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Letters to the Editor

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

90 South 400 West

Salt Lake City, UT 84101

VIA EMAIL: comments@cityweekly.net

Letters to the Editor

SALT LAKE WEEKLY

248 South Main Street

Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Re: Letter to the Editor: Moving the Proposed 4th Avenue Well is Not Too Expensive

Sirs:

I was privileged to attend the June 5 monthly community meeting of the Greater Avenues Community Council, and at that meeting, about 60 residents of the Memory Grove and Greater Avenues neighborhoods debated the City's proposed well pump house and chemical treatment plant at 4th Avenue and North Canyon Road. On a motion offered by the former State Geologist Genevieve Atwood, the community unanimously voted to support the Salt Lake City Council's June 4 decision to look further to alternatives to the current design, but that the residents preferred that the proposed Well be moved to another location.

Some claim that moving the proposed Well elsewhere is too expensive. The direct budget for the current proposal is about \$3.6 million, and if the Well and treatment plant are moved it might cost about \$5 million. Across the future 75 year life-span of the rebuilt Well, the City will collect about \$325,000,000 in revenues from water sales. Spending \$5 million to rebuild the well and add a treatment plant right - instead of on the cheap - is not too great an investment.

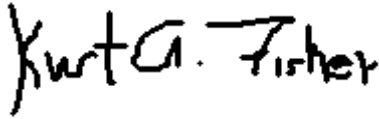
The present design is being done on the cheap. The Department of Public Utilities does not want to take on the challenge of building a transmission line around the many other underground pipes in the area to a new site where a better design that is resistant to earthquake, terrorist attack, and floods. To keep costs down at the current site that is placed in City Creek's geologic streambed, the DPU is omitting a flood protective wall around the building that state drinking regulations may require to be between three to six feet high [Utah Admin. Code R309-540-5(1)(ii)].

By spending more and building a better, robust chemical water treatment plant at a nearby alternative site, prospective investors in the rapidly growing Central Business District – who will be the primary beneficiaries of the rebuilt pump house - will have more confidence that treated water at a higher pressure will be consistently delivered without interruption to their multi-million dollar buildings.

At the upcoming June 11 City Council and RDA meetings, the City Council and mayor should commit to spending more on a version of the proposed pump and water treatment at an alternative location that does justice to City's needs for this rebuilt component of the City's

critical water infrastructure. Building at the current Memory Grove site is a bad choice. Given that future revenues from the rebuilt Well will be \$325 million, spending \$5 million to do the job right is not too much.

Very Truly Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kurt A. Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kurt A. Fisher

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Other documents containing supporting back matter to claims:

“\$325,000,000 in future revenues”:

<http://fisherka.csolutionshosting.net/misc/FourthAveWell/201900608WellCityCouncilRDAComm604.pdf>

Utah Admin. Code R309-540-5(1)(ii)) “[T]he station located at an elevation which is a minimum of three feet above the 100-year flood elevation, or three feet above the highest recorded flood elevation, which ever is higher, or protected to such elevations.”

<https://rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r309/r309-540.htm>.