

INVITATION TO OPEN HOUSE POSSIBLE VACATION OF 400 WEST STREET

July 10, 2018

Vernal City is hosting an open house to receive public input regarding the consideration of vacating 400 West Street from 100 South to 200 South.

City officials want to hear resident's views regarding an item under consideration: the vacation of 400 West street right-of-way from 100 South to 200 South. The public is invited to this open house to learn more about this item and share their views regarding the possible vacation of part of 400 West Street.

Public Open House

Tuesday, July 17th

5pm to 7pm - (arrive anytime)

Community Room at Vernal City Hall – 374 East Main St.

Vernal City officials initiated this discussion and the possible action to vacate the 400 West Street right-of-way as a way to reduce street maintenance costs and increase pedestrian safety. When the city vacates public right-of-way, in most cases, the adjacent property owners are granted half of the adjacent right-of-way. In this case, the adjacent property owners are the LDS church and one residential property at the southeast corner of 400 W. and 100 S. The majority of the vehicular and pedestrian traffic on 400 West is related to activities and services at the temple and the church.

This consideration became relevant after the LDS church purchased six homes on the east side of 400 West Street to build a new off-street parking lot. The LDS church did not ask or request for the vacation of 400 West Street and will not compensate the City for the vacated right-of-way. LDS church officials have indicated that if the City chooses to move forward with vacating the street right-of-way, they will modify their current parking lot plans, increase the budget to remove the street, curb and sidewalk, and incorporate their portion of the former street right-of-way into the parking lot, pedestrian walkway and landscaping plans.

Attached are four items to provide additional background on the topic:

1. Considerations supporting and not supporting vacating 400 West Street
2. Exhibit showing the proposed street right-of-way to be vacated
3. Exhibit showing the current plan as provided by the LDS church for additional parking on the east side of 400 West.
4. Survey form to share your views and comments (return to City Hall or at open house)

Your input is appreciated and beneficial as city staff and City Council discuss this consideration. If you have questions or comments, contact Quinn Bennion, City Manager, at City Hall or email qbennion@vernalcity.org.

Considerations that support vacating 400 West Street (from 100 S. to 200 S.):

- Reduce city expenses. The City estimates \$4 to \$10k is spent each year to maintain this segment of street and to keep it in good condition including sidewalks, paving, curb & gutter, snow removal & street sweeping.
- 400 West Street is two blocks long. It is not a through street and ends at 200 South.
- Create a safer pedestrian environment. Incorporating the street into the parking lot and pedestrian walkways will reduce the pedestrian and vehicular conflicts.
- 90% or more of the vehicular and pedestrian traffic on 400 West is associated with activities and services at the temple and adjoining church.
- The City has vacated two street segments within the last ten years with little negative impacts. No compensation was given to the City - although both were public projects. (400 East from Main Street to 100 South for the Police Department construction and 300 East from 100 South to 200 South for the Uintah Conference Center parking lot.)

Considerations that support keeping 400 West (from 100 S. to 200 S.) as a public street (do not support vacating the street):

