

**TOQUERVILLE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Special Work Meeting Agenda**  
**September 4, 2019, at 6:30 pm**  
**212 N. Toquerville Blvd, Toquerville Utah**



Present: Mayor Lynn Chamberlain; Council members: Keen Ellsworth, Justin Sip, Ty Bringhurst; Staff: Recorder Dana McKim, Deputy Recorder Ruth Evans; Public: Dan James, Elizabeth Johnson, Randy Durda, Brad Cary, Gary Otto, Jennifer Dittman, Steve Roah, Debbie Roah, Sherry Matin, Jeanne Hill, Leslie Campbell, Carri Bohne, Dennis Williams, Laura Williams, Gress Leiby, Richard Aderns, Greg Walker, Win Helen, Yolanta Helen, Kathy Edwards, Val Edwards, Deen Christensen, Shanna Christensen, Kathy Allen, Scott Allen, Paula Sayer, Ken Sayer, Kjirsten Fuller, Ross Johnston, Judy Johnston, Wendi Merritt, Gary Chaves, Darin Heaton Delethe Heaton, Chris Anderson, Tracy Munson; Absent: Councilmember Alex Chamberlain and Paul Heideman.

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

1. Mayor Lynn Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to receive public input regarding a connecting bridge to be constructed between the Trail Ridge Estate Subdivision and the Cholla Subdivision. Mayor Chamberlain turned the time over to Councilman Justin Sip, who is heading up the project.

**B. BUSINESS:**

1. Councilman Justin Sip described the concepts for a steel bridge being approximately 6' wide, with a Trex type decking material. The bridge will rust naturally and will be coated with a clear sealant. The council described the bridge to be wide enough for ATVs and pedestrians. The city has contracted with a local company to construct the structure. The bid received was very reasonable and under budget. There will be very little maintenance involved.

Councilman Keen Ellsworth wondered why should there be ATV traffic on the bridge at all. There are trails that ATVs can use, so why not keep it as a pedestrian bridge. Councilman Ellsworth invited the public to weigh in on what type of bridge they would prefer.

Resident Greg Walker commented that the Cholla Subdivision could shut access off because part of it will be constructed on the Cholla subdivision property.

Resident Kathy Edwards addressed safety concerns regarding ATVs and pedestrians on the same bridge/trail. She stated there are many ATV trails and asked why do they have to be on this bridge? Ms. Edwards is in favor of the bridge, as long as it is pedestrian access only.

Resident Leslie Campbell asked what the cost of this bridge will be. Councilman Sip responded that the budget for this bridge is \$100,000. The City has received a grant in for \$50,000.00. The purpose of the bridge is for easier access between the two subdivisions and to facilitate safe routes for students to get to the school bus stopping points.

Resident Jennifer Dittman is a bus driver for Valley Academy. Ms. Dittman will not pull her bus into Cholla Subdivision because there is nowhere to safely turn around. The bridge would be helpful for the children to use.



Resident Elizabeth Johnson is not in favor of ATV access on the bridge. There are already too many ATVs driving around the subdivision. There are posted "No ATV" signs in the area but have seen these signs ignored.

Councilman Sip proposed putting a concrete post in the middle of the bridge to keep ATVs off the bridge.

Resident Gary Otto is in favor of a bridge. The bridge needs to be for pedestrians and bicycles and would like to restrict traffic for ATVs and horses.

Councilman Sip agreed with the resident's requests and would be in favor of not having ATVs on the bridge.

Resident Randy Durda commented that ATVs erode the ditch banks and come through his property all day long. He suggested ATVs should go farther down and not come in by the park. The bridge is a great idea for pedestrians. The ATV problem needs to be solved, perhaps with a new ATV crossing site.

Resident Kjirsten Fuller moved to Cholla because ATVs are allowed in the subdivision. She was in favor of the city to provide a safe way for ATVs to cross the bridge. She suggested a gate could be constructed so ATV traffic would have to stop to open it and would create a reduction in speed when crossing the bridge.

Recorder Dana McKim reminded the public of City Code that states no person sixteen years or older shall operate an off-highway vehicle on designated streets unless the person has a valid driver's license.

Resident Ken Sayer commented that most of the traffic from the ATVs comes from the convoys of ATVs that come through to Nephi's Landing. They need to remain on designated roads/trails. There needs to be a bridge for pedestrians.

