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Title: Bradburn Brief May 2021

Publish

Date: Sat, May 1, 2021, 12:00 p.m. MDT

Description: Dear Sandy Resident,

We have received many questions about the future of Little Cottonwood Canyon and plans to improve traffic. I wanted to give you an update on what the process looks like and where the Sandy City administration stands on this issue.

When addressing transportation solutions for Little Cottonwood Canyon, Sandy City has four main priorities:

- Protect the watershed in the Little Cottonwood Canyon, which is an important source of Sandy's water system
- Remove the number of cars on the road to increase safety and reduce travel times
- Ensure that traffic leading to the canyon is mitigated
- Elevate the experience of visitors who are utilizing the ski and outdoor recreation opportunities and improve the quality of life of residents who live around Little Cottonwood Canyon

UDOT is currently conducting an EIS on transportation solutions in Little Cottonwood Canyon. This study focuses on three modes of transportation: expanded bus service which could include a dedicated bus lane, a gondola system, and a COG rail system. You can learn more about the UDOT EIS study and fill out a form to provide UDOT with your opinion on what should be done to address the traffic in the canyon at littlecottonwoodeis.udot.utah.gov. No major decisions will be made until this study is completed either late in 2021 or early 2022.

The solutions being studied by UDOT would help to protect the watershed and reduce the number of cars on the roads. However, it would not address the traffic concerns leading up to the mouth of the canyon nor what kind of experience visitors and residents will have.

Sandy City administration and staff have made a formal request for UDOT to provide an additional traffic study to understand how to move people through the city to the canyon without affecting the quality of life for Sandy residents. Furthermore, a canyon-use study will be critical to provide data on whether the canyon trails, resources, and ski resorts can handle an increase of people that a mass transit system would provide.

Please stay involved with this discussion. The best decisions will be made with input from residents and anyone who enjoys and values our beautiful canyons.

Don't forget you can always get more information by going to sandy.utah.gov and sandynow.com and by accessing our social media channels Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter (@SandyCityUtah), and YouTube (SandyCityUT) for daily updated information. You can also join us on Nextdoor, where you can receive information specific to your neighborhood. As always, you can send me a direct email at mayor@sandy.utah.gov.

It is an honor to serve you!

Mayor Kurt Bradburn

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