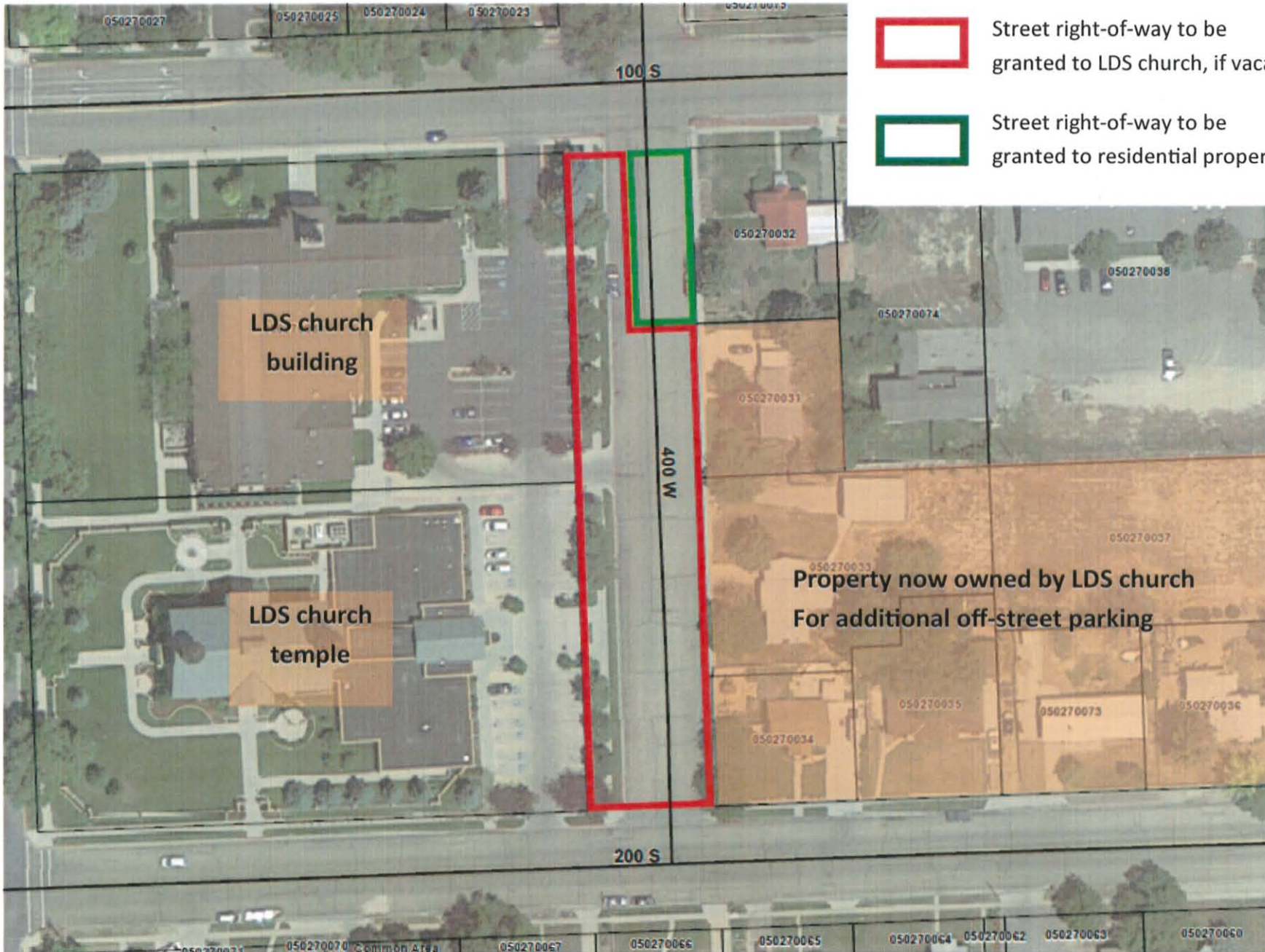
- Limits public access to what is currently a public street
- No compensation is being given for the vacated street
- Perception that the adjacent property owners are being treated more favorably than another situation

