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On Apr 2, 2020, at 10:00 AM, Nancy Goodell ███████████████████████ wrote:

Dear Council,

Today's Zion Dispatch shows over 1,000 cars a day are still driving through the Park. Some of this is essential through traffic but many can be presumed to be out-of-area visitors who will be hitting the trails and making stops in local communities along the way.

The balmy spring weather and the waived park entrance fee are working against us.

My impression is that Zion leadership feels their hands are tied by lack of federal direction to close. Yesterday Grand Canyon NP closed to visitors, reportedly after a letter was sent to federal NPS officials by the local health district asking for closure to be granted. Those of us who emailed the Southwest Utah Public Health District yesterday received this form letter from David Heaton in response:

> Thanks Nancy,
>
> The Southwest Utah Public Health Department has implemented Utah's State Public Health Directives for COVID-19, which makes allowances for outdoor recreation in household groups or individuals who maintain social distancing from others. Utah's State Parks remain open to residents, as do many of the outdoor spaces in our National Parks. The decision to close National Parks ultimately rests with the National Park Service. You can visit swuhealth.org/covid for updates and guidance for Southwest Utah.

I urge you to exercise your role in taking all possible actions aimed at closing Zion NP ASAP, including convincing the SWUHD to move on this. The Park leadership would like to close Zion but it appears their hands are tied without further input to the federal decision makers from local municipalities and health departments.

Thank you,

Nancy Goodell

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Springdale, UT

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