

From: [Gary B.](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: Agreement Between South Weber and South Weber Model Railroad Club
Date: Saturday, May 6, 2023 7:22:01 PM

Dear Mayor, City Council, and Staff,

I am unable to attend the upcoming city council meeting when the agreement between the city and the model railroad club is being discussed. As a neighbor to Canyon Meadows Park there are a few things I would like the council to consider as part of your discussion.

Let me start by saying I support the train club's use of the park. I believe it is a nice addition to the city and adds character to the park. I am friends and neighbors with several of the club members and appreciate their love of the hobby.

As a neighbor to Canyon Meadows park, I have a few concerns due to what I have seen (and not seen) at the park regarding the maintenance (and lack there of) of the track and the rail yard building. Below are some comments to sections of the agreement related to my concerns.

1.5.1 c - Construction and maintenance of all track, ties, road base, the train yard building, ballast, and weed control along the track right-of-way, with track clearance determined by the width of the road base on either side of the track but not less than two (2) feet from the outside rail or to the mow strip once installed, and the loading and unloading areas.

1.5.2 - The Club shall keep the grass and weeds removed from the track area with chemical or mechanical means. When the weeds are growing and not maintained by chemical means the Club will need to remove them by mechanical means (string trimmer) weekly. The track area is considered the width of the road base on either side of the track but not less than two (2) feet from the outside rail or to the edge of the mow strip.

A couple of questions regarding these two points:

- What is considered the outside rail? Is this the rail that is closest to the walking path or closest to the property line? I feel this should be explicitly clear so there are no questions in the future.
- Who takes care of the property between the tracks and the property line? The sections above specifically refer to the edge of the mow strip. Are the edges identified by the walking path on one side and the property line on the other? (See photos)
- What about the large triangular space in between 3 sets of tracks? Is the train club or city responsible for this area? (See photos)
- How will the weekly trimming (if needed) be monitored? Why just trimming and not mowing? During the last two years there was little maintenance done to the area around the track and it became quite unsightly.
- What about the area around the rail yard? Is the train club responsible for maintaining that area?

As you can see, my concerns are centered on the maintenance and upkeep of the area on both sides of the track, specifically the area between the track and the property lines. The last few years this area was not maintained by the club or the city. It turned into a weed patch. My family and I frequently cleaned up the area between the tracks and the property line, as did

several of our neighbors. The city did a fabulous job late last summer cleaning up the area, laying a weed barrier and installing a deep laying of mulch. Who will take care of this area now? The city or the club? As a neighbor to the park, I feel this should be clearly specified in the agreement. Too often it has fallen on the residents to keep this area looking good.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and for your service to our community.

Gary Boatright
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