

# Cedar City This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH COMMUNITY UPDATE



FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2021

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Maile Wilson-Edwards

May brings us to the end of another school year and the long-anticipated summer vacation. Congratulations to the many students who have, or will be, graduating over the next few weeks! We are excited for you and the many adventures that are in your future. To quote Dr. Seuss, “You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose.”

As our City is coming alive with summer right around the corner, here at City Hall we have been working nonstop on

preparing the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 City Budget. An interesting aspect of our City form of government that not many people know, is that as the Mayor, I do not have the ability to vote on any issue that comes before the City Council (unless there is a tie) nor am I authorized to veto any action taken by the Council. However, I do prepare and present to the City Council the tentative budget. This is a duty that I take very seriously and approach each year the goal of ensuring a balanced budget, proper reserves and sustainable spending. This year the **tentative** budget will be presented to the City Council on May 5th and then adopted May 19th. Although the tentative budget will be adopted that doesn't mean that we still don't want the public to provide input on how their tax dollars are proposed to be spent. Therefore, we will be having a public hearing on the final budget on June 2nd with the adoption of the finalized budget scheduled to take place on June 9th. All these meetings are open to the public and will be held at the City Offices at 10 North Main Street during our regularly scheduled City Council meetings on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. Agendas and minutes of these meetings are available on the City's website at [www.cedarcity.org](http://www.cedarcity.org) and the meetings are also livestreamed for those that cannot attend in person.

Although this is not a complete list, I wanted to give you all a little insight into what I am proposing in the tentative budget for the City Council's consideration. I am proposing new positions in various departments including the police department, fire department, building department, and parks/cemetery. I am also looking at maintenance items for our current city building ranging from mechanical control systems to carpet. There is also body camera storage, SWAT radio communication systems, a dump truck, various trails to continue the citywide connection plan, numerous improvements to streets, water and storm drain infrastructure, a new culinary well and water tank. We are looking at a masterplan and phase 1 for replacing the irrigation and fixing the roads at the Cemetery. As our commu-

nity continues to grow, I know proper planning is key to the success of our City. I am proposing updating our infrastructure masterplans in water, storm drain and sewer.

Finally, a project that I have been pushing for quite some time and that we have been working towards for a number of years, is the design work for the reuse of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Water so that in the future we can use the water that is currently only available for agricultural purposes, for a secondary watering system or recharge efforts in our community. The purpose of this project is ultimately good long-term planning. Until the project would be completed, the Treatment Plant effluent water would remain being used for agricultural purposes, but as the City grows and we continue looking for water resources to serve the needs of our community, this project and treating this water opens up additional options for the water usage that are currently unavailable. As you can see (from this very limited list) there are tons of projects across all departments and divisions in our community that we are looking at funding to keep up with growth and our wonderful quality of life.

Over the past few years there has been numerous discussions and plans related to the expansions for the multi-use activity center (MAC) at the Aquatic Center. For some recent background, on November 18th, 2020, the Cedar City Council passed Resolution No. 20-1118, which authorized Cedar City to incur up to \$7 million of public debt to finance the cost of constructing a public recreation center. On November 19th, 2020, a group of citizens opposed to the recreation center filed a referendum application with the City. That action essentially put a “pause” on moving forward with any spending associated with the proposed facility, but allowed the City to continue gathering relevant information from the existing architectural contract that was already in place. The most pressing item of new information that we have recently received is related to the current cost projections for the construction of the facility. In the current building climate and with material costs increasing, especially steel, the architect informed us that cost projections today would likely be 150% above the initial cost estimates.

Based on this new information I am asking the City Council to reconsider the timing of this facility and essentially undo the previous resolution that authorized the City to incur debt for the construction of this facility. I do not believe that this is the time to build this type of a facility knowing the current construction market. But that does not mean that the City doesn't value recreation or quality of life, it just means it is financially not the right time.

