

Golden Spike National Historic Site

P.O. Box 897 Brigham City, UT 84302

435-471-2209, ext. 29 phone 435-471-2341 fax

Golden Spike National Historic Site News Release

For Immediate Release.

Contact: Leslie Crossland Phone: 435-471-2209, ext. 23

Golden Spike National Historic Site Seeks Public Comments on Possible Fee Increase

Promontory, UT — Golden Spike National Historic Site is seeking public comment on possible changes to park entrance fees as part of a national initiative.

National Park sites were recently authorized to consider entrance fee increases. Of the 401 parks, monuments, historic sites, recreation areas, and other units of the National Park system, 131 (about 1/3) collect entrance fees. NPS sites that collect entrance fees retain between 65% and 100% of the fees received. Those additional revenues assist with the completion of visitor enhancement and facility projects at the site where the fee is collected.

Beginning in 2015, some parks may increase recreation fees to align with the NPS's new entrance fee schedule, which was last updated in 2006.

The proposed changes for entrance fees at Golden Spike National Historic Site are:

- Seven-day single vehicle summer entrance fee from \$7.00 to \$15.00
- Seven-day single vehicle winter entrance fee from \$5.00 to \$15.00
- Per Person (walk-in or cyclist) rate from \$3.00 to \$7.00
- o Motorcycle rate from \$5.00 to \$10.00
- o Golden Spike Annual Pass from \$15.00 to \$30.00

Park Superintendent, Leslie Crossland, stated: "We have not yet made any decisions about whether to increase entrance fees at Golden Spike. We hope to receive considerable input on this proposal from the local community and other interested parties, which will help us decide whether or not the fee increase, in total or in part, would be supported."

The additional revenue increased entrance fees could provide would be helpful to complete critical projects, including renovation of the Last Spike Site seating area, trail maintenance on the Big Fill Walk, and various upgrades for visitors with disabilities, including closed captions on all park films.

"We remain committed to providing a safe and positive experience for all our visitors. We value every chance to teach people about the nation's first transcontinental railroad, and its historical significance." said Crossland.

Entrance fees are not charged to persons under 16 years of age or holders of the America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational Senior, Access or Military Passes. These passes may be obtained at the park. There are also several fee free days each year, including the park's annual May 10th ceremony and Railroader's Festival.

Please submit online comments at www.parkplanning.nps.gov under the title "Proposed Fee Increase" and listed under Golden Spike National Historic Site, project number 55745. Written comments may be sent to: Superintendent, Golden Spike National Historic Site, P.O. Box 897, Brigham City, UT 84302. E-mail comments may be sent to GOSP_Superintendent@nps.gov. Comments will be accepted through January 15th, 2015.

For further information about Golden Spike National Historic Site, go to www.nps.gov/gosp. The 2012 National Park Visitor Spending Effects report can be found at http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm.