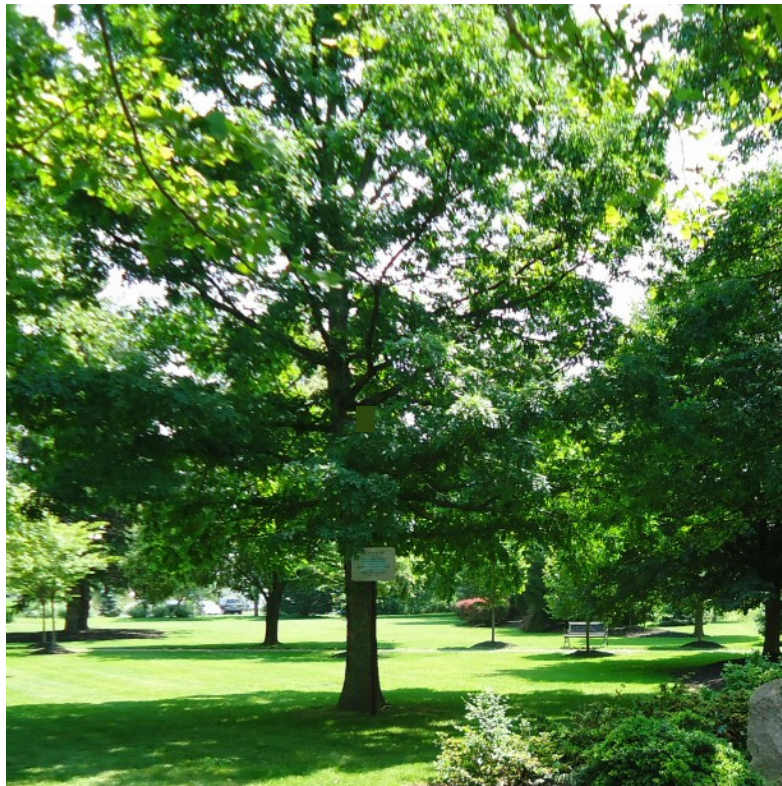




PARKS, OPEN SPACE, TRAILS AND  
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

SPECIAL BOND ELECTION  
**VOTER INFORMATION**



NOV 3, 2015

Dear South Salt Lake Resident,

On 3 November 2015, South Salt Lake voters will have the opportunity to vote on a Proposition for a General Obligation Bond (GO Bond) to fund parts of the City's adopted 2015 Parks, Open Space, Trails, and Community Centers Master Plan. This voter information pamphlet contains information regarding the Proposition.

Please take the opportunity to study this pamphlet so that when you vote, it will be easier for you to make an informed decision.

This year, registered voters in South Salt Lake will receive ballots in the mail and may vote by mail. Voters may also vote in person on Election Day at City Hall. Please review the voting option that best suits your needs – keep in mind that each vote makes a difference.

If you have any questions regarding any aspect of the Municipal Election, please feel free to contact me at 801-483-6027 or [cburton@sslc.com](mailto:cburton@sslc.com).

Sincerely,



Craig Burton , City Recorder/Election Officer

## VOTING INFORMATION

### The General Election is November 3, 2015.

- The 2015 South Salt Lake Municipal Election will be a Vote-by-Mail election.
- Ballots will be mailed to active registered voters on October 5, 2015.
- Postcards will be mailed to inactive voters requesting updated information so a ballot can be mailed to them.
- Ballots can be returned by mail in the postage-paid return envelope and must be postmarked no later than November 2, 2015. Ballots can also be dropped off at City Hall or the County Clerk's Office, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.
- If voters prefer, they can also surrender their ballot and vote on the voting machines at City Hall on Election Day.
- The only polling location in the City on Election Day will be at City Hall, 220 East Morris Avenue, #200 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- If you have recently moved please update your voter registration to ensure that you receive your ballot.

**You can register to vote or update your registration online at [vote.utah.gov](http://vote.utah.gov).**

### OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR CITY OF SOUTH SALT LAKE SPECIAL BOND ELECTION

#### PROPOSITION

**EXAMPLE**

#### PARKS, OPEN SPACE, TRAILS, AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Shall the City of South Salt Lake, Utah be authorized to issue General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$13,000,000 and to mature in no more than 21 years from the date or dates of issuance of such bonds for the purpose of acquiring, improving or extending parks, open space, trails, and recreation facilities and related facilities; and, to the extent necessary, for the refunding, at or prior to the maturity thereof, of bonds authorized hereby?

