

## **COSAC**

#### **CACHE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that the Cache Open Space Advisory Committee will hold a **REGULAR MEETING** at **3:30 p.m.** in the Cache County Historic Courthouse Council Chambers, 199 North Main Street, Logan, Utah 84321, **MONDAY**, **June 3**, **2024**.

### **Agenda**

- 1. Welcome, Introductions
- 2. Approval of agenda/minutes: March 22, 2024; April 1, 2024: April 15, 2024; May 20, 2024
- 3. **First Round Application:** Discussion and Consideration of an Open Space Application for Cooper Open Space, containing parcels 10–041–001, 10–016–0012, 10–055–003. Located between 200 E and US 89/91 and around 600 S Wellsville, and located about half a mile west of the south end of 4000 W in unincorporated county. Applicant Clair Cooper.
- **4. Pre-Application:** Discussion and review of a pre-application for approximately 293.3 acres located between Smithfield and Hyde Park City boundaries, between 300 E and 1200 E. Property owners Hardrock LLC and J & M Land Holdings LLC
- 5. Gateway Category-Immediate Views and Parcels
- 6. Discussion regarding conservation easements, deed restrictions, and purchase of development rights
- 7. County Council Update (If any)

**Next Meeting Agenda** 

**Notes** 

#### **Meeting Schedule**

Next regular meeting is scheduled for July 1, 2024, at 3:30 pm.

## Agenda Item Number 2

Approval of agenda/minutes: March 22, 2024; April 1, 2024: April 15, 2024; May 20, 2024



### **Development Services**

Building | GIS Department

### **Cache Open Space Advisory Committee**

22 March 2024

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**Agenda** 

1. Application – Site visit and Discussion





**Present:** Stephen Nelson, Angie Zetterquist, Chris Sands, Brent Thomas, Clair Ellis, Reagan Wheeler, Kathryn Beus, Justin Clawson, Megan Izatt

**Start Time: 03:15:00** 

#### #1 Application – Site Visit and Discussion

**Staff, Committee,** and **Applicant** toured the Elk Horn Ranch property on a tractor and hay wagon. While during the tour they discussed the existing easement of 59 acres that was created in 2004, the 150 head of cattle raised on the property, the boundaries of the application, the river bank and the upkeep required, the personal camp ground on the property, the proposed trail and location of the trial. The property is seeded in grasses and hay; there are several species of migratory birds located on the property as well as a herd of deer in the winter.

Mr. Fuhriman is currently in the process of restoring the 100+ year old barn on the property and explained the process being used to do that. The farm also has received the Century Farm designation from the state.





### **Development Services**

Building | GIS | Department

### **Cache Open Space Advisory Committee**

01 April 2024

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| 2. Approval of agenda/Minutes (March 4, 2024)     | 2           |
| 3. First Round of Application: Elkhorn Ranch      | 2           |
| 4. First Round of Application: Cooper Open Space  | 5           |
| 5. Gateway Category – Immediate Views and Parcels |             |
| 6. County Council Update (if any)                 |             |
|   |             |

Present: Stephen Nelson, Clair Ellis, Chris Sands, Eric Eliason, Regan Wheeler, Kendra Penry, Emily

Fletcher, Megan Izatt

**Start Time: 03:37:00** 

#### **#1 Welcome & Introductions**

Sands welcomed everyone.

#### **#2 Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

Agenda and March 4, 2024 Minutes approved without objection.

03:39:00

#### **#3 First Round Application: Elk Horn Ranch**

Nelson explained that staff and committee members toured the property on March 22, 2024.

Eliason asked about the non-contiguous land easement.

**Mat Coombs** explained that the existing easement is held by the State Department of Agriculture and Food and they would also discuss with them holding this new easement. The only issue could be access and it shouldn't be an issue to establish an access point to the two pieces of the easement.

Ellis commented on having the State Department of Agriculture and Food hold the applied for easement.

**Nelson** reviewed the staff report for the Elk Horn Ranch application and reviewed the master plan for the trail that is currently planned to go through the property.

**Staff** and **Committee** discussed building the trail through the old right of way on the property along SR-165.

**Joe Fuhriman** stated he is adamantly against any trail on his property.

**Staff** and **Committee** discussed the trail, river bank ownership, wildlife habitat on the property, and floodplains located on the property.

**Mr.** Coombs commented on public access and the trail and how those conditions could affect funding from other entities.

**Ellis** asked if the funding issues is for all entities or just NRCS.

**Mr.** Coombs commented that the right of way is not associated with agricultural use, it can have an impact to the agricultural use and NRCS looks less favorable on that application.

**Eliason** asked if there would be a possibility to draw the trail into the easement or right of way before the NRCS application.

**Mr.** Coombs commented that would be the recommendation to do that trail right away prior to the conservation easement.

**Ellis** commented on the difference of interest between the County and NRCS between trials and conservation.

**Mr.** Coombs commented on there being different reasons for easements and on protecting agricultural operations and land base. There is interest in the County to protect easements but that doesn't work well with this property owner's interests.

**Ellis** commented on funding possibly being cut back due to the interests of what the constituents want in general.

**Mr. Coombs** recognized that is a possibility.

Wheeler asked about other entities and trail conservation easements.

**Mr. Coombs** responded he doesn't know the specific requirements for LeRay McAllister and the DWR and how the trail condition may preclude this project from being able to apply for NRCS funding and expressed concern with the condition regarding the property owner not contesting the trail being built in the right of way of the road.

**Nelson** responded that currently Mr. Fuhriman is farming the right of way area and has a building located in the right of way. The County Surveyor has looked at the property and believes the State and the County has the right to build the trail within that right of way and the County would like to avoid a legal challenge.

**Mr. Coombs** asked what the agreement would look like.

**Nelson** responded that it would be an agreement signed before funding would be released.

**Mr.** Coombs commented that the funding would be contingent on something that he may or may not contest on a separate property.

**Nelson** responded that they are looking for an acknowledgement from the property owner that the County has the right to build the trail.

**Mr. Coombs** commented that Mr. Fuhriman would have to establish that right and he would be binding his successor.

Ellis commented that a verbal agreement wouldn't work here.

**Nelson** responded that this is the first round of conditions and that the County attorney's office can look at it and provide legal documentation or agreement for it. Staff is concerned because there is an old structure in that boundary and has been farming that it the applicant might claim the County can't build the trail through the right of way.

**Ellis** asked if the structure was the fence.

**Nelson** responded no, there is an old shed.

Wheeler asked how wide the right of way is.

**Nelson** responded it is 66 feet.

Wheeler asked if the shed is functional.

**Mr. Fuhriman** responded that it's been there since he has owned the property and he would like to see it repaired.

**Nelson** responded the plan is to build the trail right along the southern boundary and put a fence in. He doesn't believe the full of right of way would be used.

**Eliason** asked if the standard is 12 feet for the trail.

**Sands** responded usually 15-20 feet is needed.

Wheeler asked if the fence would be in the 66 feet right of way.

**Nelson** responded he believes a fence would go along both sides of the trail and doesn't believe the whole 66-foot right of way would be used.

**Eliason** asked how certain Mr. Coombs is on NRCS funding.

Mr. Coombs requested he couldn't answer that at this time but would need to go through the process.

Eliason asked about LeRay McAllister funding.

Mr. Coombs responded that he would give a similarly non-committal answer.

Eliason asked if LeRay had any questions regarding historical value.

**Mr.** Coombs responded yes, they do ask about historical value and they expect this project to score well with the NRCS and LeRay McAlister.

Sands asked about the funding cycle.

**Mr.** Coombs responded that he believes NRCS's funding cycle for accepting applications in October.

**Wheeler** asked if having the other easements adjoining this property make it a better application and who runs the property on the other easement.

**Mr. Coombs** responded yes and that Mr. Fuhriman owns the property in the other easement that is under UDAF

Wheeler asked if NRCS was involved in the first easement.

**Gabe Murry** responded they were.

**Eliason** asked if the parcels could be sold independently with the easement.

**Mr.** Coombs responded that his understanding is that the current easement could be sold separately from the new easement and he is not aware of a way to tie the old easement and new easement together.

**Ellis** asked if there are limitations in the easement for the property owner to sell bits and pieces of property.

**Mr.** Coombs responded there is limits on subdivision and development of property in the easement documents.

Wheeler asked how many years the other easement has been in place.

**Mr. Murry** responded for 20 years and it is perpetual.

**Eliason** asked why all the property wasn't put into an easement at that time.

**Mr.** Coombs responded there wasn't enough money to do all the land.

Wheeler asked if the existing easement worked well.

Mr. Fuhriman responded there have been no issues and has been good.

**Mr.** Coombs responded they would need more information as to what is being agreed to before they could agree to the trail easement requirement.

**Sands** responded they need legal counsel review for that condition.

**Nelson** responded he will work on that.

**Mr. Coombs** commented on if it is fair to condition applicants for this program.

Eliason commented it's different to clear something up before an easement than to condition it.

Committee discussed the scoring sheet, when a recommendation for approval or denial would be expected, and how to compile everyone's scores.

#### 04:42:00

#### **#4 First Round Application: Cooper Open Space**

**Nelson** reviewed the application and location for the Cooper Open Space.

**Cort Cooper** commented on the interest to establish the ability to keep it agriculture.

**Sands** asked about other funding partners.

**Mr. Cooper** commented they haven't approached any others.

Eliason asked about the sustainability of agriculture for the 20 acres.

