

04/19/2019

Mt. Pleasant Mainstreet Committee
115 W. Main
Mt. Pleasant, UT 83647

U.S. HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS,
FORESTS, AND PUBLIC LANDS APRIL 30, 2019 SUBMITTED TESTIMONY FOR THE RECORD
RE: NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA ACT OF 2019 (H.R. 1049) MONTE R. BONA, DIRECTOR MORMON
PIONEER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Chairman Grijalva, Ranking Member Bishop, and other distinguished members of the Subcommittee, my name is Cheryl K. Brewer, and I serve as the Secretary of the Mt. Pleasant, UT Main Street Committee. Our committee stands in full support of H.R. 1049, the National Heritage Act of 2019, introduced by Representative Paul Tonko and Representative David McKinley, with strong bipartisan support from 86 co-sponsors. The purpose of this letter is to strongly urge your support of this important legislation.

The U.S. Highway 89 Mormon Heritage Highway is an important fixture of our area. It is an important tourism driver that contributes significantly to our small-town local economy. The MPNHA committee has been a primary force in leading historic preservation efforts in communities all along this historic highway. Their efforts contributed to Wasatch Academy's restoration of their historic first school building, located on Mt. Pleasant's historic Main Street. Before, the building had been a derelict, nearly forgotten piece of Mt. Pleasant history. It is now a museum and a shining example of nineteenth century architecture the community is very proud of. The MPHNA committee has been a driving force in preserving and beautifying many other parts of Mt. Pleasant's historic Main Street.

The gateway monument built by the MPNHA on the grounds of our historic Carnegie era city library which sits on Highway 89 in downtown Mt. Pleasant stands as a beacon for visitors and provides a wonderful point of interest and information for travelers exploring the MPNHA.

I have traveled the entire length of the MPNHA and have personally witnessed the great things the MPNHA committee has done to make people aware that they are traveling through an area rich in history. One project the MPNHA is currently involved with is salvaging and restoring the historic home of Butch Cassidy, which sits beside Highway 89 near the small town of Circleville, UT. This will be Circleville's only tourist attraction and will be very important to the local economy.

In short, the MPNHA greatly benefits dozens of small towns along the 200+ miles it covers along U.S. Highway 89. We urge your strongest support of this legislation which will strengthen MPNHA and other national historic highway programs across the nation.

Best regards,

Cheryl K. Brewer, Secretary
Mt. Pleasant Mainstreet Committee