



MEMORANDUM

ENGINEERING DIVISION
DEPARTMENT *of* PUBLIC SERVICES

To: Salt Lake City Historic Landmark Commission

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Date: February 3, 2022

Re: Findings of the Pioneer Park Cultural Landscape Report

SUBJECT: Pioneer Park Cultural Landscape Report

ACTION: No action required.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION: The Public Lands Department funded a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) for Pioneer Park, the first document of this type for the City because of its significance both to Salt Lake City's founding and the diverse community members who have enjoyed the park since its creation.

Throughout its history, the landscape of the Pioneer Park study area has been influenced by diverse groups of people from Indigenous Peoples to Mormon Pioneers, to subsequent waves of City residents – including immigrants, unhoused communities, business owners, politicians, and more. Pioneer Park is listed on the Local and National Registers of Landmark Sites.

The information in the CLR, particularly the treatment recommendations will provide guidance for proposed improvements, maintenance, and operations of the park. This CLR has been on-going over the last year and the Historic Landmarks Commission was briefed on the work in process at its August 4, 2021, meeting. This follow-up briefing focuses on the findings of Chapters 4 and 5, with attention to significance and integrity:

- Chapter 4: Analysis and Evaluation. This chapter provides a comparative analysis of conditions during the Period of Significance with existing conditions to assess significance and integrity based on National Register of Historic Places criteria.

- Chapter 5: Treatment Recommendations. These recommendations guide both preservation and contemporary use consistent with [The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties and the Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes](#).

Findings of the Cultural Landscape Report

SIGNIFICANCE: Pioneer Park is one of Salt Lake City's oldest and most continuously used public spaces. The park is significant for its association with Indigenous, Old Fort, Americanization, and Civic Periods (described in detail in the report).

- The park is significant for criterion A: Event for its association with immigration, rapid urbanization, and the parks movement in America.
- The park is significant under criterion B: Person for its association with Brigham Young.
- The park is significant under criterion C: Design/Construction as the first intentional planned and developed park in Salt Lake City.
- The park is significant under criterion D: Information Potential because of its historical use during the Indigenous Period and the high probability the park retains undiscovered archaeological resources.

INTEGRITY: The park retains integrity of location for all historical periods, and retains integrity of setting, materials, feeling, and association for the Americanization and Civic Periods.

TREATMENT: Based on the significance and integrity of the park, the treatment approach selected for the park is [rehabilitation](#). The rehabilitation approach provides for preservation of the remaining landscape features "which convey [the park's] historical, cultural, or architectural values," while allowing for compatible improvements.

NEXT STEPS: Public Lands received funding for improvements to Pioneer Park in 2020. The improvements are slated to include new active and passive recreation areas and amenities as well as new trees and signage. It is the intent of the Administration to hold a public hearing on the preferred concept plan at a future Historic Landmark Commission meeting.

ATTACHMENT: Pioneer Park Cultural Landscape Report:

- **Table of Contents**
- **Chapter 1: Introduction**
- **Chapter 2: Site Physical History**
- **Chapter 3: Existing Conditions**
- **Chapter 4: Analysis and Evaluation**
- **Chapter 5: Treatment Recommendations**
- **Appendix: Site Inventory**