**Mr. Cooper** commented there isn't more acreage to add in at that location.

Wheeler asked if the leased any other property.

**Mr. Cooper** responded they do to the north.

**Wheeler** asked if the other property owners in the area would be interested in an easement.

**Mr.** Cooper commented there could be but he hasn't approached any of them.

Wheeler asked how long the Coopers have owned the property.

Mr. Cooper commented the 20 acres since 1985 and the other piece for generations.

Ellis asked how important it is to consider both together.

**Mr.** Cooper responded they are fine if they are considered separately or together.

Eliason commented that he likes the properties but has concerns with both being big enough for easements

**Staff** and **Committee** discussed the size of easements and who would be interested in holding the easement.

**Eliason** asked if Mr. Cooper has an idea of who would hold the easement.

**Mr.** Cooper responded he wasn't sure and that maybe there are other options that would be better suited.

**Staff** and **Committee** discussed the 20-acre parcel and what are some other options that would be good for it.

**Sands** asked if there had been any thought to partner with an organization to help with funds.

Mr. Cooper responded at this point they were looking for more information about the whole process.

**Staff** and **Committee** discussed setting up a meeting for landowners and putting a list of contact information for different land trusts to have available for landowners.

#### #5 Gateway Category – Immediate Views and Parcels

Continued to next meeting.

#### **#6 County Council Update**

Continued to next meeting.

05:17:00

#### Adjourned



### **Development Services**

Building | GIS Department

### **Cache Open Space Advisory Committee**

15 April 2024

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| <u>A</u> § | g <u>enda</u>                              |             |
| 1.         | Welcome & Introductions                    | 2           |
| 2.         | Approval of agenda                         | 2           |
| 3.         | First Round of Application: Elk Horn Ranch | 2           |
|            |  |             |

**Present:** Stephen Nelson, Clair Ellis, Chris Sands, Eric Eliason, Regan Wheeler, Kendra Penry, Brett

Thomas, Kathryn Beus

**Start Time: 03:37:00** 

#### **#1 Welcome & Introductions**

Sands welcomed everyone.

#### **#2 Approval of Agenda**

Approved without objection.

#### #3 First Round of application: Elk Horn Ranch

Committee and Staff discussed public access, building a trail in the right of way, and the applicants concerns regarding privacy, public access clashing with the applicant's agricultural operations, the County Attorney's position that a condition for trail space is not a legal problem, scoring for gateway areas, scoring for protects public vistas, holding projects due to no public access, and trail access for future projects.

**Mr. Joe Fuhriman** commented that he would protest the trail and how that piece has been farmed for a number of years, is currently being farmed, more fences means more gates to open and close, concerns with pubic access not working with an agricultural operation, and the eastside property owners not wanting the trail either.

Ellis asked if the trail is on the Alder's property if it impinges on his property.

**Mr. Fuhriman** commented that he does, issues with fisherman cutting fences currently and upkeep of the riverbank.

Committee discussed the money being tax payers' money and public access being important, the length and width of the right of way, property owners to the north and their interest in granting a right of way for a trail, and interest level that staff is hearing.

**Sands** asked Mr. Murray what interest he is seeing.

**Gabe Murray** commented he receives phone calls every month. Some have interest in public access and some do not.

**Eliss** commented on public access impacting funding from other entities and that the County would probably need to pay more in for those applications.

**Joe Fuhriman** commented on easements and feeling sometimes that applying isn't worth it but that this easement is important due to the property being beautiful and having historical significance.

**Staff** and **Committee** discussed the scoring for public access, and the bond language not requiring public access for all applications.

Mr. Fuhriman commented that does not remember trails being in the bond language.

Ellis commented that it is part of the bond language and has been since the beginning.

**Staff** and **Committee** discussed there being public benefit of open space without being able to physically access the property, and the applicant's property having beautiful view sheds.

#### Staff and Committee

**Eliason** motioned to recommend approval to the County Council for the Elk Horn Phase II to move to the Phase 2 application and noting that the Council consider the alternate trail alignment in the staff report; **Wheeler** seconded.

**Staff** and **Committee** discussed the gateway scoring section and differentiation between gateways and vistas.

**Staff** and **Committee** discussed the wording of the motion regarding the proposed trail and how to resolve the issues with trail connectivity in the area.

Wheeler left.

**Staff** and **Committee** continued discussion on how to word the motion that they recommend approval for Elk Horn Ranch Phase II to go to the next step and that there are still questions regarding the trail.

**Eliason** amended his motion to recommend approval to the County Council for the Elk Horn Phase Two open space application to the second application phase noting that the trail connectivity was not resolved within this application; **Ellis** seconded; **Passed 5, 0.** 

Staff and Committee discussed what the second phase of applications will entail for funding.

**Mr. Murry** commented that they could not seek an actual appraisal yet but they would work on getting a value for the conservation.

**Eliason** asked who they would also be applying for funding.

**Mr. Murry** responded LeRay McAllister and NCRS.

**Staff** and **Committee** discussed when it would by on the County Council agenda and what the next month's agenda looks like.

Adjourned.



### **Development Services**

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### **Cache Open Space Advisory Committee**

20 May 2024

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#### **Agenda**

1. Application – Site visit and Discussion





**Present:** Stephen Nelson, Angie Zetterquist, Chris Sands, Brent Thomas, Clair Ellis, Kendra Penry, Justin Clawson, Megan Izatt

**Start Time: 03:45:00** 

#### #1 Application – Site Visit and Discussion

**Staff, Committee,** and **Applicant** toured the Cooper Property on Highway 89 in Wellsville. They discussed the size of the property, current use, the small canal running through the property, the spring on the south end of the property, pivot water being used on the property, the property being located in a gateway area, funding sources, and who would hold the easement.

**Staff, Committee,** and **Applicant** left highway property to go to the other property located near the canyon.

**Staff, Committee,** and **Applicant** discussed the property boundaries, the high pressured pipeline on the property, that it is mostly used for grazing, reviewed the history of the property, development potential for surrounding property, the LDS church property surrounding part of the parcel, proposed and current trails, wildlife such as elk and deer, location of a proposed well, possibility for a building lot, currently access is allowed with permission, there is a possibility for more public access, subdivisions around the highway property, scoring for the projects, and the easement on a neighboring property. The parcels will be scored individually.



### Agenda Item Number 3

First Round Application: Discussion and Consideration of an Open Space Application for Cooper Open Space, containing parcels 10-041-001, 10-016-0012, 10-055-003. Located between 200 E and US 89/91 and around 600 S Wellsville, and located about half a mile west of the south end of 4000 W in unincorporated county. Applicant Clair Cooper.



## Cache Open Space Advisory Committee (COSAC) Open Space Funding Application

For screening of projects requesting bond funding from Cache County.

| Section A: Required Criteria   |
|--|
| Select one ・ The property(s) is in Cache County.<br>りゃら  |
| Select one The landowner is willing. The property owner should be engaged in the   |
| conservation of the property and willing to enter into good faith negotiations with the County.<br>ಆತ                                      |
| Select one Property(s) has a clear title. The appropriate title and ownership are free of disputes or other conflicts.                     |
| *If you answered <u>no</u> to any of these questions your application is ineligible.*  |
| Are you aware of any legal disputes or conflicts relating to the property or proposed project? If yes, please describe. Select one         |
|  |
| Section B: Property Information  |
| Project Name: Cooper   |
| Address or location: Wellsville/Mt. Sterling   |
| Municipality or nearest city: Wellsville   |
| Parcel number(s): 10-041-001 / 10-016-0012 / 10-055-0003   |
| Total acres: 180   |
| Acres proposed to be preserved by conservation easement:   |
| Acres proposed to be preserved by ownership transfer (fee title):  |
| If not the entire parcel(s), provide a map of the proposed project.  |
| Section C: Applicant Information   |
| Property Owner(s): <u>Clair Cooper</u> (J Clair Cooper Trust)  Address: 1340 S. Center City: <u>Wellsu: lle</u> State: <u>UTZip: 84339</u> |
| Address: 1340 S. Center City: Wells willestate: UTZip: 84339   |
| Phone: 435-760-725 Email: evergreensprinkling@gmail.com  |
| Contact person/ Authorized Agent (if other than property owner):   |
| Title / position:  |
| Address : City: State: Zip:  |
| Phone: Email:  |
| ☐ I authorize this agent as my legal contact person  |
| Agent relationship to project, check all that apply:   |
| ☐ Municipality ☐ 501c3   |
|  |
| ☐ Land Trust ☐ Other, describe   |



No

## Cache Open Space Advisory Committee (COSAC) - Open Space Funding Application

For screening of projects requesting bond funding from Cache County.

