



## United States Department of the Interior

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Zion National Park Springdale, UT 84767



November 17, 2023

Dear Commercial Use Authorization Applicants,

The Zion Commercial Services Office is excited to announce the 2024 Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) Application Package for Zion National Park (ZION). We appreciate your continued efforts to connect park visitors to the natural and cultural resources of ZION.

The park continues to address a wide range of issues associated with growing visitation and changing use patterns which include visitor health and safety concerns, diminished quality of visitor experiences, natural and cultural resource impacts, heavy strain on park facilities and park operations, as well as effects to and from adjacent communities. In doing so, an evaluation of commercial services in relation to ZION's existing park management plans and future management objectives (Per National Park Service Management Policies 2006 section 8.1.2) will continue to inform determinations of appropriate commercial use.

#### **Important information about CUA Program updates:**

##### **Taxi and Recreational Shuttle Services:**

Clarification in permit language – The commercial activity does not end until the shuttle vehicle exits the park and returns to its base of operation. As such, the NPS considers the shuttle service to be over when visitors are dropped off at their requested destination and the shuttle returns to its home of operation, thus terminating outside of the park.

##### **Guided Interpretive Hiking Level III**

###### **Condition # 1 – Authorized Use Defined:**

Clarification in permit language – Hiking guide must be present with their guests at all times while in the park, to meet the requirements of law and policy and to enhance the safety of guided visitors. Guides must terminate the hike outside the boundaries of the unit (park) per law (USC16-5966) and NPS policy (Management Policies 2006) for issuance and management of commercial activities under a CUA.

###### **Condition # 2 – Authorized Use Areas Defined:**

Permittee may split their hiking group, provided that a guide must be with each split group for the remaining portion of the hike.

## Angels Landing Pilot

The Angels Landing pilot permit program for commercial users will remain on the first-come first-served permit system for 2024. There will be two reservation booking windows for 2024. The first reservation booking window will open Dec. 15, 2023, to reserve Angels Landing permits for hiking dates from January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024. The second reservation booking window will open June 1, 2024, to reserve Angels Landing permits for hiking dates from July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. Each CUA holder will be required to have a commercial account in Recreation.gov to reserve permits. Commercial users with an existing Recreation.gov account may utilize their current account for 2024 (see the Angels Landing Frequently Asked Questions for more information. [FAQs](#)).

In 2024, commercial activities to Angels Landing will remain limited to Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday ONLY. Permits will be issued through recreation.gov, with the CUA holder paying the \$6.00 reservation permit application fee (up to 6 permits) per reservation and \$3.00 per-person use fee.

### High Season

Twenty four (24) permits per day will be available on a first come, first serve basis during high season (March through November). Maximum group size is limited to 6 guests plus one guide. Two groups per CUA holder per day is permissible in high season. Each group must be accompanied by a guide and each group must be separated on the trail by a minimum of 15 minutes.

### Low Season

Eight (8) permits per day will be available on a first come, first serve basis during low season (December through February). Maximum group size is limited to 6 guests plus one guide and is limited to one (1) group per CUA holder per day during low season.

A CUA holder may guide individuals or groups (up to 6 people) that have obtained public lottery permits for Angels Landing **and have independently approached a guiding service**. Guides or CUA holders may not enter the public lottery on behalf of commercial clients. Entering the public lottery or advising and/or soliciting clients to enter the public lottery for commercially guided services is a violation of this CUA.

[FAQs](#), and more information are available by visiting the Zion National Park Commercial Use Authorization webpage: [Commercial Use Authorization - Zion National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#)

This is a pilot program; it is expected that changes will be ongoing as we continue to monitor and adapt the system in the third year of this program. Conditions are subject to change during the 2024 operating year. Notice of change will be given in writing.

### **2024 CUA Application Package:**

ZION is now accepting applications for 2024 CUAs. Important information on the 2024 application process can be found on the Zion commercial use authorization website at: [Commercial Use Authorization - Zion National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](#)

For new applicants, welcome and thank you for joining in our efforts to provide meaningful visitor experiences in Zion National Park. For those of you returning, welcome back and thank you for your continued contributions to that effort. If you have any questions about this correspondence, please contact Larry Walter, Concessions Management Specialist at (435) 772-0210 or at [zion\\_commercialservices@nps.gov](mailto:zion_commercialservices@nps.gov).

Sincerely,

Jeff Bradybaugh  
Superintendent