With that said, I also want to acknowledge the efforts and impact of those that participated in the referendum. I understand that many of you signed to have a voice on the MAC center and city recreational facilities. City staff and I have met with the referendum sponsors and we are going to continue working together toward an amicable solution to ensure your voices are heard. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



# 2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## Cedar City Waterworks Department

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

### WHERE DO WE GET OUT WATER?

Our water sources have been determined to be from groundwater sources. Our water sources are Shurtz Canyon Spring, Cedar Canyon Spring, Enoch #1 Well, Quichapa #3 Well, Quichapa #5 Well, Left Quichapa Spring, Right Quichapa Spring, Quichapa #6 Well, Quichapa #7 Well, Enoch #3 Well, Quichapa Well #8, and Quichapa #1 Well.

### SOURCE PROTECTION

The Drinking Water Source Protection Plan for Cedar City Waterworks is available for your review. It contains information about source protection zones, potential contamination sources and management strategies to protect our drinking water. Our sources have been determined to have a low level of susceptibility from potential contamination. Please contact us if you have questions or concerns about our source protection plan.

### CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL

There are many connections to our water distribution system. When connections are properly installed and maintained, the concerns are very minimal. However, unapproved and improper piping changes or connections can adversely affect not only the availability, but also the quality of the water. A cross connection may let polluted water or even chemicals mingle into the water supply system when not properly protected. This not only compromises the water quality but can also affect your health.

So, what can you do? Do not make or allow improper connections at your homes. Even that unprotected garden hose lying in the puddle next to the driveway is a cross connection. The unprotected lawn sprinkler system after you have fertilized or sprayed is also a cross connection. When the cross connection is allowed to exist at your home, it will affect you and your family first. If you'd like to learn more about helping to protect the quality of our water, call us for further information about ways you can help.

### CONTAMINANTS

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or manmade. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### LEAD LEVELS

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Cedar City Waterworks is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components.

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safe-water/lead>.

### QUESTIONS?

We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water distribution process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Robbie Mitchell or Alan Davis at (435) 586-2912.

### CONTACT US

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We at Cedar City Waterworks work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. To view this full report and graph information, please visit our website at [www.cedarcity.org](http://www.cedarcity.org).



## PUBLIC WORKS NEWSLETTER

### WASTEWATER:

Congratulations to Laurie Smith, our laboratory director at the Cedar City Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. She has been recognized by the Water Environment Association of Utah (WEAU) as the Lab Director of the Year. Laurie received her award at the annual WEAU conference which was held in April, 2021. The wastewater plant's lab is accredited through the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Committee (NELAC). Laurie is proficient in her lab duties which include sampling, analysis and record keeping, and in her knowledge of chemicals and proper sampling and analysis procedures. She maintains a well-organized, well-maintained and clean certified laboratory. Laurie is a great asset to the wastewater treatment facility and to the City. Congratulations again Laurie!

### WATER:

AS A REMINDER: Per Ordinance 37-7.1, watering restrictions are now in place for irrigating with culinary water between the hours of 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM. The restrictions go into effect April 1st and continue through October 31st of each year. This restriction is in force every day of the week. First violations will receive a warning. A second violation will have their water supply shut off and will be required to pay a \$25.00 reconnection fee. A third violation will result in the water supply being shut off and will be required to pay a \$100.00 penalty plus a \$25.00 reconnection fee. All fines and penalties shall be paid in full prior to the restoration of water service. Please help conserve our water. For information on water conservation, please visit [www.conservewater.utah.gov](http://www.conservewater.utah.gov).

### SOLID WASTE:

We would like to remind you to please have your trash cans out by 7:00 AM on your designated pickup day. Please have your cans at least 3-feet from vehicles or other cans to allow safe operation of the equipment emptying your cans. Boxes and vegetation like grass, weeds and leaves can become lodged and packed into the bottom of your can, and it seems that no amount of shaking will dislodge the material. Please try to keep these materials from being tightly packed so your can may be totally emptied.

The Public Works Department can help you with maintenance of streets, water lines, water meters, water leaks, sewer lines, missed trash pickups, replacement trash cans, streetlights, etc., but we can't help you set up new service, or pay bills. We're happy to forward these calls to the City Utilities Department, but to help save you frustration from being transferred from department to department, please call 435-586-2951 to ask questions about your utility bills, pay your bill or set up new services with the City.