|             | nal contacts:                    | · <u>-</u> ,                                       |                          |                     |             |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Name: _     |                                  | Phone:   | Email:                   | ·                   |             |
|             |                                  | Phone:   |                          |                     |             |
| If you ar   | e working with a                 | a land trust, please list n                        | ame here:                |                     |             |
| Section     | D: Additional In                 | formation - Please ansv                            | ver the following quest  | ions on a separate  | page.       |
| 1. 1        | Please describe                  | past, present, and future                          | e uses of the property.  |                     |             |
|             | Are you aware of olease explain. | lay, Grain, Pastu<br>fany toxic or hazardous<br>No | materials on the prope   | erty? Select one    | If yes,     |
|             | s the property seexplain. No     | ubject to any DEQ or EF                            | 'A restrictions? Select  | one - If yes, plea  | se          |
|             | What benefits wapply:            | ill the public receive as a                        | result of the proposed   | l transaction. Sele | ct all that |
| _           | ☑ Protects                       | scenic vistas                                      |                          |                     |             |
|             |                                  | s open lands near valley                           | gateways                 |                     |             |
|             | •                                | Is and trail connectivity                          | -                        |                     |             |
|             | <br>☑ Maintain                   | •  |                          |                     |             |
|             | Maintain                         | -  |                          |                     |             |
|             | Maintain                         | s wildlife habitat                                 |                          |                     |             |
|             | Other:                           |  |                          |                     |             |
|             |                                  |  |                          |                     |             |
| 5. <i>A</i> | Are you proposir                 | ng to open any portion o                           | f the property to public | access? Select or   | ne 🔧        |
|             | Please explain.                  | Possibly. We co                                    | urrently allow           | hunting by          | permission  |
|             |                                  | with other organization                            |                          |                     |             |
|             | -                                | ential funding sources (                           |                          |                     |             |
|             | •                                | and Wildlife, UDAF Lel                             |                          |                     |             |



## Cache Open Space Advisory Committee (COSAC) Open Space Funding Application

For screening of projects requesting bond funding from Cache County.

## Section E: Supporting Documents If your application is accepted, you will be asked to complete a final application with additional

information which may include, but is not limited to, the following documents. **Please do not send** them at this time.

Current real estate appraisal Water rights
Mineral rights Encumbrances
Easements or right of ways Letters of support

Legal description Relevant planning documents

To the best of my knowledge I attest the information provided here is true and correct.

| lla lus                                | 3/8/24 |
|--|--------|
| Property Owner(s) Signature (Required) | Date   |
|  |        |
|  |        |
| Authorized Agent Signature             | Date   |

To complete and send this form:

- 1. Save a copy on your computer as a PDF. Your draft can be attached to an email for editing and contribution by others.
- 2. Submit the final version via email to devservices@cachecounty.gov.

<sup>\*</sup>This form is subject to change as the Cache Open Space Advisory Committee sees fit.\*



Building | GIS | Planning

## **Cache County Development Services Staff Report** June 3, 2024

| Project  | Cooper |  |
|--|--------|--|
| Applicant Clair Cooper   |        |  |
| <b>Location</b> Wellsville and Mt Sterling                       |        |  |
| Total Acres 180 (Wellsville 20.14 Acres, Mt. Sterling 160 Acres) |        |  |
| Parcels 10-041-0001, 10-016-0012, 10-055-0003                    |        |  |
| Proposed Use Agriculture Conservation Easement                   |        |  |







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#### Introduction

The property owner has applied for three parcels for conservation funds. Two parcels are located adjacent to US 89/91 within Wellsville, and a large 160-acre parcel is located on a bench near the old Sardine Canyon roadway. The property within Wellsville is currently being farmed, while the property in Mt. Sterling also has farmland and contains forest areas.

| Surrounding Uses (Wellsville)           |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| North                                   | Farmland and single family development |  |
| East US-89/91 and farmland              |  |  |
| South US-89/91 and farmland             |  |  |
| West Park and single family development |  |  |

| Surrounding Uses (Mt. Sterling)                      |                          |  |  |
|--|--------------------------|--|--|
| North  | Wilderness and Mountains |  |  |
| East Farmland and ag. protection areas               |                          |  |  |
| South Farmland, ag. protection areas, and wilderness |                          |  |  |
| West Wilderness and farmland.                        |                          |  |  |

#### **Purpose of Proposed Conservation Easement**

The applicant has proposed to apply a conservation easement on listed properties. The properties within Wellsville are currently being farmed. The property in the Mt. Sterling area is also proposed for agricultural conservation, however, there are quite bit of steep slopes and wilderness area (see the attached map). There is a spring on the Mt. Sterling Property and water access and rights with Wellsville Property.

#### **Evaluation Criteria**

The Cache Open Space Advisory Committee (COSAC) created a scoring sheet (attached) to help evaluate each application. The main sections for review are Protect Scenic Vistas, Preserve Open



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Lands Near Valley Gateways, Maintain Agriculture, Maintain Waterways, Maintain Wildlife Habitat, Allow Public Access, and Distinguishing Factors. Staff reviewed the properties and provided the following for each item.

#### **Protect Scenic Vistas**

**Wellsville Property:** The 20 acres are located along the US 89/91 within Wellsville. There is an Average Annual Daily Traffic count of around 20,000 vehicles daily. There is also a master plan UDOT trail along the highway.

**Mt. Sterling:** This property is located on the western bench of the valley, though it is not located near any major or minor roadways. It is also not clearly visible in most populated areas within the valley.

#### **Preserve Open Lands Near Valley Gateways**

**Wellsville Property:** These two parcels are located within the Wellsville Canyon Gateway as reviewed by COSAC. These properties have .2 miles of frontage along US 89/91.



View of the property from the US 89/91: Credit Google Maps

**Sterling Property:** This property does not fall within a gateway area (Wellsville Canyon, Valley View Highway, SR-91 Idaho/Utah Border).

#### **Maintain Agriculture**

**Wellsville Property:** These properties are currently being farmed for "Grazing, Hay, Grain, Pasture" according to the application. There is a canal (stream) and water access within this property. There is a type of conservation easement on it, but it identified as a "Trust Deed" with the Utah Department of Agriculture and the Utah Soil Conservation Commission that applies to both 10-041-0001 and 10-016-0012 (attached), and it may include the three parcels divided off of 10-041-0001. 10-041-001 is a remainder parcel that was further split without a subdivision



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amendments. This property is within Wellsville and their code would govern whether it could be further developed.

Mt. Sterling Property: This property is also currently being farmed for "Grazing, Hay, Grain, Pasture" according to the application. However, 20% and >30% slope occupy a large section of the property. This would limit its function as farmland. There is a spring on the property with the Cooper Family holding the rights to the water of that spring. By County code, under the current zoning of FR40, it is likely that a seasonal cabin could only be developed on the property, with most of the property being restricted from development due to the steep slopes.



Mt. Sterling property's southwest slopes

#### Maintain Waterways

**Wellsville Property:** The property has a natural waterway, the Hawbush Canal, that goes through it. However, no known wetlands are on the property (see attached map).

Mt. Sterling Property: There is a natural spring and a relatively small wetland area around the spring (see attached map).



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#### **Maintains Wildlife Habitat**

**Wellsville Property:** The applicant has not indicated any wildlife within this property. During the site visit, some species of birds were around the waterway.

Mt. Sterling Property: The applicant has indicated there are frequent herds of elk and deer on the property, and he does allow hunters on the property with his permission. During the site visit, a few deer were observed. This parcel is also contained within Wildland Urban Interface (see attached map). This area is defined as "the zone of transition between unoccupied land and human development. It is the line, area or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels" (U.S. Fire Administration).

#### Allows Public Access

The applicant has indicated, "Possibly, we currently allow hunting by permission."

**Wellsville Property:** A trail is planned along Highway 89/91. This proposed trail appears in the County's Trails and Active Transportation Plan, Wellsville's Trails and Active Transportation Plan, Tier 3 of the Utah Trail Network, and has been prioritized in the ongoing US-89/91 Corridor Study. At the time of this writing, staff doesn't know what side of the highway the trail is planned to be placed.

**Mt. Sterling Property:** This property has a couple of primitive trails planned with the Wellsville Trail Master Plan. Staff recommends discussing the possibility of securing easements to access the master plan trails on the property.

#### **Distinguishing Factors**

Wellsville Property: Staff is currently unaware of additional factors for consideration.

Mt. Sterling Property: Staff is currently unaware of additional factors for consideration.

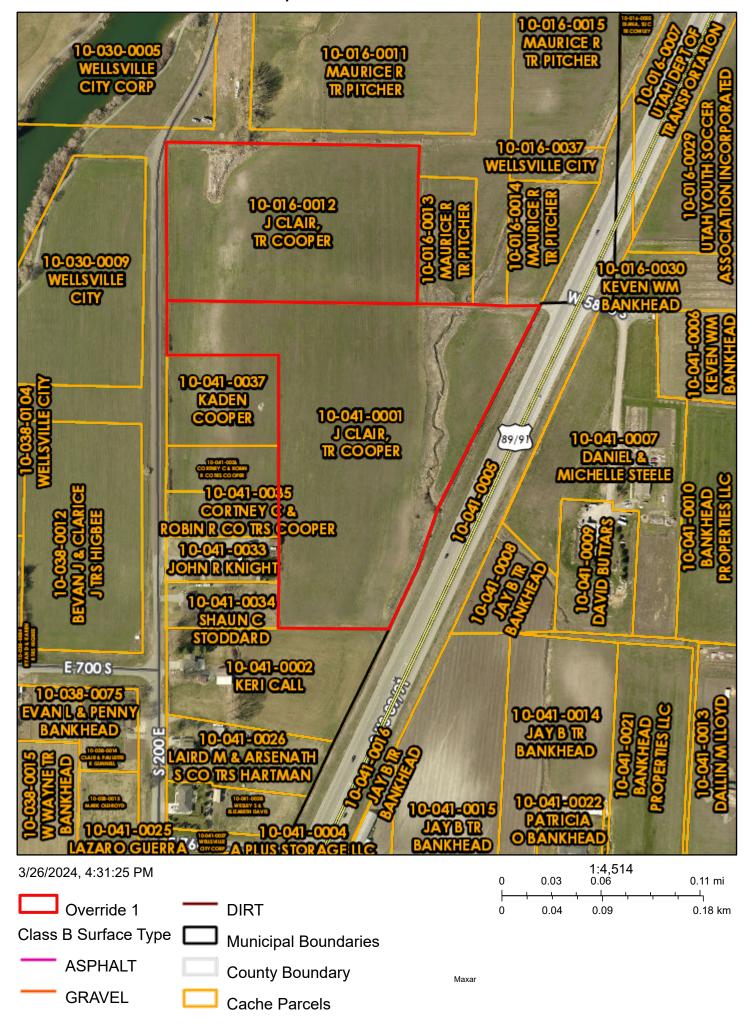
#### **Partnering Organizations**

There are no additional partnering organizations as of the time of this report. Staff has sent the application to Wellsville for their review and feedback.

