ORDINANCE NO. 2003-03

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A CITY OF FLAGSTAFF COMMISSION ON OPEN SPACES

WHEREAS, the City Council has requested the establishment of a commission to serve as an advisory body on the acquisition, management, use, restoration, enhancement, protection, and conservation of open space land; and

WHEREAS, the Flagstaff Area Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan, adopted by the Council of the City of Flagstaff in November 2001, and ratified by City of Flagstaff ("City") voters in May 2002, states that "...the natural environment of Flagstaff is both a resource which improves the quality of life for all who live here, and a treasure of bio-diversity which must be protected for its own sake"; and

WHEREAS, primary objectives of the Flagstaff Area Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan are to achieve walkable neighborhoods, protection of critical natural lands, retention of the community's identity, containment of urban sprawl, a compact form of development shaped by natural areas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has adopted as guiding documents the Flagstaff Area Open Spaces and Greenways Plan and Flagstaff Vision 2020 for the long-term conservation of certain lands; and

WHEREAS, the mountains, mesas, and canyons are defining features that characterize the City, and the City's Urban Open Space Plan of the Flagstaff Area Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan is largely comprised of connected natural corridors, such as Rio de Flag Canyon, Sinclair Wash, Bow and Arrow Wash; and

WHEREAS, it is an objective in the Flagstaff Area Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan to develop an open space system that provides links to connect the Flagstaff Urban Trails System to neighborhoods and surrounding National Forest lands; and

WHEREAS, the community's significant natural land forms and features need to be acquired, consolidated, and publicly managed to assure protection, connectivity, and consistency; and

WHEREAS, through numerous public meetings, residents have expressed their desire for retaining open space lands for passive recreational uses; extension of the Flagstaff Urban Trails System; protection and management of floodplains and riparian areas, visual landmarks, public access to U.S. Forest Service lands, historic and pre-historic sites, steeply-sloped areas, wildlife habitats, corridors and viewing areas, and natural buffers between land uses; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the objectives of the Flagstaff Area Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan to conserve and manage the most treasured and significant land forms and features in the community and assure ecosystem restoration and open space management in perpetuity, the Greater Flagstaff Area Open Spaces and Greenways Plan adopted by the City Council in January 1998 calls for the protection of the open spaces surrounding the urbanized areas of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Flagstaff Area Open Spaces and Greenways Plan recommends that an open spaces coalition be formed to represent open space interests in the region, and it is the City Council's intent to create an Open Spaces Commission to serve as the City's representative to the regional Open Spaces Coalition in the event it is formed; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the complexity of obtaining, retaining, and managing the natural open spaces within and surrounding the urbanized areas of the City; and

WHEREAS, a City Open Spaces Commission will provide the necessary structure and resources to advise the City Council in developing methods for responding to concerns relating to an open space system within the urbanized areas of the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. CREATION OF COMMISSION: There is hereby created an advisory body to be called the "Open Spaces Commission" ("Commission") consisting of the following nine regular members

all of whom shall be appointed by the City Council, except for designees from the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Parks and Recreation Commission: four members from the natural and cultural sciences; one member from the Planning and Zoning Commission; one member from the Parks and Recreation Commission; one member who markets real estate or is a representative from real estate development; one public at-large member, and one City Council member. All Commission members shall be voting members. A chairperson shall be selected by a majority vote of those members at a meeting called for that purpose.

SECTION 2. TERMS OF OFFICE: Appointments from the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Parks and Recreation Commission to the Open Spaces Commission shall be for no longer than the remaining term of the appointing Commission's designee. Terms of all other appointees shall be for three years except for the first appointments creating staggered terms as follows: The City Council shall appoint two members for three year (3) terms, two members for two (2) year terms, and two members for one (1) year terms. After the initial appointment all terms thereafter will be three (3) year terms.

SECTION 3. DUTIES:

- A. It shall be the Commission's duty to advise the City Council on acquisition, preservation, and alternatives for open space land management.
- B. The duties of the Commission shall also include, but not be limited to: Reviewing and advising the City Council on the development of an Open Spaces Long Range Management Plan and policies to provide broad, long-term direction for planning and decision making for the lands designated as Urban Open Space Management Area in the Urban Open Spaces Plan of the Flagstaff Area Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan.
- C. Advising and assisting the Mayor and City Council on ways to educate and involve the community on the value, protection, and stewardship of open space lands.

