September 2023

Plaza Grand Opening!

Hello all! The long-awaited plaza will officially open with a ribbon cutting Saturday, September 23, 11-11:30 am, followed by downtown activities all afternoon. There will be music on the plaza stage and the splash pad will be open. Center Street will host a new Fall Giant Pumpkin Festival, featuring a weigh-off for the 1,000+ pound pumpkins competing for prize money. The festival will feature food trucks, activities for kids, a beer garden for adults, and lots of fun. The Gardeners Market by the Courthouse will also be open from 9 am - 1 pm. You are invited to walk between all the fun activities and enjoy our beautiful, historic downtown.

The plaza will be officially named the Carol and Jim Laub Plaza, in honor of their generous contribution which helped make it possible. We will also recognize all the donors who contributed towards the $2,360,000 in private funds raised for the project.

City Code Compliance Inspector Ride Along
Code enforcement is a big job in Logan, and I recently went for a ride with the inspectors. There are only two compliance inspectors for the entire city! However, they do a great job helping keep our city neat and tidy. We saw some of the common summer issues: overgrown weeds, signs in the park strips, junk in yards, inoperable cars in front yards, etc. The inspectors typically leave "courtesy notices" for minor problems like weeds, then follow up in a week to check for compliance. The inspector's case load comes from complaints from citizens or from their observations as they drive around the city. In the winter, they give violation notices for owners who don't shovel their sidewalks.

You may not be aware the city owns all park strips, but the adjacent property owner is responsible for maintaining the park strip in front of their property. As property owners transition to water-wise landscaping, please check with Community Development for standards. There is no such thing as "zero-scaping." We welcome conservation of water, but remember the term is "xeriscaping" and city code requires 30% plant material in the park strip. Exclusively rocks or gravel (or zero plant material) does not count. **To report code concerns or ask questions, please call (435) 716-9025.**

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**Noise Variance**

Our city code prohibits noise from 10 pm to 7 am to protect our citizens. Occasionally the Mayor may grant a variance. Examples include occasional construction projects like our recently completed 100 West bridge. Sometimes large concrete pours may need to start at 4 am to get concrete finished before it sets up. A special event, such as the Cruise-In, or city Fireworks, may also ask permission and get a variance. Recently the USU Student Association requested a variance to hold a dance on the Quad. I have allowed them one variance a year, so you may hear music until midnight on Friday, September 8. When we grant a variance, the police and dispatch are aware, so they know what is allowed. If you have noise problems, you can call the non-emergency Dispatch number, which is 435 753-7555.

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**Logan Outdoor Recreation Complex**

New Park planned in Southwest Logan!
In August, the city received a $750,000 Utah Outdoor Recreation Grant from the State for Phase 1 of the Logan Outdoor Recreation Complex. We also received a $475,000 RAPZ grant for the planned park. The complex will be on 200 South between 1400 West and 1900 West, south of the Logan Landfill. Phase 1 will feature a traditional neighborhood park for the fast-growing Woodruff neighborhood, a disc golf course created as a natural area (leaving the wetlands and native plant material) and an 11 acre dog park, with separate areas for small and large dogs and agility training. Phase 2 will feature a mountain bike park on the closed landfill hill and other features once the composting facility is completely moved to the wastewater treatment site. All park areas will be connected by trails, with planned long term connections per the city and county trail master plans. Once Phase 1 is completed, we'll seek funding for Phase 2, so this is a multi-year project.

For more information about the park design, click here.
To see the county trails master plan, click here.
For more information about the 2023 RAPZ award Click Here

Making our City more Bike and Pedestrian Friendly
You may have noticed new pedestrian crossings with Rapid Flashing Beacons (as shown in the photo) to help pedestrians cross safely. We are adding eight more of these crossings this summer. As more folks use our trails and walk through our city, we are improving pedestrian infrastructure. If you're a driver, PLEASE watch for pedestrians! If you're a pedestrian, PLEASE push the buttons to start the flashers, or use flags available at some crossings.

September 11-15 is Bike 2 Everywhere Week, and you may notice some "pop up" bike lanes. We'll use cones to create temporary new bike lanes to see how the location might work in the future if we make it permanent, and to help drivers remember to watch for bikes, and share the road.

For a link to the current and new flashing beacon locations, click here.

Affordable Housing in Logan

Housing is one of the greatest concerns of Utah residents. As part of the State Legislature's requirement for cities to implement strategies to help create additional affordable housing, some of the options Logan is discussing include allowing efficiency living units, density bonuses for moderate income housing in certain zones and changes in the residential occupancy standards (increasing the "legal" occupancy per dwelling unit from 3 to 4). The discussion will start with the Planning Commission on September 14, 5 pm at City Hall. You are welcome to join the conversation, or send comments in advance.

Click here for more information

Read more about the impacts on housing
If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, click here to unsubscribe.