

Cedar City This Month

CEDAR CITY, UTAH COMMUNITY UPDATE



FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 2021

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Mayor Maile Wilson-Edwards

It appears that summer is finally here and, as usual, there are a wide variety of events coming up in our community. The “Festival City” certainly hits its stride during the summer months!

As our City is coming alive with summer right around the corner, here at City Hall we have been working non-stop on preparing the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 City Budget. The City budget cycle goes from July 1st – June 30th

therefore, over the past few months we have had meetings, meetings and more meetings. The budget process began with Paul Bittmenn (City Manager), Jason Norris (Finance Director) and myself, meeting with the City Council members to discuss the City needs. This was followed by Paul, Jason and I meeting with each Department Head and Division Head one-on-one to discuss the budget needs and requests for their particular department.

We then prepared the “Mayors Tentative Budget” which was presented at a City Council meeting in early May. Following that, we had each Department Head/ Division present their requests during a City Council meeting, provide an update on their Department and answer any questions on the items that were (or were not) included in the tentative budget. After taking information from all of these meetings, I believe we have compiled a comprehensive, BALANCED budget that will meet the needs of our City this upcoming year.

Although, the tentative budget has been 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 and the meetings are also livestreamed for those that cannot attend in person.

For years, I have been working with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) to get them to acknowledge the importance of fixing the Coal Creek overpass bridge and making it safe. From presenting this ongoing need at the State Legislature to speaking at the Utah Department of Transportation statewide Transportation Commission Meetings and pleading our case, I am happy to report that persistence pays off!!

After years of seeking grants, and funding through the State Legislature, UDOT, the Small Urban Highway Funding, the Corridor Preservation Fund and City, this summer, the funding is in place for this multi-million-dollar project and construction will begin on JUNE 14th.

Beginning on June 14th Coal Creed Road will be closed and approximately June 21st and 22nd I-15 will be closed from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. (with all freeway traffic being detoured through town) so that the current bridge deck can be removed.

I know that throughout the construction period, this will be an inconvenience for many of our residents, but the project will ultimately result in a new bridge deck over I-15 that is wider and safer for both vehicles and pedestrians. If you have specific questions related to the project, contact (435)417-9417 or email coalcreekbridge@utah.gov.

This past month I had the opportunity to announce and welcome a new business to our community! Armscor Precision International, a firearms manufacturer, will be expanding their production and operations to Cedar City. They will be adding 88 new high paying jobs to our City over the next few years, with up to an additional 200 new jobs in the future. In fact, they are already discussions additional business expansion and growth opportunities for the future.

Armscor is a firearms and ammunition manufacturer, importer, exporter, and distributor company operating the Armscor and Rock Island Armory brands. Part of the company’s mission is to bring innovative firearms to its customers at a great value. Some of Armscor’s customers include Sportsman’s Warehouse, Cal Ranch, and Rural King.

I would again like to personally welcome Armscor and let them know we are excited to have them join our community. I would like to thank Danny Stewart and our Economic Development Department for their work with Armscor and also the Governor’s Office of Economic Development.

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PUBLIC WORKS

STREETS:

Our Street crews have completed the annual Spring Clean-Up for 2021. This year they hauled away 387 dump truck loads of yard waste. There were quite a few items that we were not able to take, and if they were mixed in with your yard waste piles, those piles were probably left. The disposal pit we use is regulated by the state and is not just a landfill dump site, so items such as metal pipes, plastic pools, carpet, appliances, computers, mattresses, etc. are not accepted there. Please take these items to the Iron County Landfill at 3127 North Iron Springs Road. The items we are able to pick up are always listed on the notices informing you about the Spring Clean-Up. If you still have questions about items allowed, please call the Public Works Department prior to next year's clean-up at 435-586-2912.

WATER:

Irrigating with culinary water between the hours of 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM per City Ordinance 37-7-1 is prohibited. So far this year we have seen 135 violations over April and May, 2021 compared to 114 for the same period in 2020. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor - which is a joint effort of the National Drought Mitigation Center, USDA and NOAA - 58.8% of Utah, including Iron County, is in the exceptional drought category. Please be mindful of your water use. For tips on saving water, please visit www.slowtheflow.org, or www.conservewater.utah.gov.

SOLID WASTE:

Our Solid Waste crew has noticed there has been a lot of trash left on the ground next to the trash cans. For the health and safety of our drivers, we do not pick up anything that is not inside the can. Remember to have your cans out by 7:00 AM, and don't rely on "the usual time" the truck comes by. With road maintenance, construction, utility work, etc., trucks can come earlier than you expect! Please keep cans at least 3 feet apart and 6 feet from vehicles and other objects so the truck can access your can.

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.



WATERCHECK
A USU EXTENSION PROGRAM

The Extension Office for Utah State University and the Center for Water-Efficient Landscaping provide FREE water checks here in Iron County. Now you may ask what exactly is a water check? A water check evaluates the efficiency of your automated sprinkler system and provides customized irrigation schedules. They also provide information on smart water use, drought, and water-wise and native plants you can utilize to help preserve our water resources. If you would like to take advantage of this FREE service, visit the Extension Office's website at <https://cwel.usu.edu/watercheck> and fill out the online signup form.



