

# Community & Economic Development Weekly Brief



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

October 20, 2025

## Report Purpose

Weekly at-a-glance report from Ogden City's Community & Economic Development Department, prepared for city leaders and community stakeholders. Previous reports are available on the [Community & Economic Development webpage](#).

### Airport

- The annual Snow and Ice Review was presented to airport tenants last week.
- Remodeling of the airport's basement restrooms is now underway.
- The iconic letters from the original Ogden airport tower have been restored and have now been installed inside the new terminal (*photo right*).



Restored sign inside new airport terminal

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

- Numerous building permits were issued last week across residential and commercial sectors. Highlights include:
  - Remodel permit for Wasatch Coffee Roasters (1895 Washington Boulevard), remodel permit for Vasa Fitness (1150 Washington Boulevard), and permit for a new single-family dwelling (1025 Gramercy Avenue).
- Our Plan Review team participated in a specialized training webinar focused on code review for townhomes—a valuable session given the frequency of townhouse projects in Ogden. The insights gained will help strengthen consistency and efficiency in future reviews.
- A tenant improvement project for a new coffee shop at the former Bingham Cyclery building (1895 Washington Boulevard) was approved. This project joins other recent additions to the area, including Taboo Pizza and Black Sabbath BBQ.
- At Business Depot Ogden, Cubiscan has completed the plan review process and will soon occupy a newly constructed facility (955 W White Dr).
- Code Services took part in a regional networking day with a neighboring city, where officers from both jurisdictions exchanged ideas, compared processes, and discussed shared challenges — gaining valuable insights and strengthening collaboration on enforcement strategies.
- 30 business licenses were processed last week. The majority (26) were renewals, indicating strong continuity among existing businesses.
  - One of the new business licenses issued was for “Witches Night Out” – a special event held last week (Oct. 16) at 455 25th Street.

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

- Renovation/Resale Program:
  - Renovations of the home at 1183 28th Street are complete, and the home is now listed for sale. [Listing](#)
  - Renovation is nearing completion for the home at 470 30th Street, and renovation on the home at 1065 21st Street is underway.
  - A renovation contract for 2248 Van Buren Avenue is now open for bidding.
- New Home/Infill Construction Program:
  - Sycamore Cove residential development is progressing.
  - Construction of a new home at 866 Cahoon continues, and completion is expected by the end of November.
  - Finalization of Bid package for new home at 852 Cahoon nearing completion. Bid to be released soon.
- Public Improvement Projects:
  - Construction of the CDBG CARES Act–funded sidewalk work at Lester Park is nearing completion.
  - 2325 Madison (former Aspen Center) asbestos abatement is complete. Demo bid is now available. The bid period closes today (Oct. 20).
- “Own in Ogden” Down-Payment Assistance: Since July 1; 21 loans funded, 30 applications received, and 2 applications are under review.
  - Program on hold until approval of AAP FY26 Amendment #1 which authorizes more funding.
- Emergency Home Repair Loan Program: One emergency home repair project has been completed. Another project is underway and pending final inspection. New Application for additional project has been received and is under review.
- 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.
- The Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program is currently supporting 25 households (58 individuals) with rental assistance, while an additional 18 people at Solace receive supportive services. Six participants have returned to Ogden-Weber Tech College for trade education, and three are receiving psychotherapy to promote long-term housing stability.
- Our Community Development Director Jeremy Smith (*pictured right*), Planning Director Barton Brierley and Mayor Nadolski, met with the *Standard-Examiner* editorial board on Oct. 8 to discuss housing challenges and opportunities. Their conversation was featured in an Oct. 15 article titled [“Officials speak about encouraging home ownership and out-of-the-box solutions to housing stock woes.”](#)



