

The following additional citizens have submitted the form email below. These submissions were received after the Salt Lake County Planning Commission packet was posted on the Utah Public Notice website on February 10, 2022.

Zeppelin Zeerip, Jared Pratt, Steven Graham, Regan Lelli, Danielle Franks, Ashley Judd.

Form email submitted by above list of citizens

Dear SLCo MPD and Commission Wendy Gurr,

Dear Salt Lake Co. Mountainous Planning District and County Planning Commissioners,

Adding a mine within the most densely populated area of our state that already struggles with poor air quality and sensitive water resources is a reckless action jeopardizing the health and frankly, the economic future of our state. To this end, I support the leadership of Salt Lake County's Mountains Planning District and the Salt Lake County Planning Commission to amend the Forestry and Recreation Zones.

I support the following revisions of Salt Lake County Ordinances:

Prohibit the uses of "mineral extraction and processing; mine; quarry; gravel pit; including crushers or concrete batching plants used in connection with and as part of an operation for the removal of sand, gravel and/or rock aggregate in the Forest Recreation Zone and in the Foothills and Canyons Overlay Zone."

Establish a process for the County planning director to decide whether or not a use not listed is prohibited or related to a conditional or permitted use in the relevant ordinances.

A 600 plus acres mine, or any industrialization of the Wasatch's watershed is inconsistent with the values of our communities. It threatens our water, ecosystems and quality of life. I applaud this proposed revision of the ordinance that will speak loudly on behalf of all that depend upon and value the Wasatch Range.

Thank you for your time and attention.

The following additional citizens submitted the form email and added the following additional comments:

Shannon Gordon

I strongly agree with the statements below concerning the amendment to the Forestry and Recreation Zones proposed by the Salt Lake County Mountain Planning District and the Salt Lake County Planning Commission. We are fortunate to live in this beautiful area of the world. Our mountain scapes cannot be duplicated. Our water is pristine and both need to be protected. Please see that the mining, extraction and gravel pits are not allowed! Once our mountains are destroyed, they will be lost forever!

Zachary Gardner

Living at the base of Millcreek canyon has given me an opportunity to grow up amongst the high peaks and the low creeks of the Wasatch. I love these mountains with all my heart and soul. They are a home to me like very few other places can be. Parley's canyon is important to me because of the stream that runs through it. I grew up fishing this creek with I-80 running next to it. This is home to a special population of Bonneville cutthroat trout. I worry about the immediate impacts a mine would have on water quantity and quality. There is also a proven reputation that mines leave legacy water problems. Little Cottonwood and American Fork Creeks still suffer with water quality issues from mining that ended years ago. This is also a unique area for rock climbing. I learned how to work ropes, climb, and rappel on slabs of rock just above the freeway. This is an area abounding with wildlife. A mine can have devastating effects on wildlife populations and I know this is a particular wildlife hotspot. As a hunter, climber, and fisher I cherish these resources and believe in a duty to steward them. Our growing population makes areas like this harder and harder to find so close to the city. I am not against mining or resource use but this a special wild place so close to our urban capitol. For these reasons I am opposed to the creation of a new mine in Parley's Canyon.

From: [T. Martin](#)
To: [Wendy Gurr](#)
Subject: Opposition to proposed Parley's canyon mine
Date: Thursday, February 10, 2022 6:12:27 PM

Dear Wendy Gurr,

Thank you for taking the time to read my email to you.

I am extremely concerned about the proposal of a gravel pit style mine in Parley's canyon. I am strongly opposed for a number of reasons and would like to express my thoughts but I will not be able to attend the virtual meeting on February 16, 2022. If you would be so kind as to help me to have a say at that meeting, if you have any recommendations for me to do so.

Thank you again for your time, on behalf of the wildlife that call that place home and the necessary drinking water that our city is relying upon.

Most sincerely,
Therese Martin

February 15, 2022

Dear Salt Lake County Planning Commissioners,

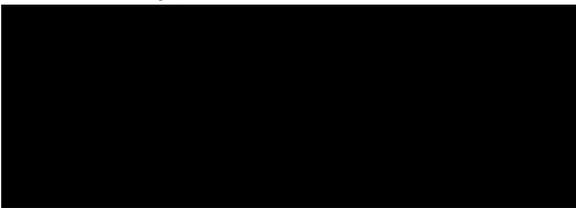
I'm writing to ask you to recommend that the Salt Lake County Council approve OAM2021-000494 - Amendment to Salt Lake County Code sections 19.12.030, 19.72.190, and 19.76.030.