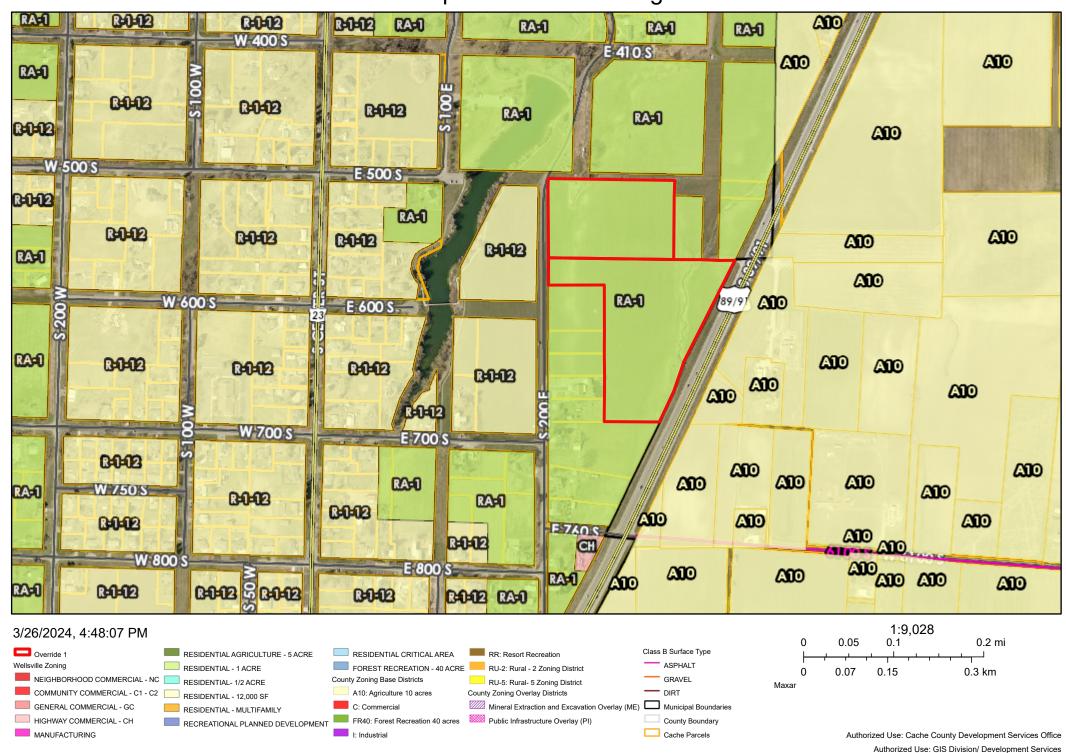
#### **Next Steps**

COSAC is a recommendation body for the County Council. At this meeting, COSAC can recommend approval, approval with conditions, or denial of the open space application. This application will then be sent to the next County Council meeting. COSAC may also continue the item to the next meeting.

