

Dear Mayor Wright and Members of the Payson City Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for the preservation of the Forebay recreation area in Payson Canyon. For over twenty years, the Forebay has been a treasured part of our community — a place where generations of Payson families have gathered to connect with nature and with one another.

The Forebay area is far more than a trailhead or a stretch of land; it is a sanctuary. It offers a peaceful retreat where residents and visitors alike can walk, bike, fish, and reflect in the quiet beauty of the canyon. Families have built memories there — teaching children to ride bikes along the trails, enjoying picnics by the water, and finding a sense of renewal in the open air. In a time when so many community spaces are being developed or lost, the Forebay remains one of the few places that truly allows people to step away from screens and schedules to reconnect with what matters most.

Protecting this space ensures that future generations of Payson residents can continue to experience the same sense of peace, belonging, and natural beauty that has enriched our community for decades. The Forebay represents the heart of what makes Payson special — our connection to the mountains, our appreciation of the outdoors, and our shared commitment to maintaining spaces that promote health, happiness, and community. I respectfully urge the City Council to take all possible measures to preserve and protect the Forebay recreation area for continued public use. Its value to our community cannot be measured simply in land or property terms, but in the countless lives it has touched and will continue to touch for years to come.

Thank you for your service and for considering the voices of community members who care deeply about this unique and irreplaceable part of Payson Canyon.

Your Friends,

Jesse Sorenson

Patty Sorenson

Jacob Sorenson

Maya Sorenson

Leah Sorenson

Jenna Sorenson

Payson Residents