This revision is necessary, primarily to protect the remaining open space within the boundaries of Salt Lake County in the Wasatch Mountains and Canyons. The current proposal for the development of a 634-acre gravel pit in lower Parleys Canyon is an example of how the air quality, water quality, wildlife habitat, private property values, within the Wasatch Mountains could be irreparably damaged and degraded by allowing such large-scale excavation as a conditional use.

I've attached references to several planning documents for the Wasatch Mountains that Salt Lake County has signed onto that highlight how many times the County has expressed values, visions and plans that are inconsistent with projects such as this gravel pit. These documents represent thousands of hours of thoughtful and methodical deliberation and negotiations by hundreds of people. That work and commitment must not be discarded to satisfy the ambitions of a single property owner.

Thank you for your service on this commission. Please consider the proposed amendment as serving the interests of the vast majority of the current and future residents of the County.

Sincerely,



Scott Williams, M.D.

References in planning documents for the Central Wasatch Mountains and Canyons that are inconsistent with allowing a conditional use for a large scale gravel pit.

**Salt Lake County Code Chapter 19.12
FORESTRY AND RECREATION ZONES
FR-0.5, FR-1, FR-2.5, FR-5, FR-10, FR-20, FR-50 AND FR-100**

19.12.010 - Purpose of provisions.

The purpose of the forestry and recreation zones is to permit the development of the foothill and canyon areas of the county for forestry, recreation, and other specified uses to the extent such development is compatible with the protection of the natural and scenic resources of these areas for the continued benefit of future generations.

**Salt Lake County Code Chapter 19.72
FOOTHILLS AND CANYONS OVERLAY ZONE (FCOZ)**

19.72.010 - Purpose.

The general purpose of the foothills and canyons overlay zone is to promote safe, environmentally sensitive development that strikes a reasonable balance between the rights and long-term interests of property owners and those of the general public. Specifically, these standards are intended to:

- A. Preserve the visual and aesthetic qualities of the foothills, canyons, and prominent ridgelines as defined herein, contributing to the general attractiveness and, where appropriate, the commercial viability of these areas.
- B. Protect public health and safety by adopting standards designed to reduce risks associated with natural and man-made hazards.
- C. Provide efficient, environmentally sensitive, and safe vehicular and pedestrian circulation.
- D. Encourage development that conforms to the natural contours of the land and minimizes the scarring and erosion effects of cutting, filling and grading on hillsides, ridgelines, and steep slopes.
- E. Balance private and commercial needs against the risk of destabilizing fragile soils, defacing steep slopes and degrading water quality.
- F. Minimize disturbance to existing trees and vegetation, conserve wildlife habitat, protect aquifer recharge areas, and otherwise preserve environmentally sensitive natural areas by encouraging clustering, the transfer of development rights, or other design techniques to preserve the natural terrain.
- G. Reduce flooding by protecting streams, drainage channels, absorption areas, and floodplains.
- H. Protect property rights and commercial interests, and encourage economic development.
- I. Recognize the link between environmental protection and economic prosperity in the canyons.

Wasatch Canyons General Plan 2020

Parleys Canyon:

GOALS:

Ensure the management of watersheds in the Wasatch Canyons to protect water quality and quantity

Ensure that future improvements in and usage of the Wasatch Canyons are managed to protect wildlife, fisheries, and habitat and to reduce human-wildlife conflicts.

Maintain and increase the conservation of natural lands that protect ecosystems and watersheds and provide recreational opportunities.

Enhance public awareness, involvement, and stewardship of environmental and recreational values and practices.

Promote bicycling and walking through enhancing the safety and accessibility of trailheads, parking lots, bicycle lanes, and other public facilities.

Improve the recreation user experience while preparing for future demand.

Support the continuation and viability of canyon businesses while conserving the natural features and recreational attributes that make the canyons a vital economic impact in Utah.

