

Melanie A Madsen  
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Springdale, UT 84767

Springdale Town Council, Director of Community Development and Planning Commission  
Springdale, UT 84767

In Re: Historic Preservations Commission Proposed Development

Dear Mayor, Town Council, Director of Community Development and Planning Commission,

I am writing this letter in order to express my support of the Historic Preservations Proposed Development at 668 Zion Park Blvd.

History is an integral but endangered part of Springdale and the Virgin River Valley. We have lost much of what I remember as a child, and more still that was but a memory even then. With this loss, we have also lost, a great part of the charm, character, texture, folk life skills, arts and crafts, context and personality of Springdale and surrounding areas.

It is not too late to preserve and honor the history and cultural roots of this special place. I believe this proposed development will build a foundation for, and help to reinfuse, a spirit that has been lacking or even missing for some time now, and invite a soul back into our community, that reincorporate the roots of this valley into its character and brings a sense of place and permanence for residents and visitors, alike.

Whether we like it or not, Springdale is the gateway of a Federal Public Trust, a National Park, and the visitors who flock here each year want to discover and experience this trust that was established for the people long before most of us were born and we cannot pretend that we did not know this upon our arrival here, or that we did not know that millions of visitors would pass through here every year! We have a duty to both host and to provide our own unique gift to those visitors, which is particularly, Springdale. And what Springdale is, is not just what we currently see today, but the people, the place and their history.

This Proposed Development addresses both to host these visitors and to share our unique and special town. It will provide a few more much needed rooms for the visitors who have a right to experience Zion, and it will give them an opportunity to gain a real sense of our community-- to know something of its heart and soul, to be introduced to the people who first made a home of this place, eked out livings, the sacrifices and hardships they endured to live here, the feats that were performed, the look and nature of the village in many eras, the many ways in which they made livings from the land, which then shifted, slowly, to tourism.

Let us be proud of this heritage and history, honor, preserve and share it by saying yes to developing a special place reserved exclusively for this in the heart of our small but grand Town where it may be experienced for many generations to come and never be forgotten.

Sincerely,

Melanie A Madsen