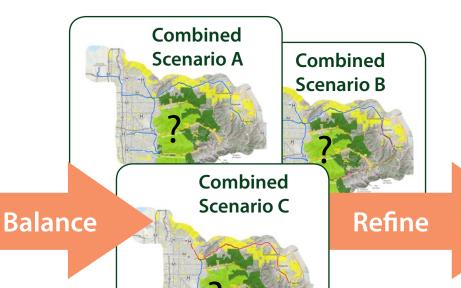


# MOUNTAIN ACCORD - A BALANCED APPROACH



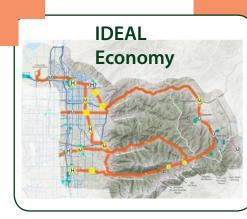








IDEAL Transportation



#### **MOUNTAIN ACCORD**

Mountain Accord brings together over 20 organizations that are committed to planning collaboratively and regionally to make critical and balanced decisions regarding the future of Utah's Central Wasatch mountains.

#### A BALANCED APPROACH

A balanced approach includes the equal consideration and analysis of the four systems that make up the Central Wasatch Mountains—environment, recreation, transportation, and economy. "System groups" were formed around these four themes and were populated with policy-level and technical subject matter experts, community and advocacy groups, and staff from agencies and organizations with an interest or mandate related to that system.

#### WHAT DOES A BALANCED APPROACH LOOK LIKE?

To move towards a preferred future scenario for the Central Wasatch Mountains, we asked each system group to *dream big* and consider their system in a perfect world. These ambitions are reflected in each group's *ideal system*.



# RECREATION – WHAT WE'RE FACING TODAY

## What is the Recreation System?

The recreation system in the Central Wasatch is comprised of recreation infrastructure and the surrounding natural environment. The system:

- Provides unmatched accessibility to high-quality recreation for a large urban and suburban population
- Supports a wide range of activites and uses within a small area
- Fosters a high quality of life for residents and a unique community identity
- Attracts visitors from around the globe

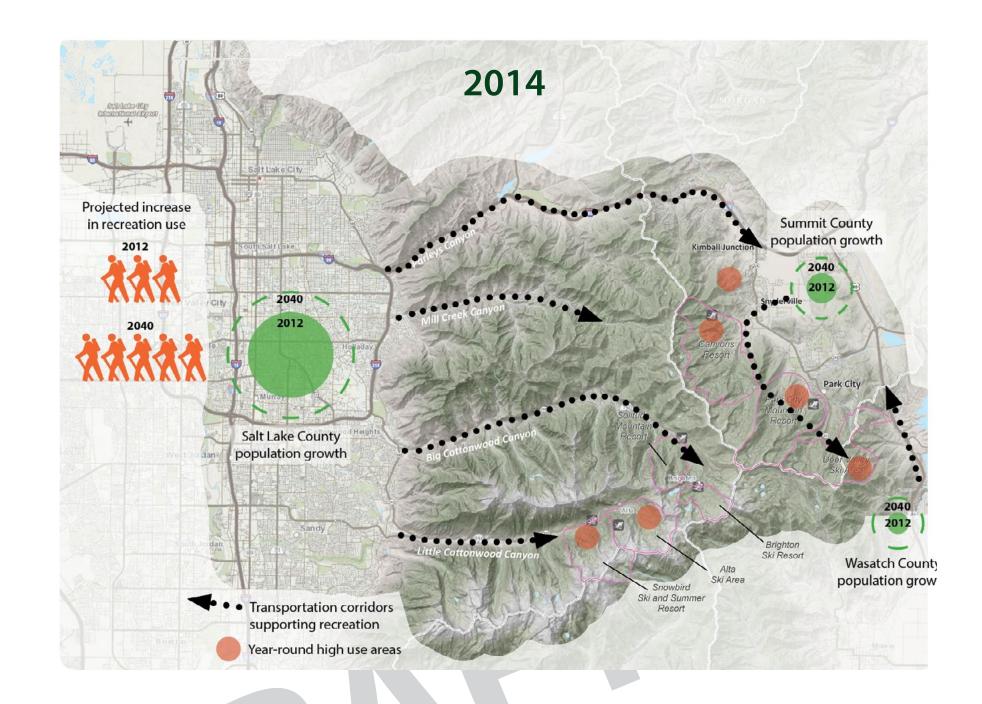
#### What is the Recreation System Facing?

