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Negligence or City Responsibility?

Rose Canyon has had water flowing down it for many years creating a creek in the Herriman, Utah area. There is such a creek right behind my neighborhood and now that the land is developed around us the water only flows for a couple weeks in the spring when the snow melts. My neighborhood is elevated creating a hill side before the next neighborhood starts. The creek separates my neighborhood and the neighborhood behind me. In the winter kids will sled down this hill and with the snow they can't see the drop off and end up in the creek. This is dangerous because there are big boulders at the bottom that they could really hurt themselves on. I moved into my home 17 years ago and as of about ten years ago there is no longer water running down the stream. I propose the creek either be filled in or a fence put up around it.

This creek drops off about five feet and at the bottom it's just rocks no water. I have nieces and nephews who come to my house a lot in the winter to go sledding on this very hill. As of right now none of them have been seriously hurt, but I would like to prevent the injury before it happens. According to the Intermountain Health Care resource



center, children are very curious when it comes to bodies of water which can be potentially dangerous. The creek near my house isn't in service anymore we shouldn't be having this problem but we do and let me tell you why.

In the winter when there is snow on the ground this presents a danger. I used to sled down this hill side and I have been hurt a time or two because you can't see the drop off and you don't know when to stop so you end up falling down into the giant boulders at the bottom. I did some research and in the city

archives at the Salt Lake County Library I discovered a story of a car accident that happened long before I ever moved in and the couple slid on the black ice and went straight into the creek. Their car was there for many years after. I can even remember climbing on the car. The car remained there until it was removed when the neighborhood behind mine was starting to be developed.

I can see how filling in the creek could be very costly and time consuming. The man power it would take could pose a problem for many, so I propose that there be a fence put up to warn children and those people who walk on the path that there is a creek that drops five feet with big sharp rocks at the bottom.

How to put this plan into action:

- Chain link fences are the cheapest and visible in the snow.
- The money can be raised through donations or businesses.
- Possibly use this for an Eagle Scout project.
- Parks and recreations budget be raised a bit.

Doing this would create less of a worry for parents whose children sled down this hill and the people who walk on the path with their dogs will no longer have to worry about them exploring and going into the creek and having to get them back out. It will make things in Herriman safer and in the long run will prevent the possibility of them being sued for negligence.