

# Community & Economic Development

## Weekly Brief



Airport ▪ Building Services ▪ Community Development ▪ Cultural Services ▪ Economic Development ▪ Planning

September 29, 2025

### 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](#).

#### Airport

- The Airport was proud to support collegiate athletics by recently facilitating a charter flight for Butler University as they traveled here to face the Weber State University football team — which ended in a Wildcat victory!
- Taking advantage of favorable weather and replacing deteriorated concrete on the west side of the terminal to improve safety and accessibility.

#### Building Services (*building permits/inspections – business licensing – code services*)

- First-of-Its-Kind Construction Review in Ogden City
  - The Plan Review Team evaluated an innovative alternative building system—the first ever submitted for a single-family residence in Ogden.
  - Developed by Strata International Group Inc., the SABS (Saebi Alternative Building System) utilizes an Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) foam core coated in reinforced concrete, offering a durable, energy-efficient, and sustainable alternative to traditional framing.
  - The system shows strong potential to support more affordable housing while providing enhanced resilience to natural disasters.
  - Our team conducted a full review under the building code's "alternative methods of construction" provision to verify compliance with standards for quality, strength, fire resistance, durability, and safety.
- 240 building inspections were completed last week across residential and commercial projects.
- 25 new business licenses were issued, fueling continued economic activity and entrepreneurship.
- The demolition permit for Riverwalk Phase 3 – Building 3 has been issued, and work is underway to clear the site for the next phase of residential growth along the river corridor.
- A large-scale Tenant Improvement permit was issued for *Beehive Meals* at 558 W. Stockman Way, where construction is progressing in support of their local expansion in the Ogden Business Exchange area.

#### Community Development (*housing – neighborhood improvements*)

- Renovation/Resale Program:
  - Renovations on the home at 1183 28th Street are complete and it is now listed for sale. [Listing](#)
  - Renovations are underway for the homes at 470 30th Street and 1065 21st Street.
- New Home/Infill Construction Program:
  - Construction of a new home at 866 Cahoon Circle is progressing, with drywall and exterior wrap now underway (*photo right*).
- Public Improvement Projects:
  - Construction of the CDBG CARES Act–funded sidewalk improvements on Jackson Avenue is now complete, and work has begun on the sidewalk upgrades at Lester Park.
- ["Own in Ogden" Down-Payment Assistance](#): Since July 1; 20 loans funded, 30 applications received, 3 applications are under review. Program is on temporary hold until approval of AAP Amend FY26 authorizing more funding.
- [Emergency Home Repair Loan Program](#): Since July 1, three loans approved, two now underway, and one is in the bidding process.
- [Home Exterior Loan Program](#): Since July 1, 19 loans have been funded.
- [Volunteer Partnership Grants](#): Since July 1, 14 volunteer projects have been approved and are underway.
- Ogden City's Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program is currently supporting 85 formerly homeless individuals, including children.
- Staff provided HUD Section 3 training to construction contractors working with Community Development.
- Community Development hosted an information booth on HUD programs at the *You Make Ogden* event at Union Station last week, receiving public feedback on the City's upcoming HUD Plan Amendment.
- One emergency home repair project was completed using a combination of CDBG funds and Weber County's Healthy Homes Program. Another project is underway and pending final inspection.



866 Cahoon Circle – under construction

#### Cultural Services (*arts – events – museums – Union Station*)

- Wrapped up the Ogden Twilight season with *Polo and Pan* on Sept. 25.
- Hosted the third annual Amy Armstrong Symposium, bringing firefighters from across Utah to Union Station for advanced training.
- Successfully hosted the *You Make Ogden* public open house highlighting the ongoing design process for the Union Station Neighborhood.
- Hosted three additional private events, reinforcing Union Station's role as a flexible community venue.
- Relocated the Trestlewood donation to the Trainsmen Building for secure preservation ahead of future renovation.

