



## TOWN OF BRIGHTON NEWS DECEMBER 2022



Winter is not a Season...It's a Celebration!  
~Anamika Mishra

### **SOLITUDE MOUNTAIN RESORT TURNS 65!**

The magical quality of Utah's snow country attracted Bob Barrett, a hard-rock uranium miner from Moab, with a passion for skiing. He slowly acquired land, and opened Solitude in 1957. The name was given to this area in the 1800's by miners experiencing the peaceful lack of wind.

The DeSeelhorst family became involved in the late 1970's. They brought the needed planning, vision and financing to create an intimate European-style alpine village. Solitude was purchased by Deer Valley in 2015, then by Alterra in 2018.

Join the celebration! Moonbeam Lodge doors open at 4:30 PM with light refreshments. The presentation begins at 5:30 PM, honoring founding families – the Barretts and DeSeelhorsts, and several others along the way, as Tom Kelly (*Last Chair Podcast* Host) emcees the event. Come in person or consider logging in from home. A Zoom option is available. Click

here: [Zoom](#). For more information check out: [Celebrating 65 Years of Solitude \(solitudemountain.com\)](#)

**December 17 | Solitude Mountain Resort's 65 Birthday Party** ▪ 4:30 - 6:30 pm ▪ Moonbeam Lodge ▪ Historical displays and interviews, free food ▪ Everyone welcome!

## JOBS IN BRIGHTON



▪ The Town of Brighton is advertising for a part-time Community Service and Support Officer (CSSO). Duties include non-sworn patrolling work related to enforcement of Town ordinances, Watershed rules, parking, short-term rental support, and administrative duties related to citations, records and files. For more info or to apply, click this link: <https://msd.utah.gov/town-of-brighton-seeking-to-hire-part-time-community-service-and-support-officer-csso/>

▪ The Big Cottonwood Canyon Improvement District (BCCID) has a part-time job opening for a bookkeeper to help with monthly mailings. Hours are flexible. Work location is the BCCID Office above the Brighton Store. For more information or to apply, contact the BCCID Office at 801.558.9891 or email [solidbccid@gmail.com](mailto:solidbccid@gmail.com)

## FLUSHABLE WIPES ALERT!

Just a note to sewer customers: **Flushable Wipes wreak havoc with our sewer system.** Recently the Big Cottonwood sewer has been clogged with so-called flushable wipes. When these “sinuous alternatives” enter our system, they don’t decompose in a timely manner and jam-up our lift-station pumps. These incidents pose a risk to the watershed we occupy and require expensive and difficult pump extraction and servicing. **Please discontinue their use in the canyon.**

## BCC-MAP SURVEY BEGINS IN JANUARY

The Big Cottonwood Mobility Action Plan (BCC-MAP) will reach out to the public in January to ask questions about how transportation could be improved in Big Cottonwood Canyon.

The study will:

- Evaluate the existing network, identify gaps, and consider past plans.
- Develop mobility hubs that feature amenities, reliability, and year-round service.
- Protect critical resources.
- Define a prioritized list of near-, mid-, and long-term recommendations



Watch for this exciting outreach in January. The project is being conducted through the Central Wasatch Commission.

## TRI-CANYON TRAILS SURVEY

The US Forest Service and Landmark Design launched an on-line Trails Survey asking for public comment about Trails in the Wasatch. It's part of the long-range planning project that will be finalized next year. Please take a minute to respond: [www.TricanyonTrails.org](http://www.TricanyonTrails.org)

## TOWN OF BRIGHTON ANNUAL REPORT 2022

### STEWARDSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP

The Town of Brighton is showing its commitment to canyon Preservation:

- \$80,000 - Trails Master Plan with USFS
- \$60,000 - Ranger at Mill D with USFS
- \$20,000 - Fuel Mitigation with Utah Forests, Fire and State Lands
- \$24,674 - Restroom Cleaning/Maintenance with USFS
- \$15,000 - Adopt-A-Trails and Invasive Weed Program with Cottonwood Canyons Foundation
- \$10,000 - Membership contribution to the CWC
- \$100,000 - Big Cottonwood Mobility Action Plan with Central Wasatch Commission (CWC)