ACTIONS:

Ordinance Updates - Salt Lake County will review and update FCOZ requirements relating to property line setbacks, roof lines, building spacing, snow shedding, snow storage, defensible spaces, fire risk, septic systems, preservation of historic structures, and forest health to ensure alignment with the objectives of this Wasatch Canyons General Plan.

Recreation Master Plan - Following completion of the updated SLC watershed management plan, SLCo will collaborate with SLC, Forest Service and UDOT in the development of a recreation master plan for Parleys Canyon.

Salt Lake County General Resources Plan

Applicable Sections:

Air Quality

Fire Management

Forest Management

Land Use

Mining

Recreation and Tourism

Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species

Water Quality & Hydrology

Water Rights

Wilderness

Wildlife

Mountain Accord/ Central Wasatch Commission

Goals:

1. Protect the environment and natural resources,
2. Ensure high quality recreational experiences,
3. Enhance regional transportation, and
4. Strengthen the regional economy.

Proposes the creation of

The Central Wasatch National Conservation and Recreation Area and

The Grandeur Peak- Mt Aire Wilderness Area (borders on proposed Parleys Canyon gravel pit)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Wendy Gurr](#)
Subject: SLCo Planning Commission 16 Feb 2020 Meeting - Item OAM2021-000484 – Amendment to Salt Lake County Code sections 19.12.030
Date: Monday, February 14, 2022 9:30:17 PM
Attachments: [Advisory Recommendation - Tree Farm, LLC.pdf](#)
[Untitled attachment 00042.htm](#)

Dear Salt Lake County Planning Commission,

I am writing this email on behalf of The Parley's Canyon Community Council (PCCC) in support of a proposed amendment of the Salt Lake County Code sections sections 19.12.030, 19.72.190 and 19.76.030 to eliminate mineral extraction and processing as a conditional use and explicitly prohibiting the same and other related uses in the forestry and recreation zones.

The Parley's Canyon Community Council (PCCC) represents the property owners and residents of unincorporated Salt Lake County in Parley's Canyon, primarily in Mt. Aire and Lambs Canyons. PCCC is a member of the Association of Community Councils Together (ACCT).

ACCT is an alliance of community councils that was organized throughout the unincorporated areas of Salt Lake County and was authorized by county ordinance on January 23, 1985. ACCT is a strong advocate of citizen participation and grass-root involvement and exists to preserve self-determination for residents of the unincorporated areas of the Salt Lake County, to represent citizens' interests in policies that impact individuals in county, metro township, and city community council neighborhoods and to provide an officially recognized forum with a working relationship at all government levels thereby creating greater public awareness and understanding of governance issues.

A November 24, 2021 Salt Lake Tribune article reported that Tree Farm, LLC had applied to the Utah Department of Natural Resources to operate a new, massive 634-acre strip mine immediately west of Mt. Aire Canyon in Parley's Canyon. Many alarmed property owners of our community immediately contacted our council members asking that we provide input to regulating authorities on behalf of the communities that this mine would impact.

We prepared and sent a letter to several government entities on November 29, 2021 expressing our concerns and opposition to the proposed mining effort. That letter is attached for reference and expresses several of our concerns. The letter was sent to the following entities:

Governor Spencer Cox
Representative Brian King, House District 28
Senator Derek Kitchen, Senate District 2
SL County Mayor Jenny Wilson
SL County Council Members District 4 and at Large
Mr. John Baza, Director, Utah Dept of Oil, Gas & Mining
Ms. Leslie Heppler, Utah Dept of Oil, Gas & Mining
Ms. Kimberly D. Shelley, Utah Dept of Environmental Quality
Greg Schiffman, ACCT President
Barbara Cameron, ACCT Secretary

Based on community feedback, the Parleys Canyon Community Council's recommendation is to not allow permits related to mining adjacent to the city or within FCOZ designated areas. This ordinance supports that recommendation and should be approved by your Commission.

