Moab City Council Agenda Item  
Meeting Date: January 12, 2021

**Title:** A letter from the Moab City Council in support of President-Elect Biden prioritizing an action to restore the Bears Ears National Monument to its original size as created by President Obama’s administration in Proclamation 9558 in 2016.

**Presenter:** Councilmember Kalen Jones

**Attachment(s):**
- Proposed Letter

**Suggested Motion:** “I move to authorize the Mayor to execute and send the proposed letter in support of President-Elect Biden using his presidential authority to restore Bears Ears National Monument to its original boundaries as created by President Obama in Proclamation 9558 in 2016.”

**Background/Summary:**

This letter is proposed for consideration and possible action for the Moab City Council to respectfully request that President-Elect Biden use his presidential authority once he is sworn into office to prioritize taking immediate action to restore the Bears Ears National Monument to its original size as directed in President Obama’s Proclamation 9558.

When President Obama designated the Bears Ears National Monument in 2016, it was an historic act that recognized the voices of the Navajo, Hopi, Zuni, Ute Mountain and the Ute Indian Tribes – the five members of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition – that were united in calling for the protection of this unique cultural landscape in southeastern Utah.

On December 4, 2017, President Donald Trump reduced the size of the Monument by 85%. This reduction was done without the involvement of Coalition members and was in disregard of their cultural interests.