

NEWS RELEASE
December 10, 2015
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Bountiful City Council Notifies Congress of Opposition to Land Swap

Letter to Utah Delegation and Forest Service Urges No Changes to Open Space

Bountiful, Utah – The Bountiful City Council urged members of the Utah Congressional delegation and the Forest Service to protect 154 acres of open space from development this week. City leaders have drafted a letter voicing their opposition to a proposed exchange of 160 acres east of Bountiful for Forest Service land which includes the Lions Club Gun Range. In the letter, the Council requests “that the public land remain public, kept as open space, and continued in a natural and undeveloped condition.” The letter was drafted following a well-attended public meeting on November 17th in which the Council voted unanimously to oppose the transfer.

The letter also requests that the Forest Service consider a long term lease of the shooting range operated by the Lion’s Club. “The Lions have maintained a lease there for many years, and have properly and responsibly operated there for the benefit of Bountiful citizens and others.”

The City Council intends to consider additional methods of protecting the land, which may include the creation of a new “open space” zone. These discussions will likely take place early next year.

Dear Congressman

The purpose of this letter is to state to you that the Bountiful City Council unanimously opposes any land exchange in which U.S. Forest Service land around the Lion’s Club shooting range in Bountiful, Utah, would end up in private ownership. The Council has carefully examined the issue, including holding a well attended public hearing, work by City staff, and a presentation by a real estate developer. We strongly urge that this public land remain public, kept as open space, and continued in a natural and undeveloped condition.

At the same time, we also urge the Forest Service to give a long term lease of the shooting range area to the Lion’s Club. The Lions have maintained a lease there for many years, and have properly and responsibly operated there for the benefit of Bountiful citizens and others.

The Council appreciates the work that you and the Utah Congressional delegation have done for the people of Utah, and the beneficial presence of the Forest Service in the area in and near Bountiful.

Sincerely,

Mayor Randy C. Lewis

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