

## **Neighborhood Council Report from Mayor Holly Daines**

Thanks again for your involvement in the Neighborhood Councils! Because of your concerns and suggestions, here is a short summary of a few things we have accomplished in the last seven months. There is additional info in the attachments if you want more details.

### **Concern: Property Maintenance/Neighborhood Improvement**

The City hired a new 25 hour a week Code Enforcement Officer in June. He has been busy driving through neighborhoods citywide. If he sees a problem with weeds, trash, junk cars, etc, he leaves a "Courtesy Notice" door hanger explaining the violation, and a nice brochure called "Livable Neighborhoods," explaining responsibilities for property maintenance.

So far, the officer has served 375 Notices. He follows up a week later and if the problem is fixed, he leaves a "Thank You" door hanger. If not, he opens a case for further action. The data (see **Attachment #1**) shows 68% compliance within that time. Interestingly, 49% of notices were to owner-occupied properties.

We will be launching a social media campaign to encourage home improvement (**Attachment #2**) and to make people aware of our Neighborhood Improvement Grants (**Attachment #3**.)

### **Concern: Over Occupancy**

Council approved a new fine for over-occupancy (from \$50 - \$250) on August 7. Our new code officer likes working early morning hours and will be out looking for violations.

We worked with USU to provide occupancy information (only three unrelated in single family zones) during orientation to all new students who live off-campus. Thanks to USU for their assistance. In addition, we printed the following on the front of the renewal envelope sent for landlord licensing: Over-occupancy is strictly enforced! Owners or agents must notify lessees of applicable zoning and occupancy limits.

### **Concern: Vacant Buildings**

Council passed a new ordinance requiring a permit and fee for vacant buildings. Staff is working on compliance, but this will take some time as there is a six month period before fees take effect.

### **Downtown**

We have teamed with Cowboy Partners, a developer headquartered in SLC, to work on a project for the Emporium block. They have an excellent track record of great projects statewide. Read about the first public meeting in the Herald Journal article by Sean Dolan (**Attachment #4**.) We have since met with property owners around the block, the Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Commission. The plan is to demolish the Emporium, create a public plaza, some retail, housing and a parking structure. We are considering including the new Library as part of the development, but no decisions have been made. Cowboy Partners is working on a concept to

bring back for more public input. The goal is to have a quality project -- which reflects the historic character of Downtown -- approved and ready to go by August 2019.

**Concern: Main Street Traffic**

We have been meeting with UDOT and stakeholder groups since January to discuss concerns about safety and congestion on the Main Street corridor. A public meeting on the topic will be held Tuesday, September 25th, 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers. Watch for an invitation to come later.

**Concern: Who do I Call**

Here is a contact list with helpful info which answers:  
Who is my neighborhood police rep?  
What are landfill hours?  
Questions on street trees, sidewalks, curbs, streets, etc.  
(Attachment #5)

As always, you have my email if you have comments, questions or suggestions. I appreciate the City Council, my excellent staff, and have enjoyed my service so far. The job has been busy! Best wishes and thanks for all you do to make our community a better place for all.