

From: [cindy cromer](#)
To: [Traughber, Lex](#)
Subject: (EXTERNAL) Fw: comments on Gilgal as a City Register: HLC & PC
Date: Wednesday, August 26, 2026 11:14:12 AM

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Lex-I will attend in person tonight. Thanks for forwarding this message to the Dropbox. In haste, cindy

To Members of the SLC Planning Commission
From cindy cromer
Re nomination of Gilgal to the City Register
8/26/26

My remarks to the Landmarks Commission earlier this month are below. I fully support the nomination of Gilgal Garden to the City Register, but that is not enough.

Synopsis: The City added stepbacks for new development adjacent to City Register sites in the Downtown area. This change got past me. When this benefit for City Register sites was proposed in the MU5+ zones, however, I was paying attention. Now I am pointing out that there is no benefit for City Register sites zoned Open Space. The benefit is based solely on Register buildings, not sites, next to MU5+ zoning.

Short version: You and HLC are leaving the probable new construction next to Gilgal to the Fire Marshal. You and the Landmarks Commission won't have any input. Unlike the Landmarks Commission, you could initiate a petition.

What can I do?

- #1 Go to the Mayor; this is her nomination.
 - #2 Go to the handful of developers like Cowboy Partners who would do a good job respecting Gilgal and ask them to get a right of first refusal on the Chuck-A-Rama parcel, if possible.
 - #3 Continue to complain that the Fire Marshal should not be in charge of compatible infill, urban design, or historic preservation, at all, ever.
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Comment to the Landmarks Commission 8/6/26

For almost 30 years, I have worried about the protection of Gilgal Garden. When the TRAX line was installed on 400 S, the risk increased with the zoning changes along the transit corridor. I always wanted a third party to hold an easement, but finding a fit between a non-profit's mission and the unique character of Gilgal proved to be very difficult. The Garden has been protected so far by the Friends of Gilgal Sculpture Garden, some highly respected

members of the community such as Katie Dixon and Bob Bliss, renowned contractors, donors, world-wide publicity, tens of thousands of visitors, the Gilgal Gardeners, Salt Lake City Public Lands, Section 106, the immediate neighbors, and Cowboy Partners with the development of Liberty Boulevard. This designation adds another layer of protection.

It will, however, NOT be enough when the Chuckarama on 400 S redevelops to what the MU-8 allows. There is no setback or stepback for MU development next to a City Register site zoned Open Space. The changes which went into effect in October of 2025 do not apply to open space zoning.

Please recommend the status of City Register and please write the Mayor or the Planning Commission about fixing this loophole. Because of Gilgal's zoning as open space, you will not be able to restrict development to the north. And unless a developer like Cowboy Partners is involved, I have no confidence that the Garden will receive the respect it deserves.