

RESOLUTION 08-03-2020

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UTAH DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR) TO IMMEDIATELY ADDRESS THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND LIFE SAFETY ISSUES CAUSED BY THE IRRESPONSIBLE SHOOTING AT THE DNR RANGE NEAR I-15 EXIT 242; ACCOMPANIED BY A COMMITMENT OF SUPPORT AND INVITATION FOR PARTNERSHIP WITH SANTAQUIN CITY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REPLACEMENT SHOOTING RANGE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A SAFE VENUE FOR RESPONSIBLE GUN USE

WHEREAS, DNR maintains ownership of public lands along the eastern side of Interstate-15 Exit 242, outside of the municipal boundaries and jurisdiction of Santaquin City, which have historically been permitted (either officially or unofficially) to be used by the public as a shooting range; and

WHEREAS, these public lands are immediately adjacent to privately owned property within Santaquin City limits, that is currently under development as a residential neighborhood and public park; and

WHEREAS, the irresponsible gun use of few, who have been shooting over a blind ridge towards this residential neighborhood and public park, have created a public health and life safety issue with reported damages to homes, vehicles, and pedestrian "near misses" (Map attached – Note: The map includes police report data as of the date of May 4, 2020. There have been five reported shooting complaints filed since this date without strike locations reported); and

WHEREAS, representatives from DNR, Utah Department of Transportation, Utah County Sheriff's Office and Utah County Public Works Department met with Santaquin City Police, Engineering, and Administration officials in partnership to determine an immediate and long-range course of action; and

WHEREAS, DNR elected to prohibit shooting at a secondary location of concern at the mouth of Santaquin Canyon (In process) and erected warning signs at the exit 242 location (photo attached) in an attempt to address the immediate public health and life safety concerns while they concurrently undertook an evaluation of the site for possible improvements, reconfigurations, and/or relocation of said shooting range in partnership with the aforementioned agencies to effect a long-term solution; and

WHEREAS, irrespective of the posting of warning signs and shutdown of the secondary location, police reports of near misses continue resulting in a perpetuation of the public health and life safety issues facing the residents of Santaquin City;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Santaquin City Council to:

- Respectfully request that the Utah Department of Natural Resources immediately address the public health and life safety issues caused by the irresponsible shooting at the DNR Range near Interstate-15, exit 242 by prohibiting the use of this property as an authorized or unauthorized shooting range; and
- Issue a commitment of support, and an invitation for partnership, for the development of a replacement shooting range designed to provide a safe venue for responsible gun use.
 - Whether on federal, state or local lands, whether inside or outside of the Santaquin City municipal boundaries, or somewhere within south Utah County, Santaquin City stands ready as a committed partner towards this end.

ADOPTED AND PASSED by the City Council of the City of Santaquin, Utah this 4th day of August, 2020.

CITY OF SANTAQUIN

Kirk/F./Hunsaker, Mayor

Attest:

K. Aaron Shirley, City Recorder

South Santaquin Bullet Strikes