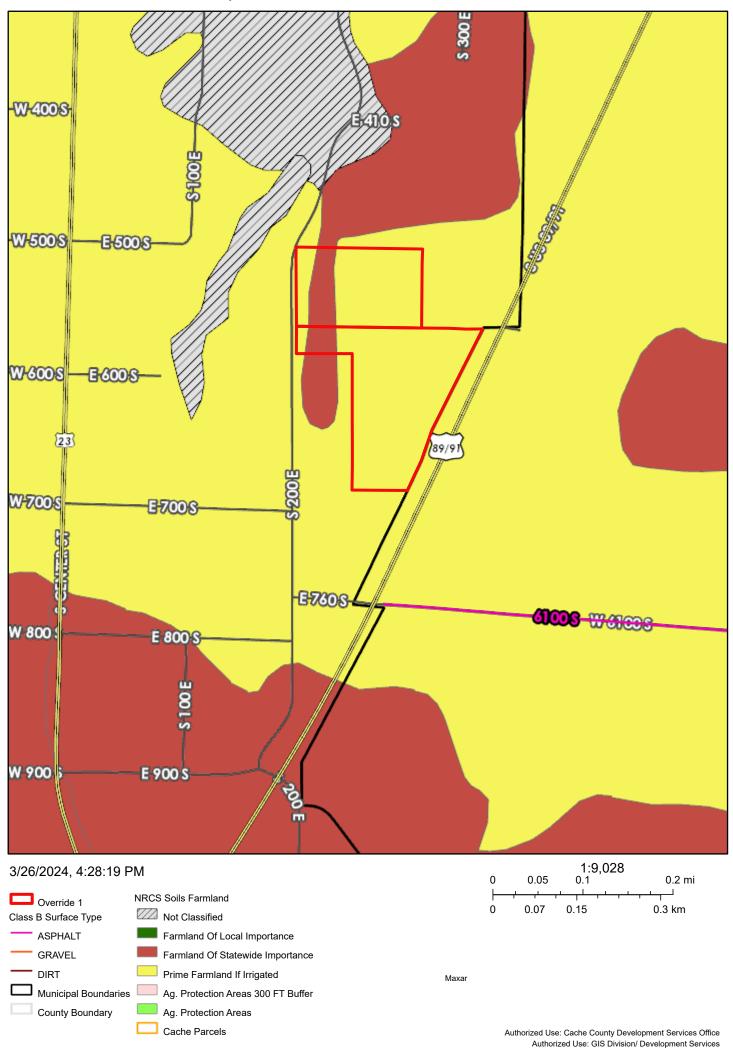
### Cooper Wellsville Parcels

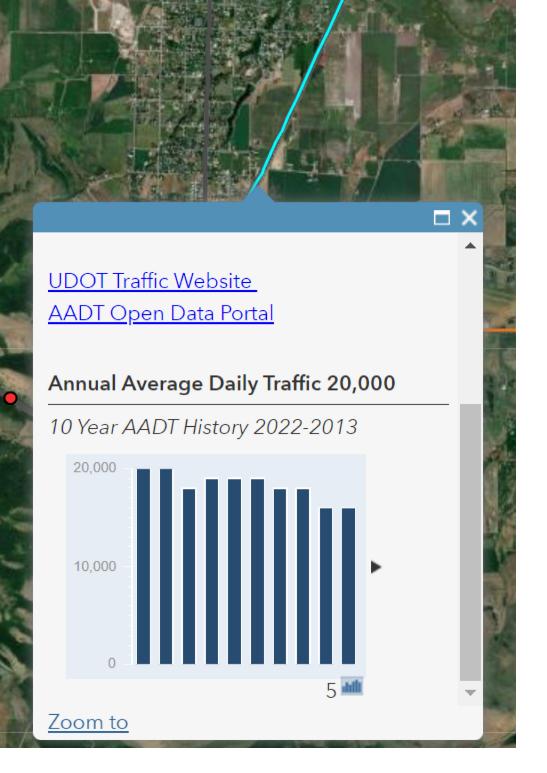


### Cooper Wellsville Zoning

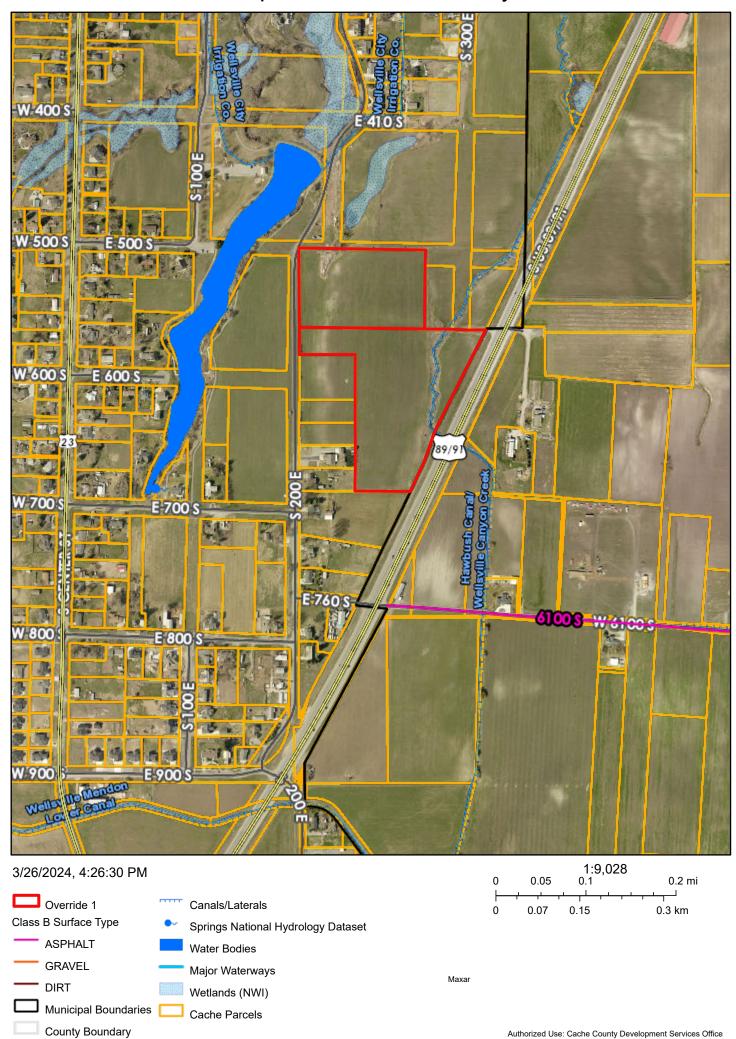


### Cooper Wellsville NCRS Farmland



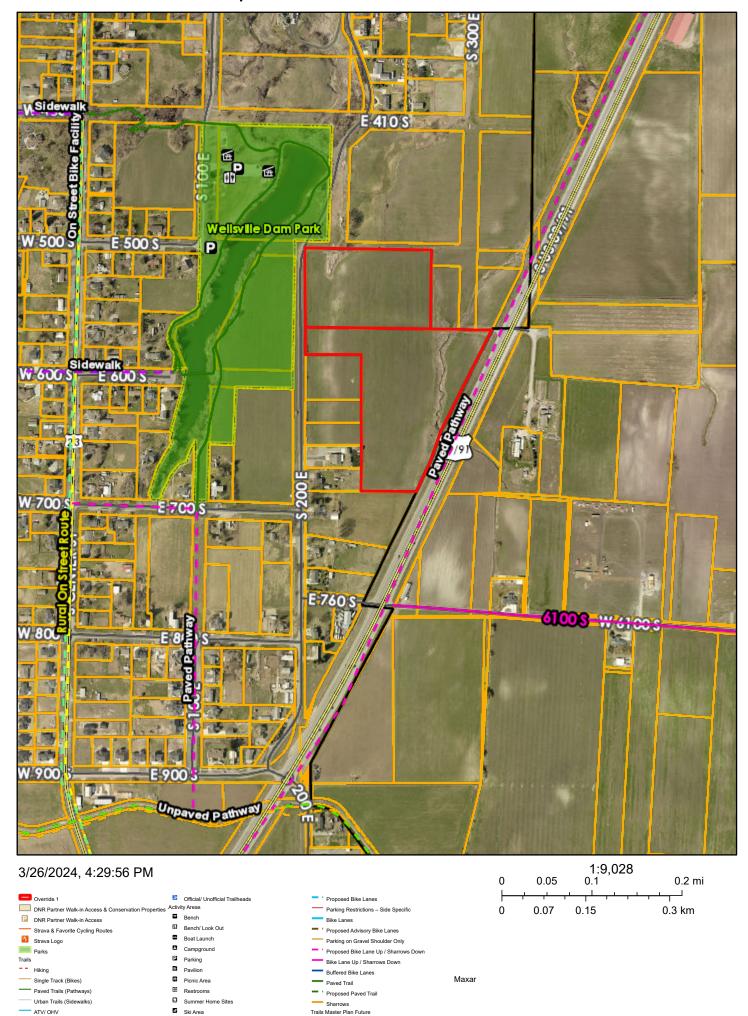


### Cooper Wellsville Waterways



Authorized Use: GIS Division/ Development Services

### Cooper Wellsville Trails and Parks



Authorized Use: Cache County Development Services Office Authorized Use: GIS Division/ Development Services

Cache Bikeways Near Term/ Long Term Recommendations -- Arterial Street Trail

Canoe Trail
Bike Route Signs

1-15634

WHEN RECORDED, MAIL TO:

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE A R D L PROGRAM 350 NORTH REDWOOD ROAD SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84116-3087 ENT 532191 BK 470 P6 92 DATE 25-APR-1990 12:539H FEE 9.00 MICHAEL L GLEED, RECORDER 44 CACHE COUNTY, UTAH 48 RECORDED BY SA FOR HICKMAN LAND TITLE COMPANY

#### \*\* TRUST DEED \*\*

THIS TRUST DEED is made this 30th day of March, 1990, between ELDOM G. COOPER and ARLENE P. COOPER, husband and wife, as joint tenants, as Trustor, whose address is 6640 South 4200 West, Wellsville, Utah 84339; Stephen C. Ward, Assistant Utah Attorney General, as Trustee, and the Utah Soil Conservation Commission, as Beneficiary.

Trustor hereby COMMEYS AND MARRANTS TO TRUSTEE IN TRUST, WITH POWER OF SALE, the following described property situated in Cache County, Utah:

<u>PARCEL 1:</u> BEGIMING at the Northwest Corner of Section 11, Township 10 Morth, Range 1 West of the Salt Lake Base and Meridian and running thence South 14.43 chains to a point 25.6 chains Morth of the Southwest Corner of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 11 and running thence East 10.48 chains to the West line of the State Highway; thence Morth  $25^{\circ}00^{\circ}$  East along said Highway 15.60 chains to a point East of beginning; thence West to the point of beginning.

PARCEL 2: BEGIMNING at the Northwest Corner of said Section 11, Township 10 North, Range 1 West of the Salt Lake Base and Meridian, and running thence North 6.75 chains; thence East 11.16 chains; thence South 673 chains; thence West 11.11 chains to the place of beginning.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM the following: Part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 11, Township 10 North, Range 1 West, Salt Lake Base and Meridian, described as follows: BEGINNING at the intersection of the Southerly right-of-way line of the existing 6th South Street of Wellsville City and the Morthwesterly right-of-way and limited access line of the existing U.S. Highway 91, which point is approximately 1,134.33 feet East (which equals Highway bearing South 89°38'14" East) along the North line of said Section 11 and 30.92 feet South (equals Highway South 0°21'46" West) from the Morthwest Corner of said Section 11 as mented by Cache County, Utah; and running thence South 25°00' West (equals Highway South 25018'31" West) 1,021.32 fet, more or less, along said Northwesterly right-of-way and limited access line to the Southerly boundary fonce line of said entire tract; thence West (equals Highway North 89°24'45" West) 55.04 feet, more or less, along said Southerly boundary fence line to a point 90.00 feet perpendicularly distant Morthwesterly from the "A" line, for said project at Engineer Station 399+27.08; thence North 25018'31" East (Highway hearing) 172.93 feet, more or less, along a line parallel to said "A" line, to a point apposite Engineer Station 401+00.00; thence North 19035'53" East (Highway bearing) 201.00 feet; thence North 29035'52" East (Highway bearing) 401.12 feet to a point 80.00 feet perpendicularly distant Morthwesterly from said "A" line at Engineer Station 407:00.00; thence North 25018'31" East (Highway bearing) 252.96 feet, more or less, along a line parallel to said "A" line to said Southerly right-of-way line; thence East (equals Highway bearing South 89°27'05° East) 44.05 feet, more or less, along said Southerly right-of-way line to the point of beginning as shown on the official map of said project on file in the office of the Utah Department of Transportation.

TOGETHER WITH 46 shares of water stack in the Hyrum, Wellsville, and Mendon Irrigation

Together with all buildings, fixtures and improvements thereon and all water rights, rights-of-way, easements, rents, issues, profits, income, tenements, hereditaments, privileges and appurtenances thereunts new or hereafter used or enjoyed with said property, or any part thereof;

(centinued)

Eldon and Arlene Cooper Trust Deed - March 30, 1990 Page 2 of 2

COUNTY OF Cache

FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING payment of the indebtedness evidenced by a promissory note of even date herewith, in the principal sum of \$10,712.00, payable to the order of Beneficiary at the times, in the mainer and with interest as therein set forth, and payment of any sums expended or advanced by Beneficiary to protect the security hereof.

Trustor agrees to pay all taxes and assessments on the above property, to pay all charges and assessments on water or water stock used on or with said property, not to commit waste, to maintain adequate fire insurance on improvements on said property, to pay all costs and expenses of collection (including Trustee's and attorney's fees in event of default in payment of the indebtedness secured hereby) and to pay reasonable Trustee's fees for any of the services performed by Trustee hereunder, including a reconveyance hereof.

The undersigned Trustor requests that a copy of any notice of default and of any notice of sale hereunder be mailed to him at the address hereinbefage set forth.

