

Wade R. Budge, P.C. Partner O 801.257.1906 | F 801.257.1800 wbudge@swlaw.com

April 15, 2025

## **VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Trent Sorensen Director of Planning and Development Services Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District 2001 S. State #N 3-600 Salt Lake City, Utah 84190

Re: CUP2025-001323 Application Supplemental Information

Dear Mr. Sorenson:

This firm represents Solitude Mountain Ski Area LLC, dba Solitude Mountain Resort ("**Solitude**"), the owner of the real property located at 12202 E. Old Stage Rd, Brighton, Utah. Solitude submitted a complete Conditional Use Permit ("CUP") application on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, for a "Ski Resort - Associate Facility and Improvement"<sup>1</sup> together with the required fee. In response to that application, you provided a Notice of Deficient Application to us on February 14, 2025. This letter and the included materials address the questions raised in your letter.

1. <u>Access</u> – We have included with this letter a survey that properly depicts the location of the property in reference to Old Stage Road. As previously discussed, the property does have historic legal access off of Old Stage Road. Included with the initial application was a Declaration of Access from the Dunyon family representative verifying that the subject parcel has been accessed from Old Stage Road since the 1960s. Since the application was submitted, we have received stakeholder comments about reducing the parking lot sizes. As such, you'll see that the anticipated parking count has come down from initially 720 parking spaces to now approximately 593 parking spaces. In addition, we have adjusted the planned access road improvements on to the neighboring, publicly-owned property, which SLPU has expressed opposition to in the past. Nevertheless, we intent to engage them again to explain that working together will limit impacts and will address the significant environmental and safety concerns associated with roadside parking. We intend to work with UDOT, Salt Lake

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Brighton Town Code 19.04.070.CC

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City Public Utilities and the Town of Brighton to look to update this intersection, which will increase pedestrian and vehicular safety and benefit the larger community.

- 2. <u>Parcel Location/Boundaries</u> The subject parcel has been surveyed, and the survey is included with this letter. The plans have been updated to reflect the information provided by the survey (parcel location and topography).
- Landscaping/Reclamation Plan Included with this letter is an updated grading and reclamation plan. These plans provide the detail required by the ordinance. We are committed to work together with the Municipal Services District and the Town to ensure the best reclamation and landscaping practices for this mountain community are incorporated.
- 4. <u>Stall Count for the Resort Use</u> As identified in our application, the CUP is for a Ski Resort - Associate Facility and Improvement. Brighton Town Code requires that the facilities and improvements are used in "conjunction with the operation of a yearround resort". The proposed parking area meets the definition. The parking area will be accessible by pedestrian and shuttle access to the resort across Big Cottonwood Canyon Rd, thus being in compliance with 19.48.030.A.2. In response to comments received at the pre-application meeting held February 3, 2025, we have reduced the number of parking stalls to 593 from the originally proposed 720 parking stalls. To reiterate, this parking is being provided, not as an expansion of capacity for the use or resort, but rather it will relocate the on-street parking on Big Cottonwood Canyon Rd. that Solitude customers utilize and which support the resort. Specifically, the number of on-street parking spaces used to support the resort is significantly higher than the Town managed spaces. The goal is to create an improved parking location for the resort that creates a safer environment for pedestrians and vehicles alike. We also believe this parking will provide significant public benefits, and we intend to explore how to confirm and implement those benefits through stakeholder engagement. Specifically, we believe this parking area will benefit the greater Big Cottonwood Canyon community to support year-round uses in the area in addition to the resort's year-round needs.
- 5. <u>Forest Service Record of Decision</u> Finally, your letter references the Forest Service Record of Decision for the Solitude Master Development Plan Update of 2002. It is important to note several things from that decision. First, the inclusion of private land elements, such as where the parking area is proposed is not required under NEPA. At the time Solitude did the best to provide the private property elements it anticipated being included in future development. However, the development on private property is not restricted only to what was included in the Master Development Plan. Second, although the decision stated that "no other parking expansion is permitted



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on NFS lands", it did make clear that "Solitude has the ability to recapture its lost parking by developing private land parking lots..." (see page 14). The Record of Decision supports the relocation of parking to private land parking lots, and the federal standards do not restrict rights secured under state and local law.

This letter and its enclosures supplement our application made on January 13, 2025. We have included the check that was provided in the initial application with this letter again. If you have questions on the payment, please call me or have Polly from the Town call me.

We look forward to further conversations and review of the application. If you have any questions or concerns about the supplements, please feel free to reach me at 801.257.1906 or Jason Boal at 801.257.1917.

Respectfully submitted,

SNELL & WILMER

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Wade R. Budge, P.C.

cc. Solitude Mountain Resort Polly McLean

Enclosures

- Survey of Property
- Revised Site Plan
- Revised Grading Plan
- Revised Reclamation Plan
- Historic and New Access Plan







