

Wendy Page

From: Jeff Scroger <jeff.scroger@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 4:58 PM
To: Alisa VanLangeveld; Ken Leetham; Ted Knowlton; Tammy Clayton; Wendy Page; Brian Horrocks
Subject: public comment for City Council meeting on Sep 15, 2026

Dear City Council,

I understand that during the most recent meeting of the Events Committee, three attending members of that Committee passed a motion to cancel all Night Out events on Food Truck Nights next year.

I can't skip past the irony that an Events Committee, who have a duty is to create events, have decided to take a different approach and cancel events instead.

I also think it's naïve to view this decision without suspicion. Choosing to cancel a long-term series of several events in one fell swoop is significant and important, and good governance standards would indicate that it should only be put to vote when the full Committee was available to weigh in.

I'm happy that North Salt Lake organizes a lot of different events and activities, and happy that a wide variety of people have many niche opportunities for fun and engagement. The Night Out events are an important part of this variety. We have mass appeal events like Winterfest and Libertyfest. We have athletic opportunities like the trail series, the golf course, the Jordan River event, and Halloween fun runs. We have multiple events for children of all interests, and the Senior Lunch Bunch for seniors. And even though I don't golf, don't have children, am not a senior, am not a racial minority, don't care about fireworks, and don't often participate in the other activities I just mentioned, But I'm really happy that my tax dollars are being put to good use for a variety of different people. Tax dollars contributed by all people should be used for the enjoyment all people. I like the diversity of people around me in North Salt Lake, and up until now I have felt grateful that my city also valued diversity.

The decision by the Events Committee to deliberately single out and cancel a series of events that were created, planned, and consistently organized by members of the community to recognize traditionally-marginalized minorities is a harmful decision. This damages the City's reputation. It shows people outside North Salt Lake that we are a community that chooses to further exclude and punch down on people with fewer numbers and less power than the majority. As a North Salt Lake resident, this personally embarrasses me.

The decision to cancel these events keeps getting brought up in meetings of both the Events Committee and City Council, and the argument I keep hearing is that these events "exclude" people. This is wrong in both ways the statement may be intended. First of all, no one is ever excluded at these events, and everyone is welcome. There is even space available at these events for protestors in case anyone wants to show up solely to dissent and demonstrate against them. We make room at the table, even for our haters. Second of all, the process of creating and organizing these events is open to everyone. Anyone in the city is welcome to go to the Events Committee and propose their idea and plan for a Night Out event, to celebrate any group or interest. I'm utterly fed up with hearing complaints from people about being excluded, when it's these same people who are too lazy to use their complaining energy to actually contribute to the City and organize their own preferred events. And I'm absolutely fed up with these complaints coming secondhand from members of the Events Committee and City Council who are in a position to respond immediately to their complaining constituents and explain the democratic process available to them to create and organize their preferred Night Out events. No one is being excluded by Night Out events, we just seem to have a few residents who like to complain when their decision to passively do nothing is not magically rewarded with a Night Out event catering to their particular interest.

Thank you for your time,

Jeff Scroger

Chair of the Health & Wellness Committee