The recreation system is changing due to population growth, increases in recreational use, land development, climate change, and increased transportation congestion. Without action to address and plan for these trends we may experience:

- Decreased accessibility to recreation destinations
- Unplanned and unmanaged growth in recreational use at all locations
- Reactive management and limitations on recreation
- Crowding and degraded recreational experiences
- Decreased quality of life
- Decreased ability to attract visitors and employers

Mountain Accord provides an opportunity to preserve and nurture our community's character and ensure that we leave our children diverse opportunities for accessible, high-quality outdoor recreation.

For more information on what we're facing today, check out the Existing Conditions and Future Trendlines Reports that were approved in June 2014 and that are available here.

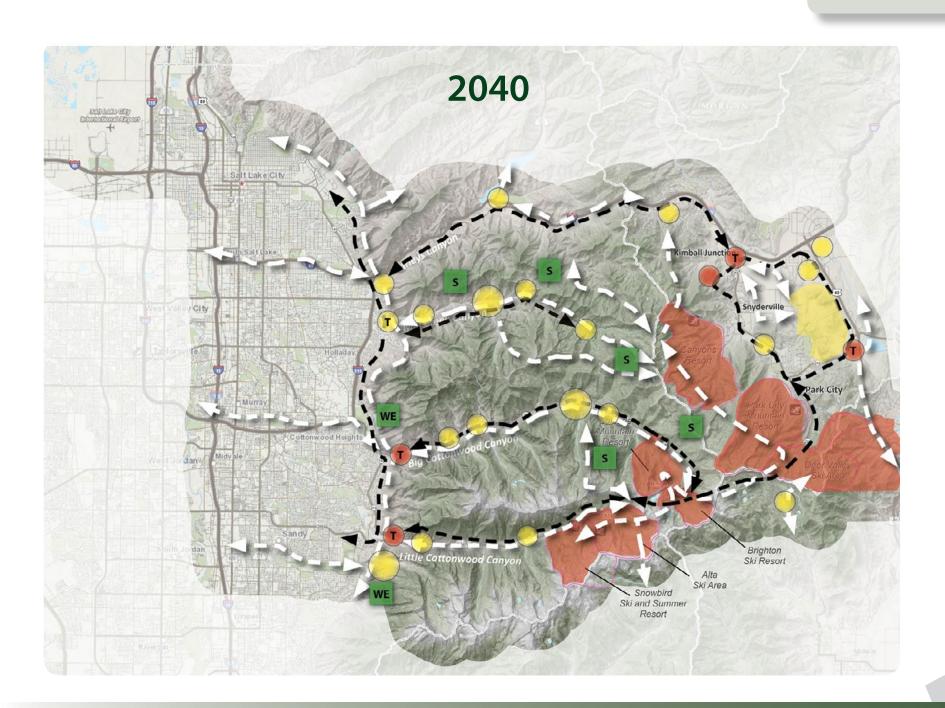




## RECREATION – AN IDEAL PLAN FOR TOMORROW

Imagine if recreation was the ONLY consideration, this is the recreation system group's IDEAL future:

These ideal systems are DRAFTS and include options. Additional feedback from the public and other stakeholders will be considered before each system group finalizes its recommended ideal system at the end of October. Each system's IDEAL is based on the Vision, Goals, and Metrics that were approved in August 2014 and that are available here.



#### **Draft Proposed Actions**

#### **Desired Outcome**



1. Secure wilderness exchanges to complete the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.



- 2. Place areas into special management to protect against future development and preserve natural landscapes.
- 3. Preserve lands that provide unique recreation experiences, are currently used for recreation, and are adjacent to existing open space.



4. Design and manage branded areas to attract *high levels* of use by supporting many activities and user groups.



5. Design and manage key recreation areas for *increased* use while maintaining existing character and recreation opportunities.



6. Complete key nonmotorized urban and mountain trail connections to provide a more robust trail network.



7. Provide year-round, public transit service to connect users with recreation destinations.



8. Establish transit-focused node to reduce vehicle use in the canyons.

#### **Draft Policy Actions**

Establish and fund an organization to provide long-term recreational planning, management, and public education.



