

Community & Economic Development

Weekly Brief



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

January 12, 2026

Weekly at-a-glance report from Ogden City's Community & Economic Development Department. Previous editions are available on the [CED Webpage](#).

Executive Summary

Ogden City's Community & Economic Development Department began the year with strong momentum, reflected in increased airport activity, steady development planning and housing progress, and major cultural and redevelopment investments. Continued business outreach and recruitment, and community engagement efforts further supported economic growth, neighborhood stability, and long-term strategic goals citywide.

Airport Division

- Demand for air service continues to strengthen, with average passengers per flight **up 22.5%** in 2025 over the previous year.
- Kudos to the airport team for their rapid response to last week's mini snowstorm—runways were cleared and safely reopened for operations within one hour of the final snowfall.
- The airport team is working closely with the baggage carousel designer; installation begins this week and the new carousel is expected to be fully operational by the first week of February.



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

- The [Plan Review](#) team maintained a steady workload to start the year, completing a mix of commercial, residential, and development reviews, along with new business license reviews. Activity included an uptick in cellular communications projects, such as antenna replacements and tower improvements. Key projects reviewed included a commercial remodel at TAB Bank (4185 Harrison Blvd.), a warehouse expansion at Sky Blue (760 W. Exchange Rd.), and a new four-plex townhome development at 2784 Jefferson Ave.
- [Building Permit](#) activity remained strong last week with 44 permits issued, most commonly for residential mechanical (12) and plumbing (12).
- [Building Inspection](#) activity was strong with **199 inspections** completed across residential and commercial sites, most frequently residential final simple (23), commercial insulation (19), and commercial firewall (18).
- 17 new [Business Licenses](#) were issued last week, including Tacos Los Gordos (3233 Washington Blvd.), Northern Utah Psychology & Consulting (2650 Washington Blvd., Suite 105), and Thistle & Thorn LLC (2853 Washington Blvd.).

Community Development Division (*housing – neighborhood improvements*)

- Renovation/Resale Program:
 - The renovated home at 1183 28th was **sold to new homeowners (photo right)**.
 - Renovations are complete for the single-family home at 470 30th Street and the home is now listed for sale. [utahrealestate.com listing](#)
 - Renovations are currently underway for the home at 1065 21st Street.
 - Renovations are beginning on the home at 2248 Van Buren Avenue.
- New Home/Infill Construction Program:
 - Construction of new single-family home at 866 Cahoon is **complete** and home is **under contract**.
 - Construction is underway on a new single-family home at 862 Cahoon Circle.
- "Own in Ogden" Down-Payment Assistance: Since July, 21 loans have been funded and 31 applications received.
- Home Exterior Loan Program: Since July, 20 loans have been funded.
- Volunteer Partnership Grants: Since July, 14 volunteer projects have been approved and are underway.
- 39 previously homeless households (73 individuals) are currently stably housed through HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA). In addition, 5 households have successfully maintained stable housing for two years with support from the TBRA program.
- 5 Emergency Home Repair projects have recently been completed, including four that leveraged Weber County Healthy Homes Program funding.
- Property transfer for the future development of the **River's Edge project** was completed. Project **construction** is expected to **start this spring**.
- 2025 Housing Activity Impact Summary: 26 single family homes built and/or renovated, and supported development of hundreds more units.

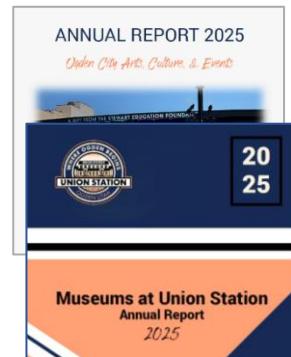


Renovated and sold home at 1183 28th St.

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

- Completed Weber County RAMP grant applications are routing for internal approval and will be submitted by January 16, including requests for Arts & Events (\$85,000), Museums Programming (\$40,000), and America 250 Ogden/Weber (\$25,500).
- Received a **\$600,000 donation** from the Union Station Foundation to help fund a new Development Director position to support capital fundraising campaign activities for the redevelopment of Union Station and the Museums.
- Successfully hosted the Mayor's State of the City at Union Station, with strong attendance and engagement from the community.
- The museum team has completed all urgent data cleanup, manually updating 96,634 collections records over six months, and is now prepared to transition to a modern, cloud-based system with enhanced functionality.
- Hosting a new exhibit of our permanent art collection, the Art of Myra Powell, now on display in the Myra Powell Gallery at Union Station.

