

SHPC'S proposal for a history center in Springdale.

I have watched in the past 20 years as Springdale has more and more become a tourist gateway to Zion National Park, while losing its identity as a small town. Much of this transition is inevitable, with the increasing tourist visits along with the need for and the opportunity to provide services for those tourists.

It's for that very reason, I believe the proposed Springdale History Center will provide a needed link to the past, the history and the people who lived and worked in Springdale before it became such a world-wide tourist mecca. Having a place in town, along the "walking corridor" of the town not only provides something of interest to our visitors, but it will help to preserve the culture and history of the town and it's peoples from its origins and preserve a small feeling of "community" in a town that is quickly losing its identity.

This gives us a chance to regain a property along the Boulevard, with high-visibility, that has been used commercially for many years. It will restore a sense of community not only to the local citizens, but will also help visitors to understand the human culture of the town. It seems to be right in line with many of the ideals identified in the General Plan.

I suggest that we adopt this proposal before we completely lose our town to the commercialism that is now the predominant direction of the community.

Many thanks!  
Kristi Staker