TOWN OF ALTA RESOLUTION 2019-R-14

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A VISITOR GROWTH MANAGEMENT STUDY WHICH EVALUATES AND PLANS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FROM INCREASED VISITATION RESULTING FROM TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS IN LITTLE COTTONWOOD CANYON

WHEREAS, the Town of Alta (the Town) provides municipal services to residents of, visitors to, and businesses within Alta, Utah, including but not limited to police and public safety, fire protection, culinary water and sewer, zoning and development regulations, and various permitting and licensing functions;

WHEREAS, the Town provides these services in close partnership with agencies responsible for stewardship of watershed, water quality, and other environmental values, including but not limited to Salt Lake City Public Utilities Watershed Division, Salt Lake Valley Health Department, and the United States Forest Service;

WHEREAS, the Town also works in close partnership with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) to manage and improve State Route 210 (SR-210), which terminates in Alta and which is Alta's only route of access to the Salt Lake Valley;

WHEREAS, on page 1 of the 2005 Town of Alta General Plan, the Town states "We will carefully consider the effects on the environment, including the watershed, wildflowers, and wildlife; public safety; and traffic in evaluating transportation options within Little Cottonwood Canyon";

WHEREAS, the Town has observed steady, rapid increases in visitation and users to Alta and Little Cottonwood Canyon in recent years, which has strained the town's operating budgets, visitor experience, and its ability to provide adequate public services;

WHEREAS, UDOT is conducting an Environmental Impact Statement on State Route 210, the scope of which contains various alternative transportation system improvements including "Additional roadway capacity and mobility improvements, including the option of adding a third lane on SR–210 in Little Cottonwood Canyon, with the evaluation of managed lane concepts"¹;

¹ National Environmental Policy Act; USDOT-FHWA Revised Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, Federal Register Vol. 84, No. 94 Wednesday (May 15, 2019 May 15.)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ALTA AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Town of Alta supports a visitor management plan in order to evaluate and address the impacts to the facility infrastructure, environment, watershed, and natural resources in Little Cottonwood Canyon that could result from the increased visitors as a result of roadway capacity and mobility improvements on SR-210.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 16th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2019.

Harris Sondak, Mayor

ATTEST:

Piper Lever Town Clerk