

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Comment	Topic
7/1/2021 13:20	Dodie Fraughton	Hello, I am concerned and curious about the homeless camp in the old DI parking lot. It seems to be growing. Is there something that can be done to help these people? Is someone working on this issue? Dodie Fraughton Sent from my iPhone	Homelessness
7/1/2021 15:39	Jake Crockett	Mayor, Council, and City Staff: I wanted to take a moment and express my sincere appreciation for the City's efforts to build new trails--the trails are incredible! As a competitive trail runner and mountain biker, and as dad and assistant coach to a gaggle of teens having amazing experiences in our foothills, I don't think we do a good enough job expressing gratitude for all that the City is doing. I drafted the attached piece, which I have planned on sending to the Tribune for consideration for publication. In the meantime, I ask that you please read it, learn a little more about the story of my family and the East High Mountain Bike Team, and get a sense of my appreciation for the trails that are being built. I have also included a few pictures showing a portion of our team's efforts at being good trail stewards. Please keep up the good work--these trails are exposing literally hundreds of kids (and I feel confident in saying THOUSANDS of kids, given siblings, friends, non-team members, and teams outside of SLC city limits) to new experiences in our foothills and appreciation for our incredible open spaces. Thank you for your time. Jake *See Corresponding Attachments*	Foothills Trail System Master Plan
7/1/2021 15:43	Anonymous Constituent	Constituent called in to express his support for the work that has been done for the Foothills Trails. Constituent expressed that he does not agree with the petition and has really enjoyed the trails and their design.	Foothills Trail System Master Plan

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7/1/2021 15:45	Amy Brunvand	<p>Dear SLC Council, I was initially very excited about the city's Foothill Trails Master plan, but the implementation so far has been a disaster. During COVID I made a project out of trying new trailheads and trails in the foothills so I'm very familiar with what was there before construction began on new trails. I was distraught to see that the area above Terrace Hills Drive has been scarred with redundant trails catering to faster, more reckless mountain bike riding. The complicated signage can't possibly last, and as soon as the signs are torn down user conflicts will escalate. The machine-made trails slash through vegetation on steep hillsides without consideration for erosion or trail drainage. Then come to find out the City is planning to close Dry Canyon behind the U to hikers in order to let mountain bikes speed down a drainage that is full of wildlife including deer and once in a while, bears judging by the presence of scat. That can't end well and should be stopped now. I just signed a petition that recommends halting all foothills trail development immediately in order to revise the plan for environmental protection. We have one chance to get this right, and right now it is being done in an unacceptably destructive and wrongheaded fashion. It's horrifying to witness the foothills being ruined by an ill-conceived plan. Amy Brunvand</p>	Foothills Trail System Master Plan
7/1/2021 18:51	Anonymous Constituent	<p>I work downtown at Cotopaxi near the mall and I had a drunk homeless man come into the store and start messing with all of our bags and bothering customers who wre trying to shop. When asked if he could be helped, he said that he was a "good guy". When I went into the back room to find an item for a customer, he ended up following me into the backroom. He snuck up behind me (I had no idea he was there) and when I turned around he was standing a foot behind me and asked me "What do you have back here?" I was obviously shocked and told him that he had to leave. He started to fall over because he was wasted. I had to physically assist the man out from our back room becuase he tried to continue to wander around back there. I thought for sure he was going to try to fight me. He was covered in tattoos and had a half shaved head. His tattoos look gang affiliated. I am a average-small sized woman and all associated working are also small females. I wouldve been totally helpless in the back room with a full grown angry drunk man. On his way out he told me "I'll be back." So scary. This is not ok and it happens constantly. We need your help.</p>	Homelessness