## ENVIRONMENT – WHAT WE'RE FACING TODAY

## What is the Environment System?

The system includes connections between the natural and built environments, as well as between the environments' major subsystems:

- Water
- Air
- Ecosystems
- Land

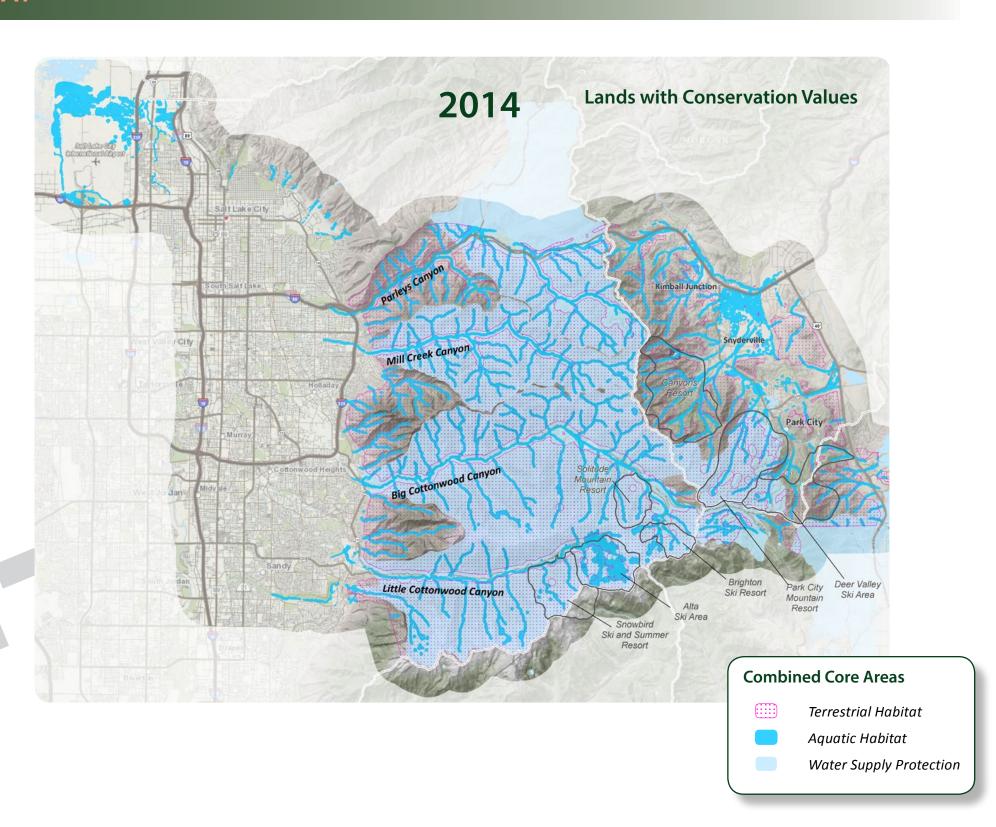
#### What is the Environment System Facing?

Population growth, increased use and development, climate change, and increases in transportation congestion are affecting the environment system by:

- Degrading drinking water sources and watershed health
- Fragmenting ecosystems and increasing habitat loss
- Exacerbating existing air quality challenges
- Contributing to increased erosion and proliferation of invasive weeds

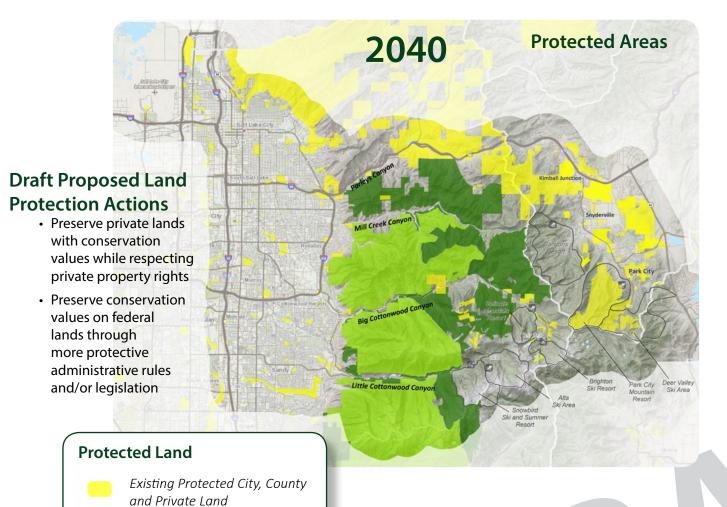
Mountain Accord provides a platform to address threats, restore degraded areas, and protect our valuable natural resources.

For more information on what we're facing today, check out the Existing Conditions and Future Trendlines Reports that were approved in June 2014 and that are available <a href="here">here</a>.



