FOOTHILLS TRAIL SYSTEM PLAN | MARCH 2020

# HIKING LOOP OPTIONS

51055

## **HIKING LOOP OPTIONS**



### **Emigration Loop**

A short and easy hike from the trailhead at the mouth of Emigration Canyon, that passes through the shady glen around Wagner Spring, and wraps up above This Is The Place Heritage Park, before descending back to the trailhead. A great first hike for kids or those with limited stamina.



### Wagner Peak Loop

A short but very enjoyable 1-hour loop hike up and around the prominent low summit on the north slope of Emigration Canyon, that rises over This Is The Place Heritage Park. A great hike to enjoy the evening breeze coming down Emigration Canyon.



### **Under the Cliffs Loop**

A 1-hour loop with good views and a surprising amount of solitude despite the Eagle Ridge mine below. Recommended for hikers and trail runners looking for quick access to a peaceful, scenic jaunt.

### Living Room Loop

A 90-minute loop hike that tops out at the "Living Room" on the ridgeline below Red Butte, and adds additional interest beyond the traditional up-andback route in George's Hollow.





### **Red Butte Canyon Loop**

A popular route around the outside of Red Butte Garden and the Natural History Museum of Utah, with good access provided via the Colorow Road trailhead. A great 1-hour workout trail adjacent to the U of U Campus.

# **HIKING LOOP OPTIONS**



### **Battle Gulch Loop**

A short but sweet 45-minute stroll just above the U of U Medical Campus, with gradual grades, a small amount of elevation gain and loss, and pleasant contours in and out of Battle Gulch and Cephalopod Gulch. A great lunch-time hike for Medical Campus staff and visitors.





### Mt. Wire Loop

A 3 to 4-hour loop hike up Mt. Wire, which starts and ends on the Living Room Trail in George's Hollow, then contours up and around the summit of Mt. Wire on the southeast and southwest faces, providing big views and trailside interest as the trail works through differing geologic formations.



### Popperton Loop Trail

Pleasant, peaceful walking path suitable for families and people of all ages. A 30-minute hike completes a loop with views of an interesting ravine, the City Cemetery, and great views out to the Oquirrh Mountains.

### **HIKING LOOP OPTIONS**



### **Block U Loop**

This moderately-strenuous 90-minute hike also makes a great trail run route, and in a short distance covers a lot of different terrain with varying views over the Avenues, the U of U Campus, and Dry Creek. The Block U and historic limekiln in Limekiln Gulch are interesting stops along the way. Perfect place to take friends and family visiting from out of town, or prospective students.



### Twin Peaks Loop

This 2.5-hour loop provides some of the best scenery and seclusion in the Avenues section of the Foothills Natural Area, including a scenic section of the Gullies and Hollows Trail, the summit of the Avenues Twins, and the wild north fork of Dry Creek, where wildlife sightings are common and it feels like the City is a world away. Easily accessed from Popperton Park or the U of U Medical Center.

### **Avenues Grand Tour**

Long but wonderful 4-hour hike for those looking for a more adventurous excursion, or an opportunity to spend a full day hiking at a leisurely pace. This loop showcases the foothills above the Avenues from a hundred different angles and perspectives, each one unique and delightful. There are many opportunities along the way for short side-trips to points of interest such as historic lime kilns, Twin Peaks and Morris Mountain, and many interesting drainages.





### **Memory Grove Loop**

Loop trail above the popular Memory Grove Park, with minimal elevation gain/loss, and lots of winding in and out of small gullies above and below Bonneville Boulevard. The trail provides great connectivity between the State Capitol and Capitol Hill neighborhood, the Avenues neighborhood, City Creek Canyon, and downtown SLC. A great anytime hike or trail run for locals and visitors alike.

# **HIKING LOOP OPTIONS**



### Lower City Creek Loop

Gradual 90-minute to 2-hour walk on either side of City Creek Canyon, with a substantial portion of the route in the shade of large Gambel oak trees and Box Elder maples.



### **Morris Mountain Loop**

Nice, relatively gradual 3-hour hike from City Creek Canyon up to the top of Morris Mountain, with great views of upper City Creek and downtown Salt Lake City. Substantial elevation gain is required.

