MEMO



To: Mayor Olson and City Council

From: Jason Bond, Assistant City Manager

Date: March 28, 2025

RE: My Hometown Agreement

Craig and Linda Burton, in conjunction with Bill Morgan, representing The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints have proposed a community initiative called My Hometown. As presented and described in previous meetings with the Mayor and City Council, this initiative would create a partnership between The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and Santaquin City to organize a service and education oriented program in Santaquin City. My Hometown has been implemented in other large communities along the Wasatch Front such as Provo, Orem, West Valley City, Salt Lake City, and Ogden. The implementation of My Hometown in a relatively more rural community like Santaquin would be a first. See this link (https://www.myhometownut.com/) for more information about My Hometown.

The first step in starting such a community partnership is to establish the roles and expectations of the associated entities through an agreement. A draft of a proposed agreement describing the roles and expectations is attached. This draft agreement is almost identical to an agreement which was executed with Orem City.

After consulting Santaquin City's legal counsel (Brett Rich) and our insurance company (Utah Local Governments Trust) the following points are suggestions that should be considered carefully:

- Paragraph 3(a): Consider whether City Staff has the described expertise and what additional personnel and/or training would be required.
- Paragraph 3(h): Consider potential increased staffing requirements to prepare the required reports; also, whether the inspection of City records is acceptable.
- Exercise due diligence in all aspects of the My Hometown program, especially when vetting volunteers to help mitigate potential risks. Taking proactive steps will help avoid working with individuals who could become a liability.
- Be mindful of possible situations where volunteers could be operating City vehicles or transporting volunteers on behalf of the City.
- Be mindful of age-related considerations as the nature of tasks, equipment usage, and associated risks can vary.
- It is suggested that the City maintain oversight of the program and that any concerns, close calls, or incidents (whether minor or major) be addressed at the City level as they arise.

Recommended Action: Motion to adopt Resolution 04-04-2025 which approves a community initiative cooperation agreement with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints which effectively establishes the My Hometown program in Santaquin City.