## **ENVIRONMENT – AN IDEAL PLAN FOR TOMORROW**

*Imagine if the environment was* the ONLY consideration, this is the environment system group's *IDEAL future:* 



Establish integrated governance structure with

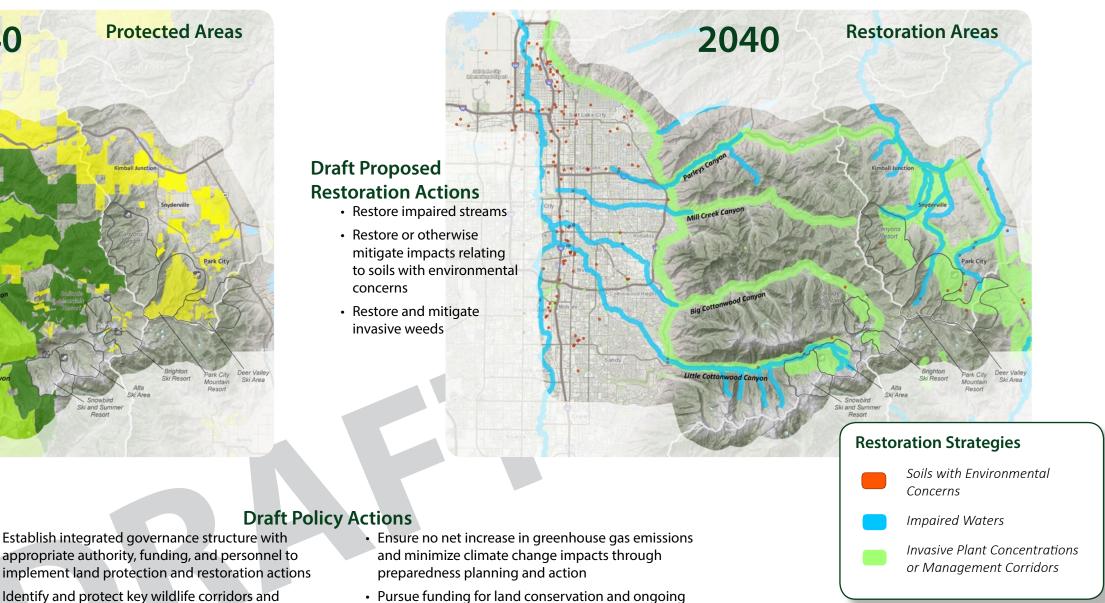
Identify and protect key wildlife corridors and

minimize fragmentation

appropriate authority, funding, and personnel to

land stewardship

These ideal systems are DRAFTS and include options. Additional feedback from the public and other stakeholders will be considered before each system group finalizes its recommended ideal system at the end of October. Each system's IDEAL is based on the Vision, Goals, and Metrics that were approved in August 2014 and that are available here.



Existing Federal Wilderness

Federal Lands Considered for

Additional Protection

# ECONOMY – WHAT WE'RE FACING TODAY

### What is the Economy System?

The economy system is comprised of the areas and corridors where people live, work, travel, spend money, and do business. The current system:

- Is economically diverse and has low unemployment
- Supports world-class tourism and a high quality of life
- Recognizes the Central Wasatch Mountains as a key asset to protect
- Is highly automobile-dependent and offers limited mobility options