- The next First Friday Art Stroll is this coming Friday, October 3.
- “Topaz Stories” is on display through Oct. 11 at the Station, sharing the experiences of Japanese Americans interned during WWII.
- The Olympic Mural Public Art project will be presented at the Oct. 14 City Council work session.
- The “Music” Community Art Show is on display through Oct. 17 at Union Station.
- ODA’s Fall Market runs every Saturday through Oct. 18 from 9:00 am-2:00 pm, with YOGA in the Muni. Garden from 10:00-11:00 am.
- The artist call for the community art show, “Patterns,” is currently open with a submission deadline of October 20.
- Finalizing logistics for the annual Día de los Muertos event at Union Station on October 25 (1:00-7:00 pm), featuring live performances, interactive activities, traditional altars, and cultural displays – free and open to all.
- Preparing to launch the FY’26 Arts Grant cycle on October 31.
- Preparing for the annual Mayor’s Awards in the Arts event on November 6.
- Launched multiple September social media campaigns that boosted engagement and visibility for Union Station programs, history, events, and partners—reinforcing its role as a cultural hub and community gathering place.

## **Economic Development** (*business support/development – redevelopment*)

- Continued collaboration with a major local composites manufacturer regarding expansion plans and connected the company with the Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity to explore incentive options.
- Met with the Deputy Director of Salt Lake City Economic Development and Ogden City Councilmember Marcia White to discuss ongoing regional initiatives and potential collaboration.
- Participated in discussions with City Administration and representatives from the U.S. Air Force and Army regarding the World Class Athlete Program, which supports active-duty Olympic athletes. They are exploring relocating participants to Hill Air Force Base and seeking community integration opportunities.
- Hosted Economic Development Corporation of Utah (EDC Utah) leadership for a tour of our *WonderBlock* development, facilitated in partnership with J Fisher Companies (*photo right*) – and reviewed potential promotional opportunities for the new project.
- Consulted with Ogden City’s Community Engagement Administrator on our business recruitment processes and reviewed strategies for collaborating on future international recruitment efforts.
- Convened an Aerospace and Defense Ecosystem roundtable with representatives from Hill Air Force Base, WSU, and Davis Tech to identify additional collaboration opportunities.
- Continued participation in Union Station redevelopment planning and supported the Sept. 24 *“You Make Ogden”* event (*photo below*) featuring the [Union Station Neighborhood update](#).
- Facilitated our monthly RDA project update meeting with City administration and met with two potential new development partners.
- Transitioned the RDA dashboard to our in-house GIS platform to enable more flexible updates going forward.
- Finalized the sale of RDA-owned property at Washington and 18th to Mountain America Credit Union for upcoming commercial development.
- Met with our environmental consultants to coordinate due diligence and site analysis for future development at Union Station parcels.
- Met with representatives from the Department of Environmental Quality to discuss ongoing remediation at the Capital Square site.
- Received one new business loan application and approved/funded another for a local business.
- Advanced process development for our expanding Business Support Liaison program.
- Coordinated with our business technical assistance training provider to increase program visibility and develop a promotional strategy, and worked with CivicPlus to prepare the online technical assistance application launch.
- Participated in a legislative briefing with state elected officials, the Mayor, and City Council. Key discussion topics included statewide housing challenges, energy generation needs, homelessness and mental health resources, Olympic preparation efforts, property tax concerns, government efficiency initiatives, support for Union Station as Utah’s official railroad museum, the potential/positive local impact of the proposed WSU Secure Facility in Ogden, and plans to strengthen the City’s presence during the upcoming legislative session.
- Began drafting an article for the upcoming City newspaper highlighting the importance of Ogden’s manufacturing sector.
- Prepared a two-page briefing outlining economic, transportation, and site-readiness benefits of locating a secure research facility at the Union Station campus.



*WonderBlock tour – Sept. 26*

## **Planning**

- Landmarks Commission Meeting
  - The Landmarks Commission met last week to review its September 25 agenda and approved two Certificates of Historic Appropriateness: one for exterior improvements to the Murphy Building at 25th Street and Wall Avenue, and another for a proposed new hotel on 25th Street.
- Landmarks Participation – New Bridge Event
  - Staff and Landmarks Commission members participated in New Bridge Literacy Night, showcasing the City’s commitment to both historic preservation and community education partnerships.
- General Plan Stakeholder Meeting – Natural Resources & Economy
  - Planning staff met with stakeholders as part of the General Plan update process focusing on natural resource conservation and economic development. Feedback collected will directly inform future policy development.
- Union Station Plan Event
  - Planning staff participated in a public engagement event last Wednesday evening to present updates on the Union Station Area Plan and gather community feedback (*photo above*).



*“You Make Ogden” Union Station Update – Sept. 24*