

# CENTRAL WASATCH COMMISSION

## RESOLUTION No. 2021-16

### A RESOLUTION CONCERNING A VISITOR USE STUDY

**WHEREAS**, the Central Wasatch Commission (the “CWC”) is an interlocal entity formed in 2017 whose principal purpose is to better assure the wise stewardship of the Wasatch mountain range (the “*Central Wasatch*”) in Salt Lake, Summit and Wasatch counties—including its watershed, recreational areas and natural beauty—so that future generations can continue to benefit from that wonderful and integral part of Utah’s natural environment; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the CWC’s key objectives is to advance and implement the concepts promulgated by the Mountain Accord, which is the 13 July 2015 joint written statement that was the culmination of a years-long, consensus-based planning dialogue among a host of public and private entities and individuals interested in the future of the Central Wasatch; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mountain Accord encourages collaborative support of a natural ecosystem that is conserved, protected and restored so that it is healthy, functional, and resilient for current and future generations, while also serving a diversity of commercial and dispersed recreation uses that are compatible with the unique environmental characteristics of the Central Wasatch; and

**WHEREAS**, recognizing that the number of visitors to, and their activities in, the Central Wasatch impact implementation of the concepts promulgated by the Mountain Accord, pursuant to its Resolution 2021-05 the CWC’s governing body (the “*Board*”) authorized the CWC’s entry into an interlocal agreement (the “*Phase 1 ILA*”) with Utah State University (“*USU*”) whereunder the CWC engaged USU to conduct a visitor use study for Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons (the “*Use Study*”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Use Study is divided into two phases, with Phase 1 being conducted as detailed in the Phase 1 ILA and Phase 2 (“*Phase 2*”) to be conducted as detailed in a future interlocal agreement (the “*Phase 2 ILA*”) between the CWC and USU; and

**WHEREAS**, it was anticipated that Phase 2 would include an ecological and physical study component (collectively, the “*Ecological Component*”) and a social aspects component focused on Little Cottonwood, Big Cottonwood and Millcreek canyons (the “*Social Component*”); and

**WHEREAS**, the CWC now has learned that between October 2021 and September 2022 the U.S. Forest Service (the “*Forest Service*”) plans to conduct a “Visitor Monitoring Analysis Study” (the “*FSVMAS*”) which either will include, or could be modified to include, many aspects of the Social Component heretofore planned to be conducted by USU as part of Phase 2; and

**WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that collaboration between the CWC and the Forest Service to include the Social Component as part of the FSVMAS, to the extent reasonably possible, could reduce the CWC’s cost of completing the Social Component through USU’s Phase 2 work; and

**WHEREAS**, the CWC’s Budget and Finance Committee has recommended that the CWC should (a) proceed with the Ecological Component as part of USU’s Phase 2 work during the CWC’s current fiscal year, (b) agree to collaborate with the Forest Service to include the Social Component as part of the FSVMAS to the extent reasonably possible, (c) contract with USU to complete the Social Component during the CWC’s 2022-2023 fiscal year as part of Phase 2, utilizing such funds as are budgeted for that purpose by the CWC, supplemented as possible by monies donated to the CWC either by private organizations, member jurisdictions, or the State of Utah, and (d) amend the CWC’s current budget as appropriate to move \$50,000 from the CWC’s financial reserve to the current year budget’s approved expenditures to augment funding for the Use Study (collectively, the “*BFC Recommendation*”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board met in regular session on 2 August 2021 to consider, among other things, approving the BFC Recommendation; and

**WHEREAS**, after careful consideration, the Board has determined that it is in the best interests of CWC and its constituents to approve the BFC Recommendation as proposed;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Central Wasatch Commission that the BFC Recommendation is hereby approved, and that CWC’s officers and staff are authorized and directed to pursue accomplishment of the various aspects of the BFC Recommendation on behalf of CWC, including any budget adjustments to reflect Use Study completion and non CWC-funding, provided that any future agreement with USU concerning Phase 2 and any actual budget amendment is subject to Board approval.

This Resolution, assigned no. 2021-16, shall take effect immediately upon passage.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2021.

**ATTEST:**

**CENTRAL WASATCH COMMISSION**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Michael J. Peterson**, Secretary

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Christopher F. Robinson**, Chair of the Board

**VOTING OF THE BOARD:**

Jim Bradley	Yea ___ Nay ___
Max Doilney	Yea ___ Nay ___
Marci Houseman	Yea ___ Nay ___
Dan Knopp	Yea ___ Nay ___
Erin Mendenhall	Yea ___ Nay ___
Michael J. Peterson	Yea ___ Nay ___
Christopher Robinson	Yea ___ Nay ___
Jeff Silvestrini	Yea ___ Nay ___
Harris Sondak	Yea ___ Nay ___
Jennifer Wilson	Yea ___ Nay ___

**DEPOSITED** in the office of the Secretary this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August 2021.

**FILED AND RECORDED** this \_\_ day of August 2021.