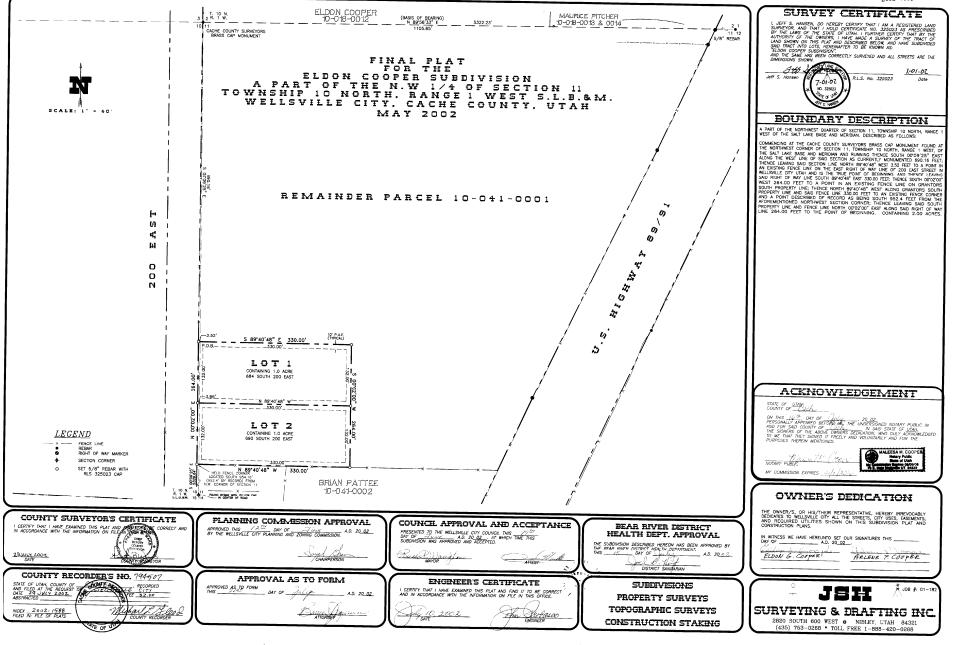
STATE OF UTAH

SS.

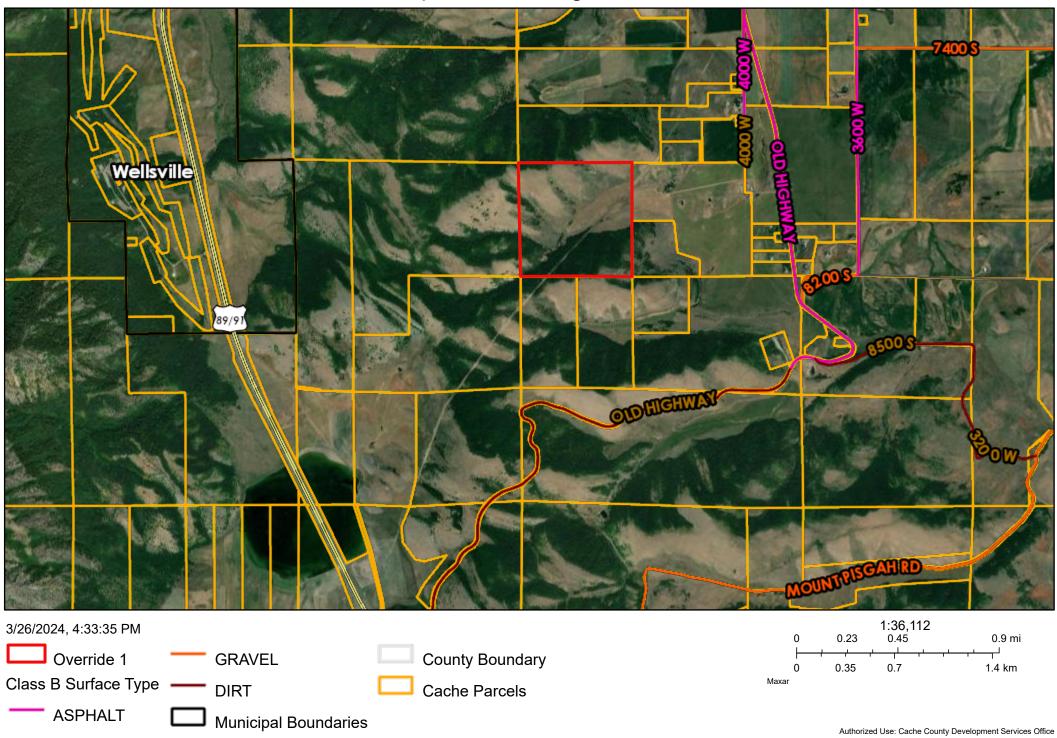
On the 4th day of April , 1990, personally appeared before me ELDON G. COOPER and ARLENE P. COOPER, the signer of the foregoing instrument, who duly acknowledged to me that he executed the same.

Debbei a. Cook
Hotary Public

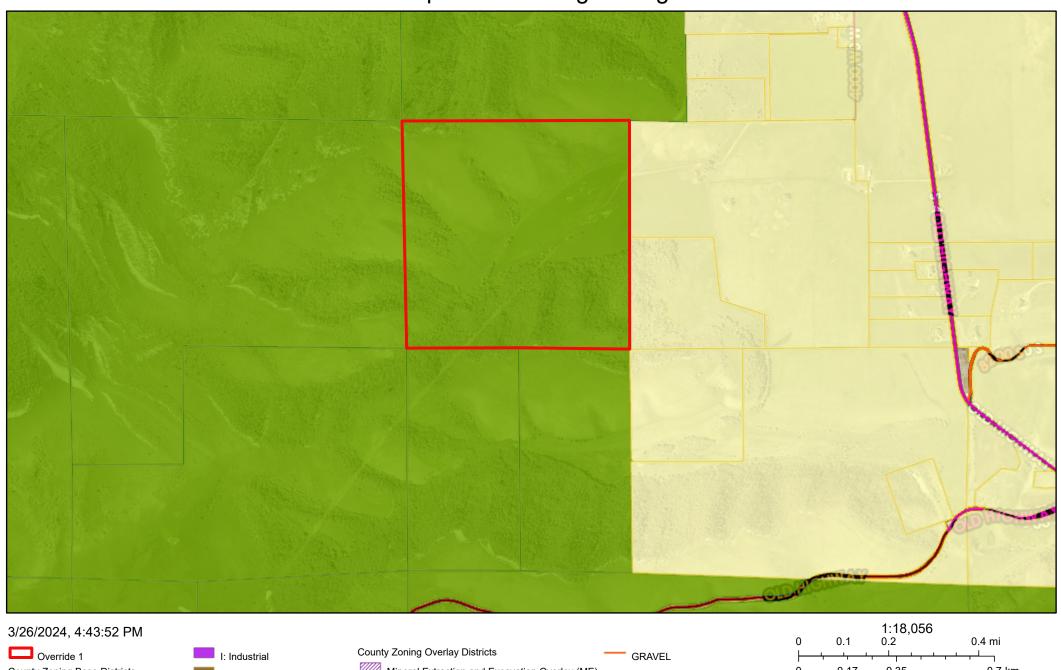
My Commission Expires: 1-27-93 Residing at: Lagon, Utak