Property Tax Cost of Bonds. If the bonds are issued as planned, an annual property tax to pay debt service on the bonds will be required over a period of 20 years from the last date of issuance of the bonds in the estimated amount of \$48.91 on a \$175,000 residence and in the estimated amount of \$88.92 on a business property having the same value.

To vote in favor of the above bond issue, select the box immediately adjacent to the words "FOR THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS." To vote against the bond issue, select the box immediately adjacent to the words "AGAINST THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS."

- FOR THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS  
 AGAINST THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS

## THE NEED

The Master Plan reports that residents of South Salt Lake have limited access to parks and recreation facilities (1.6 acres per 1,000 residents) compared to other communities in Salt Lake County (4.5 acres per 1,000 residents) and compared to the national average (16.2 acres per 1,000 residents).

The Master Plan states that South Salt Lake can benefit from increased access to parks, open space, and recreational facilities. The Master Plan suggests that these uses: revitalize neighborhoods, spur investment and economic development, support public health and well-being, and enhance learning and education.



## THE COST

If the issuance of bonds is approved by the voters, the City's property tax levy will increase by the amount necessary to make the bond payment. The impact to individual property owners will likely go down each year as property within the City is developed. Based on County Assessor data, we estimate a residential property valued at \$175,000 will pay \$48.91 per year for these bonds (\$4.08 a month). A commercial property valued at \$175,000 will pay an estimated \$88.92 per year for these bonds.

## THE RESULTS

The City will involve citizens in selecting the projects to be funded with this bond to ensure all benefit from greater access to quality parks and recreation facilities.

A Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, with resident representatives from each council district, may be established for this purpose.

## THE PLAN

The City's 2015 Parks, Open Space, Trails, and Community Center Master Plan proposes projects that will enhance resident access to parks, recreation, trails, and open space. The Plan outlines these goals:

1. Expand parks to meet population growth by adding them to new development areas;
2. Build parks in areas that do not have a park within ¼ mile to fill gaps in service;
3. Add amenities to existing facilities; and
4. Improve the quality and function of recreation facilities.

The Master Plan identified several potential opportunities for parks acquisition and expansion. The Master Plan outlines possible funding tools and also suggests pursuing additional funding sources to maximize the City's investment, including Salt Lake County ZAP funds.

Bond funds may not be spent on buildings.

## LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PLAN

Residents are invited to discuss the Master Plan, the bond election, and potential projects that could be funded at a public **Open House** on 6 October 2015 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Central Park Community Center at 2797 South 200 East. You may also view find a copy of the plan on the city's website [www.sslc.com](http://www.sslc.com) or request a printed copy of the Master Plan from Mayor Cherie Wood at [mayor@sslc.com](mailto:mayor@sslc.com) or 801-464-6757.

