

# Community & Economic Development Weekly Brief



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

**March 18, 2024**

## Report Purpose

Weekly at-a-glance report from the Ogden City Community & Economic Development Department – prepared for city leaders and community stakeholders. Previous reports can be viewed at the [Community & Economic Development webpage](#).

## Arts, Culture, Events – Union Station

- The 2024/25 Arts Grants funding recommendations were approved by the full Arts Committee on Mar. 12.
  - The transmittal package will be prepared and delivered to the City Council in April.
  - The 10.8.2 study for the arts grant transmittal is currently being written.
- Six finalists from the 180 artists who submitted for the Marshall White Center Public Art RFQ are being interviewed by the selection committee before the final artist selection that will occur within the next three weeks.
- The Arts Advisory Committee meeting was held last Tuesday (Mar. 12) at Union Station.
- Lorie Buckley, April Gruber and Beth Bell are attending the [Utah State Breaking Barriers](#) training which started March 12 and goes through April 23.
  - Breaking Barriers is a Cultural Accessibility Project that is a partnership between Art Access and the [Utah Division of Arts & Museums](#) that provides disability accessibility training and mentorship.
- Special Events is hiring [seasonal staff](#) for the upcoming season at the [Amphitheater](#).

## Building Services

- Our Teams conducted an Emergency Response Exercise last week and with the assistance of the Field Map System developed by our IT group.
  - Our team was comprised of one office representative and nine field members that split up into areas throughout the city and were tasked with reporting relevant issues that needed to be addressed by our public service or rescue teams.
  - The entire city was covered within four hours with 22 issues reported – ranging from trees in the road, trees into homes, rooftops torn from structures, four damaged weather masts, other structural damage – plus a lot of construction and garbage can issues that were not reported.
  - It was great to get a little practice with last week's windstorm in order to be better prepared for more significant incidents in the future.
- Our Teams are moving to all paperless systems as much as possible, and implementing a system that will help our customers by providing a more efficient program. Thanks to everyone involved.
- The River Parkway Taskforce has made significant progress on cleaning up properties around our rivers. Great job everyone!
  - We are ensuring that all land use, business licensing, SWPPP, and code compliance are adhered to.
  - We appreciate the opportunity to work with Engineering, Legal, Planning – and now the State of Utah MVED Division.

## Community Development

- Renovation/Resale Program
  - 949 24th, 2866 Quincy, 450 30th and 2329 Quincy are under construction.
- New Home/Infill Construction Program
  - Construction for the new home at 2809 Jackson is scheduled to begin by the end of the month.
  - The first two homes at the Sycamore Cove development are out for public bid: <https://ogdencity.com/264/Purchasing>.
  - Framing is underway at the Towns at 24<sup>th</sup> (photo to right).



- [“Own in Ogden” Down-Payment Assistance](#)
  - 37 loans have been funded to date in FY24, with 67 applications received and four currently under review.
- [Home Exterior Loan Program \(HELP\)](#)
  - 29 loans have been completed in FY24 and one project is currently underway.
- [Volunteer Partnership Grants](#)
  - 14 grants have been completed for My Hometown Initiative projects.
- Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program
  - Six individuals have been housed in FY24, and three applications are currently under review.
- Ogden Housing Authority Permanent Supportive Housing
  - Framing is underway at 31st Street and Lincoln Avenue.
- Weber Morgan Health Department – Healthy Homes Grant
  - [WMHD awarded a \\$2 Million HUD Healthy Homes Grant](#) to protect children and their families from housing-related health and safety hazards. Training and technical support by Ogden City Staff is underway.

## Economic Development – Business Information Center

- Met with [EDCUtah](#) leadership and Mayor Nadolski to discuss Ogden City’s economic development vision and focus areas.
- Working with [Utah DEQ](#) on brownfields assessment grant for sampling on north end of Union Station Neighborhood area.
- Exploring potential to pursue citywide brownfields assessment grant.
- Preparing to start construction of landscaping improvements on 25th Street between Washington and Adams in the [Nine Rails Creative District](#).
- Met to review planning activities related to the proposed CED department newsletter, including distribution details.
- Met with the parking system project steering committee and reviewed the latest draft RFP and assumptions, as well as the draft communication plan.
- Met with team to review input and determine next steps for parking project management.
- Communicated with the county regarding further collaboration regarding the parking project.
- Met to review the 47G partnership plan.
- Communicated with Patriot Rail management and are working on scheduling a meeting to review their plans for the redevelopment of their site at 2800 Pennsylvania Avenue and related adjacent infrastructure impacts.
- Met with Lotus firm representatives and reviewed their available retail sites on Park Ave. and adjacent river access challenges.
- Toured the Kiesel Jail facility to better understand current activities and future plans.
- Communicated with Salomon Center lease holder regarding facility needs and working to schedule a meeting to review further.
- Continued event planning for the upcoming inaugural [Acceler8 Wasatch](#) Week (in May).
- Continued working with Weber County on a proposed site for the WSU defense tech secure facility.
- Continued search for a suitable location for a new bagel business in Ogden.
- Continuing job creation and expense documentation reporting for three past business loans.
- Continuing underwriting three business loan modifications and five new loan applications.
- Continuing collections efforts for default loans.
- Participating in the [Intermountain Sustainability Summit](#) at WSU this Thursday (Mar. 21).
- Supporting the Chamber of Commerce annual gala event this Thursday (Mar. 21).
- Promoted the news coverage for [“How the Rosie Project is breaking sound barriers for military spouses in the workforce.”](#)
- Promoted voting for Ogden’s Historic 25<sup>th</sup> Street in the *USA Today* [“What is the Best Main Street for 2024?”](#)

## Redevelopment and Other CED Activities

- Presented the high-level annual [RDA report](#) to the RDA board last week.
- The 4th Wednesday of every month is reserved for [“You MAKE Ogden”](#) public engagement events. The [upcoming event](#) will be our 14<sup>th</sup> open house since starting in November 2022 and is scheduled for March 27 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm at Union Station’s Gallery 51.
  - This month’s event will display concepts for [Union Station Neighborhood](#), [25th Street Improvements](#) and [WonderBlock](#) – and staff will be available to answer questions and receive input.
  - Everyone is welcome to attend!

