

July 24, 2012

Public Forum, The Salt Lake Tribune
90 S. 400 West, Suite 700
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Dear Editor,

Peace for the Gardens

The International Peace Gardens is a botanical garden located on the bank of the Jordan River, at 1000 South 900 West, Salt Lake City, Utah. The Gardens currently represent 28 countries efforts for cultural diversity and peace.

“Much of the garden architecture ... has suffered wear over time; some have even been vandalized, stolen or removed” (International Peace Gardens Academy). When the Dutch garden was finished in 1955, there was a 15 foot high “... wooden shoe, [a] windmill, and two ponds, and ... approximately 25,000 bulbs” (International Peace Gardens Academy). “Today however, only a lawn exists and a small flower bed spelling out ‘Holland’[.] What a shame this most attractive Garden has... been forgotten...” (International Peace Gardens Academy). Most of the gardens are in great need.

The International Peace Gardens was once a great place to explore different cultures and escape the city. They have been wrought with vandalism and neglect. People no longer feel safe in this once tranquil place. The Gardens can still be restored and improved if money is set aside to fix, maintain, and improve them. If other states take care of their parks and tourist attractions, we should too.

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