



10/29/20

Dear Salt Lake County Council Members,

**ANIMAL SERVICES
DIVISION**

JENNIFER WILSON
SALT LAKE COUNTY MAYOR

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DIRECTOR
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White City
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County*

On behalf of the Salt Lake County Animal Services Advisory Committee, I would like to extend this letter of support regarding the request for general funding to support park patrols in County-owned parks and trailheads.

The Advisory Committee consists of board members representing cities and metro townships across the county. Each share concern over lack of essential funding that is needed to provide sufficient staffing to successfully enforce animal ordinances in County-owned parks that are located within our communities.

By providing funding for park patrols, Animal Services can address the ongoing need to educate the public and enforce ordinances, ensuring residents can safely and responsibly enjoy the beautiful parks across the valley. Funding this request will allow Animal Control Officers from every agency in the county to have peace of mind knowing there will be staff available to address concerns at County-owned parks in their area, providing them with more time to answer high risk calls for service.

Most of the public is unaware of county-wide ordinances that are meant to help provide safe recreational opportunities. By fulfilling this request, constituents will receive increased education regarding ordinances and resources available to them and their pets. Park goers can expect to have a safer experience at the parks or at trailheads, knowing law enforcement is more available to provide assistance and address safety concerns. By increasing the presence of Animal Control Officers, we anticipate there will be a decrease in other unwelcome park activity and crime.

The benefits and need for this service are shared amongst government representatives and citizens alike. Please consider this letter of support from the Animal Services Advisory Committee in your funding decision.

Sincerely,

Rita Lund
Salt Lake County Animal Services Advisory Committee Chair