

Why Vote FOR the Crescent View Bond

Sandy Residents,

Imagine 17 green acres open to everyone – kids playing soccer, neighbors walking the trails, and grandparents cheering at tournaments beneath a majestic view of the Wasatch. That's the opportunity before us with the Crescent View Middle School property: keep the land and keep the decisions about its future in our hands, before it's lost to development.

We live in Sandy because it's a great place to raise a family, put down roots, and build a future. But we're feeling the pressure of growth and congestion across the valley, making spaces like this even more valuable.

In our nearly built-out city, 17-acre parcels don't come along anymore, especially in such a desirable location with adjacent parks, trails and TRAX connections. The large school building offers exciting possibilities for sports programming, community arts, staffing space, a business hub, even childcare, but this vote isn't really about a building. It's about securing the land and preserving our ability to decide its future together.

Based on feedback received thus far, residents speak strongly for protecting green space, sports and community space like this shared by generations of Sandy kids who've played youth soccer and little league football on these fields, and Junior Jazz in the gymnasium. Keeping it makes our busy lives better by promoting wellness and building community.

We're taxpayers, too, feeling the pinch of rising prices every day. Asking taxpayers to invest more should only be done if it adds value and residents have a voice. But the value isn't only what we add to our community, it's what we lose if we don't act now.

Investing in community green space helps keep Sandy safe, desirable, and family-friendly. Protecting our high quality of life enhances our own enjoyment and civic pride, but also supports property values across our city for generations to come.

The Crescent property costs \$17 million. The City Council set a \$30 million ceiling on its borrowing limit. A YES vote allows the sale to go through but does not automatically spend \$30 million. Nothing beyond purchasing the property is committed. It means we secure the property while we decide **together** what comes next.

Further spending would occur only after community input and City Council approval. It allows time for the city to explore ways to reduce taxpayer obligation through leasing, sponsorships, business partnerships or the sale of city-owned property to reduce the bond or operating costs.

In Sandy, landmark community amenities we treasure today were made possible through bonds: the Sandy Amphitheater, the soccer stadium, Hale Centre Theatre, and Lone Peak and Quail Hollow Parks.

Unless Sandy buys the property, it goes up for sale to private developers ready and willing to pay the \$17 million.

This is our community, our tax dollars, and our decision. **Let's keep the land and keep the future of Crescent View in our hands. Vote YES!**

Respectfully,

Daniel Kovach

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Why you should VOTE NO to the Bond

Purchase Price Exceeds Appraised Value

Canyons School District is asking \$17 million for the Crescent View Middle School. **Sandy City's own appraisal valued the property at \$8.5 million**, while another appraisal valued it at \$10 million. The \$17 million asking price is nearly **double** both appraisals!

True Cost Is More Than the Purchase Price

Taxpayers must consider the entire financial commitment, not just the purchase price. Costs include bond interest, renovations and improvements, staffing, operations, maintenance, utilities, and future capital replacement. **The cost will be well over \$30 million.**

The bond would only fund the purchase and certain capital expenses, the bond **will not** cover the ongoing cost of operating and maintaining the building. **Current estimates indicate these expenses could exceed \$465,000 every year.**

Ongoing costs are not currently funded in the City budget, and no permanent funding source has been identified. **The City could be forced to reduce services and raise taxes** in addition to the Bond.

Future Use Undefined

Many potential uses have been discussed, including visual and performing arts, rehearsal and meeting space, a business incubator, classroom rentals, an art plaza, outdoor event venue, and childcare. Yet the City has not determined exactly what this property will become.

Crescent Park already provides 7.6 acres adjacent to the school property. Adding 17 acres and a large, **50-year-old building** would create a significant public facility. Lone Peak Park, one of Sandy's largest developed parks, is about 1.3 miles away.

Taxpayers should know what they are buying, what will be provided, and what it will cost before approving the debt.

Demand Has Not Been Demonstrated

Recent data, surveys, and planning **have not demonstrated a clear need for another large, aging community facility or the programs** being discussed. Before creating expensive new tax subsidized programs, the City needs to determine whether sufficient resident demand exists and whether public or private facilities can meet those needs.

Duplicating Existing Facilities and Programs

Sandy already owns parks, recreation facilities, meeting spaces, and cultural facilities, and a new Community Center scheduled to open in January 2027. **Another major facility could duplicate existing services while adding staffing, maintenance, utility, and capital replacement expenses.**

Community and recreation facilities require ongoing taxpayer support because **fees and rentals do not cover full operating costs.** The question is not simply whether Sandy can afford to buy this property, but **whether taxpayers can afford to operate and maintain it for decades.**

Too Many Questions Remain

The final use is uncertain, renovation costs remain estimates, ongoing expenses have no identified permanent funding source, and future maintenance, capital replacement, access, and water **costs remain unresolved.**

A major taxpayer-funded purchase should be based on a demonstrated need, clearly defined projects, reliable cost estimate, and sustainable long-term funding plan, not simply the possibility that the property may be useful someday.

A decision of this magnitude should not be rushed.

Sandy taxpayers will bear the financial consequences for decades to come.

Vote No!

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