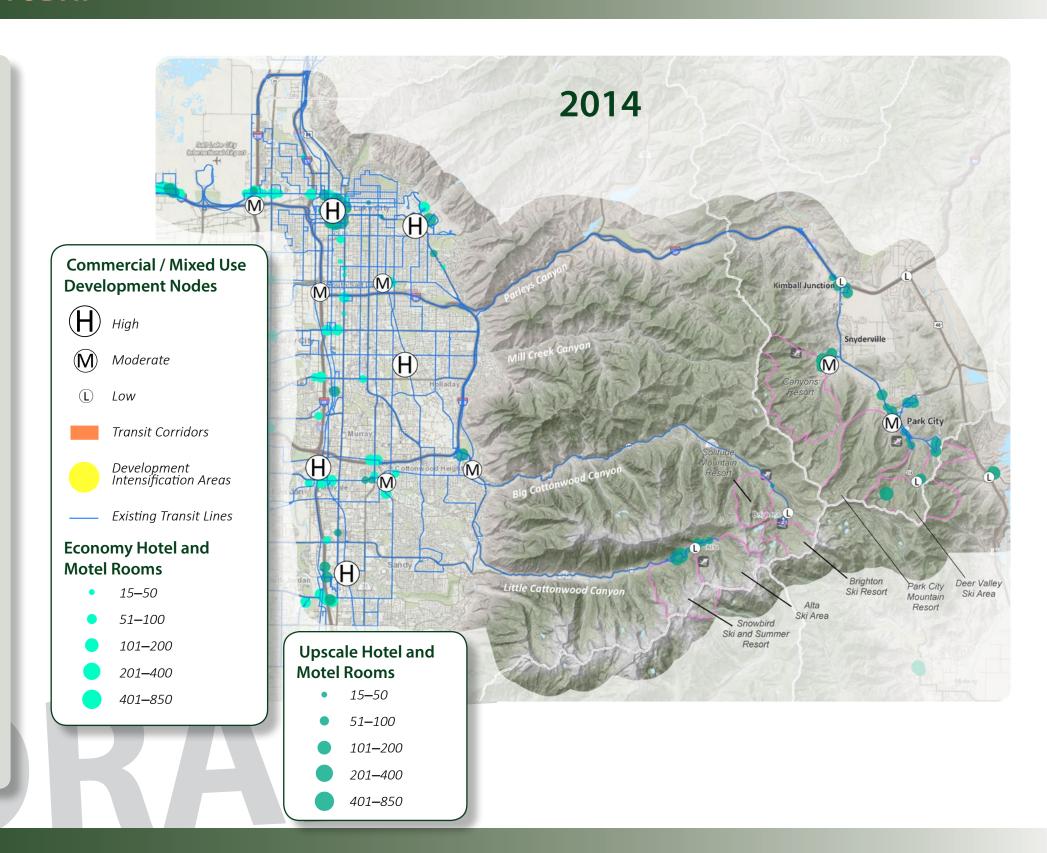
#### What is the Economy System Facing?

Significant population and employment growth, intensifying land-use and development patterns, and increased tourism use will carry economic consequences:

- Crowded visitor experiences would limit growth in the tourism economy
- Increased congestion and longer commute times would affect productivity of employees
- Degradation of air and water quality would affect our ability to attract the best employers
- Growing commerce connections between Park City and Salt Lake City would be underserved

Mountain Accord provides an opportunity to plan for sustainable growth, development, and transportation solutions that also preserve the natural resources and enhance the lives of residents and visitors.

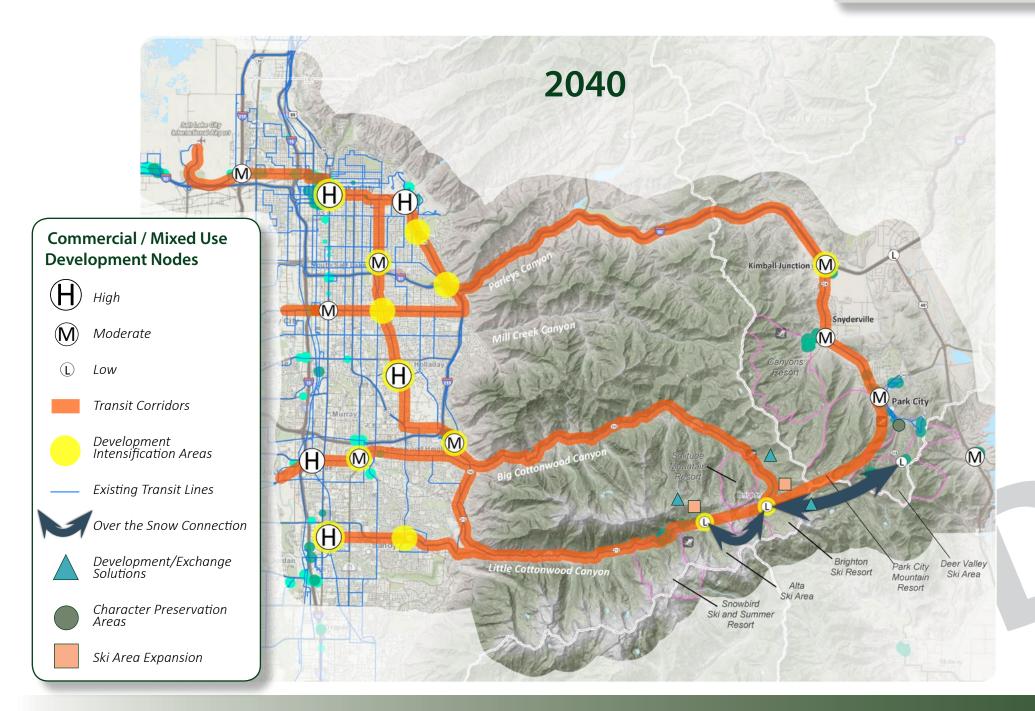
For more information on what we're facing today, check out the Existing Conditions and Future Trendlines Reports that were approved in June 2014 and that are available <a href="here">here</a>.