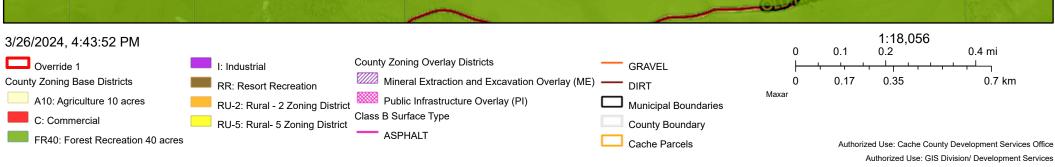


### Cooper Mt. Sterling Parcels

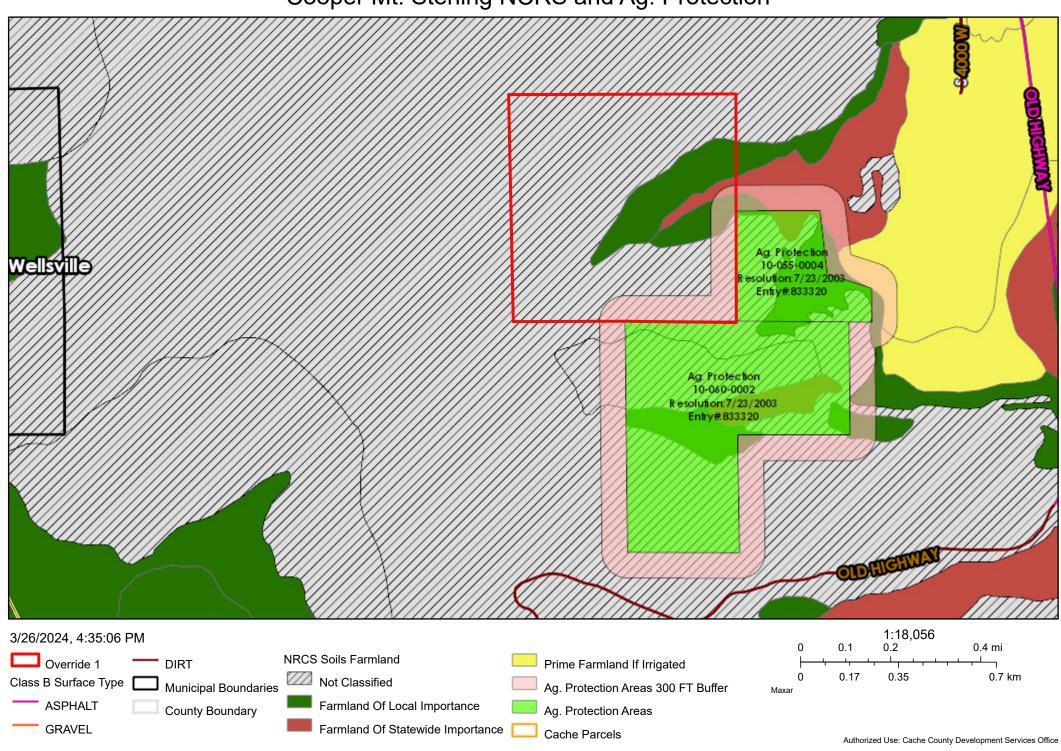


### Cooper Mt. Sterling Zoning

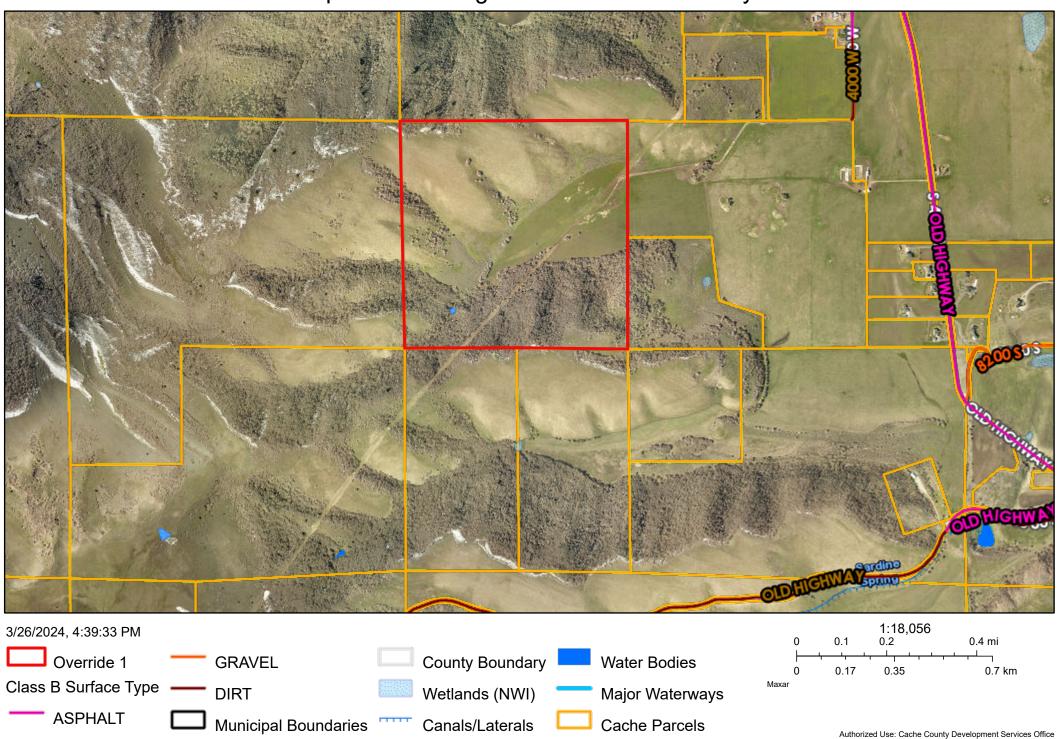




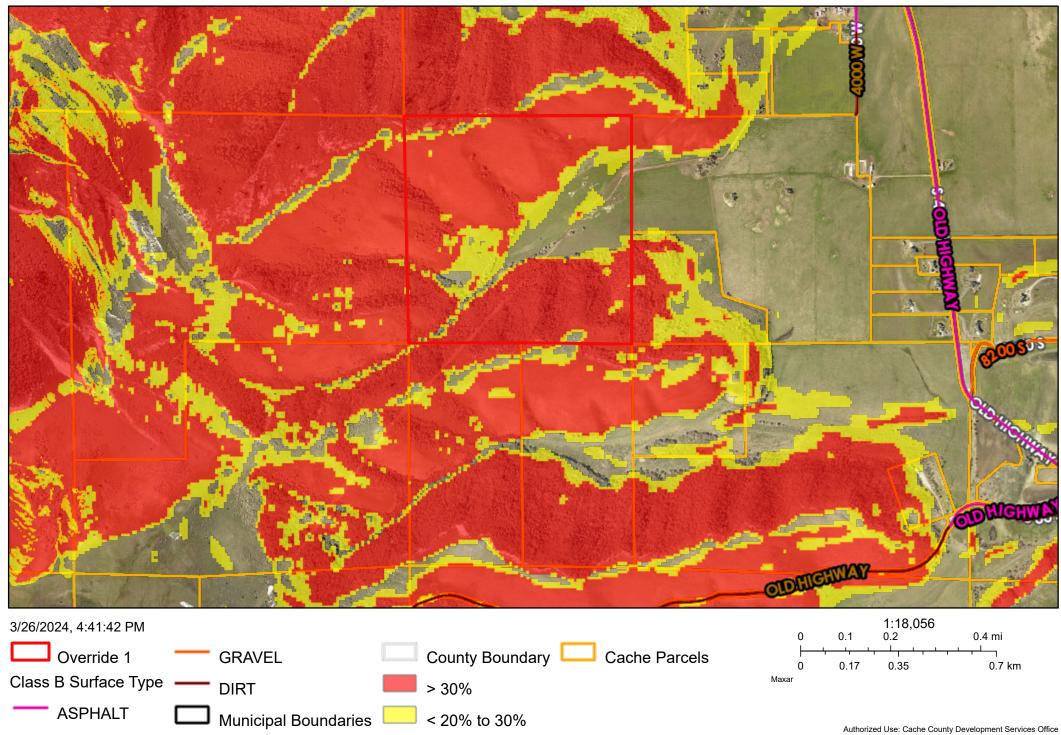
### Cooper Mt. Sterling NCRS and Ag. Protection



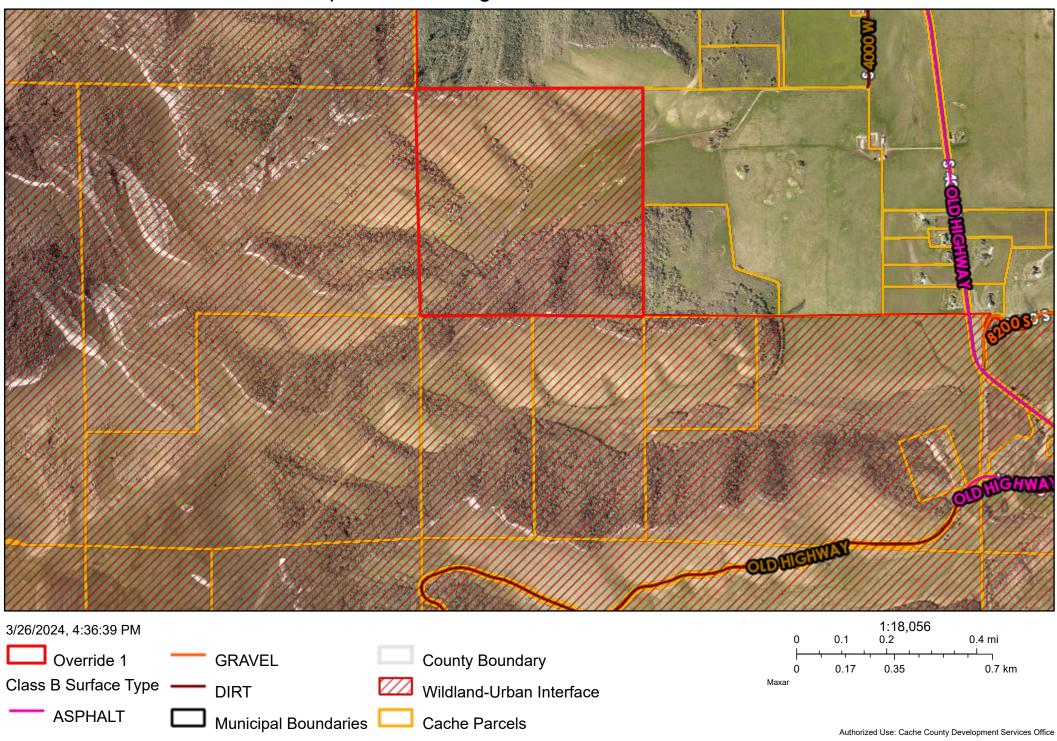
### Cooper Mt. Sterling Wetlands and Waterways



