
MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 13, 2007

TO: City Council Members

SUBJECT: Resolution relating to the This Is The Place Heritage State Park

Attached for the City Council's consideration is a revised Resolution relating to This Is The Place Heritage Park. The minor revisions include:

- "Mayor Rocky Anderson" rather than Mayor Ross C. "Rocky" Anderson
- 4th Whereas clause: the word "Park" changed to "Foundation"

WHEREAS, the original operational intent of the This Is The Place State Park (the "Park") and its present mission statement state that the purpose of the Park is "... to educate the public about the history, culture, and contemporary legacy of Utah's early settlers and the cultures, groups, and indigenous people with whom they interacted through interpretive programs, living history experiences, research, and exhibits;"and

WHEREAS, the Park is managed by the This Is The Place Foundation, a private non-profit organization, under contract with the State of Utah; and

WHEREAS, annual state support for the park is less than it was ten years ago, however, the Legislature provided \$2 million in one-time funds in 2006 to stabilize its finances and at that time urged the foundation to take steps to keep park operations in the black going forward; and

WHEREAS, the ~~Park~~ Foundation has continued to operate in a negative cash position and has indicated that it must find additional sources of revenue to fulfill its operational intent and mission statement; and

WHEREAS, the open space policy of Salt Lake City is to preserve and expand, rather than reduce, the amount of publicly-owned open space areas within the boundaries of our community; and

WHEREAS, the This Is The Place Foundation Board of Trustees recently voted in favor of proposing that 12 acres of current open space at the Park be leased to ARUP for \$400,000 per year for fifty years for construction of an administrative building and parking lot to provide needed additional operating revenues; and

WHEREAS, the final decision regarding this lease will be made by the Board of Utah State Parks & Recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake City Council and Mayor ~~Ross C.~~ "Rocky" Anderson, as confirmed by City policy, believe it is in the overall best interests of its citizens and visitors to our City to maintain the beauty, significance and heritage of this historic site by preserving all existing open space within the Park,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Salt Lake City Council and Mayor ~~Ross C.~~ "Rocky" Anderson urge the members of the Board of Utah State Parks & Recreation to reject the proposed land lease at their April 20, 2007 board meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Salt Lake City Council and Mayor ~~Ross C.~~ "Rocky" Anderson urge the Board of Utah State Parks & Recreation to identify other sources of additional revenue that do not include the sale or lease of existing open space located within the boundaries of the Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Salt Lake City Council and Mayor ~~Ross C.~~ "Rocky" Anderson urge the public to expand their understanding of the proud history of Utah's pioneer settlers by visiting and supporting the Park in 2007 and into the future.

Ross C. ~~"Rocky"~~ Anderson
Mayor

Salt Lake City Council Vice Chair
Jill Remington Love, District Five

Salt Lake City Council Member
Søren D. Simonsen, District Seven

Salt Lake City Council Member
Nancy Saxton, District Four

Salt Lake City Council Chair
Van Blair Turner, District Two

Salt Lake City Council Member
Carlton J. Christensen, District One

Salt Lake City Council Member
K. Eric Jergensen, District Three

(RECUSED)

Salt Lake City Council Member
David L. Buhler, District Six