## ECONOMY – AN IDEAL PLAN FOR TOMORROW

Imagine if the economy was the ONLY consideration, this is the economy system group's IDEAL future:

These ideal systems are DRAFTS and include options. Additional feedback from the public and other stakeholders will be considered before each system group finalizes its recommended ideal system at the end of October. Each system's IDEAL is based on the Vision, Goals, and Metrics that were approved in August 2014 and that are available here.



#### **Draft Proposed Actions**

- Invest in transit solutions connecting the Valley with the mountains and Park City area to support our growing regional economy
- Consider the connection of mountain resort areas with ski lifts to support tourism
- Support increased development at existing and new transit hubs, focusing on lodging accommodations and mixed-use development
- Protect the aesthetic and natural environment of the Wasatch from degradation

#### **Draft Policy Actions**

- Increase resources available for reinvestment in the Central Wasatch natural and built environments that support our quality of life and economy
- Develop effective tools and approaches for resolving land-use and property-rights conflicts
- Ensure development and infrastructure enhance community character

## TRANSPORTATION – WHAT WE'RE FACING TODAY

## What is the Transportation System?

The transportation system is comprised of roadways, transit corridors and parking infrastructure. The system:

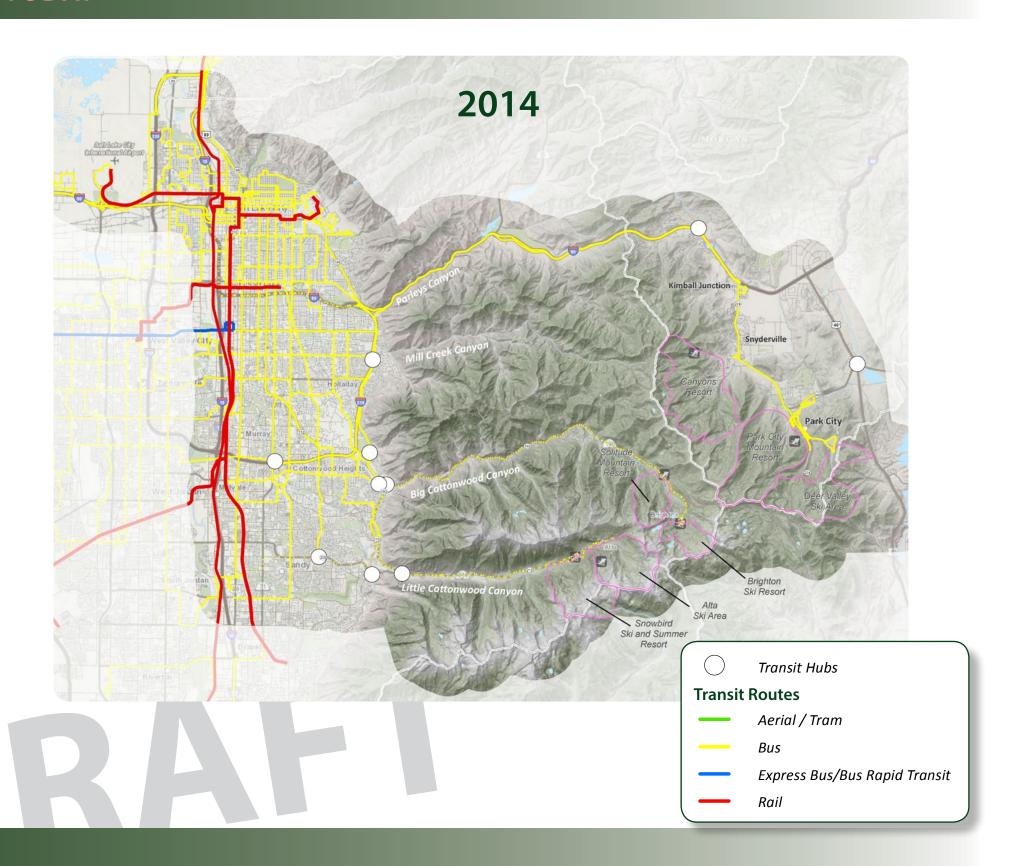
- Accommodates movement of people and goods to destinations throughout the Wasatch Front and Back, and also serves a key role in inter-state travel
- Provides access to outdoor recreation opportunities and ski areas that contribute to our quality of life
- Is affected by inclement weather, vehicle collisions, avalanche mitigation delays, and special events

