

September 13, 2019

Moab City Planning Commission

To Emily Niehaus, Allison Brown, Chair and all members of the Moab City Planning Commission

I am writing to you to express my interest in serving on the Moab City Planning Commission. I first moved to Moab in 1997 after traveling around the west and looking for a place to call home. Like many the landscape and vastness of the surrounding drew me in. I felt I could be a part of something that was larger than myself. Since that time a lot has changed not just in Moab but also in the West. Populations have grown and the West has become increasingly popular. Change is inevitable so it is crucial that we move forward in a thoughtful, well examined way. We must hear the voices of our local citizens as they navigate this changing landscape.

My academic training is in Anthropology and Biology. As a scientist I have been taught to ask questions and do the research needed to find the answers. As a teacher I have refined the skill of distilling that knowledge into a language that all people can understand. As a mother I have developed negotiation skills. It is important to know when to compromise and when to hold your ground. I feel that my skill set would be put to good use on this commission.

Some of the issues I am passionate about include; developing an in town shuttle system to ease traffic and congestion making Moab more enjoyable for locals and visitors. Reexamining a bypass for Main street. City zoning and high density area connectedness to the city center. Refinement of codes and how best to enforce them to improve the standard and quality of our town.

Attached you will see a copy of my CV. My contact information is also included and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

I look forward to working with you,
Jessica O'Leary