

Proposed Easement Forebay

In the 1980's Payson City determined to close the 9-hole GladStan golf course in lower Payson and to build a new 18 hole course next to some Shuler property located in Elk Ridge. Payson did not own enough land to complete the proposed project so they approached several landowners who owned property just north of the Forebay area to see if they would donate enough property to complete the course. The Shuler family donated many acres of land to Payson so that they would be able to complete an 18-hole golf course. As the project developed there was an additional need for more land to complete the last two holes. Again, the Shuler Family provided, at a nominal cost, additional acres to Payson so that the golf course could be completed.

During this entire process, the Shuler family has demonstrated cooperation to accommodate every request made by Payson. Now, nestled in the foothills above Elk Ridge, and next to other Payson property, lies one of the most beautiful 18-hole golf courses in the state of Utah. As a member of the Shuler family, we loved the new course and knew that years later it would only add to the beauty, attraction, and property value of those who chose to live here.

We are in favor of Payson City setting aside a conservation easement to protect the Forebay area. For almost a hundred years our family has traveled many times into that area to enjoy the open access, beauty, wildlife, hiking, biking, and horseback experience. We would like to see that continue.

As we have reviewed the proposed Payson Four Bay Recreation area map, we have noticed that there is no parcel of land set aside or suggested for possible ingress egress access for property owners. This would leave most of the landowners landlocked with property values greatly reduced, a possible reality we believe, that was never intended by Payson City officials.

We also believe that egress benefits Payson City. Emergency egress would be life saving for fire or other disasters, scout camp and those using the canyon, etc.

We believe that there is fair and reasonable basis for a short delay in approving the proposed Conservation Easement so that viable options for access may be discussed and examined thoroughly. Assuming this is acceptable, we believe that accommodation for access will protect the landowners, and also can be done in a way to fully protect the overall conservation objectives and majority acreage area of the Conservation Easement.

Shuler Family

(Lee Pope 801 636 1727, Karl Shuler 801 372 7952, Jed Shuler 801 360 8442)