hahnenberger, Alex Porpora, Michael Marker, and Dennis Goreham were interested. Ms. Cameron asked Chair Diegel to reach out to those Stakeholders Council Members for confirmation. Mr. McCarvill and Ms. Cameron praised the Millcreek Canyon Committee for their orderly meeting. It was noted that the Millcreek Canyon Committee was the largest of the Stakeholders Council subcommittees. Chair Diegel expressed his appreciation for both the voting and non-voting members of the Committee.

#### Adjourn.

1. <u>Chair Tom Diegel will Close the Public Meeting as Chair of the Millcreek Committee of</u> the Central Wasatch Commission Stakeholders Council.

**MOTION:** Ed Marshall moved to ADJOURN the Millcreek Canyon Committee Meeting. John Knoblock seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Committee.

42 The Millcreek Canyon Committee Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:20 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Stakeholders
Council Millcreek Canyon Committee Meeting held Tuesday, April 19, 2022.

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### 4 <u>Teri Forbes</u>

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9 Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_