### ACTIONS

- The Town Council approved the Brighton General Plan in November. Chapters include Land Use, Housing, Transportation, Natural Resources, Recreation, Tourism, Resilience and Infrastructure. The Brighton Planning Commission and MSD Planners (Erin O'Kelly and Wendy Gurr) worked on the 353-page General Plan a little over a year, hosting 8 public meetings and over 900 written comments.
- No Fire Bans were implemented this year due to a mild summer and helpful late-season rain.
- The Town Council passed a Special Events ordinance that requires any event with over 50 people to get a permit.
- The Town Council changed the parking penalty to a civil violation that carries a \$150 fine.
- Short Term Rental discussions continued this year. The current number of STRs: Brighton (21), Silver Fork (11), Pinetree (2), Forest Glen (1), Giles Flat (1), Solitude Village (120). No STR citations were issued in 2022. The STR Committee conducted a public survey asking for opinions about rental caps. *Granicus*, a private company that helps with STR enforcement, continues to field complaints and work with owners to resolve problems. MSD code enforcement, business licensing, and STR inspectors worked with Town Attorneys to coordinate and streamline tasks related to STR administration.
- Coordinated with Rocky Mountain Power on a big project to underground electric lines in the canyon for fire protection.
- Coordinated with UDOT to place NO PARKING signs along the north side of the highway from Solitude to Brighton resorts.
- Created a *Welcome to Brighton* sign to be placed near the uphill lane at Mile Marker 10.
- The Town is hiring a Community Service and Support Officer to help with watershed, STR, and parking enforcement.
- The Budget was compiled, balanced, and submitted to MSD, including a Capital Improvement Fund.
- Produced 12 monthly electronic Newsletters and maintained a comprehensive Town website.

### EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- The Town Emergency Planner continued to refine community maps and contacts. Three temporary road closure notices were sent to Community Team Leaders in 2022.
- Sponsored a Community Firewise meeting at Fire Station #108 in April to promote wildfire preparedness.
- Coordinated the Annual Chipper Days July 25-August 5, 2022. Sixty families participated.

## SUPPORT FOR TOWN PROJECTS AND CONCERNS

- Supported the CWC Beaver Dam Analog Project near Willow Heights Lake.
- Supported 4<sup>th</sup> of July Annual Breakfast and Parade, Brighton Days Celebration and Chipper Days.
- Supported expansion of high-speed internet service from SenaWave and Utah Broadband.
- Encouraged update and repair of failing Verizon cell phone service and repeater stations in the canyon.
- Supported the reconstruction and improvement of the Silver Lake Boardwalk and Trail.



## SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

As gifts and presents are exchanged this season, please remember that paper-based wrapping paper is recyclable; but plastic or Mylar wrapping, and bows/ribbons, are not recyclable. If you're not sure whether your wrapping paper gets the green light for the blue recycle bin, try the scrunch test. Take your wrapping paper and scrunch it up into a ball. If the ball keeps its shape, it is likely recyclable. If it opens back up into a sheet, it is likely not. For any recycling questions or concerns, please call (385) 468-6337. Have a happy holiday!

Recently Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District (WFRD) increased fees to help to keep up with the rapidly rising costs related to labor markets, maintenance shop rates, processing costs at the landfills and recycling facilities, and truck prices to purchase replacement trucks.

Here is an outline of the 2023 tentative fee increases:

Full-time residents: Increasing from \$14.75 to \$16.00 per mo.

Seasonal residents: Increasing from \$8.50 to \$9.75 per mo.

Trailer Rental for Bulk: \$190.00 from \$175.00 and Green: \$55.00 from \$45.00.

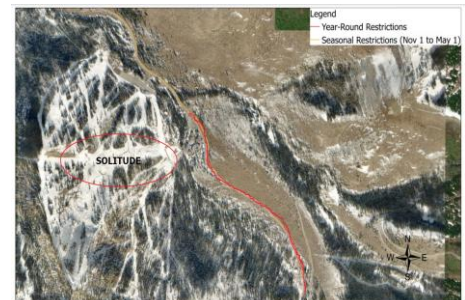
Please see the WFRD website for details: <https://wasatchfrontwaste.org/fees-logistics>

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## INCREASED FINES FOR PARKING VIOLATIONS

Big Cottonwood Canyon has seen an increase in vehicles parking along the highway which has become a safety hazard for pedestrians and motorists and emergency vehicles. To help deter dangerous parking, the Town of Brighton has increased parking fines to **\$150**, effective in the coming weeks. Fines apply to 1) No Parking Zones and 2) parking over the white line. Pay attention to the **NO PARKING** signs along the North side of the highway.

