



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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### **Mayor Becker's Statement on Parley's Historic Nature Park and City Council Action Not to Override the Veto of the Park Plan**

SALT LAKE CITY – Tonight, after months of hard work and deliberation, the City Council has discussed and voted not to override my veto of a Plan for Parleys Historic Nature Park adopted on December 14. This action sets the stage for the next steps for Parley's Historic Nature Park. The planning process for this park has been long and involved, and has diligently incorporated public comments from start to finish – taking into consideration the many viewpoints, and the natural resources and uses of Parleys Historic Nature Park.

I understand the management plan we are creating for the park will not make everyone happy. A successful plan will provide the greatest gift we can offer to protect the natural environment, especially Parleys Creek, and provide for users of this park.

As an administration, we have carefully weighed the options for this park. Starting with an analysis of the natural and cultural resources, listening in dozens of forums to public information and opinion, all resources and users have been considered. Even with the focus on addressing current water quality issues, large off-leash dog space would be available to dogs, both on and off-leash trails are provided and water access will remain open to dogs and their owners for their enjoyment. Trails and boardwalks will be established and areas for hikers and walkers will be available. Although the Department of Transportation would not support the City and County's preferred alignment of the Parley's Trail along 1-80, the current alignment offers a critical transportation and recreational bike trail.

I appreciate the efforts many have made in the spirit of reaching a consensus for the Park to benefit the community of present and future park users and the environment. I believe that if willing, the users can respectfully agree on a plan to best meet the needs of present and future generations. I look forward to working with the Council and those interested in Parleys Historic Nature Park to arrive at that end.

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