CEDAR/ENOCH TRANSPORTATION & ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLANS

Cedar City has been working in conjunction with Enoch City, Iron County, and Avenue Consultants to produce a regional transportation and active transportation master plan. Throughout the planning process we have received hundreds of comments from the public. We are grateful for those members of the public that have contributed to the planning process. We are in the home stretch and there is a draft of the plan available for public inspection. Please visit the draft plan on line at www.cedarenochplan.com. Public comments are still welcome through the web page.



Coal Creek

RENOVATED

Cedar City

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Coal Creek project will replace and widen the existing bridge structure over I-15. A 6-ft sidewalk will be included on the north side of the bridge for pedestrians. A roundabout will also be constructed at Kitty Hawk and Bulldog.

DETOUR INFORMATION

Construction will begin as early as June 14th and Coal Creek Road will be closed that day. In order to accommodate the bridge demolition, I-15 will be closed for 2 nights starting *approximately* June 21 from 9 pm to 6 am.

Construction work will take place Sunday through Thursday nights from 10 pm to 7 am and Monday through Thursday 7 am to 5 pm. Construction is anticipated be completed by the end of the year. Detour routes are indicated on the map to the right.



PROJECT SCHEDULE





(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

All of our City employees play vital roles in how our city functions and operates. We especially take pride when they are recognized outside the City realm for their outstanding work and dedication. I would personally like to recognize one of these stellar employees, Laurie Smith. She was recently presented with an award for the “Best Lab Director In The State of Utah in 2020”. She was nominated by Wastewater Superintendent, Eric Bonzo, for the Water Environmental Association of Utah (WEAU) lab and lab director of the year for the state of Utah.

The testing that is required by the state is a very intense process that must be regulated to ensure quality standards. These testing procedures entail specifically detailed actions and close monitoring of various meters and levels of contaminants. On a daily basis, Laurie performs multiple tests that include bacteria analysis, chlorine residual testing and checking for coliform & E-Coli. It is critical to maintain these levels and quality standards to protect our citizens and our City.

Laurie was chosen over 33 other wastewater treatment facilities in the state for this award. The Cedar City Regional Water Reclamation Facility (CCRWF) is a National Environmental Laboratories Accreditation Conference Certified Lab, which enables Laurie to run certified lab analysis in-house on all required parameters set forth by the Utah Division of Water Quality to meet the facilities discharge permit requirements. She is a huge contributor in keeping our City waste water as clean as possible and I appreciate the many things she has done for our City. Thank you, Laurie, for your dedication and drive for excellence you provide for our community!

We had a tremendous turnout for the Gapyeong Monument Stone dedication last month, where the Stone was unveiled, revealing the inscribed words, “We honor, respect and remember our heroes.” Over 250 people were in attendance to be part of this very special event that marked the 70th anniversary to the day of the Korean War battle known as the “Miracle at Gapyeong”. It was especially moving for myself and those in attendance to pay homage to the soldiers that fought valiantly during this battle, and returned home with no loss of life.

We also presented a bronze plaque, honoring the many contributions that were made by the late Sunny Lee, who played a very important role in organizing this event. She spent countless years strengthening the bonds with Cedar City and our Sister City, Gapyeong, South Korea. Sunny was very excited to have this special gift come to our City and the ongoing connection it has with members of our community. I am so grateful for the opportunity to dedicate this one-of-a-kind gift to her and want to thank her family for being there to support her life-long dream.

I would especially like to offer my deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who have served and continue to serve our great country and the freedoms that they have given us. Also, thank you to our Events Department, City employees, and the many people that helped make this event possible. We truly live in the greatest city in America.

The 2021 Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games (USG) are returning to Cedar City! There are many events they have planned this year. Having already completed 3 events, and 43 to go, we anticipate a lot of excitement in Cedar City in the month of June. The USG Block Party will be on Friday, June 18th from 3:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at SUU next to the America First Event Center, located at 800 W. 100 S. Cedar City, UT. The Block Party is a community event that will include Utah Summer Games Sponsors, vendors, interactive booths, live music, food trucks etc.

The Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games Opening Ceremony will be on Friday, June 18th at the Eccles Coliseum on the campus of Southern Utah University. The Eccles Coliseum gates will open at 7:30 p.m. with the main event from 8:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. Come see the Parade of Athletes, SUU Aviation Fly-over, various entertainment acts, headliner concert by the band Boogie Nights, the traditional lighting of the Torch and of course Fireworks! To purchase tickets for the Opening Ceremony please visit the Utah Summer Games website at www.utahsummergames.org/opening-ceremonies. If you would like to see a full list of events or to register for an event in the 2021 Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games please visit our website at www.utahsummergames.org or call the Utah Summer Games office at (435)865-8421. You can stay up to date on information regarding the Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games by following the social media accounts on Facebook @Larry H. Miller Utah Summer Games and on Instagram @lhmutahsummergames.

LET THE GAMES BEGIN!!

The Utah Shakespeare Festival is gearing up for a season that is sure to surpass all others. This year will be the 60th Anniversary for the Festival and they are dedicating this entire season to the Festival’s founder, Fred C. Adams, who passed away in February 2020. They are planning a diverse program to include 8 plays: *Pericles*, *Richard III*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Ragtime*, *Cymbeline*, *Intimate Apparel* and *The Comedy of Terrors*. You can experience more of the Festival by attending The Greenshow for FREE prior to the main performance. This is a 30-minute show with dancing, music and a lot of laughter. This year, they have an online brochure filled with information on each play. For more information on performances, theater locations, and times, or if you would like to purchase tickets, visit www.bard.org or call (435)586-7878 or 1(800) PLAYTIX (or 752-9849).