

Argument for Bonds

Whether you've lived in Summit County your whole life or just a few years, you probably thrive on the beautiful natural landscapes that surround us here. We all appreciate the majestic wildlife, the running rivers, and the open fields and active agriculture backed by the peaks of the Wasatch and the Uintas.

In Summit County our quality of life is tied to these open spaces. For over 30 years our community has used bonds to preserve the scenic beauty, ranching heritage and recreational opportunities that make Summit County special. These natural lands are also essential to the continued viability of both our agricultural and tourist-based economies.

Preservation of these landscapes takes both a willing landowner and substantial funding. The funding we've used in the past has been exhausted. With the threats to our green meadows and open vistas growing stronger every day, our best hope for preserving these places for the next generation is an open space bond.

Summit County's proposed Open Space Bond will be a powerful tool to save the open spaces we have left. The open space bond will provide the essential dollars needed to save farms, ranches, and recreational lands. These funds can be leveraged with other federal and state funding for land conservation, so that our local dollars go further.

If the bond passes, it is estimated that an "average" primary residence valued at \$715,000 would pay \$40 per year.

If the bond does not pass, we truly have no way to work with landowners who might want to save farms or ranches. We do not have funding to purchase small places for parks or large places for wildlife habitat.

Bonds are not permanent tax increases. Once the bonds are repaid, our tax burden decreases. Due to the County's excellent bond rating and to historically low interest rates, now is an opportune time for the residents pass such a bond.

This bond represents an opportunity for Summit County citizens to exercise some control over how the county develops. These funds will give us a tool to save lands that will otherwise end up as subdivisions. These funds will ensure that our heritage will become a legacy that we can pass to future generations.

Summit County residents love our outdoors. We ride horses and bikes. We run and we hike. We also understand that it is our responsibility to step up when needed. Let's stand together in support of the open landscapes that have nurtured us and our families. Please join us in voting YES for the Open Space Bond.

Thank you,

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(No Opposing Argument was Submitted)

The County shall conduct a public meeting on September 22, 2021, beginning at the hour of 6:00 p.m. at the Ledges Event Center, 202 East Park Road, Coalville, Utah. The purpose of the meeting is to hear arguments for and against the issuance of the Bonds.