# What is the Transportation System Facing? • Population growth and increased mountain-oriented use will lead

- Population growth and increased mountain-oriented use will lead to peak period traffic congestion, transit overcrowding, and parking shortages
- Given the expansiveness of the study area and travel time to dispersed destinations, most people choose to drive private automobiles rather than use transit
- Increasing interest in active transportation, especially on-road cycling, introduces user conflicts and infrastructure needs

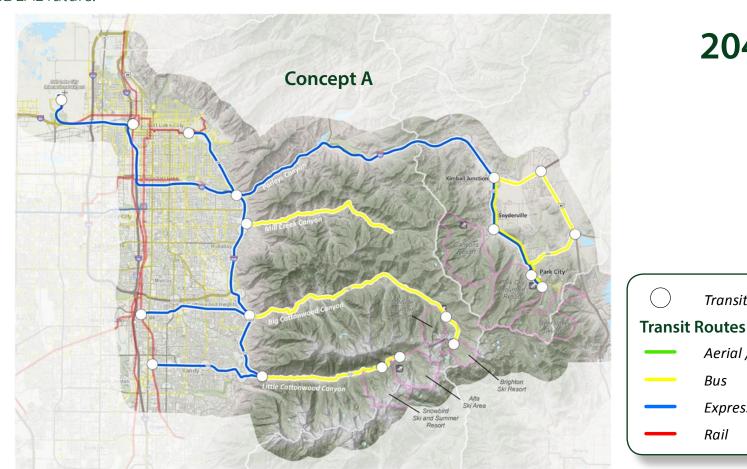
Mountain Accord provides an opportunity to plan for increased use of transportation infrastructure and focusing on how the system integrates into recreation opportunities in the mountain areas.

For more information on what we're facing today, check out the Existing Conditions and Future Trendlines Reports that were approved in June 2014 and that are available <a href="here">here</a>.

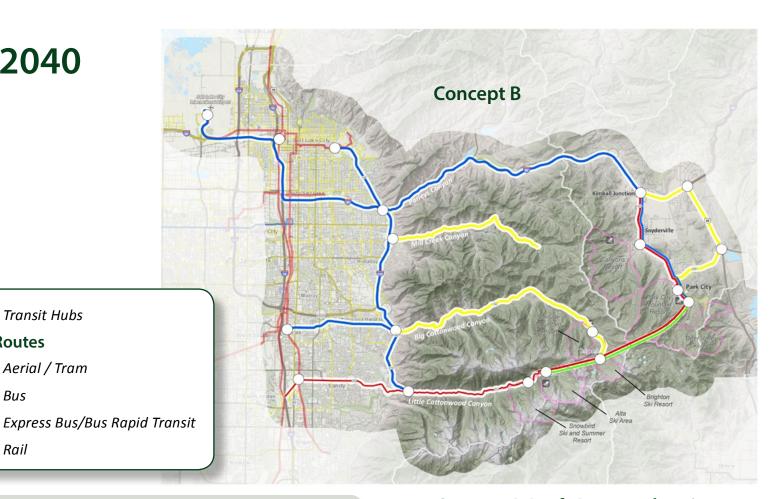


# TRANSPORTATION – AN IDEAL PLAN FOR TOMORROW

*Imagine if transportation was* the ONLY consideration, this is the transportation system group's IDEAL future:



2040



#### **Concept A Draft Proposed Actions**

- Enhanced bus service in Salt Lake Valley and Parleys Canyon
- · No new mountain connection

These ideal systems are DRAFTS. Additional feedback from the public and system group members will be considered and the final ideal systems will be approved by each system group at the end of October. Each system's IDEAL is based on the Vision, Goals, and Metrics that were approved in August 2014 and that are available here.