Jeremy Smith, Community Dev. Director, speaking to *Standard-Examiner* – Oct. 8

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

- Hosted multiple community events, including the Ogden Shakespeare Festival, and led four group tours of the Union Station facility.
- Facilitated the quarterly Union Station Engagement Group meeting last week (Oct. 15) at Union Station.
- “Music at The Collective” was held on Saturday (Oct. 18) at The Local Artisan Collective in The Junction.
- ODA’s last Fall Market of the season was Saturday (Oct. 18).
- Exhibition changes for the Browning Museum are anticipated in early 2026, with funding received from the Val Browning Foundation.
  - These planned changes were presented last week to Union Station staff and volunteers.
- Our museum curator Hope Eggett presented at Wesleyan University’s Center for the [Study of Guns and Society annual conference](#) in Connecticut, highlighting new theories in displaying firearms based on her experience from redesigning the Firearms Museum at Union Station.
  - Hope’s presentation received high praise from fellow scholars. Jennifer Tucker, the organizing director of the conference, wrote “It’s one of the most thoughtful discussions I’ve heard about planning around a future museum firearms exhibition (and I’ve heard a lot!)”
- The artist call for the community art show, “Patterns,” is currently open with a submission deadline of today (Oct. 20).
- The [Olympic Mural Public Art project](#) is scheduled for presentation at the City Council meeting this Tuesday (Oct. 21).
- The annual [Día de los Muertos event at Union Station](#) is this Saturday (Oct. 25) from 1:00-7:00 pm. The event is free and open to all.
- The upcoming FY ‘26/’27 Arts Grants cycle will open October 31.
- Staff are preparing for the annual Mayor’s Awards in the Arts event, coming up on November 6 in the Browning Theater at Union Station.
- The Ogden School District Staff Art Show is now on display in the Myra Powell Gallery at the Station through November 29.

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

- Attended the annual Association of the United States Army conference to explore trends in defense, aerospace, and aviation. Connected with several Utah companies, including one preparing to launch a new product, for which we are arranging a tour in Ogden. The Army emphasized the need for industry solutions that enhance mobility, improve efficiency, and address energy and autonomy challenges.
- Met with a rep from the aviation company involved in our recruitment project; they remain on track to make a location decision by year end.
- Continuing to explore real estate options for a company seeking to consolidate its three locations, all currently just outside city limits, requiring at least 50,000 square feet of space.
- Working on several redevelopment projects, including addressing landscaping and facility issues related to season change maintenance.
- Worked with airport team to update our rental car agreements.
- Considering options for displays for new airport terminal opening event (Nov. 14) and coordinating plans with our special events team.
- WSU’s filming of Waldo is currently in progress at the airport.
- Completed a research visit to Provo Airport, assessing infrastructure, passenger flow, and route performance to apply insights for improvements at our airport.
- Worked with airport team and Snow Basin to coordinate the resort’s chair lift donation to display at our airport.
- Facilitated a hospitality company visit to Ogden to discuss future restaurant operations in our city.
- We welcomed a group of changemakers from across the country to Ogden as part of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) conference and we were proud to showcase our redevelopment activities (*photo above*).
- Presented (in Spanish) at WSU’s Puentes entrepreneurship program about our business support resources and steps to open a business.
- Promoted the Elevate Ogden Speaker Series, highlighting the upcoming event on November 6, at 6:00 pm at Gallery 51 in Union Station.
  - Speaker: Darcie Costello, Chair of the Department of Accounting & Taxation at WSU. Topic: Financial Foundations for Your Small Business.
- Met with a new business owner to review a potential business loan pre-application.
- Followed up with a business owner completing their business license process and tracked progress as they submitted their loan application.
- Provided an RDA update at the Council work-session last week, including a preview of our new RDA activity dashboard.
- CED Department Deputy Director David Sawyer, Mgmt. Services Director Lisa Stout, and Mayor Nadolski met with the *Standard-Examiner* to discuss progress on *WonderBlock*. The discussion was featured in the Oct. 18 article ["First elements of WonderBlock set to open...within weeks"](#)



*CED Department Deputy Director, David Sawyer speaking to NADO group at the Marshall White Center – Oct. 15*

## Planning

- The next [Zone Ogden](#) update will be provided at the [public open house](#) this Wednesday (Oct. 22) at 5:30 pm at Union Station.
- The Planning Commission held a work session on the Unified Development Code update last week. The commission discussed a wide range of topics, including private street standards and home animal keeping, and input will inform code updates.
- Staff presented information on the Wall Avenue Corridor Plan to City Council. A key goal is to improve connections between Union Station and 25th Street.
- Our new Planning Technician, River Jarman, started last week. River will be working on the Zone Ogden and Plan Ogden projects.
- Our Planning Director, Barton Brierly (*pictured right*), along with Community Development Director Jeremy Smith and Mayor Nadolski, recently spoke with the *Standard-Examiner* editorial board about residential apartment development and updates to land use ordinances, and the article ["City officials discuss appropriate apartment placement, efforts to improve ... ordinances"](#) was published on Oct. 10.



*Barton Brierly, Planning Director, speaking at Standard-Examiner – Oct. 8*