

Study for appropriation of funds from the City of Logan to the Allen & Alice Stokes Nature Center
in compliance with State Code 10-8-2 (e)

This study is being performed before notice of a public hearing and made available to the municipal council and interested parties in regards to the City of Logan appropriating property to the Allen & Alice Stokes Nature Center. Allen & Alice Stokes Nature Center have asked for Ownership of the following structures to be transferred to the Allen & Alice Stokes Nature Center: Two (2) residential buildings located at Second Dam - 3686 US Hwy 89 Logan, UT 84321 and 3700 US Hwy 89, Logan UT 84321 and two (2) sheds, the three-door garage embedded in the hillside and the unit on the SE corner)

The transfer of structures at the Second Dam location in Logan Canyon to the Allen and Alice Stokes Nature Center (SNC) is consistent with the goals and objectives outlined in the recent comprehensive and strategic plans published by the Parks and Recreation Department of Logan City. The structures currently are not utilized for any public purpose. SNC has a proven track record of serving the community in education, recreation and stewardship of outdoor resources. As the official educational permittee for the Cache-Wasatch-Uintah national forest and as a USDA designation Children's Forest, SNC is in a unique position to offer Logan City residents enhanced access to and use of these structures.

Specific points below, while not all-inclusive, present the benefits and consistency with stated goals and objectives of the City as outlined by State Code 10-8-2 (e) which requires evaluation of these factors prior to an appropriation of this nature:

- (i) What identified benefits will the City of Logan receive in return for any money or resources appropriated to the Allen & Alice Stokes Nature Center?**
- City of Logan will benefit by reducing effort and costs of maintaining the facilities without losing the opportunity for the property to benefit public purposes. Resources freed by the appropriation may be repurposed to meet the goals, objectives and priorities already identified by the City.
 - Transfer of the structures to an organization with a successful proven track record for enhancement of public use signals to the community that the City is committed to providing highest and best use of public property with attention to efficiency, cost reduction and preservation of valuable resources.
- (ii) Will the City of Logan's appropriation be used to enhance the safety, health, prosperity, moral well-being, peace, order, comfort, or convenience of the inhabitants of the City of Logan?**
- Yes, SNC annually serves over 24,000 community members who visit the current facilities for various educational and recreational programs. This volume reflects a recent increase of nearly 98% over previous years, seriously straining the capacity of SNC's current facilities and available parking. The parking lot above Second Dam was constructed to accommodate school buses as well as private vehicles. With the appropriation, the majority of SNC programs will move to the Second Dam location, significantly reducing safety concerns for visitors and enhancing their comfort and convenience in accessing these public services.

- SNC programs deliver important information and opportunities to enhance health, prosperity, moral well-being, and peace. In Logan Canyon, SNC provides a vibrant accessible destination for a diversity of people with the capacity to provide a growing local population and visitors with quality nature education, outdoor exploration programs and to inspire stewardship of our natural world. SNC is the only mountain environment based nature center in the state and can capitalize on its experience, existing adjacent facilities, and connections to significantly enhance these opportunities for the community.

(iii) Is the appropriation necessary and appropriate to accomplish the reasonable goals and objectives of the City of Logan in the area of economic development, job creation, affordable housing, blight elimination, job preservation, the preservation of historic structures and property, and any other public purpose?

- As mentioned in (i) above, appropriation of the Second Dam structures will return resources of the City currently required for maintenance, to the accomplishment of the goals identified in the Logan Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan. In addition, there do not appear to be any goals or objectives addressing the Second Dam property in the Comprehensive Plan that would need to be modified or abandoned by the appropriation of this property by SNC.
- Goals of developing and supporting year-round recreation would be enhanced and supported by SNC programs such as naturalist walks, provision of snowshoe and other recreation equipment, trails and programs.
- Goals of developing partnerships to promote recreational goals would be furthered as SNC, Logan City and the Forest Service collaborate on future program use of the structures.
- SNC will also further the goals of providing a variety of programs and services to a diverse population, at a range of costs, with many programs free of charge to the public and others supported by the SNC organization and its patrons.

Conclusion:

The conclusion of this study has determined the City of Logan will profit or benefit from this appropriation of structures to the Allen & Alice Stokes Nature Center. The City will give two (2) residential buildings two (2) sheds, and landscaping around the residential buildings. This will not be an annual donation.