

Community & Economic Development Brief for Administration



Airport ▪ Arts, Culture & Events – Union Station ▪ Building Services ▪ Community Development
Business & Economic Development – Business Information Center ▪ Planning ▪ Redevelopment

December 4, 2023

Report Purpose

Weekly at-a-glance report prepared for City Administration from the Community & Economic Development Department.

Airport

- After a couple months of discussion with Breeze Airlines, last week the city council approved the support incentive to bring the airline to Ogden Airport – bringing commercial service back to Ogden!
 - Breeze Airlines will be offering direct flights to John Wayne Airport in Orange County, California four times a week starting in February.
 - A formal news conference was held at the airport last Wednesday (Nov. 29), and numerous media outlets have picked up the story and promoted the new flight service to/from Ogden.



Arts, Culture, Events – Union Station

- Held a very well attended Union Station Centennial Kickoff Event and Ribbon-Cutting on November 22.
- Successfully facilitated the annual Holiday Light Parade and associated activities on November 25, including the opening of this year's Christmas Village – which looks better than ever!
- RFQ artist call for Marshall White Center was released nationally on November 27 and will close January 31.
- The Community Art Show opened last week at the Union Station Gallery.
 - An Artist Reception is planned for December 6.
- The Utah Arts Alliance and Ogden Arts Collaboration Connect program year-end finals were held on December 1 in SLC, where \$4,000 in grant money was awarded to selected artists. Many artists in the finals were from Ogden.
- The First Friday Art Stroll was held last Friday, December 1.
- The Arts Grants 2023/24 cycle will open this week (December 4) and close January 31.
 - Two Arts Grant Workshops will be held on December 13 at 12:00 and 6:00 pm via Zoom.
- The Winter Solstice event to see the snowflake shadow to be held at the Water Cycle Sculpture in the High Adventure Park is being planned for solar noon on December 21 (weather dependent).
- Planning for the Union Station Multicultural Holiday Festival which is coming up on December 22.



Building Services

- Congratulations to our employees who have reached tenure milestones as great employees for Ogden City.
 - 10 Year – Brandon Boydston and Ashley Weinberger; 25 Year – Cathy Spencer; 30 Year – Diane Nelson

Business & Economic Development – Business Information Center

- City Council approved funding for infrastructure improvements for Ya YA Foods (Project JAIE), and we issued a [press release announcing the project](#). Ya YA Foods' expansion will retain 100 jobs, create 300 new jobs, and generate \$92 million in capital investment. This project was a great team effort working with internal and external partners. Kudos to our Recruitment Manager, Liesl Limburg, for her great work on this project!
- Our team joined the celebration of Breeze Airways announcing new commercial flights from the Ogden-Hinckley Airport to John Wayne Airport in Orange County, CA, and facilitated a number of [social media communications](#).
- We are working with ecosystem partners, including Hill AFB, WSU, and UAMMI, to develop a program for the Acceler8 Wasatch event, scheduled for May 14-16 at the Ogden Union Station.
- Hosted a site visit for Project Daphne – a U.S. solar panel manufacturing company. Staff met with company leaders and several community partners to discuss area opportunities, workforce, and available real estate.
- Began coordinating with EDC Utah on a site visit for Project Osprey – an aerospace and defense company looking for significant manufacturing space with airport runway access. The visit is scheduled for December 12.
- Preparing the Ogden Redevelopment Agency Annual Report (2022 – 2023).
- Published a [web story](#) on our Community Development team's Quality Neighborhoods Initiative and the various programs established to assist Ogden homeowners.
- Promoted the [Union Station Centennial Kick-off event](#), as well as [Small Business Saturday](#).
- Attended the Visit Ogden Board of Trustees Annual Meeting, featuring an Olympics update, a review of the impressive tourism results for the last year, and plans for the upcoming year.
- Congratulations to Sara Meess for 10 years of service with Ogden City!

Community Development

- Renovation/Resale Program: 1127 23rd was listed for sale and is under contract. 833 Kershaw is listed. 949 24th Street, 2866 Quincy Avenue and 450 30th Street are currently under construction. The home at 470 30th Street was purchased for renovation and resale.
- New Home/Infill Construction Program: New home to be built at 2809 Jackson awarded to start construction. Sycamore Cove development work is complete and finalizing architecture for first new home. Curb and gutter work complete at Towns at 24th Street.
- "Own in Ogden" Down-Payment Assistance: 17 loans funded in FY24; 41 applications received; 11 under review.
- Home Exterior Loan Program (HELP): 24 loans completed in FY24; 7 projects are underway; and no loans are being processed (budgeted HELP funds for FY24 have been allocated). Applications will be accepted again beginning in Spring 2024.
- Volunteer Partnership Grants: 13 grants completed for My Hometown Initiative projects. My Hometown Initiative projects estimated to resume in May 2024. Tenant based rental assistance program now available through Ogden Housing Authority for homelessness applicants, and applications now being accepted.

Planning

- The Planning Commission held a special meeting to consider the WonderBlock condominium plat. The commission approved the plat. Mayor Caldwell also approved the plat at a special MARM. Efforts are underway to get the plat recorded quickly.
- Planning held the first meeting with the Zone Ogden code update steering committee. We had a diverse group of citizens and professionals give inputs on their thoughts and priorities for the update.
- The window closed for the General Plan RFP. We received two proposals. Staff will be evaluating the submissions and making a consultant selection in the coming weeks.

Redevelopment and Other CED Activities

- After numerous days/hours of collaboration with our city team and external partners, we expect to issue the WonderBlock TIF/sales tax bonds this week and the parking structure lease revenue bonds the next week!

