

1 **MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WASATCH COMMISSION SHORT-TERM PROJECTS**
2 **COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020 AT 2:00 P.M. THE**
3 **MEETING WAS CONDUCTED ELECTRONICALLY VIA UBERCONFERENCE**
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5 **Present:** Committee Members:

6
7 Chair Jim Bradley, Salt Lake County
8 Erin Mendenhall, Salt Lake City Mayor
9 Marci Houseman, Sandy City Council

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11 Others:

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13 Patrick Nelson, Salt Lake City
14 Ralph Becker, Central Wasatch Commission Executive Director
15 Lindsey Nielsen, Central Wasatch Commission Communications Director
16 Laura Briefer, Salt Lake City Public Utilities
17 Blake Perez, Central Wasatch Commission Deputy Director
18 Marshall, [REDACTED]

19
20 **1. Commissioner Jim Bradley Conducted the Meeting as Chair of the Short-Term Projects**
21 **Committee.**

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23 Chair Jim Bradley called the meeting to order at approximately 2:00 p.m. He reported that the intent
24 of the meeting was to look at the final applications that were determined to meet the criteria and
25 positive judgment of the Review Committee.

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27 **2. The Committee will Deliberate Over Project Proposals with the Goal of Arriving at a**
28 **Consensus and Recommendation for the Commission to be Made During the May 4,**
29 **2020, Meeting.**

30
31 Chair Bradley reported that over 30 projects were initially submitted with that number being reduced
32 to seven. Over the past few days, two additional projects were added for consideration. The current
33 CWC budget includes \$60,000 to fund projects and an additional \$20,000 in next year's budget for a
34 total of \$80,000. Once each of the projects is presented, the committee should determine how to
35 represent their recommendations to the Board at the May meeting. The various options were
36 discussed including completing the greatest number of projects with the funds available or ranking
37 the projects in order of importance. Mayor Mendenhall preferred to focus on the value and impact of
38 the project rather than the financial aspects.

39
40 The following projects were identified:

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42 **Graffiti Removal Project**

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44 \$2,600 was requested with the focus being in Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons. Help was sought
45 in terms of purchasing the solvent needed to perform the work. Labor would be provided on a
46 volunteer basis. The advantage was that the cost is low and the visual impact is significant. The cost
47 was estimated to allow for the removal of 300 tags.
48

1 **Desolation Trail Reroute**

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3 The total project cost was estimated at \$80,000 with \$25,000 requested from the County. The project
4 has a lot of merit in terms of the heavy use in the area and the need for rerouting of the trail. CWC
5 Executive Director, Ralph Becker reported a conflict of interest as a cabin owner in the area. It was
6 clarified that the work to be performed would involve the Dog Lake portion of the trail. It was noted
7 that this is a significant project and there are no good funding alternatives. Trails Utah agreed to
8 partner with the CWC on implementation. It was clarified that \$20,000 of the cost was requested
9 from the CWC.

10
11 Marci Houseman joined the meeting.

12
13 **Cottonwood Heights Bonneville Shoreline Trail (“BST”)**

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15 Chair Bradley reported that the above project is a Utah Open Lands initiative to purchase property
16 between Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons to the east side of the road. The property is owned by
17 developers who are willing to sell it for \$3 million. The amount requested from the CWC was
18 \$20,000. Chair Bradley indicated that the property will be developed if it is not purchased. The City
19 of Cottonwood Heights has set aside \$1 million for the purchase in addition to other sources of
20 funding. The County committed \$500,000 from the last budget cycle as well but it came out of the
21 TRAC fund, which is funded by tourism and has been paused.

22
23 Laura Briefer from Salt Lake City Public Utilities noted that the purchase was part of the Little
24 Cottonwood Watershed and is located above the Metro Treatment Plant. Salt Lake City Public
25 Utilities will consider it a potential partnership opportunity for acquisition. She explained that Salt
26 Lake City Public Utilities has funding for watershed lands and this project could potentially be
27 eligible. Chair Bradley considered the purchase to be needed but very costly.

28
29 Ms. Nielsen remarked that if they fully fund the graffiti project at \$2,600, the Desolation Trail Bridge
30 at \$20,000, and fully fund the BST land acquisition, the total would be \$42,600.

31
32 **Salt Lake Climbers Alliance Gate Buttress Infrastructure Renovation**

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34 Chair Bradley reported that \$20,000 was requested. An agreement was reached with the Church of
35 Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who has stewardship status for the 140 acres. \$50,000 was received
36 from the Recreational Trails Program Grant with the total project cost being \$71,000.