### Perry's Hollow Loop

Pleasant 90-minute to 2-hour loop hike around Perry's Hollow above the Avenues. Great introductory hike for families, and pleasant morning or evening jaunt for nearby residents. Good sunset views from ridgelines.





### **Morris Meadows Loop**

A pleasant 30-minute cherry-stem loop in a wide open meadow on the south side of City Creek Canyon. Popular with dog walkers and neighborhood residents. One of the only foothills hikes that requires no climbing.



### **Terrace Hills Loop**

An easy 1-hour loop for people looking for a quick but pleasant hike with relatively little elevation gain. Parking tends to be a problem on weekends and nice evenings.

## **HIKING LOOP OPTIONS**

#### Lakeview Loop

Provides a 2.5-hour loop with a long, flat traverse along the Bonneville Shoreline bench. Surprisingly quiet, with good views of interesting geology. Can easily be extended to incorporate the summit of Ensign Peak.





### **Capitol Hill Loop**

Provides a 1-hour loop with excellent views of Capitol Hill and a natural spring in lower Hell Canyon. Perfect for a quick hike or run before work or after dinner.



### Hogback Loop

Provides a 2.5-hour loop with diverse views in many directions. Mostly follows trails that are well-traveled and popular. Good trail running option from Memory Grove & the downtown area.



### **Meridian Peak Loop**

Provides a 3hour loop with excellent views of the lake and interesting jogs into many side canyons. Excellent vistas from the City Creek ridgeline and the summit of Meridian Peak. Recommended for hikers and trail runners looking for substantial solitude, nature, and scenery, and willing to commit to a longer excursion.

# 5055

# **BIKING LOOP OPTIONS**

### APPENDIX B

# **BIKING LOOP OPTIONS**





### Bobsled Loop

Three Salt Lake City classics packed into one great loop. A shady, sustained climb up lower Dry Creek, followed by the fun, rolling contours of the Avenues Section of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail — arguably the best BST segment in Salt Lake City. Finish it off with a descent of the famous Bobsled Downhill. That's a loop you'll never get tired of.



### **Popperton Practice Loops**

A series of short downhill trails at varying difficulty levels, from timid beginner to advanced, helps new and intermediate riders build skills and confidence before heading out to bigger trails. A great place for families with kids to spend time riding and hanging out in the nearby park. Some of the loop trails also accommodate adaptive cycles.



### Twin Peaks Bike Loop

Great bike loop with a serious 1,300' elevation gain and a huge payoff with a sustained downhill trail in Dry Creek. The loop can also be cut in half by heading down where the Dry Creek uphill and downhill trails intersect part way up to the Avenues Twins.



### **Morris Meadows Loop**

Awesome views of City Creek Canyon help you forget that you're cranking up 1,400' of elevation gain enroute to the summit of Morris Mountain. A well-graded uphill trail and a flat section across Morris Meadows help, too. Not far below the summit of Morris Mountain, the Long Way Home trail provides a fun, sustained and intermediate-level downhill back to the trailhead.

### APPENDIX B

## **BIKING LOOP OPTIONS**



### **Roller Coaster Loop**

A relatively short but sustained climb of about 600 vertical feet brings riders to two short downhill MTB options, one intermediate and one intermediate-advanced, to compliment the informal "pipeline rollercoaster" that starts at the same location. Both downhill trails lead back to Wagner Spring, and then back to the Emigration Canyon Trailhead via a downhill-only route. This is a good place for intermediate riders to build skills, or to put in a couple of laps.



### **Red Butte Practice Loop**

This short loop ascends via the Red Butte Canyon Road to the closed gate, and then descends on the gentle, forested slopes on the west side of the road. Small rollers and banked turns give beginner riders a great introduction to mountain biking in a minimally-committing setting — the road is always a short distance away. This loop is also a great place for people with physical disabilities to get some trail time on adaptive cycles.



### U View Loop

This is a great short (45 minute) workout ride around Red Butte Garden and the Natural History Museum of Utah, with a stiff climb and fun descent. The trail is shared with hikers, so it's not a good option for those looking to bomb downhill, but makes for a great after-work ride with friends, or lunchtime getaway for those working near the U Campus and Research Park.