- The 2026 Chinese New Year Paper-Cutting Exhibition: Year of the Horse, is on display at Union Station through February.
- Updating our staff scheduling system to [WhenToWork](#), a simple and convenient platform.
- Urban Archive, our collections sharing app, has been updated to a new user interface. Explore now at <https://urbanarchive.org/city/ogden>.
- Working with Preservation Utah to host a conference excursion in June highlighting Union Station's preservation needs and plans.
- The Olympic Mural and Kiesel Avenue Cable project RFQ will be released this month.
- The Ogden Tattoo Convention is **this Friday through Sunday** (Jan. 16-18) at Union Station.
- Working on updates to our Cultural Services and Union Station strategic planning initiatives.
- Finalized the [2025 Arts & Events Annual Report](#) and the [2025 Museums at Union Station Annual Report](#). →
- 2025 Cultural Services and Museums at Union Station Impact Highlights included:
 - Holiday Electric Light Parade: **19K attendees** to see 64 entrees
 - First Friday Art Strolls and Ogden's Poet Laureate activities
 - Mayor's Awards in the Arts event and Quarterly Community Art Shows at Union Station
 - Public art installations at the new Marshall White Center
 - Restoration work on the **Merci Car** was **completed**.
 - Ogden Arts Grants: **\$160K in grants awarded** to 29 individuals and arts-based organizations
 - Special Event Permits: 144 permits issued for 311 days of community programming
 - Amphitheater: 25 events with 59 days of programming (10 Twilight Concerts—58K tickets; Christmas Village—17 days of programming; etc.)
 - Major Event Support: Including Airport Terminal Opening, Ogden Marathon, Car Show, Fly Fishing Film Festival, Farmers Market, etc.
 - Media Coverage for Arts/Events: 20+ media outlets covered events with 38 TV/print stories, and social media followers increased by 30%
 - Media Coverage for Museums at Union Station: more than 19 news stories
 - The Corner: store sales **increased by 7%** over the previous year
 - Museum Activity: **70,791 visitors**, 23 programs with 4,508 attendees, 22% increase in school children engagements
 - Union Station volunteers served at least **2,552 hours** and we partnered with dozens of community organizations.



Click on graphics above to link to each full report

Economic Development Division (business support and recruitment – development – redevelopment)

- Facilitated a site visit with an out-of-state defense technology company exploring expansion opportunities.
- Submitted a proposal for "Project Bravo," a company evaluating Business Depot Ogden as a potential expansion site.
- Conducted check-in visits with local companies, including Model Linen, to support ongoing business retention and growth.
- Continued redevelopment work, including RDA project team meetings and preparation for the monthly RDA administration meeting this week.
- The new **WonderBlock parking garage** opened to the public (photos right), and staff supported communications planning for the managed parking rollout.
- Supported the State of the City public event and promoted – [LinkedIn post](#) – as well as multiple [airport/Breeze Airways posts](#) and a post about the growing number of businesses in our [Ogden Business Exchange](#) area.
- Hosting a downtown Ogden reception this week to kick off the Strategic Alternate Sourcing Program in support of [Hill AFB Industry Day](#).
- Promoted the January 28 [You Make Ogden public engagement event](#) at Union Station, highlighting Union Station Neighborhood plan updates alongside an [Adaptive Reuse Feature post](#) on past historic renovations in Ogden.
- The next Elevate Ogden Speaker Series event, [Digital Strategy & Planning for Your Small Business](#), is Jan. 29 and feature Nelson Altamirano, owner of Strategica Marketing Agency.
- Promoted our [2025 video summary](#) of economic activities.
- 2025 Economic Development Impact Highlights included:
 - More than **\$1 billion in capital investment** by local businesses, over **400 jobs added** through business recruitment and expansion, 70+ small business consultations/events, \$317,000 in business loans, and a **\$9,414 increase in median household income** for Ogden residents.



WonderBlock garage is now open to public – Jan. 11 photo

Planning Division

- The Planning team supported last week's Planning Commission meeting, where the Commission reviewed and acted on several items:
 - Villages at the Garden (397 N. Harrisville Road): Approved the Phase 2 final group dwelling plan for the townhome project and recommended approval of the preliminary subdivision plat to allow for individual ownership of the townhomes.
 - Rail Yard Lofts (195 Rushton Ave.): Approved site plan for new apartment development, advancing another infill housing project in the city.



Level one elevator entrance in WonderBlock garage