400 West Street

100 South to 200 South

Possible vacation of street right-of-way

Vacated street right-of-way is granted to adjacent property owners



Street right-of-way to be granted to LDS church, if vacated



Street right-of-way to be granted to residential property, if vacated

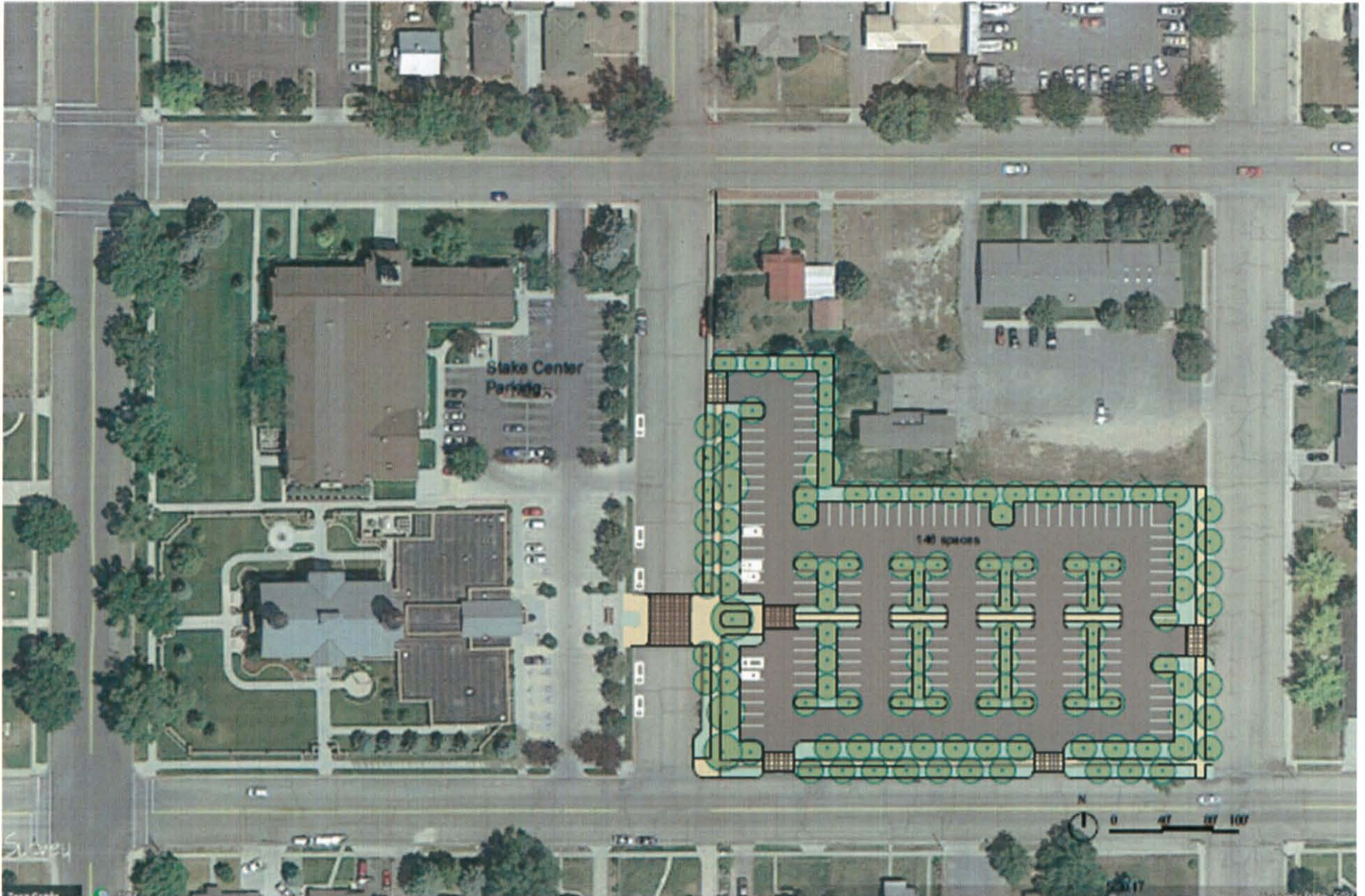
Preliminary Site Plan

July 2018

as approved by Vernal City Planning Commission and Vernal City Council

Additional off-street parking lot (146 spaces) at NE corner of 400 West and 200 South

As proposed by LDS church



Resident Survey

Share your views and comments for review by city staff and City Council on the topic of:

Consideration of vacating street right-of-way 400 West - 100 South to 200 South

Name:* _____

I am a Vernal City resident*

I do not live in Vernal City

*required fields

Email (optional – to be used to send project updates)

I support the City vacating 400 West from 100 S. to 200 S.

I do not support the City vacating 400 West from 100 S. to 200 S.

Indifferent - I'm fine either way

Need more information to make a decision. Please identify desired information below in comments.

Comments:

Return survey to Vernal City Hall – 374 East Main Street by July 18th.

Questions regarding this item send to Quinn Bennion at qbennion@vernalcity.org