



STATE OF UTAH

SPENCER J. COX
GOVERNOR

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
84114-2220

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

February 25, 2021

The Honorable John Curtis
125 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitt Romney
124 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Curtis and Senator Romney,

Thank you both for your great work representing Utah. I am excited to see you reintroducing the Bonneville Shoreline Trail Advancement Act.

As I look down the road and try to anticipate what opportunities and challenges lie ahead for Utah, it's clear that our state's extraordinary growth — both in our population and our economy — will drive both the opportunities and the challenges. We certainly can't stop people from moving to Utah, and wouldn't want to even if we could, but we can wisely take actions that will preserve for our children the standard of living that we currently enjoy.

That conversation includes a more holistic approach to transportation and land use policy, efforts to improve our air quality, and solutions to our scarce water resources. It also includes looking for opportunities to create and preserve more open space and recreational opportunities along the Wasatch Front.

To that end, I love your effort to help complete the Bonneville Shoreline Trail. As you surely know, the trail is a decades long project with both recreational and historical significance. It has the potential to be both a beautiful recreational asset for Utah residents and a tool for teaching us about ancient Lake Bonneville and Utah's fascinating geologic history.

For the past 30 years, numerous Utah political jurisdictions, businesses, recreational users, and private landowners have played a role in securing portions of the trail. Much remains to be done, but your bill, the Bonneville Shoreline Trail Advancement Act, is a next step in that process. It would release several hundred acres of wilderness from the Mount Olympus, Twin Peaks, and Lone Peaks Wilderness Areas, allowing the development of the trail in those areas.

Again, thank you for your leadership. I support the effort and stand ready to help advance the legislation however necessary.

Sincerely,

Spencer J. Cox
Governor