

Community & Economic Development Brief for Administration



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

December 19, 2022

Report Purpose

This brief at-a-glance report from the Community and Economic Development Department (CED) is prepared for Ogden City Administration and is also distributed within the Department to enhance overall communications. Additional detail regarding CED activities is available as requested.

Airport

- The FAA new air traffic control tower siting exercise (Virtual Reality Testing) took place last week.
- Tracking major grant funding applications for four key development area projects.

Arts, Culture, Events – Union Station

- Arts
 - Routing contract in Cobblestone and building permit approval for Corner Plaza Project to start in Spring '23.
 - Arts Grants software implementation process with Survey Monkey – documentation/application edits.
 - Community Art Show "Portraits" is installed at Union Station until Feb. 3.
 - Prepping for Winter Solstice Event at Water Cycle Sculpture in High Adventure Park – Dec. 21 (12–1 pm).
 - Arts Advisory Committee interviewed seven potential new members to fill vacant seats.
 - Arts Advisory Committee completed annual review of Master Plan for Arts and Culture and the Nine Rails Master Plan – Council presentation to follow in the Spring.
- Christmas Village
 - Activities/stage performances are ongoing through Dec. 30. Lots of positive feedback on this year's display.
- Union Station
 - Purchase of ground under Union Station approved by Council Dec. 6.
 - New modular and programable 10'x30' LED screen is up and running in the Browning Theater.
 - In December, hosted 20 private holiday parties, two community holiday parties, a Holiday Winter Market, and four Ogden City department holiday parties.
 - New 18"x24" outdoor bronze plaque ordered for Merci Car Display.
 - Moving forward on restoration efforts of 40/8 Boxcar (French Merci Train Car) – RAMP/CIP being requested.
 - Receiving bids on renovation efforts in Browning Gun Museum – upgrades set to be completed Spring '23.
 - Living Heritage Programming getting underway for: St. Nicholas Day, Las Posadas, Kwanzaa, Winter Solstice, and Hanukkah.

Building Services

- Code Services
 - Shopping Cart ordinance was presented to Council at Work Meeting last week and will likely be presented at a Council Meeting in January.
 - MARM for the Massey Wall has been postponed to January as there is another project that needs to be considered. This project is moving forward with coordination of several departments.
 - Open Code Supervisor position closed on Dec. 14 with 7 applicants. Interviews will be held this Wed. (Dec. 21).
 - Recent MARM results on former Budget Inn: property owners were given 60 days to obtain permit for balcony.
- Business Licensing
 - Our extremely busy season is kicking in and we are trying to stay healthy.
 - Working on refining our relationship with the Visit Ogden tourism group.

- Permits Counter and Building Inspectors
 - Have started our ride along program with our field inspectors to greater expand our inspector knowledge.
 - Are currently accepting applications for Building Inspector position. Currently have 9 applicants, with position closing on Dec. 23.

Business Development & Business Information Center

- Continued to pursue several large-scale business recruitment projects for the Ogden Airport.
- Participated in 2023 planning session for Defense Entrepreneurs Forum – Ogden Agora (key ecosystem partner).
- Participated in a networking/business showcase event hosted by Catalyst Campus at Weber State.
- Met with Maxis Advisors – a site selection firm from Charlotte, NC.
 - Discussed Ogden’s capabilities to serve potential projects including advanced manufacturing and vertical farming.
- Met with BioUtah to discuss Ogden City’s interest in growing our life science industry and the Innovation Lab slated for the Point of the Mountain development.
- Project Speed Dial
 - Direct lead from a site selector, is a household name financial services company that is scoping Ogden for a potential 300-person backend services call center.
 - \$22 per hour starting wages.
 - Considering other locations, so providing area information, including call center competition in the area.
 - Hoping to have a decision by Q2 ’23.
- Business Information Center
 - Working on establishing different Standard Operation Procedures that describe the step-by-step process for the duties performed.
 - Cleaning up and closing old projects.
 - Reaching out to all loans in default and preparing documentation as needed to pursue collection.
- Supported public feedback communications for City Council meeting presentation for WonderBlock on Dec. 13.

Community Development

- Noteworthy Community Development updates include:
 - Provided recommendation to City Council last week to purchase two or three surplus properties from Ogden School District, and council approved moving forward with formal resolution to advise OSD of city’s intent to purchase properties, with details regarding potential funding sources and uses to be determined.

Economic Development – Redevelopment

- Presented again this week (Dec. 13) at RDA/City Council meeting regarding the WonderBlock project, with a review of public feedback and responses, as well as a question/answer segment.
- This week (Dec. 20), the RDA/City Council meeting will be continued with a focus on the Paid Parking Management System that is key to support Make Ogden and the WonderBlock development.
- Participated in a “Save Union Station” meeting Friday night (Dec. 16) and attempted to address any concerns regarding the City’s plans for the important historic site.

Planning

- Marilyn Drive Historic District
 - The Landmarks Commission has recommended the city pursue a grant to create a historic district in the Marilyn Drive area.
 - Ogden is a certified local government, so it has access to grant funds for historic preservation.
 - Last grant cycle the city used the funds to do a reconnaissance survey of the Marilyn Drive area.
 - The survey showed a concentration of historic structures that could warrant historic district status.
 - Staff will apply for a grant to continue the work in creating the district.
- Marriott-Slaterville Boundary Adjustment
 - Ogden has been approached by Marriott-Slaterville to adjust the boundary between the two cities for several properties along boundary between 12th Street and Ogden River.
 - Staff met with representatives and shared concerns about most of the proposed adjustments.