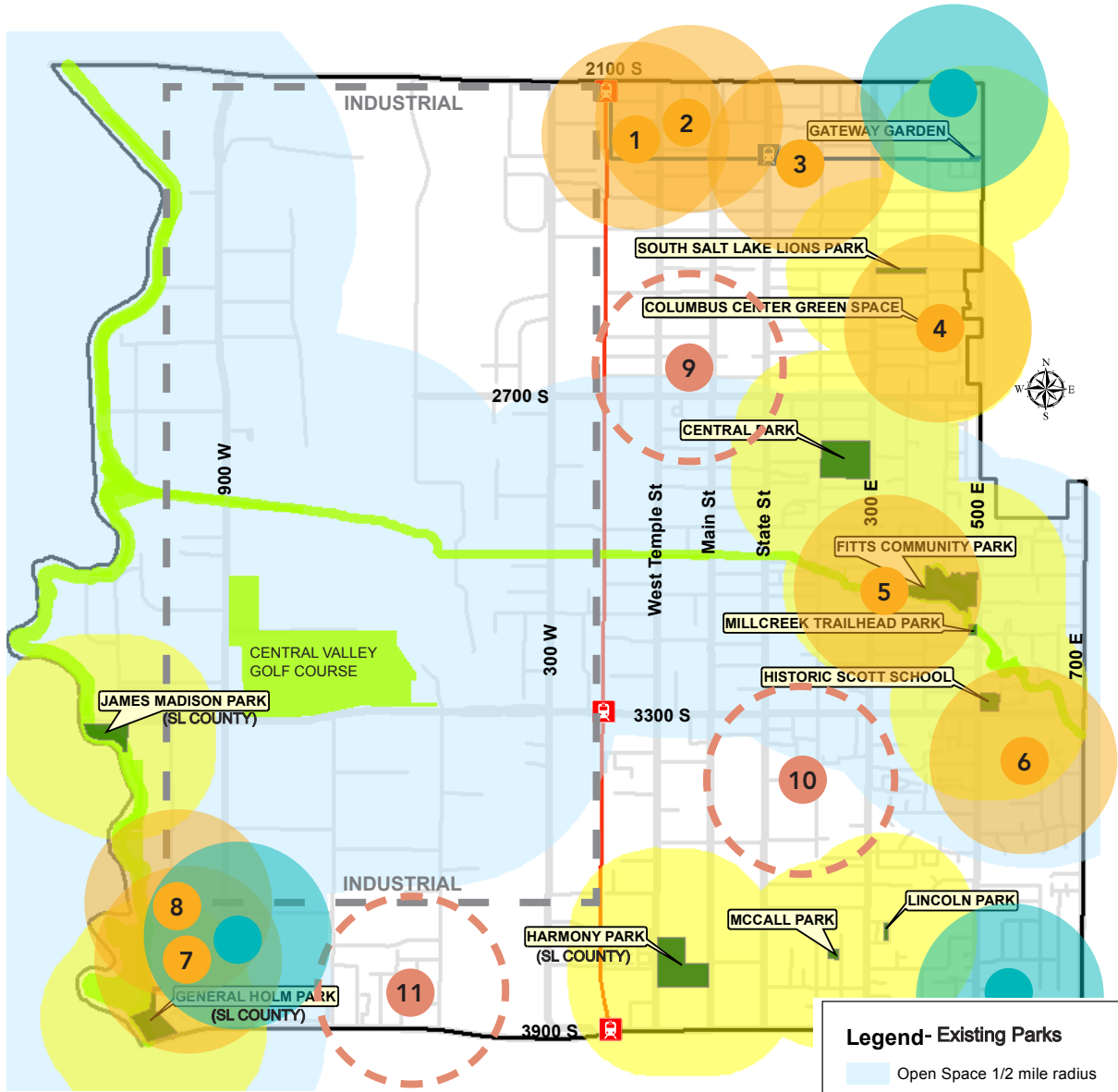
## PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the South Salt Lake City Council will hold two Public Hearings on 16 September, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. and 28 October 2015, at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 220 East Morris Avenue, South Salt Lake, Utah, regarding the ballot proposition. At the public hearing, the City Council will allow equal time within a reasonable limit, for presentation of the arguments in favor of and against the ballot proposition. The City Council will allow interested parties the opportunity to present oral testimony in the meeting.

# PARKS OPPORTUNITY MAP

City of South Salt Lake | Parks, Open Space, Trails, and Community Centers Master Plan

- This plan shows potential locations for new parks and shows existing parks, open space and community centers. SL County parks are owned, maintained and funded by Salt Lake County.
- Buildings labeled for reference only. Bond funds may not be spent on buildings.
- This map is for planning purposes and potential locations shown are for discussion only.
- Larger circles indicate walking distances - 1/4 mile for (parks) and 1/2 mile (open space).



## POTENTIAL PARKS

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 1 Downtown Park   | 5 West Fitts Park                                     |
| 2 Greenway Park   | 6 Granite High Park<br><i>(if property available)</i> |
| 3 S-Line Greenway | 7 Carlisle Park                                       |
| 4 Columbus Park   | 8 Overlook Park                                       |

**Legend- Existing Parks**

- Open Space 1/2 mile radius
- Parks 1/4 mile radius
- Parks
- Open Space
- S-Line
- TRAX
- City Boundary

- 9 New Park in Access Gap  
(location TBD)
- Shared Use Potential

## **ARGUMENT IN FAVOR** *by Irvin Jones, South Salt Lake Resident*

In early 2015, the City of South Salt Lake, with resident input, created a master plan for parks and open space in the City. As a result of this master plan process a group of engaged citizens approached the City Council seeking support for more parks, open space, and recreation facilities in the City. In response, the City Council approved a ballot proposition for the upcoming 3 November 2015 general election. Registered voters of South Salt Lake will have an opportunity to approve a general obligation bond supporting parks, open space, trails, and recreation facilities.