I would like to personally invite you to attend an upcoming event on May 26th at noon at the Veterans Park that has some special meaning to me. This past year, our sister city, Gapyeong South Korea, shipped us a large Memorial Monument Stone in recognition of their gratitude and to honor our soldiers that had a profound impact in the outcome of the Korean War. More specifically, May 26th marks the 70th anniversary of the incident, often referred to as the Miracle at Kapyong, which involved 240 men of the 213th — the predecessor of the 222nd. The soldiers found themselves being advanced on by approximately 4,000 Chinese soldiers. By the end of the war, all of the original 600 southern Utah troops who were part of the 213th returned home, with not one fatal casualty. This story and the significance behind what these brave men were able to accomplish is unimaginable. Please join us in recognizing this significant occasion and dedication of the Memorial Monument Stone on May 26th, 2021.

Cedar City, the Cedar City Interfaith Alliance, Canyon Country Communication Council, and Southern Utah University are collaborating to initiate a program in which local families connect with, mentor, and befriend international SUU students. This new program will allow local families and students from around the world to develop enriching relationships through interactions during holidays, weekend family activities, family gatherings, and meals.

Beginning in the summer of 2021, the program will make it possible for interested individuals and families in the local community to sign up for weekends and holidays when they would welcome a student into their home. Interested students, who have also signed up for the program, will be matched with a host family based on interests, time availability, and other considerations. Welcoming international students into American homes provides invaluable educational opportunities for all parties. Students are able to learn more about the United States and the local community, while those hosting the students can learn more about the students' home countries and cultures. In all cases, lasting, global friendships are formed.

Community support has always been critical to the success of SUU. From the school's founding to the present day, community members have been the lifeblood of the University. We are grateful for the collaboration of these local organizations and for the opportunities that this new program will provide. Individuals and families interested in learning more about the program, or interested in signing up to host students, should contact John or Ellen Westwood at [johnrwestwood@gmail.com](mailto:johnrwestwood@gmail.com)

After a long year of closure from COVID-19, we are very happy to announce that the Iron County Cedar City Senior Center located at 489 E. 200 S. is now OPEN! With the new building improvements that were made during the past year, the Senior Center expanded an additional 5,000 sq. ft., which doubled the overall size of the facility.

With the additional space, seniors will be able to spread out and have more room to engage in some of the many activities that are offered by the Senior Center. The new assembly hall will have plenty of room for visitors to utilize the exercise equipment, weights and mats, yoga and dancing. Other activities include bridge, ceramics, bingo, zumba classes and so much more. There is also a new game room, featuring pool tables, ping pong tables and tables for games and puzzles.

Some of the many things that the Senior Center offers are lunch meals that are served on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (reservation required) at 12:15 p.m. Their Meals on Wheels program is available for seniors that are 60 years of age or older and who are "home bound". Each of these programs have a suggested donation of \$3.00 per meal.

Additionally, the Senior Center offers a shuttle bus for lunch and shopping in Cedar City if you need a ride to Wal-Mart, a doctor's appointment or the bank. The Senior Center also publishes a monthly newsletter that includes all meal and activity schedules, along with helpful information, stories and local happenings. If you would like any additional information regarding the Senior Center or the many programs and resources they have to offer, you can contact them by calling (435)586-0832 or visit their website at <https://www.ironcounty.net/government/departments/senior-citizen/cedar-city>.

The arts are alive and well in Cedar City! Did you happen to see the wonderful student artwork placed throughout town during the month of April? The showcase was sponsored by the Cedar City Arts Council, giving students a chance to display their creative work, and you, the area resident, a chance to see it. The Cedar City Arts Council serves as a principal facilitator for the arts in Southern Utah, using advocacy, appreciation, and education as their building blocks. Follow them for unique and engaging programming centered in dance, literature and art. Be a participant or a spectator because the arts give us so many wonderful and positive emotions. Make sure they are part of your life! The Cedar City Arts Council is a member of the Cedar City Chamber nonprofit group. Learn more at [www.cedarcityartscouncil.org](http://www.cedarcityartscouncil.org) or at <https://www.cedarcitychamber.org/chamber-non-profits>.