Respectfully,

Parley's Canyon Community Council

Darrell Whatcott

PCCC Officer

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



PARLEY'S CANYON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ADVISORY INPUT AND RECOMMENDATION

November 29, 2021

To: Governor Spencer Cox

Representative Brian King, House District 28

Senator Derek Kitchen, Senate District 2

SL County Mayor Jenny Wilson

SL County Council Members District 4 and at Large

Mr. John Baza, Director, Utah Dept of Oil, Gas & Mining

Ms. Leslie Heppler, Utah Dept of Oil, Gas & Mining

Ms. Kimberly D. Shelley, Utah Dept of Environmental Quality

Greg Schiffman, ACCT President

Barbara Cameron, ACCT Secretary

RE: TREE FARM, LLC NOTICE OF INTENT TO COMMENCE LARGE MINE OPERATIONS

To whom it may concern:

The Parley's Canyon Community Council (PCCC) represents the property owners and residents of unincorporated Salt Lake County in Parley's Canyon, primarily in Mt. Aire and Lambs Canyons. PCCC is a member of the Association of Community Councils Together (ACCT).

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city community council neighborhoods and to provide an officially recognized forum with a working relationship at all government levels thereby creating greater public awareness and understanding of governance issues.

A November 24, 2021 Salt Lake Tribune article reported that Tree Farm, LLC had applied to the Utah Department of Natural Resources to operate a new, massive 634-acre strip mine immediately west of Mt. Aire Canyon in Parley's Canyon. Many alarmed property owners of our community immediately contacted our council members asking that we provide input to regulating authorities on behalf of the communities that this mine would impact.

Foremost, we're confused how an operation of this magnitude (~100-year life with a total area of disturbance of 634 acres, per the application) within 6 minutes of Utah's most major metropolitan city and in a corridor through which millions of travelers navigate each year may be approved without any opportunity for public comment. Ms. Heppler with the Utah Dept of Natural Resources informed one of our council members that Tree Farm's notice was to commence operations of what is considered a "small mine" which has no allowance for public comment. Upon further investigation, the [cover letter](#) that appears to have been submitted by Tree Farm's attorney makes reference to it being a small mine, but the form submitted ([page 2 of this link](#)) and, more importantly, the size of the operation for which notice was being given far exceeds (>30x) the statutory 20-acre small mine limitation when in an unincorporated part of a county. Also, the application shows no evidence of access to water rights associated with the mine. The water rights mentioned in the application are managed by Mount Aire Water Corporation and do not service the properties owned by Tree Farm LLC.

Our community members, some of whom are residents that live within ½ mile of the proposed mine, have expressed concerns over:

- Incredibly short application notice.
- No opportunity for public comment.
- A myriad of potentially detrimental impacts on the community:
 - Air quality & pollution (see [dust storm issues](#) from the existing quarry on the north side of I-80).
 - Noise nuisance from explosives, excavation, crushing, etc.
 - Potential damage through excavation to aquifers that support spring-fed water supplies throughout Mt. Aire Canyon and downstream habitat
 - Seismic disturbances to loose rock and winter snow loads in neighboring residential areas from blasting.
 - Heightened risk of fire with mining & trucking operations.

- Compromised security and safety to the private Mt. Aire Canyon community and disruption to parking and other areas upon which many of its property owners rely.
- Lack of roads and parking infrastructure to support an existing parking need for Mt. Aire property owners and the newly proposed mine operation and heavy equipment.
- A significant aesthetic loss to all who navigate the I-80 Parley's corridor.
- Loss of wildlife habitat.
- Seemingly clear disregard for FCOZ related codes including but not limited to the following sections:
 - Preserve Aesthetic Qualities of the canyons 19.72.010 A
 - Slope Protection 19.72.060
 - Grading Standards 19.72.070
 - Site Access 19.72.080
 - Trees and vegetation protection 19.72.110
 - Stream Corridor protection 19.72.130
 - Wildlife habitat protection 19.72.140
 - Traffic Studies 19.72.150
 - No evidence of of a mining waiver under 19.72.190
- Lack of qualified registered operating authority for Storm Water Protection Plan (SWPP)
- Unlike the Rulon J. Harper parcels north of I-80 that have land use designations of 850-Mining, these Tree Farm, LLC parcels are not designated as such.

Notwithstanding Tree Farm, LLC's mineral rights presumably entitling it to this operation, many residents have expressed great skepticism that Tree Farm, LLC will indeed perform in compliance with all regulations. In the unfortunate event Tree Farm, LLC should be approved to proceed, the community needs assurances to know how this would be monitored and enforced.

