

28 April 2025

Via Email

Kimball Junction EIS
c/o HDR
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Subject: Kimball Junction Draft Environmental Impact Statement
Summit County, Utah

Dear Kimball Junction Environmental Impact Statement team,

Please accept the following document as comments from the Central Wasatch Commission (CWC) regarding the Kimball Junction Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The CWC appreciates the invitation to provide this comment.

In 2020, the CWC embarked upon its Mountain Transportation System Project that culminated in the CWC releasing a public statement in support of six “pillars” that would comprise a safe, effective, and equitable regional mountain transportation system for the Central Wasatch Mountain Range. Those pillars are:

1. A **visitor-use capacity** study that corresponds to transportation and transit study and decision-making is necessary.
2. Any transportation solution should minimize and **mitigate negative environmental impacts, including irreversible damage to the watersheds.**
3. **Traffic demand management** strategies should address traffic congestion on the roads accessing the canyons of the Central Wasatch Mountains.
4. Transportation solutions should have the capacity for **integration into the broader regional transportation network.** The CWC supports the exploration of transit micro-hubs as gathering places for visitors and residents.
5. The CWC considers **year-round transit service** a priority, including dispersed recreational opportunities in the surrounding areas.
6. Transportation improvements in the Wasatch Front and Back should be coupled with improved land and natural resource protection, namely, **the Central Wasatch National Conservation and Recreation Area Act.** This coupling of federal legislation to transportation is necessary given the delicate balance that was foundational to the Mountain Accord agreement, based on four interdependent systems of the Central Wasatch Mountain Range: transportation, economy, recreation, and environment.



In addition to the above elements of a broad regional transportation system for the Central Wasatch Front and Back, the CWC would like to emphasize the following:

1. That development remain as concentrated to clustered nodes, like Kimball Junction as possible, to encourage development patterns that reduce sprawl and preserve open space, sensitive environments, community character, and quality of life in the Wasatch Back.
2. That an analysis of carrying capacity for the broader Park City community be conducted in conjunction with road improvements at Kimball Junction.
3. In addition to addressing congestion and safety, any improvements to Kimball Junction should be made with the future goal of connecting economic centers and recreational nodes within the Wasatch Front and Back.
4. The Alternative chosen should be multi-modal with specific attention to road bicycle and pedestrian connections, including to regional trails. The improvements should include pathways for a trail network that connects residents and Kimball Junction, recreation nodes, and any potential future transit stations at Kimball Junction.
5. Road improvements should only be made after thorough consideration of wildlife corridors and impacts.

Thank you for your consideration of the Central Wasatch Commission's comments on the Kimball Junction Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Accounting for the populations of the jurisdictions that comprise the Central Wasatch Commission, the CWC collectively represents 1,443,788 people. We hope our comments serve to enhance the environmental study process.

Individual member entities of CWC may provide additional feedback to UDOT on behalf of their organizations. CWC comments may not be inclusive of concerns or comments of individual CWC member entities and reflect the mission of CWC in implementing the intent of Mountain Accord.

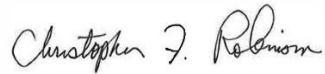
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff", written over a light blue rectangular background.

Jeff Silvestrini, Millcreek Mayor, Central Wasatch Commission Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erin Mendenhall", written over a light blue rectangular background.

Erin Mendenhall, Central Wasatch Commission Co-Chair, Salt Lake City Mayor



Christopher F. Robinson, Summit County Council Member



Monica Zoltanski, Sandy City Mayor



Bill Ciraco, Park City Council Member



Michael Weichers, Cottonwood Heights Mayor



Dan Knopp, Town of Brighton Mayor



Roger Bourke, Town of Alta Mayor

The Central Wasatch Commission (CWC) was created in 2017 by interlocal agreement and has since served as a convener for the jurisdictions, stakeholders, and public with interest and authority in the Central Wasatch Mountains. The CWC's mission is to preserve the Central Wasatch through providing canyon transportation solutions, pathways for concentrated development, environmental protections, and recreational stewardship.

The Board of Commissioners is currently composed of elected leaders from Summit County, Park City, Salt Lake City, Millcreek, Cottonwood Heights, Sandy City, the Town of Brighton and the Town of Alta with the Utah Transit Authority, and Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy serving as ex-officio members, and with Solitude Mountain Resort and Save Our Canyons serving as Special Advisors to the Board, representing the economy system and the environment system of the Central Wasatch, respectively. The CWC's 35-member Stakeholders Council is composed of representatives from the Cottonwood Canyon ski resorts, the environmental and recreational communities, private property owners, transportation advocates, and representatives from the educational and cultural communities of



the Wasatch Front and Back. The varied composition of the Central Wasatch Commission reflects the varied nature of the issues in the Central Wasatch Mountains, and no other entity like the CWC that provides a forum of ideas exists elsewhere.