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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Cache County Open Space Bond Approved for the November Ballot**

**LOGAN, UTAH** - The Cache County Council last night approved an open space bond for inclusion on the November 8, 2022 ballot. An Open Space Advocacy Committee, led by Co-Chairs Jack Draxler, Eric Eliason and Steven Daniels, has met for months to strategize on how to best preserve open space in Cache Valley. The committee is composed of diverse community leaders and concerned citizens.

"I'm thankful for the support of the county council in agreeing with the recommendation of our citizen committee," said County Executive David Zook, who initiated the citizen group. "I also want to thank the many citizens and community leaders who have been working so hard to bring this important issue to the voters. We've heard the voice of our citizens who want to preserve what makes Cache Valley great and I hope they will make their voice heard in November."

The open space preservation committee administered a survey that showed that 89% of respondents said they are willing to pay \$20 annually in property tax to fund an open space bond.

The \$20 million bond will be placed on the November 2022 ballot, and the approximate cost to county residents will be \$25 per year. The funds will be used for purchasing land and conservation easements from willing landowners in order to protect scenic vistas, preserve open lands near valley gateways, add trails and trail connectivity, and maintain agriculture, waterways, and wildlife habitat.

"Cache Valley is growing, and preserving open space is critical," added Executive Zook. "Agriculture, outdoor recreation and scenic vistas are part of what make Cache Valley such a wonderful place."

"Planning for growth and preserving open space is a priority for Cache County," said Cache County Council Chair Barbara Tidwell. "The County Council approved the open space bond on the November 2022 ballot and now we can leave it up to the voters to make a decision."

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