

# Community & Economic Development Brief for Administration



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

**August 7, 2023**

## Report Purpose

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

### Arts, Culture, Events – Union Station

- Arts
  - The Community Art Show opened in the Union Station lobby on Friday (August 4). An Artist Reception and Award Ceremony will be held this Wednesday (August 9).
  - Permission from UDOT to wrap utility boxes on any UDOT road was retracted. Currently reframing the project for new locations. Artist call was put on hold.
  - Actively collecting community nominations for Mayor's Awards in the Arts – due by August 11.
  - Amendments to the ordinances for public art/arts committee will be submitted to management for approval this next week.
  - The UTA OGX Bus Rapid Transit line ribbon cutting ceremony was held August 2.
  - Construction updates at The Corner Plaza updates continues to move forward.
    - Pinup wall is being installed now. Benches/light poles are being fabricated to be installed by the week of August 18.
    - The Art Sculpture will be installed by Artist on August 30. Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to be held September 1.
- Events/Operations
  - Hosted three days of Pride Events this past weekend (August 4-6) at the Amphitheater.
  - Prepared to host six upcoming Twilight shows – August 9, 14, 22, 23, 26 and 31.
  - The Corner is now open!
- Union Station/Museums
  - Sponsored and hosted the Alcoholic Anonymous 25th year celebration.
  - Celebrated our volunteers and staff with "You're One in a Melon" week. Enjoying fresh watermelon and other delicious treats.
  - Hosted two field trips and two private events.
  - Created an RFQ scope of work for the Merci Car. This will be going out to bid in the next week.
  - Met with Visit Ogden and members of the Diversity Commission to share our museum's mission and discuss collaboration.

### Building Services

- The Utah State legislature adopted ten new codes to the 2021 edition of the International Construction Codes with an effective date July 1, 2023. These commercial and residential building, mechanical, plumbing, electrical, existing building, and energy conservation codes regulate all new construction and remodels on commercial and residential buildings within the state.
- Our Plan Review staff completed a Significant Changes training course on the 2021 International Building Code and are registered to take the training course on Significant Changes to the 2021 International Residential Code. The courses focus on the significant changes made to the new 2021 International Building and International Residential Codes from prior editions.
- Central Weber Sewer District impact fees increased to \$2,361/per ERU effective July 1, 2023.
- During this last week we completed 4 abatements to properties to bring them to compliance and have 6 in scheduled in the que.
- In a 2-week period there were over 100 campaign signs obtained for violations of ordinance and we have made best attempts to get the signs returned to the candidates.

### Business & Economic Development – Business Information Center

- Our team enjoyed participating in the ribbon cutting for the new Ogden Express Bus Rapid Transit line. [LinkedIn Post](#)
- Attended the graduation ceremony for the first Rosie Project cohort; this project helps military spouses to gain IT training and certifications.



- Announced that Ferro Concepts will be relocating its HQ to Ogden with 26 jobs and \$800,000 in CapEx. [LinkedIn Post](#)
- Submitted a proposal for Project Vulcan, an EDC Utah RFI for a battery materials manufacturer.
- The Thermo Fisher Scientific company announced a temporary cessation of operations at its Ogden facility and will lay off around 140 employees; our team is in communication with the company to determine how we can best assist impacted employees.
- Met with EDC Utah to review the results of our recent Community Business Survey. We plan to present information at an upcoming Council work session.
- Met with Cache Valley Bank to discuss next steps for their building renovation project in downtown Ogden.
- Continued to explore the possibility of acquiring the Forest Service Building, including property visits with SHPO and an appraiser.
- We are tracking a local company's plan to expand at their current facility. We have been asked not to disclose the name of the company pending their meeting with the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO) incentives committee. Ogden is in competition with a second existing location in Ft Worth, TX. The expansion would bring 100-200 jobs at an average annual wage of \$67,000 and about \$70,000,000 in capital expenditure. Ogden will be submitting a letter of support for the project to GOEO prior to their tentative date of August 24.
- Met with management regarding updated parking system projections.
- Met with Mackenzie Exhibit to check-in on business needs/opportunities and to see if they can help with our new event exhibit needs.
- Met with business in the Salomon Center regarding business needs/challenges.



## Community Development

- Renovation/Resale Program
  - Home at 665 Kershaw completed, listed for sale. Home at 919 Rushton was sold to an owner occupant.
  - Ongoing construction at 833 Kershaw, 1127 23rd Street and 949 24th Street.
  - Renovation bidding process for begun on home at 2866 Quincy Ave.
- New Home / Infill Construction Program
  - New Homes at 2831 & 2839 Monroe are complete and both under contract. Closings planned for mid to end of August.
- “Own in Ogden” Down-Payment Assistance
  - 4 loans have been funded so far in FY24. 11 applications have been received, and 2 are currently under review.
- Home Exterior Loan Program
  - 6 HELP loans have been completed in FY24. 10 projects are currently underway, with 11 loans being reviewed/processed.
- Volunteer Partnership Grants
  - One VPP Grant has been completed. 5 applications approved for upcoming My Hometown Initiative projects.
- Public Improvements
  - 2300 Quincy Avenue project is underway. Continued progress on new sidewalk drive approaches and curb & gutter.



## Planning

- The Planning Commission had a busy agenda at the last meeting. They did the following:
  - Continued discussion on a proposed vacation of 3rd Street between Porter and Jefferson.
  - Recommended approval of amendments to standards and uses in the M-1 and M-2 industrial zones.
  - Recommended approval of changes to the group dwelling standards.
  - Recommended denial of an encroachment permit for balconies on the WonderBlock development.
  - Approved the City Walk project at 2261 Grant Avenue.
- Our code consultants, Logan Simpson, met with various members of the community to listen to their ideas for updating the zoning ordinance. We took the team on a bus tour to familiarize them with Ogden.

## Redevelopment and Other CED Activities

- Met with general contractor and architect for the Hunters Landing & Union Walk (extension request until August 11).
- Followed up on the proposed RV Ordinance (meeting with legal, police and code).
- Reviewed CED aging report with finance.
- Met with Cache Valley Bank about phasing options for their downtown redevelopment project.
- Met with Nate Mitchell regarding the HUD review preparation.
- A CED team building activity is coming up this Friday (August 11) at Union Station.
- The Union Station public engagement/chat initiative is continuing at various events, such as the Friday Night Art Stroll and the Farmer's Market.