Restrictions start well below Solitude entry one up to the fire station where the restrictions are for both sides of the road up to the roundabout at the Brighton Loop.



## UTA SKI BUS SERVICE CHANGES

The Utah Transit Authority (UTA) is experiencing staffing shortages and hiring challenges like many other businesses and transit agencies across the nation. As a result, UTA is making several bus service adjustments.

- Bus service is changed from 15-minute to 30-minute service.
- Service begins at 6:15 a.m. and ends at 5:52 pm. Night Skiing Down trip leaves at 8:22 p.m.
- Don't forget you can ride for free with your Season or IKON Ski Passes.



To find out more about this emergency UTA driver situation visit: [www.rideuta.com/ski](http://www.rideuta.com/ski)  
Click the following links for updated schedules and maps to plan your ski bus trip.

**Route 972:** <https://www.rideuta.com/Rider-Tools/Schedules-and-Maps/972-Midvale-Ft-Union-Station-To-Solitude-Brighton>

**Route 994:** <https://www.rideuta.com/Rider-Tools/Schedules-and-Maps/994-Historic-Sandy-Station-to-Snowbird-Alta>

## ADOPT-A-HYDRANT

When winter comes, fire hydrants disappear under a blanket of snow. UFA and your water company encourage each homeowner to locate the fire hydrant nearest to your home and keep a three-foot clearance around the hydrant to allow fire crews to access hydrant valves with standard tools and hoses. It is not the responsibility of UFA to keep the hydrants clear. Instead, it is the responsibility of the water companies and water users. This simple act could prove to be one of the most important factors in the protection of lives and property. Thanks for helping keep our neighborhoods safe.



## TRAILS UPDATE

**Silver Lake Trail.** The USFS, Trails Utah, and Salt Lake County will completely revamp the Silver Lake Loop Trail. This trail is one of the most heavily visited point of interest in the Wasatch. Replacement of the boardwalk section is underway. Trails Utah will refurbish the natural surface sections of the loop around the southern and eastern trail segments. Handrails will be replaced. The wooden retaining walls will be replaced with stacked rock. The trail tread will be designed to accommodate wheelchairs. This project is fully funded and expected to be completed in the summer of 2023.

**Grandeur Peak Section of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail (BST).** Trails Utah is also completing construction of a section of the BST between Big Cottonwood Canyon and Ferguson Canyon trailhead with support from the USFS and the CWC. Trail construction has ended for this



season with about 25% of the 2-mile trail completed. The lower section was the most challenging because of the rock outcrops that required a jackhammer to create the four ft wide trail. This section is slated for completion in 2023.

**Ferguson to Dogwood Picnic Area.** The trail between Ferguson Canyon Trailhead and Dogwood Picnic area is being finished by machine. Much of that trail has already been built by hand at great expense since it crosses a Wilderness area where mechanized equipment is prohibited. The USFS will complete the final connection into the Dogwood trailhead in the Spring of 2023.

## **GOTTA LOVE BIG COTTONWOOD HISTORY**

**Q: Where does the Big Cottonwood Canyon Road officially begin?**

**A:** UDOT says it begins at Knudsen’s Corner, near the Tuscany Restaurant, where I-215 crosses the creek.

**Q: Where is the steepest section of the Big Cottonwood Road?**

**A:** It’s just above the lower Storm Mountain Bridge. Loggers used to call it the “Devil’s Stairway” and used logs across the road to help their ox teams climb up. Drivers today call it “Torpedo Hill”.

**Q: What was the largest mine in Big Cottonwood Canyon?**

**A:** The Cardiff Mine was the largest and last producer, in continuous operation from 1915 until 1925, then periodically until 1961.