Considering restrictions imposed by the Foothill Canyon Overlay Zone (FCOZ) ordinance, our residents question where justice lies when overwhelming scrutiny is applied if they seek approval for comparatively miniscule changes to their Forest Recreation Zoned property, yet Tree Farm, LLC can remove an entire square mile of ecological landscape for 100 years.

This news was highly unexpected and greatly concerning to everyone in our community. We recognize Tree Farm, LLC has property rights, but with an operation and impact of this scale, our community members need reassurances to know how all of the above concerns can be resolved.

Based on community feedback, the Parleys Canyon Community Council's recommendation is to not allow permits related to mining adjacent to the city or within FCOZ designated areas without input from the community and adequate resolution of public concerns.

Respectfully,

Parley's Canyon Community Council

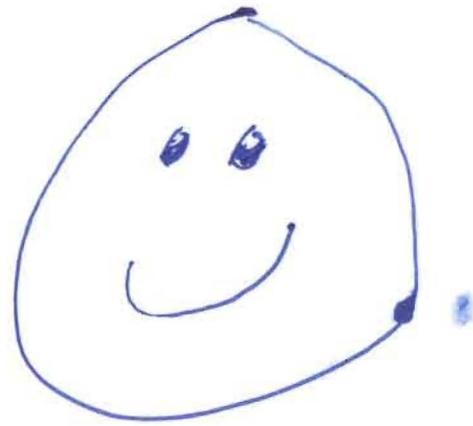
Darrell Whatcott
PCCC Officer



Save Precious canyon because it was a place where Pioneers
would go in the summer. The mountains should not

be destroyed because someone wants to
make money! Jacob

8 YEARS old



To the Salt Lake County Planning Commission,

The decisions you make right now affect future generations. This is why I support you in making the amendment to the mining law. I care about this especially because of the proposed Parley's mine. The Parleys mine, headed by Tree Farms LLC, would make a lasting negative impact on the environment and the people who live in the Salt Lake Valley. Not only would it destroy the environment and affect our already bad air quality, but it would harm the natural landscape and worsen our already bad traffic

The environmental damages of a mine are huge. Mines emit a huge quantity of dust per day. With the Parleys mine being so close to the valley residents, in addition to its size, it would cause a massive amount of dust for people to deal with. The consequences will also be felt in the nearby recreational facilities, like hiking trails or ski runs. Think of going for a hike, you are in a beautiful green, luscious part of our mountains enjoying yourself and your company. But there is one drawback, the air is not clear, it is dense with dust. No one can catch their breath, and people are coughing. If that is not enough, it's not just during recreation that the dust can be felt. At the nearby elementary school (that is just a 10 minute drive away), children will be exposed to large quantities of dust. They won't be able to enjoy themselves at recess or exercise to their full ability because it will be harder for them to breathe. This lack of exercise could end up leading to future health problems.

Tree Farm LLC states that the area will be reclaimed in 100 years. After 100 years of mining the soil will be depleted, the animals will be gone, and the landscape changed. The area will never be what it is now. In addition, the mine could contribute to several species endangerment, as their homes and food sources disappear, and the area is replaced by a loud, scary, unsafe mine for them to live by. You have to wonder if the reclamation plans would even try to create a natural environment. On the news, Tree Farm's spokesman's example of reclamation has been the Sandy mine that was turned into a shopping center. Is this what we want for our canyon, a shopping center?

In Addition to what has been said above, Tree Farm LLCs "reasonable blasting times" are not reasonable at all. Their blasting times are between 6 a.m.-10 p.m.. There are several families living in the close by Mt.Aire canyon. I know for a fact that some of these families have young children. How are those children supposed to get adequate sleep if ear splitting, house shaking, blasting is going on from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.? Lack of sleep can lead to other problems throughout their life.

Some might say, the families can move. Can they though? I mean talking realistically. With the addition of a nearby mine, the canyon they live in will not be a desirable place to live or recreate and therefore their property value will drop beyond recognition. Don't sentence these families to a life struggling to just get by.

I implore you to think of the future consequences that the mine will bring when you make the decision to pass the amendment, to realize you are doing the right thing.

Sincerely,
Rebecca M.
14 years old

Name: ABBA

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Directions: The rock is a special place to so many animals. What is a place that is special to you.



My special place is

my kabn