- D. Advising and assisting the Mayor and City Council on ways to work collaboratively with other governmental entities, organizations, and departments to advance and ensure the implementation of the Open Spaces Long Range Management Plan and the Flagstaff Area Regional Land Use and Transportation Plan.
- E. Advising and assisting the Mayor and City Council regarding regional open space issues as well as to any regional open spaces coalition that may be formed in the future relative to lands designated as open space in the Greater Flagstaff Area Open Spaces and Greenways Plan.
- F. Obtaining public input and participation in various programs such as environmental education and interpretation on the use, operation, and management of open space and providing information concerning the goals, projects, and operations of the open space program.

SECTION 4. OPEN SPACES LONG RANGE MANAGEMENT PLAN COMPOMENTS:

- A. The components of the Open Spaces Long Range Management Plan shall include, but not be limited to:
 - Program goals, management decision-making processes, and implementation techniques for resource preservation.
 - Policies to provide the framework for more issue- or site-specific planning and implementation.
 - Criteria for the acquisition of lands that are consistent with open space goals and policies set forth in the Open Spaces Long Range Management Plan.
 - Plans for the management of the open spaces to achieve the goals of the Open Spaces Long Range Management Plan using such studies and data as property inventories, the nature and significance of the natural and cultural resources, plant and animal species ecosystems, existing uses and conditions,

and interactions and connections between natural areas and between developed and undeveloped areas.

- Developing, identifying, and recommending the use of various methods, such as intergovernmental agreements, rights-of-way for access, and grants, to assure protection of critical open space lands.
- Policies to monitor, maintain, enhance, and restore, where necessary, natural and cultural resources, uses, accesses, trails, and facilities.
- Public participation, education, and interpretive programs.

SECTION 5. MEETINGS; ATTENDANCE: The Commission shall meet on a quarterly basis, at a minimum, at such times, dates and locations as determined by the members, except that the chairperson may call a special meeting with not less than 24 hours notice. All other rules or procedures shall be established by the members so long as the rules are consistent with state law, including the Open Meetings Law, the City charter and this ordinance.

A regular Commission member who is absent for three consecutive regular meetings may be removed from the Commission by a vote of the City Council.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council and approved by the Mayor of the City of Flagstaff this 4th day of February, 2003.

Horst C. Unddon

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CIAY ATTORNEY

ORDINANCE NO. 2007-08

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 2, CHAPTER 20, SECTIONS 2-20-001-0001 AND 2-20-001-0005 OF THE FLAGSTAFF CITY CODE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CHANGING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE OPEN SPACES COMMISSION AND DEFINING A QUORUM.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Flagstaff recognizes the significant and important role citizens play in advising the City Council on policy issues through the City's Boards and Commissions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to clarify and standardize the role of City Councilmembers on City Boards and Commissions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the appropriate role of City Councilmembers is to act as a liaison and resource for the citizen members of the City's Boards and Commissions; and

WHEREAS, operationally, the Commission needs an odd number of voting members;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 20, "Open Spaces Commission", Sections 2-20-001-0001, "Creation of Commission" and 2-20-001-0005, "Meetings; Attendance" of the Flagstaff City Code is amended as follows:

SECTION 2-20-001-0001 CREATION OF COMMISSION:

There is hereby created an advisory body to be called the "Open Spaces Commission" ("Commission") consisting of the following nine regular members all of whom shall be appointed by the City Council, except for designees from the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Parks and Recreation Commission: four members from the natural and cultural sciences; one member from the Planning and Zoning Commission; one member from the Parks and Recreation Commission; one member who markets real estate or is a representative from real estate development; and two ene public at-large members, member, and one City Council member. All Commission members shall be voting members. In addition, the City Council may designate a Councilmember representative as a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Commission. A chairperson shall be selected by a majority vote of those members at a meeting called for that purpose.

SECTION 2-20-001-0005 MEETINGS; ATTENDANCE:

The Commission shall meet on a quarterly basis, at a minimum, at such times, dates and locations as determined by the members, except that the chairperson may call a special meeting with not less than 24 hours notice. All other rules or procedures shall be established by the members so long as the rules are consistent with state law, including the Open Meetings Law, the City charter and this ordinance.

A quorum shall be one more than half of the voting membership of the Commission.

A regular Commission member who is absent for three consecutive regular meetings may be removed from the Commission by a vote of the City Council.

(Ord. 2003-03, Enacted, 02/04/03)

PASSED	AND	ADOPT	ED by	the Ci	ty Council	and	approved	bγ	the	Mayor	of	the	City	of
Flagstaff t	this <u>(</u>	pth	_day of	<u>Fe</u>	bruar	Υ	approved	_, 2	007.	•			•	

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY