

Community & Economic Development Brief for Administration



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

April 17, 2023

Report Purpose

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

Airport

- We will be meeting with Allegiant Airlines at their Las Vegas headquarters this week (Apr. 18-20).
 - The airline is expected to provide information on their efforts to resolve their pilot shortage – the primary reason they previously ended service to our market.

Arts, Culture, Events – Union Station

- Hosted seven private events this week at Union Station.
- The “Black and White Community Art Show” artist reception was held Apr. 12.
 - Best of Show and other honorees were announced.
 - The art show is on display at Union Station until May.
- Hosted an artist night for our next exhibition, “The Art of Conversations,” on display now through Apr. 29.
- Secured 34 vendors, 6 food vendors, 10 plaza performers, and 14 main stage performers for our annual Living Heritage Festival coming Apr. 28-29 at the Museums at Union Station.
- Arts Grants Transmittal was submitted Apr. 13 to CED Director for approval by Directors and to schedule with City Council.
- Five new public art projects are under review by Directors. Final transmittal will be submitted within the month.
- Construction for The Corner Plaza
 - Light pole bases and bench walls were formed last week, and some have now been poured.
- Minimized flooding in Union Station basement, protected artifacts, and prepped for potential future flooding this season.
- Worked with the Parks Department on some irrigation issues which should be resolved this week.
- Training for the light system at the Dumke Arts Plaza will be held on Tuesday, Apr. 18.
- On-boarded a summer intern to help with our museum photograph collection.
- Moved our team into freshly updated office spaces at Union Station.

Building Services

- Last week the Building Services Team focused on supporting flood mitigation throughout the community.
- Let us know if you see any new flooding issues!

Business & Economic Development – Business Information Center

- Facilitated business retention meetings with two major local companies last week – Fresenius and Thermo Fisher Scientific.
- Currently evaluating reuse opportunities for the Forest Service Building.
- Working with Catalyst Campus on expansion opportunities in Ogden.
- As follow-up to previous week’s ambassador visit, planning a meeting between Ogden’s chapter of the Defense Entrepreneurs Forum group and the Belgian Trade Office to discuss best practices for developing cluster associations.



- Facilitated call with United Natural Products Alliance to discuss potential foreign trade zone activities in Ogden.
- Visited with Project Spy – who is still evaluating Ogden as a new location – to discuss workforce needs.
- Participated in Chamber tour of west Weber industrial site, central Weber sewer district, and the Ogden QEnergy facility.
- The Loan Committee approved one Microenterprise Loan last week.
- Held a networking meeting last week with different professionals and business owners in the Ogden area.
- Preparing final documentation to fund recently approved loans.
- Completing documentation to close old projects with HUD in IDIS.
- Presented information at the Ogden Downtown Alliance meeting and visited eighteen 25th Street businesses regarding the upcoming street improvement project and related road closure plan – now rescheduled for Apr. 24-27.
- To support small businesses, will distribute flyers to downtown businesses this week regarding 25th Street project improvements and Temple patrons parking in the Junction area to accommodate parking lot construction.
- Met with local restaurant owner regarding overall business and workforce activities.
- Facilitated meeting with the Paid Parking Internal Stakeholder Implementation Team and will provide an update to the *WonderBlock* policy group today (Apr. 17).
- Reviewed EV Charging Station needs with the Infrastructure Committee, and follow-up meetings will be scheduled to consider potential partner/funding solutions.
- Based on public input, working on updating the Question-and-Answer sections of the web pages for *Make Ogden*, Future of Union Station and *WonderBlock*.
- Met again to determine plans for upcoming *Make Ogden* Public Engagement Open House meeting on Apr. 26.

Community Development

- Own in Ogden – Down-Payment Assistance Programs
 - One new OIO loan application was received and is under review.
 - A total of 38 OIO loans have been funded in FY23.
- Emergency Home Repair Program
 - All EHRP funds have been expended for the fiscal year.
 - A total of 5 loans have been closed to date.
- Home Exterior Loan Program (HELP)
 - One additional HELP application received and approved.
 - A total of 23 HELP loans have been closed to date in FY23.
- Public Improvement Project
 - Removal and replacement of damaged sidewalk on Madison Ave., 28th and 29th street block began.



Planning

- CED has been concerned about allowed uses in M-1 and M-2 zones.
 - This week, Planning posted a notice of pending ordinance on changes to allowed uses in the M-1 and M-2 zones.
 - The proposal would limit most permitted and conditional uses to existing buildings.
 - This will allow the city to examine the issues more fully.
- Planning staff met with representatives from the Wildlife Center to discuss potential alternate locations.

Redevelopment

- The *MAKE Ogden* Downtown Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map Amendments were approved by the city council last week.
- The date for the public hearing related to the proposed Airport Community Reinvestment Area Plan and Budget was set by the RDA last week for June 6.
- The Developer Selection Policy was approved at last week's Redevelopment Agency meeting.