

Scenic Beauty

"We need beauty as well as bread." -John Muir

Southern Utah's scenic heritage is fundamentally important to the continuation of our individual and collective well-being, to economic prosperity, to a healthy and sustainable environment, and to the quality of everyday life. Yet, we are starting to lose the precious beauty of this great place and we must do better.

Our magnificent scenic heritage is under siege from development that doesn't respect the scenic landscape. Ridgelines and slopes are not being preserved. Power lines run along the ridgelines and telecommunication towers destroy scenic vistas. Conservation of our scenic beauty will keep our desirability and appeal over the long term to attract new residents, businesses and tourists to our area.

Ask your community to:

- Make an inventory of scenic resources, ridgelines, slopes, vistas, vista corridors and protect them with an overlay zone in sensitive lands ordinance. Officials should consider impact to scenic resources when approving a new development by applying design standards for urbanization that respect the unique visual beauty of the area.
- Integrate utilities and other public facilities sited in scenic areas into the design of those areas with consideration given to materials, form, character and scale to blend into the landscape and community to minimize the impact of proposed utility facilities.
- All new electrical distribution lines carrying less than 69KV should be put underground.
- Enact ordinances to preserve scenic vistas through the appropriate locations of telecommunications towers, power lines and improve control of billboards and signs.
- Request that developers protect the natural hills, special land marks, cultural assets and allow them a higher density elsewhere so a hillside or ridgeline can be preserved.
- Evaluate if a project will make significant changes in surface features and ask developers to honor the physical features of the land as much as reasonable.
- Improving the development review process and development design standards so that developers are encouraged to apply the principals stated above.

We a special opportunity to protect the scenic views along “ Zion Park Scenic Byway” on highway 9 from I-15 to Zion National Park which draws people, businesses and tourists to our area.

The Town of Springdale has many ordinances that protect scenic values and can be found on their web page.(<http://www.springdaletown.com/>)

The City of Hurricane has a Sensitive Lands Ordinance that protects Hillside and Ridge areas and land marks.

<http://www.sterlingcodifiers.com/UT/Hurricane/index.htm>

The Town of Rockville has a Sensitive Lands Overlay zone to protect ridgelines and slopes.

The City of Scottsdale’s has Scenic Corridors Design Guidelines, which are a part of their Sensitive lands ordinance and can be found on their web site.

[\(http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/design/CorridorPlans/\)](http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/design/CorridorPlans/)

Scenic America is the only national nonprofit organization dedicated solely to protecting natural beauty and distinctive community character.

[http:// www.scenic.org/](http://www.scenic.org/)