**Q: What was the largest mining settlement?**

**A:** The village of Argenta, with population of about 200 people, down canyon from the Cardiff Mine. It had a post office, store, and hotel. A local butcher named Reynolds supplied turkeys for the town, and Gobblers Knob was named in honor of his flock. The local laundry was owned by a Chinese man who took care of troublemakers by starching their underwear until it could stand up by itself.

**Q: Where was the Brighton Bowling Alley and the Brighton Skating Rink?**

**A:** The bowling alley was built by the Barnes family and located near the present-day Silver Lake Visitor’s Center. The 10,000 sq. ft. Skating Rink was built in 1938, and located across the street from the Brighton Store, at the very entrance to the Brighton Loop.

**Q: Why were so many lakes in Big Cottonwood named “Dog Lake”?**

**A:** The Dog Lakes in the canyon were named for the many tiger salamanders found in them, which pioneers called “water dogs”.





## UPCOMING EVENTS

**DECEMBER 10** | Community Christmas Dinner ▪ Brighton Chapel ▪ 6 pm ▪ Everyone Welcome! ▪ Bring a dish to share--entrée is provided.

**DECEMBER 17** | Solitude Mountain Resort's 65 Birthday Party ▪ 4:30 - 6:30 pm ▪ Moonbeam Lodge ▪ Historical displays and interviews, free food ▪ Everyone welcome!

**DECEMBER 20** | Open Mic Night ▪ Thirsty Squirrel at Solitude Mountain Resort ▪ 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm ▪ Sign-Up 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm

**DECEMBER 23** | Solitude Nordic Night ▪ Nordic Center ▪ 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm ▪ Lighted ski & snowshoe trails ▪ S'mores & hot chocolate ▪ \$15

**JANUARY 12** | Avalanches and the Cottonwood Canyons ▪ Brighton Fire Station ▪ 6:30 pm ▪ Free

**JANUARY 17** | Open Mic Night ▪ Thirsty Squirrel at Solitude Mountain Resort ▪ 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm ▪ Sign-Up 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm

**FEBRUARY 21** | Open Mic Night ▪ Thirsty Squirrel at Solitude Mountain Resort ▪ 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm ▪ Sign-Up 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm

**MARCH 21** | Open Mic Night ▪ Thirsty Squirrel at Solitude Mountain Resort ▪ 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm ▪ Sign-Up 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm

## MEETINGS

### Brighton Town Council

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month – 6:30 pm – Fire Station – Hybrid meeting - [Meetings | Brighton Utah](#)  
OR [www.utah.gov/pmn](http://www.utah.gov/pmn) (You can subscribe to this website to receive automatic notifications.)

### Brighton Institute Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month – 6 pm. Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86508034065>  
Meeting ID: 865 0803 4065 Phone Connection: +1-253-215-8782 (no December meeting)

### BCCA Community Council

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the Month – 7 pm. Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86508034065>  
Meeting ID: 865 0803 4065 Phone Connection: +1-253-215-8782 (no December meeting)

### Environmental Dashboard

The new Central Wasatch Commission's Environmental Dashboard has some great information about our canyon. Access the Beta Version of the Environmental Dashboard at this link:

<https://cwcedb.utah.edu/>

### Citizen's Problem Reporter Tool

The Citizen's Reporter Tool allows you to report problems such as code violations, illegal parking, health issues, trash issues, etc.

1. Go to [bit.ly/msd-cpr](https://bit.ly/msd-cpr) or click this link:  
<https://gslmsd.maps.arcgis.com/apps/CrowdsourceReporter/index.html?appid=c72d18a5e8e74ee2b4c202904ff62513>
2. Click on the right-hand side, select the type of problem.
3. After you enter your information, click the “Submit Problem” button to send the MSD a report.

### **Short-Term Rental Requirements**

Here’s a link to the Town website concerning STR details:

<https://www.brighton.utah.gov/administration/page/short-term-rentals-town-brighton>

If you need help solving STR problems...this flowchart is for you! Check out the multiple contacts available at this link or on the QR Code here:

[Updated 11/22 Complaint Flow chart - Google Drawings](#)

### **STR Business Licensing**

To apply for STR permitted use, you’ll need to create a user account on the [Cityworks Public Portal](#). City works Public Portal Guide - [bit.ly/cw-help](https://bit.ly/cw-help)