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7/2/2021 10:55	David Leonhardt	Mayor Mendenhall and City Council Members I know that you are currently facing a tough decision regarding the Pantages Theater. I hope that you are able to take a moment to read my letter of advocacy I have attached, before any final, irreversible decisions are made. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions. Thank you for your time David Leonhardt America's Classic Cinemas	Utah Theater
7/2/2021 10:58	Margie Broschinsky	It's 4:30 am and I have been up most of the night thinking about this email. What to say. How to get such an important point across. Well, here it is. I hope you will read it. I hope, despite our overwhelming differences of opinion, you know that I do everything I do because I truly care about the community. There is no money, no power, no position, no glory. Just a lot of blood, sweat, and tears. The one and only reason I spend my time as I do is because I care. City Leaders and Others, While it is true that being homeless is not against the law, trespassing is, selling drugs is, using drugs is, public intoxication is, destroying property is, sleeping in the park is. These things and many others are crimes. I find it interesting that simply by calling a person homeless, our city leaders and others seem to be giving them a pass on all criminal behavior. This is unacceptable. The people who CHOOSE to trespass, shoplift, steal, use drugs, sell drugs, and destroy property, are not "homeless". They are criminals who are choosing their lifestyle. They choose to steal from residents and businesses, they choose to buy drugs, they choose to tie off and shoot up in broad daylight, they choose to sleep in a public park where camping is a violation of the law. They choose all of these things. And our city leaders choose to allow it because after all, these people are "unsheltered". They are "victims". Except they are not. They are criminals who are choosing their path. None of the people who consistently wreak havoc on the residents and businesses along and around North Temple are homeless. They are criminals who choose to refuse help, refuse repeated offers to go to a shelter, refuse options that would get them off the streets, away from the dealers who provide their drugs and on their way to a better life. This is a choice. We have got to change our vocabulary. The camps around SLC are criminal camps. The people who choose to live in them are criminals. So long as we treat criminals like victims, we will never solve the problem. Ask almost anyone who has truly changed their life after being an addict and a criminal, who spent time living on the streets, and they will tell you that, by enabling them, as our city, state, and county leaders and many others are doing, we are not helping them. *Continued 1/3*	Homelessness

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	Margie Broschinsky	<p>*Continued 2/3* I hear over and over how thankful people are that they accepted help, real help, in the form of being arrested, being incarcerated, receiving treatment for their addiction, etc. The arrest saved their lives and changed their lives. Giving them tents is hurting them, giving them needles is hurting them, giving them cash is hurting them, treating them like victims is hurting them. Tough love is what is needed here. You will never hear a reformed felon say that he/she made the decision to change his/her life after being enabled to stay on the streets, close to the drugs, drug dealers, and other criminals, complements of well-meaning but way, way, way off base government agencies and non profit organizations who provided them with needles, cash, tents, sleeping bags, food, etc. This is called enabling and what you are doing if you are participating in any of these programs or if you are giving cash to addicts, is you are hurting them, you are preventing them from getting help, you are loving them to death. Please stop this. That is the first step. If we truly want to help people, the very best way to start is to stop. Stop enabling them. Stop making excuses. Stop treating them like helpless victims. Stop giving them drug money. Stop giving them tents and needles, and cash. Stop. Instead, give them a chance at a better life. People who choose to live on our city streets should have to choose one of two options: accept help and get into a program immediately, or go to jail immediately. I am 100% certain that the majority of people who accept real help will, in time, tell the same story as so many others have. Here is the story I've heard over and over as I talk to recovering addicts: I was an addict who did whatever I could to get drugs. I felt awful about myself and about my choices and I felt powerless over my addiction. I hated myself. But I could not get out of this horrible life because so many people made it so easy for me to stay addicted.</p>	

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	Margie Broschinsky	<p>*Continued 3/3* They provided me needles, cash, tents, food, clothing, etc. and because of this, I stayed on the streets, close to my dealer, close to my drugs. I literally despised myself and I wanted to die. Deep inside I wanted to change but how could I? I was powerless over my addiction and nobody would help me. Everyone enabled me. The people who thought they were helping me, we're, in reality, hurting me. And I was stuck, slowly dying and unable to change, thanks to people who provided me with everything I needed to stay addicted. But then, a police officer arrested me and took me to jail and (miraculous!) the judge made the decision to keep me in jail, and I was given options to help treat my addiction while incarcerated, and I was able to think clearly for the first time in a long time, that was when my life started to change. This experience saved my life. I was able to get into a program where I learned a great deal about addiction and about myself . . . The stories differ but they all have one thing in common and that is that not one of them ever mentions that they wished they were still living in a filthy tent in a drug infested park surrounded by criminals, predators, and other addicts. Nobody, in the history of the world would honestly ever utter those words. All of the survivors, if they're being honest, will say how thankful they are to the officer who arrested them, and to the judge who kept them in jail, and to the people who then helped them break free of their addiction. So, Residents of Utah, Mayor Mendenhall, Chief Brown, City Leaders, County Leaders, Governor, Judges, Law Enforcement Personnel, Members of Non Profit Organizations, and all others who have any desire to truly help addicts get better, please stop enabling them. Please, as hard as it is, stop doing things that make you feel good but that actually hurt the person you are trying to help. That is the answer here. It is simple, but it's not easy. Sincerely Margie Broschinsky</p>	