Parks and recreation facilities provide a place for exercise and education, and attract people who increasingly value walkable high-quality neighborhoods.

The City of South Salt Lake is lagging far behind neighboring cities – and indeed, even further behind national averages – in the amount of park space. With limited land available to create new parks, open space, trails, and recreation facilities, the proposed bond would create more open space, and ensure that parks are created before development eliminates these opportunities.

The citizen-initiated ballot proposition is a forward thinking investment in our community, our neighbors, our youth, and our future. A YES vote to Create and Protect Parks, Open Space, Trails, and Recreation will:

- Improve resident access to parks, outdoor recreation, trails and open spaces
- Revitalize and connect our neighborhoods
- Protect lands that might otherwise be slated for development
- Foster close-to-home recreation with proven health benefits
- Facilitate more health and education programs for youth and seniors
- Attract private investment and economic development
- Increase our quality of life and add beauty to our city

South Salt Lake City leverages limited dollars to provide a variety of parks and facilities that support recreation and sports, after-school youth programs, senior and active-adult activities, and arts programming. Funds from this bond will pay for more and better parks and facilities. The City will rely on solid accountability measures:

- Money has the potential to be matched with grants from Salt Lake County's Zoo Arts and Parks bond;
- Projects funded will be guided by the South Salt Lake City Parks, Open Space, Trails, and Community Centers Master Plan, adopted this year with citizen input;
- A citizen committee will be established and tasked with making recommendations for how to spend the funds, and will be responsible for an open application process and outreach meetings;
- Revenues and expenditures are subject to an annual, independent audit available for public review.

A YES vote to Create and Protect Parks, Open Space, Trails, and Recreation will revitalize our neighborhoods, spur economic development and investment, support public health and well-being; support fitness and recreation; enhance learning, the arts, and education; and make our community more beautiful. A YES vote creates opportunities to receive matching grants and donations, and will help us accomplish a number of priorities in our adopted master plan.

## **ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION** *by Shane Siwik, South Salt Lake Resident*

Is this bond for Granite High? Many think so.

This property is currently under contract between the district and two strong buyers. One has already successfully built dozens of homes in South Salt Lake on Penny Ave. The other specializes in large commercial projects. They have plans for the site to build dozens of large houses, a new grocery store from one of the nation's largest retailers and a 3 acre open space available to the city.

Additionally, the city does NOT have any contract giving us second place if anything happens with the first purchaser.

Passing this bond may allow the city to buy a 100 year old building, full of asbestos, if the contract fails. A part of our history? Definitely. But what will we do with it then? Who pays for the upgrades, renovations and retrofits? Where will this ADDITIONAL money come from?

The city can gain open space, retail tax base, and residential property tax through the proposal that the current buyers have brought to the city in good faith.

Or is it for other projects?

At a recent city council meeting (7-22), the council chair and city attorney said this bond was NOT to buy Granite, but to raise funds for open space that could come available in the future, mentioning the Jordan River area. It could also include Granite.

If the bond is not for Granite; and instead for future unknown open space projects, it is as though we are being told, "trust us to spend funds wisely in the future although today we have no current plans, parcels, price tags or projections."

Several years ago, the city sold to UTA 4 acres of prime open space on the Jordan River (Workman Field) used by soccer teams throughout the valley. This beautiful field was close to the connection between SSL and West Valley and a park on the other side of the river. Now they want to look for more open space, possibly on the Jordan River Trail? Here we are, years later, seeking (and asking for money for) the very thing we gave up.

South Salt Lake was recently sited as the highest taxed city in the valley and the most dangerous in the state. In a year when the city may lose a substantial amount of sales tax revenue, we are once again discussing Granite and the millions of ADDITIONAL dollars needed? Or are we being asked to approve a blank check for undecided future projects with no current or concrete plans? Either way, the bond has too many questions and not enough answers.

Yes we need open space. But any tax increase, no matter how small or large, needs to be done with prudence and plans we can see and support BEFORE asking for it.

I will be voting NO.



PARKS, OPEN SPACE, TRAILS  
AND RECREATION FACILITIES

## BOND ELECTION & MASTER PLAN

### Open House

Tuesday, October 6th 6:00-8:00 p.m.

at Central Park Community Center

2797 S. 200 East

- ❖ See plans for potential projects
- ❖ Hear how the funds can be spent.
- ❖ Share your ideas and priorities.
- ❖ Find out how to stay involved.