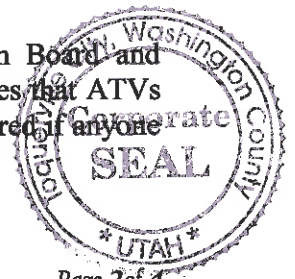
Resident Steve Roah stated he is in favor of the bridge and that there are two separate issues. First, ATVs; and second the proposed bridge. The bridge is a safety issue and could be used as an alternate exit out of the subdivision if there was an earthquake or fire. Mr. Roah would like to prevent numerous ATVs from turning around at one time.

Resident Gary Chaves requested the side rails for the bridge not be horizontal for safety reasons.

Resident Dan James is in favor of the bridge but is concerned about the trail in Cholla because it is a private trail. Cholla residents pay for and maintain the trail. ATV groups have been speeding through which present safety concerns.

Resident Leslie Campbell commented that the trail on the Trail Ridge side is private, and they pay for and maintain it and that's why they are not happy with the ATVs speeding through the area either.

Resident Greg Walker speaks for the Cholla Creek Home Owners Association Board and understood the bridge could be helpful to tie the communities together. He believes that ATVs are a real issue in the area and the concerns should be addressed. Mr. Walker inquired if anyone



knew who owns Nephi's Twist. He wasn't sure if it belonged to BLM or the Trail Ridge Subdivision. Councilman Ty Bringhurst believed that Trail Ridge owns a small part of the twist. He has had previous conversations with the property owners and they are willing to dedicate part of the property to the city for a new trailhead. Mr. Walker is also concerned that social media is spreading the word to ATV caravans about trails and is concerned about the motorized vehicles eroding the creek banks. He suggested creek access should be stopped for ATVs.

Councilman Keen Ellsworth believed that to his knowledge, the Army Corps of Engineers has acknowledged the trails were there long before the homes constructed. In order to change the location of the trail, someone would need to go through the permitting process. Caravans and ATV tours can be contacted to stop going through the creek. Councilman Ellsworth advised residents to call the Sherriff's Department if they see caravans speeding through the trails. He suggested citizens calling into dispatch should try and report a direction of travel, number of vehicles, and vehicle descriptions. Ellsworth has contacted dispatch on one occasion and law enforcement did respond to his reported incident.

Resident Leslie Campbell is concerned that these caravans come through and use the trails but do not pay into the subdivision homeowners association (HOA) maintenance fund. There are only sixty homes that pay for the maintenance of these trails.

Resident Chris Anderson commented that this meeting is regarding the bridge and is in favor of the bridge. Mr. Anderson would like to keep the subdivision more of a country feel than a city and would not be opposed to ATVs on the bridge. At a minimum, there needs to be a safer ATV crossing site.

Mayor Chamberlain requested that any comments should be directed toward the subject of the bridge, and noted that there are issues with ATVs that may need to be addressed at a later time.

Resident Val Edwards asked the Council members to state what their top priorities are with the bridge. Mayor Chamberlain responded that he heard the residents' concerns about ATV traffic in the area of the Cholla and Trail Ridge Estates subdivisions. Mayor Chamberlain also heard that the bridge is needed for several reasons which include safety, convenience, and community issues. Mr. Edwards requested safety should be the number one priority, especially the safety of the pedestrians.

Resident Debbie Roah commented that she is 100% for the bridge and that ATVs need a legal safe crossing. Ms. Roah is concerned about the safety of the children playing down at the creek.

Resident Tracy Munson thinks the bridge is a great addition to the communities and is 100% against ATVs or vehicles on the bridge. The school kids' safety is a top concern.

Resident Dean Christensen is concerned about ATVs and pedestrians sharing the bridge.

Councilman Keen Ellsworth summarized the public comments received. He asked if the majority of the people present were in favor of a pedestrian bridge only. He also heard from public comment there needs to be a better place for ATVs to cross the creek. The majority of the residents agreed with this summary.



**C. ADJOURN:**

Mayor Lynn Chamberlain adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

  
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Mayor – Lynn Chamberlain

10/10/2019  
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Date

  
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Attest – Toquerville City Recorder – Dana M. McKim