Thank you, Salt Lake City, for the new trails – let's keep going!

I have recreated in SLC's foothills for as long as I can remember (remember when we could drive trucks from NSL to the radio towers above Ensign Peak?). They are one of the things I missed most while living out of state for eight years. Although I returned almost 13 years ago, I'm daily in awe of the foothills and the peaks they sometimes hide. They've built in me an appreciation for nature, a love for our natural resources, and a desire to protect our open spaces.

My spouse was hit by a drunk driver while riding her bike five years ago; while I previously spent thousands of miles on a road bike each year, that episode changed us. We sought refuge in the foothills—running, hiking, and biking to escape, if only for a moment, our own thoughts and the noise of city life. I recently created a map of my activities in the foothills, and that map shows hills blanketed in red lines where I've seen elk, moose, mountain lion, and countless fellow runners, hikers, and bikers.

My sons joined NICA (the high school mountain bike league, of which Utah's nearly 6,000 student-athletes make it the country's largest chapter), and the foothills became their escape—whether from a long day at school, peer pressure, or more recently, social distancing, remote learning, and Zoom classes. As a dad and coach on our East High team, I've loved introducing new riders to the foothills, whether overlooking This is the Place State Park at sunset, marveling at spring's balsam root-covered hills, or peering into City Creek Canyon (forbidden to mountain bikes).

Our team has nearly doubled in size this year, and other teams at City schools (including West, Highland, SLCSE, and a Composite team from other area schools) have seen similar growth. We're teaching these hundreds of new trail users to exercise appropriate etiquette (please let me know if you see teens being disrespectful!), to care for their public lands, and to give back by helping maintain trails. In fact, the response from these kids has overwhelmed the City's capacity to accommodate the kids' volunteer requests—even when they're working on hiking-only trails!

Anticipating increasing demands for trail space, and being disappointed at seeing Salt Lake City fall behind cities throughout the West in trail building (whether conservative cities like Draper, Herriman, St. George, and Boise, or progressive cities like Moab, Boulder, and Park City), I contacted the City in 2015 about creating a plan that would permit City residents to recreate from their homes, rather than having to drive to Draper or the Wasatch Back (it's silly to have to drive a car to ride a bike). Years later, I was happy to hear that the City adopted a plan (following public input) to give its residents better access to its foothills with more, better trails. The BST (and its large number of social-trail offshoots, many of which are unsustainable, and some of which suffer severe erosion) is great but overcrowded, rife with user conflict, and insufficient for a city like SLC.

I have been thrilled to see the City build new trails and excited to see the new plan be implemented. There are (and should be expected) growing pains as old favorites are closed and new cuts look raw, but we need more sustainable trails to replace some of the social and unsustainable trails of the past. Where appropriate, users could be separated to provide a better, safer experience. And while I'll miss running some of the trails I used to run, or riding some of the trails I used to ride, I am thrilled to see a generation of runners and riders learn to love our open spaces, discover there is more to life than Minecraft, and accomplish challenges they previously found daunting.

Thank you, Salt Lake City, for building trails for us residents to enjoy. None of us will be happy all of the time (and some will always be unhappy), but I, my family, my neighbors, and my student-athletes thank and applaud you for working to provide amenities that will provide for fitter, happier, more productive, and more nature-oriented generations to come. Please keep up the good work, and let's build more trails!

Jacob Crockett, Salt Lake City