

## Traction Law and Public Safety in the Cottonwood Canyons

On October 17, 2024, UDOT will be holding a press conference to announce the 2024/2025 UDOT Cottonwood Canyons Sticker Program. The sticker program was created in an effort to increase safety in the Cottonwood Canyons during the winter months. Vehicles with a tread depth of 5/32 are able to receive the sticker at certain tire shops.

Unsafe traction compromises the safety for all canyon users by slowing and blocking traffic flow, including blocking emergency services vehicles.

UDOT has established an agreement with the Sheriff's Office, Sandy City Police, and Cottonwood Heights Police to fund additional officers at the base of the Cottonwood Canyons. On traction required days, vehicles with the traction sticker will be allowed through while those without the sticker will be pulled over to ensure that their tires meet the minimum requirements or that they have chains.

We are also supportive of efforts by the Utah Legislature, including those by Representative Gay Lynn Bennion, to increase traction enforcement as well as to modify and update the traction laws and reconciling tread depth requirements to provide greater safety in the Cottonwood Canyons.

As part of this effort, the Council will also direct Kara Trevino, its legislative affairs coordinator to work closely with Representative Bennion and other stakeholders during the upcoming legislative session, and to update the Council about progress on improving vehicle safety and traction laws in the Cottonwood Canyons.

Councilwomen Theodore, Stringham, and Harrison

More information about the traction sticker program can be found here:

<https://www.udot.utah.gov/connect/2023/11/01/udot-cottonwood-canyons-sticker-program/>