### **Skyline Loop**

A fun, short (45-minute to 1-hour) loop ride on the lower slopes of Mt. Van Cott just above the U of U Campus. A small amount of elevation gain gives way to the rolling, traversing Skyline Trail as it contours in and out of small gullies and ravines. Great trail for beginners and casual intermediate riders, as well as social riding.



### **Red Butte Loop**

Ouch! This is certainly not the longest MTB loop in the Foothills Natural Area, but it's one of the most difficult. A sustained, chunky climb on a narrow trail up out of Red Butte Canyon eventually tops out with a brief rolling contour section east of the Living Room, and then descends via The Slip Trail, an extremely steep and unforgiving downhill that spits riders out above This Is The Place.

### APPENDIX B

# **BIKING LOOP OPTIONS**



### Jones Canyon Loop

Provides a 90-minute loop with a long, scenic climb followed by a fast downhill descent in Jones Canyon. Recommended for strong intermediate to advanced riders looking for a downhill experience similar to the Bobsled Trail but with more effort and more solitude.



### **Prime Meridian Loop**

Provides a 2+ hour loop with a long, gradual climb and a long singletrack descent that provides substantial solitude and fun. Recommended for intermediate to advanced riders looking for a crosscountry experience and a fast, sustained descent. Counter-clockwise direction recommended.



### Switchbacks Practice Loop

Provides a 30-minute loop with easy grades and many tight-but-navigable switchback turns, great for earlyintermediate riders looking to build their skills or take a short loop. Counterclockwise direction recommended.



### **Capitol Steps Loop**

Provides a 90-minute loop with a sustained climb on street, double-track, and single-track, followed by a long singletrack descent. Recommended for intermediate to advanced riders looking for a good workout. Clockwise direction recommended.



### **Peregrine Cliffs Loop**

Provides a 3 hour loop with lots of diversity in terrain and trail types. Recommended for strong intermediate to advanced riders looking for a cross-country experience. Clockwise direction recommended. FOOTHILLS TRAIL SYSTEM PLAN | MARCH 2020

# COMPLETE STAKEHOLDERS LIST

50

### APPENDIX C

## **COMPLETE STAKEHOLDERS LIST**

Apex Trail Construction, LLC Bike Utah **Bingham Cyclery** Blue Leash Pet Care Bonneville Shoreline Trail Committee Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council City of North Salt Lake Contender Bike Shop Cycling Utah/Cycling West **Davis County Planning** Doggy's Big Day Each Bench Planning Group East Bench Community Council (by designee) **Emigration Canyon Community Council Emigration Canyon Metro Township Council Greater Avenues Community Council** Huntsman Cancer Institute Millcreek City Millcreek Friends Interested in Dogs & Open Space National Ability Center National Park Service Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program Natural History Museum of Utah Red Butte Garden Sagebrush Trails, LLC Salt Lake County Open Space Program Salt Lake County Parks & Recreation Salt Lake Running Company Salt Lake Valley Trails Society

Save Our Canyons Singletrack Trails SLC Bicycle Advisory Committee SLC Mayor's Accessibility & Disability Advisory Council SLC Parks, Natural Lands, Trails & Urban Forestry Citizen Advisory Board Snyderville Basin Recreation District State Historical Preservation Office This Is The Place Heritage Park Tracy Aviary Trails Utah UDOT University of Utah Active Transportation & Sustainability University of Utah Commuter Services University of Utah Facilities University of Utah Guest House University of Utah Healthcare University of Utah Planning University of Utah Research Park US Forest Service, Uintah-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Central Region Utah Native Plan Society Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation Utah Open Lands Utah State Geological Survey Wasatch Mountain Club Wasatch Touring Wild Utah Project

... and the contributions of thousands of individual residents, trail users, and lovers of the Foothills Natural Area, many of whom provided extensive, insightful, and extremely helpful comments and feedback during every phase of the planning process!





# ONLINE LINK TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & DIGITAL FILES

### APPENDIX D

# ONLINE LINK TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & DIGITAL FILES

Public engagement and additional digital data is available at: https://www.slc.gov/parks/trailsplan-2/