



PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE of the MAYOR | RALPH BECKER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2013
Contact: Art Raymond
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City to Celebrate Re-Launch of Soccer Complex Construction, RSL Gift

SALT LAKE CITY – Mayor Ralph Becker, City Councilman Carlton Christensen and Real Salt Lake (RSL) owner Dell Loy Hansen invite the public and media representatives to participate in an event recognizing both the official re-start of construction on the City’s voter-approved Regional Athletic Complex (RAC) and RSL’s gift of \$7.5 million to help complete the project.

Mayor Becker and City officials will join team executives, RSL defender Kwame Watson-Siriboe and local Utah Youth Soccer teams on Thursday, Aug. 1 at 10:30 a.m. at the north end of the soccer complex property, near 2100 North Rose Park Lane, to officially re-launch construction and accept RSL’s gift.

Following a 2010 groundbreaking, work on the 142-acre site near the Jordan River northwest of downtown was halted pending the resolution of legal action aimed at delaying the project. A Utah Supreme Court ruling in favor of the City in Dec. 2012 removed the last barrier to construction and the \$15.3 million bond, approved by voters in 2003, was recently issued. The new complex will feature 16 soccer/multi-purpose fields, including a stadium field that will feature bleachers, artificial turf, scoreboard and concession area. The RSL gift covers the remaining financing of the \$22.8 million project.

“This is a day many of us have been anticipating for years now,” said Mayor Becker. “Getting this project back online is a benchmark for our residents who approved it and for the numerous youth and adult teams who will show their skills on its fields. And, of course, the generosity of RSL owner Dell Loy Hansen and his support of soccer in our community really bring this effort full circle.”

The RAC project is scheduled to be completed by summer 2015.

EVENT: Re-start of Regional Athletic Complex Construction/Real Salt Lake Gift Acceptance

WHO: Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker
Salt Lake City Councilman Carlton Christensen
Salt Lake City Public Services Director Rick Graham
Real Salt Lake Owner Dell Loy Hansen
Real Salt Lake General Manager Garth Lagerwey
Real Salt Lake Defender Kwame Watson-Siriboe
Utah Youth Soccer President Andrew Hiatt
Utah Youth Soccer participants

WHEN: Thursday, Aug. 1
10:30 a.m.

WHERE: Salt Lake City Regional Athletic Complex site
Near 2100 North Rose Park Lane

Directions from Salt Lake City:

-Take I-215 north to 2100 North exit

-Follow Rose Park Lane north

-Take a right on 2100 North-Continue north approx. ½ mile to gate in chain link fence on
right.

Event is through gate at north end of complex site.

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PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE of the MAYOR | RALPH BECKER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 17, 2012
Contact: Art Raymond
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Utah High Court Rules in Favor of City

Voter-approved athletic complex moves forward following years of litigation

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah Supreme Court issued a decision Friday holding that the process related to a 2003 City bond initiative was carried out in an appropriate and legal fashion.

The \$15.3 million voter-approved bond is slated to fund the Regional Athletic Complex (RAC), a 142-acre public facility near the Jordan River in northwest Salt Lake City. Under current plans, the site will host 16 soccer/multi-purpose fields, including a stadium field that will feature bleachers, artificial turf, scoreboard and concession area.

“Today’s ruling is a victory for the residents of our City, who approved this project years ago and whose wishes have been held up by a series of obstructionist tactics,” said Mayor Ralph Becker. “The Utah Supreme Court today confirmed that our bond validation process complied with Utah law.”

Friday’s ruling by the Utah Supreme Court upholds a district court decision on a Bond Validation Act petition filed by the City in 2011. Previous to today’s action, the Jordan River Restoration Network (JRRN) and other opponents of the project have been unsuccessful in their challenges in multiple state and federal courts.

“The Utah Supreme Court ruling is a comprehensive and meticulous decision,” said City Attorney Ed Rutan.

“Both JRRN and the City clearly had their day in court. The ruling confirms the City’s belief that the bonds are valid and the process was fair.”

The City expects to reengage the bond process following Friday’s ruling and move forward with issuance procedures. Some work has already been conducted on the RAC site, including grading, shaping of play areas and installation of sub-surface infrastructure including water and sewer lines, electrical and irrigation systems.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 11, 2010

Contact: Lisa Harrison Smith

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Mayor Becker Moves Forward with City's Regional Athletic Complex *Professional Experts to Study Restoration Plan*

SALT LAKE CITY – Today Mayor Ralph Becker announced the next steps for the restoration, design, and construction of Salt Lake City's Regional Athletic Complex, located at 2200 North and the Jordan River. The Mayor's plans include a draft restoration plan, a half-day review session with invited ecological experts, and an open public process to review the concept plan for the facility.

Following the Salt Lake City Council's unanimous approval to move forward with the plans and funding of the Regional Athletic Complex, the Becker Administration commenced to prepare a draft restoration plan to enhance the ecological qualities of the riparian habitat along the Jordan River. The restoration plan will include proposed changes and will outline additional ecological considerations.

Once the draft of the restoration plan is complete, the Administration and City Council will co-host a half-day review session for a targeted group of riparian habitat experts and professionals to provide feedback. The Administration expects to complete the review process by mid-April. Once the restoration plan is complete, a broader public review process will be initiated to obtain additional input on the overall plan for the Complex.

"To honor the financial commitment and support of residents in 2003, we will create a facility to rival anything like it in the region," said Mayor Ralph Becker. "This Complex will serve the youth and families of our city while increasing stewardship opportunities along the Jordan River and beautifying the area."

About the Regional Athletic Complex

Salt Lake City voters passed a \$15 million bond in 2003 for the construction of a Regional

Athletic Complex to provide soccer and baseball fields for recreation and competition purposes. The use of public funds was contingent upon securing a \$7.5 million match from private sources, fulfilled through a gift from the Major League Soccer Organization Real Salt Lake in 2007. The City estimates the project will be complete by fall of 2011.

Regional Athletic Complex FAQs, project details, timelines, and progress updates can be found online at www.slcgov.com/RAC.

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