37
38 **Lone Peak Wilderness Wag Bag Refill**

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40 The \$1,000 request was from Save Our Canyons for the purchase of plastic bags for human waste
41 disposal. The means of distribution would be through a kiosk at the trailhead. The request is for
42 maintenance involving the purchase of the bags and placement in the kiosk. The intent was for the
43 bags to be packed in and packed out by hikers.

1 **Desolation Trail Major Maintenance**

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3 The trail that is part of the request is higher up and less used than the one described previously. The
4 project would involve paying for a Utah Conservation Corps Trail Crew to maintain the trail where
5 needed. The request was for \$16,000.

6
7 **Utah Geological Association**

8
9 The request was for \$5,800 to provide signage pertaining to geology. Chair Bradley commented that
10 nothing will change in the next year so the project was not high on his list of priorities.

11
12 **Trailhead Restroom**

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14 Ms. Nielsen introduced two project proposals created by staff earlier in the day as a result of
15 discussions with the U.S. Forest Service, Salt Lake City Public Utilities, the Unified Fire Authority,
16 and the Department of Natural Resources. One was a potential CWC sponsored trailhead bathroom.
17 Due to funding limitations, various entities stepped in to subsidize the ongoing maintenance of
18 bathroom facilities at trailheads in the Cottonwood Canyons. Snowbird specifically is sponsoring the
19 restroom at the White Pine Trailhead. Three sites were identified where the CWC could potentially
20 sponsor maintenance costs. The cost was estimated at \$872 per month for each of the two-seat toilets.
21 The requested amount does not cover the cost of toilet paper. Ms. Nielsen explained that the opening
22 and closing dates of bathrooms at trailheads are largely dependent on weather but they are typically
23 open from June 1 to October 31. The estimated maintenance costs were \$4,300 for one bathroom. If
24 the desire was to sponsor two bathrooms, the cost would be \$8,720 or \$13,080 for all three. It was
25 noted that the U.S. Forest Service, Salt Lake City Public Utilities, and Snowbird would be providing
26 toilet paper.

27
28 It was reported that maintenance would involve cleaning on an established frequency. Many of the
29 restrooms have not yet been opened. The comment was made that this is a tangible opportunity for a
30 project that is highly visible.

31
32 The risk of sanitation issues that impact water quality was mentioned. Ms. Briefer stated that for that
33 reason Salt Lake Public Utilities has filled the gap to keep the restrooms open and maintained when
34 the U.S. Forest Service has had shortfalls. It was noted that as part of the COVID-19 mitigation, the
35 frequency of cleanings will increase at open sites.

36
37 Patrick Nelson from Salt Lake City stressed the importance of increasing the frequency of restroom
38 cleaning. He noted that the three trailheads are heavily used.

39
40 **Chipper Days Program**

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42 Ms. Nielsen reported that the above project was proposed by staff after discussions with other
43 agencies. Chipper Days occur throughout the CWC project area and it is required that there be public
44 outreach. The CWC has the opportunity to co-host Chipper Days for a fraction of the total cost in
45 exchange for providing outreach and communication. There is also an opportunity to enter into a
46 multi-year agreement with the Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands over two years and
47 participate in Chipper Days in a more concrete way.

1 The estimated cost was \$1,500 per year and could be written into a Revenue Agreement. The CWC
2 would not be responsible for equipment rental or staffing costs. One advantage to this project was
3 that it allows for a direct interface with adjacent property owners. The recommendation was that
4 \$2,000 be contributed from Special Projects. There was the potential to enter into a multi-year
5 agreement with the various partners. Clarification was needed in terms of whether the desire was to
6 fund \$2,000 only this year or per year going forward and enter into a multi-year Revenue Agreement.

7
8 The Committee considered each of the projects to be of value. It was suggested that the projects be
9 categorized in tiers of priority. The merits of each of the projects were discussed. A table was
10 prepared and ways of scoring and prioritizing the projects were discussed as well as the importance
11 of education and outreach. The qualities and benefits of each project were identified. To maximize
12 the impact of the CWC, it was recommended that all of the projects be approved if funding becomes
13 available.

14
15 **3. Adjournment.**

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17 The Central Wasatch Commission Short-Term Projects Committee Meeting adjourned at
18 approximately 4:00 p.m.

1 *I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Central*
2 *Wasatch Commission Short-Term Projects Committee Meeting held Wednesday, April 29, 2020.*

3

4 Teri Forbes

5 Teri Forbes

6 T Forbes Group

7 Minutes Secretary

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9 Minutes Approved: _____