



Weber County

July 26, 2011

RE: Options for heliports in the Ogden Valley

To: Ogden Valley Planning Commission

From: Sean Wilkinson
Weber County Planning Division

Dear Commissioners,

At the June 28th work session staff presented several options for the Planning Commission to consider regarding the use of heliports in Ogden Valley. Staff has prepared the following summary of the meeting and is asking for the Planning Commission's verification that the summary reflects the discussion and direction given to staff.

- Heliports are considered a desirable use in Ogden Valley in appropriate areas, e.g., off the valley floor, and with appropriate regulations.
- A definition for "heliport" would include facilities for repair, maintenance, and refueling.
- A definition for "helistop" would include loading and unloading of passengers only with no permanent facilities.
- The DRR-1 and F-40 Zones are the two most likely zones for these uses.
- There was discussion about but no direction given on which uses would be allowed in which zones.
- Regardless of the zoning, there will be an elevation component for these uses. A decision on the specific elevation was not made.
- There was discussion about how to handle heliports in the CV-2 Zone, but no final direction was given.
- There is a difference between a helicopter flying in the Valley and allowing a heliport as a use in the Valley.
- The Planning Commission does not want to address private-use landing strips or helistops.

Staff is requesting further direction from the Planning Commission on these issues and any others that may not be listed in the summary so that a draft ordinance can be prepared. While the Planning Commission may not want to address the issue of private landing strips and helistops, staff does want to clarify that these uses are currently not discussed in the Zoning Ordinance, and, therefore, are not allowed. This may not have been an issue in the past, but going forward staff's determination is that these uses are not allowed and will be treated as violations of the Zoning Ordinance.

Please contact me with any questions or clarifications in advance of the meeting so that we can have an efficient and thorough discussion that will lead to the creation of an ordinance. Thank you for your continued hard work.