

"...responsible stewardship of wildlife and habitat"

An update from WRCNU (4/19/2023):

## WRCNU will no longer be able to accept patients as of May 15, 2023.

We met with the Ogden City administrative leadership team, including Chief Administrative Officer Mark Johnson, city attorney Gary Williams, and director of public services Jay Lowder on Wednesday, April 12.

In this meeting, the city officials offered WRCNU a possible extension of up to six months beyond our current deadline (Sept. 6, 2023) to vacate our facility, contingent upon WRCNU finding a new building and beginning construction, which will be very difficult for WRCNU to do. *If we are able to get this extension*, it will allow WRCNU to ensure that the animals currently in our care can be released or placed in an education facility and prevent unnecessarily euthanization of animals, however it will not allow us to transition seamlessly and continue to accept patients.

While we appreciate that the city administrators showed some willingness for flexibility, this conditional extension is not enough time to keep our doors open while we search for a new home. We are also disappointed that Mayor Mike Caldwell, who is the sole decision maker, was not in attendance at this meeting. We know that many, many WRCNU supporters have called the Mayor's office or emailed him on our behalf, and we continue to hope for the chance to make our case to him directly. Mayor Caldwell has heard from his constituents on this issue, and he still has the authority to give WRCNU more time.

If WRCNU cannot keep taking in wildlife patients, there are no alternatives. We are the largest wildlife rehabilitation center in the state, and there are no other organizations that can take in the nearly 4,000 animals we care for each year. Caring Utah residents who want to help sick or injured wildlife will have nowhere to go, and animals will suffer and die.

This is absolutely not our wish. We are committed to keeping our doors open to patients and the public for as long as possible. As we enter into our busiest time of year, we ask Mayor Caldwell and Ogden City once again for more time. Give us more certainty as we create a plan to move forward.

We thank all of our supporters for everything you have done to help us. Please continue to contact the Mayor's office at <a href="mikecaldwell@ogdencity.com">mikecaldwell@ogdencity.com</a> and <a href="markjohnson@ogdencity.com">markjohnson@ogdencity.com</a> and please share our story with your friends.

## YOUR VOICES CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE, LET THEM BE HEARD!

## What can you do?

- Donations to aid and expedite the move: Through Facebook (Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah),
  Venmo (WRCNU1), Website (wrcnu.org), Mail (3127 N Pelican Dr, Farr West, UT 84404)
- Reach out to the Mayor's office
- Follow us on Facebook (Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah)
- Sign the petition that was started for us. The link is on our Website (wrcnu.org)
- Please share, share, share our story. We need your help!

## What do we need?

- Donations
- Experts on social media
- Contractors
- Property
- Any ideas that you have or support emailed to savewrcnu@wrcnu.org