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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Center Block Plaza in downtown Logan ready to move forward

Work to begin on construction drawings; demolition planned for wintertime

LOGAN, Utah – What started out as a recommendation from the public at a summer 2018 visioning meeting on downtown, held at Logan City Hall, will finally become a reality. The idea for a plaza, which emerged as the top-ranked priority from that discussion, was granted approval by both the Historic Preservation Committee and the Planning commission last week. Funding approval for the project was granted by the City’s Redevelopment Agency in February. The City of Logan and the architect are now moving forward with construction drawings. Demolition of the former Emporium and Poco Loco buildings are anticipated over the winter, with construction beginning in the spring and completion of the plaza by Christmas of 2022.



CENTER BLOCK PLAZA

LOGAN UTAH

The project will take the former Emporium site from vacant to vibrant by creating a beautiful public plaza with delightful amenities and activities for everyone, directly in the heart of historic downtown Logan. The plaza will be programmed with activity to draw citizens and visitors year-round. The outdoor stage will feature a wide variety of free entertainment. A splash pad/water feature will provide summer fun for those getting wet or simply choosing to sip a soda under the shade canopies while enjoying the activity. During the winter, visitors can enjoy the ice-skating rink or gather around fire pits while watching the plaza lights and views of the historic Tabernacle. Beautiful entryway features will frame the plaza on Main Street and provide an attractive welcome for visitors coming to enjoy outdoor dining or merely to relax. Planters surrounding the plaza will have beautiful annual flowers and seasonal holiday decorations. For an animated 3-D tour of the plaza, be sure to watch this video by visiting <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cNmee3JIJZ0>

The plaza's location will unify the wonderful aspects of historic downtown and open up the center block, creating a gathering place and promoting walkability downtown. The plaza builds upon recent improvements to Center Street and effectively links the beautiful Ellen Eccles Theatre on the south with the historic Courthouse on 200 North, and the city's future library on 300 North.

Besides encouraging people to get out of their cars, walk downtown and enjoy and patronize local businesses, research shows the plaza will spur business growth and economic activity in the downtown*. The city plans to sell the 25,000 square-foot Plaza 45 complex, consisting of two storefronts located immediately south of the plaza at 41 and 45 North Main Street, presenting an opportunity to further animate the plaza with new restaurants and other potential uses. The sale of the buildings will be through a public Request for Proposal (RFP) process, with interested applicants describing how they would use the space, as well as providing a bid. Proceeds from the sale of the buildings will help offset the \$4.3M cost of the plaza.

The city anticipates a project timeline of about 18 months for demolition and construction.

*Destination Development Association: 'The Power of Public Plazas'

[http://cms9.revize.com/revize/loganut/Plaza%20Handout%20\(1\)_Roger%20Brooks.pdf](http://cms9.revize.com/revize/loganut/Plaza%20Handout%20(1)_Roger%20Brooks.pdf)