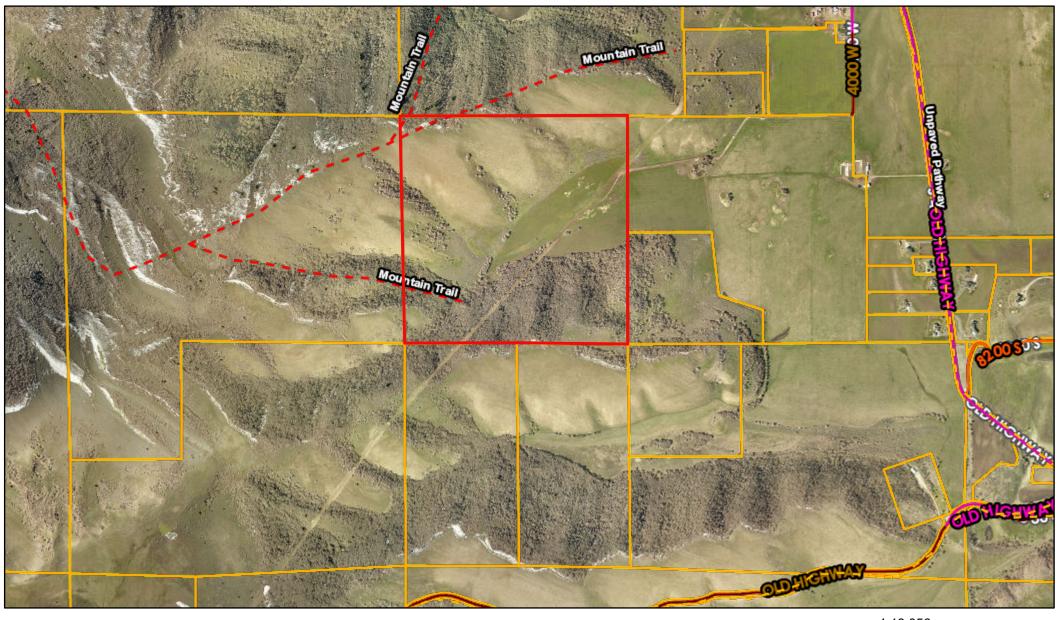
### Cooper Mt. Sterling Slopes



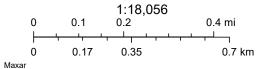
### Cooper Mt. Sterling Wildland Urban Interface



### Cooper Mt. Sterling Trails

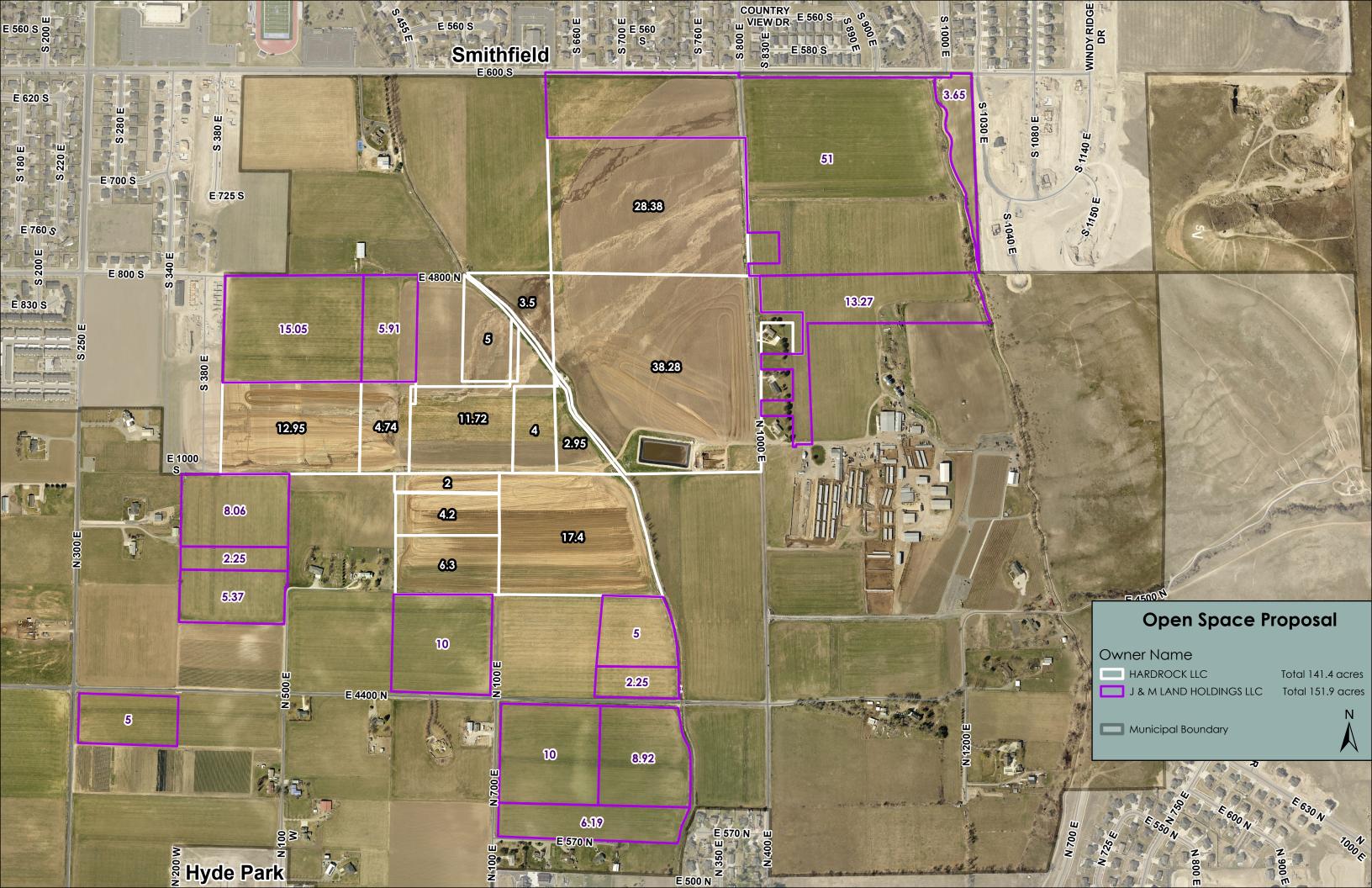






### Agenda Item Number 4

Pre-Application: Discussion and review of a pre-application for approximately 293.3 acres located between Smithfield and Hyde Park City boundaries, between 300 E and 1200 E. Property owners Hardrock LLC and J & M Land Holdings LLC.



## Agenda Item Number 6

Discussion regarding conservation easements, deed restrictions, and purchase of development rights

# Conservation Easements vs. Deed Restriction



### **General Information**

The following analysis is general, and more research should be done when looking at options with Open Space Applications. Both conservation easements and deed restrictions limit how a piece of land can be used, but there are some key differences:

#### Purpose:

- **Conservation easement:** Focuses on preserving the land's natural features, like forests, wetlands, agriculture, or wildlife habitat.
- **Deed restriction:** Can address a wider range of goals, including maintaining aesthetics of a neighborhood or restricting certain activities.

#### **Enforcement:**

- Conservation easement: Held by a qualified organization (land trust, government agency) with a legal obligation to enforce the restrictions.
- **Deed restriction:** Enforced by whoever benefits from the restriction, often neighboring property owners. This can be weaker enforcement.

#### Legal Strength:

- **Conservation easement:** Generally considered stronger legal protection for the land. Courts tend to give them more deference in disputes.
- **Deed restriction:** May be subject to interpretation or even nullification by courts.

#### Tax Benefits:

- Conservation easement: Donating a qualified easement may allow the landowner a federal income tax deduction.
- Deed restriction: No tax benefits.

### Here's a table summarizing the key differences:

| Feature           | Conservation<br>Easement         | Deed Restriction                     |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Purpose           | Land conservation                | Various restrictions                 |
| Holder            | Qualified organization           | Benefited landowner (e.g., neighbor) |
| Enforcement       | Stronger,<br>legal<br>obligation | Weaker, depends on who benefits      |
| Legal<br>Strength | Stronger                         | Weaker                               |
| Tax Benefits      | Potential tax deduction          | No tax benefits                      |

Generally, a conservation easement is the preferred option for land with significant conservation value. Deed restrictions can be a useful alternative when a conservation easement isn't feasible.

**Utah Land Conservation Easement Act** 

### **Purchase of Development Rights**

Purchase of Development Rights can take many forms within the state of Utah. As discussed above, that take form for conservation mostly with conservation easements and deed restrictions. Another option may be to purchase the rights through a contract, but this will be very similar to other forms of restrictions.

You can purchase development rights in Utah through a program called **Transferable Development Rights (TDRs)**. This is not directly applicable to COSAC, but may be used by the County in the future.

#### Here's how it works:

- Local governments establish TDR programs through ordinances. These
  ordinances define areas where development rights can be purchased (sending
  areas) and areas where they can be used for additional development (receiving
  areas).
- Landowners in sending areas, often agricultural land or open space, can sell their unused development rights.
- Developers in receiving areas can purchase these rights to increase the density
  of their projects beyond what is normally allowed by zoning.



This is a voluntary process where the government sets the framework, but the actual negotiation happens between the developer and the landowner.

Here are some resources for more information on TDRs in Utah:

- Utah Property Rights Ombudsman: <u>Transferable Development Rights (TDRs)</u> <u>Utah Property Rights Ombudsman</u>
- Utah Land Use Institute: <u>Transfer of Development Rights and Land Trusts</u> <u>Practical Tools to Preserve Community Character</u>
- Land Use Academy of Utah- <u>Transfer of Development Rights</u>

The Cache County General Plan recommends TDRs, but staff does not believe that COSAC should actively consider them at this time. <u>Nibley City has a TDR program</u> that staff feels may be a good option in the future but could be pursued without bond money.