Transit Hubs

Aerial / Tram

Bus

Rail

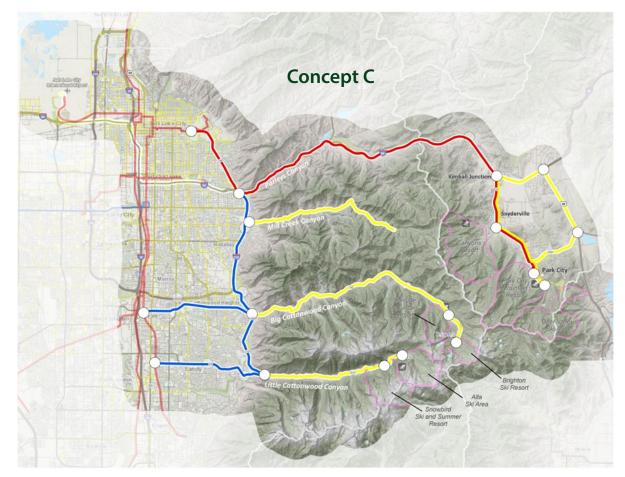
Transportation concepts A,B, C and D represent four ways to combine transit improvements that address the transportation system's vision and goals. Analysis of and feedback on these four concepts will provide information that can be used to understand the performance of a wide range of potential route and mode combinations and inform the selection of an ideal transportation system.

## **Concept B Draft Proposed Actions**

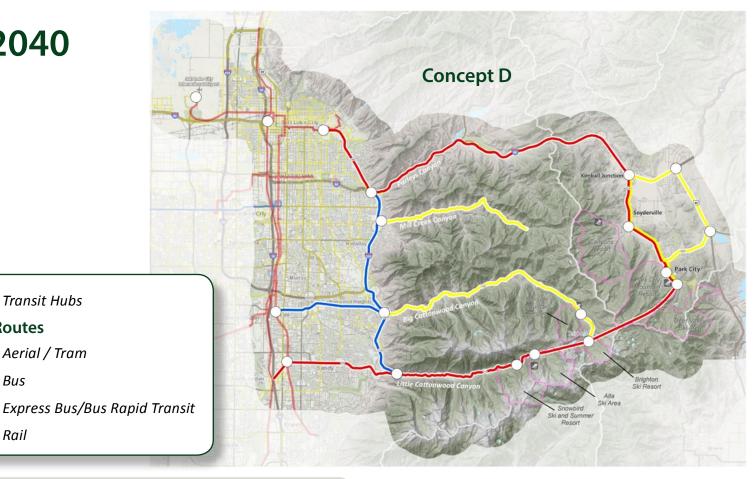
- Enhanced bus service in Salt Lake Valley and Parleys Canyon
- Mountain connection via rail from Wasatch Front to Wasatch Back

# TRANSPORTATION – AN IDEAL PLAN FOR TOMORROW

Imagine if transportation was the ONLY consideration, this is the transportation system group's IDEAL future:



2040



#### **Concept C Draft Proposed Actions**

- Enhanced bus service in Salt Lake Valley
- Rail from Salt Lake Valley to Park City

These ideal systems are DRAFTS. Additional feedback from the public and system group members will be considered and the final ideal systems will be approved by each system group at the end of October. Each system's IDEAL is based on the Vision, Goals, and Metrics that were approved in August 2014 and that are available here.

Transit Hubs

Aerial / Tram

Bus

Rail

**Transit Routes** 

Transportation concepts A,B, C and D represent four ways to combine transit improvements that address the transportation system's vision and goals. Analysis of and feedback on these four concepts will provide information that can be used to understand the performance of a wide range of potential route and mode combinations and inform the selection of an ideal transportation system.

#### **Concept D Draft Proposed Actions**

- Rail from Salt Lake Valley to Park City
- Rail from Sandy to Little Cottonwood Canyon, Big Cottonwood Canyon, and Park City



# MOUNTAIN ACCORD - A BALANCED APPROACH

## **WHAT'S NEXT?**

Each system's ideal maps will be combined in different ways to create a range of balanced scenarios. These scenarios will be available for public comment on November 21, 2014, and public open houses will be held December 2 and 3, 2014. Stay plugged in <a href="here">here</a>!

Don't forget to visit complete our <u>questionnaire</u> between now and October 16 to share your input!



Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Apr 2014	May 2014	June 2014	July 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 20 <sup>-</sup>	14 Jan 2015	Next steps
Establish Existing Conditions Future Baseline				Develop Vision, Goals, Metrics		etrics	Develop Ideal Systems		Merge Ideal Systems into Scenarios		Select Preferred Scenario	Phase 2: Implementation/ NEPA

