

# PROVIDENCE CITY NEWSLETTER

## Upcoming Events

### City Council

3rd Wednesday

March 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00PM

### Planning Commission

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday

March 10 @ 6:00PM

### Justice Court

From 4:00PM - 6:00PM

*Every Monday, except holidays*

*Open court hearings have been suspended until further notice. Check with the court clerk for questions.*

## Contact Information

Providence City Offices  
164 North Gateway Drive  
(435) 752-9441

### \*\* After-Hours Emergencies \* \*

Fire or police emergencies - 911  
Animal control 435-753-7555  
(Cache County non-emergency dispatch)  
City related issues 752-9441; after hours message will have an on-call number to call a city employee who will respond.

### Direct line to the Mayor

(435) 760-8989 cell

[johnmd@providence.utah.gov](mailto:johnmd@providence.utah.gov)

Link to Subscribe to

Public Notices:

<https://www.utah.gov/pmnl/>

Public Meeting Notice (PMN) website for all Utah jurisdictions

## The Mayor's Memo

### Welcome to Spring?

We've had a relatively mild winter and as I write this (March 1) we are experiencing spring-like conditions and rapid snow-melt. Delightful mid 40s - 50s for the next two weeks is expected. It's time to get your indoor seeds started for the garden planting in a couple months. Some garden vegetables are best started in cool weather, even when some snow is still expected (peas, snap peas, onions, spinach, lettuce).

At springtime, our city staff is hard at work preparing for starting up recreation programs (see page 2) including wiffle ball, a new city sport. And as usual, we can use volunteers to help out.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Two of our council members are on a mission to create a greater sense of community in

Providence. Carrie Kirk and Kristina Eck have been working to organize volunteers to serve on committees that put on regular events each year (see page 2).

### City Recorder

Skarlet Bankhead who has been our city recorder for 26 years will be giving up her role to focus on land use planning. The volume of new development has been exceptionally demanding on city staff to review, evaluate and return to developers. Some of this development includes property petitioned to be annexed in to the city from the county. A number of development petitions include a request to rezone, mostly to higher densities.

As always, we must ensure new development follows city code. Ultimately, new development is approved by the city council.

John Drew, Providence City Mayor

## Provo Fiber Project - From Crisis to Success

As plans for a fiber network in Providence proceed, the city staff has been asked a number of questions about Provo City's earlier fiber project struggles (2004 - 2008). **I reached out to Provo City officials** directly, as Paul Harvey would say, for "The rest of the story."

About 17 years ago, the city of Provo, Utah was a pioneer and began to install fiber to the homes throughout the city. Because their project was one of the first in Utah, there were many challenges in the beginning. Outsiders were critical, wondering why anyone would need to have more bandwidth and some even lobbied to get laws changed.

Think back 17 years ago at how you were accessing the internet. Dialup was common, and movies were picked up at the local **Blockbuster Video** store. Today, we watch movies, attend church and school, and many work remotely using the internet. The world and our data usage have changed. Can you imagine going back to dial-up?

**After struggling to make it viable**, the City of Provo decided in 2008 to sell their network to Google Fiber for \$1. In exchange, Google upgraded all of the connection equipment (not the fiber which is still good) and city residents got fiber internet service free for 7 years to 10 years.

"Provo has reaped huge economic benefits from having a fiber network."

I was told that Provo residents have had nearly zero problems with their fiber service since they brought Google in. Two Provo city employees from that time-period now work and direct UTOPIA, which did have its challenges initially but is now doing well.

Today Provo City officials tell me the city fiber network is still functioning well. **Provo City has become a hotspot and technology company incubator for new startups that feed Silicon Slopes in Utah County as well as the state.** As a result,

Provo has reaped huge economic benefits from having a fiber network. City officials and residents cannot imagine going back to copper based cable service. When asked if they would do it again, without hesitation the answer was yes.

For answers to questions, please check out our webpage for details about the Providence City Fiber Network: <http://providencecity.com/fiber/>. If you have other questions about Providence's Fiber project, you can contact any member of the city council. Also, you are welcome to send your questions to [ProvidenceCityUtah@gmail.com](mailto:ProvidenceCityUtah@gmail.com).

— Ryan Snow, City Manager

## City Office Administration

### **Business Licenses and Dog Licenses**

If you haven't already done so, please remember to renew your business and dog licenses.

- Business License Renewal: 2021 business license renewals were due January 1. A late fee went into effect on March 1. Home business: \$25 license fee, \$25 late fee, total due \$50. Commercial business: \$50 license fee, \$50 late fee, total due \$100.
- Dog License Renewal: All 2020 dog licenses in Providence City expired on December 31. Late fees applied on February 1. Along with your renewal, please provide a proof of rabies vaccination. Spayed/neutered: \$15 license fee, \$10 late fee, total due \$25 Unaltered: \$25 license fee, \$10 late fee, total due \$35.

### **Competitive Youth Baseball**

PCL (Providence City Comp League) is a competitive baseball league for youth teams, for players age 8 – 14 years-old. **Registration closes March 12.** Teams can register online at [providence.sportsites.com/player](http://providence.sportsites.com/player). Please visit [providencacity.com/baseball/](http://providencacity.com/baseball/) for more information.

### **Recreation Youth Baseball, Softball, and Kickball**

Registration for youth baseball, softball, T-ball, and kickball is now through April 16. Register online at [providence.sportsites.com/player](http://providence.sportsites.com/player). Please visit [providencacity.com/baseball/](http://providencacity.com/baseball/) for more information.

If you are willing to be a volunteer coach for these programs, please contact the City Office, 435-752-9441, or email: [volunteerprovidencacity@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerprovidencacity@gmail.com). Thank you in advance for your support!

### **Recreation Wiffle Ball**

Providence City will offer recreation youth and adult Wiffle ball this year. Watch the City's website and future newsletters for more information.

### **Now Hiring for the Following Positions**

- City Recorder (full-time, with benefits)
- Umpires (seasonal)
- Fun In The Sun Directors (seasonal)
- Applications and job descriptions are available on our website, <http://www.providencacity.com/jobs-available.htm>.

— Skarlet Bankhead, Administrative Services Director

## Public Works

### **Green Waste**

We are anticipating the large green waste bins to be delivered to the City Public Works Facility on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please do not place any green waste on the ground before the bins are in place.

Curbside green waste pick up will begin the week of March 22<sup>nd</sup> and our collection day will remain on Wednesday.

**The City is no longer providing curbside branch pickup.** Green waste bins will be available for use at the Public Works facility. The green waste dumpsters are provided and serviced by Logan City. Providence City will continue to work with Logan City to have these bins for our residents. There have been problems with contamination and Logan City is looking for ways to remedy this problem, so please help do your part so that we can continue with this service.

Just as a reminder, the following list is what is **ALLOWED** to be put in the bins or your curbside green waste container; grass, leaves that are **NOT** bagged, garden waste, clean hay & straw, shrubs, branches and non-invasive weeds. Branches cannot be over 6' in length or 12" in diameter. If your items are not included in this list, then do not use the green waste dumpsters.

The green waste bins are for city resident use; they are not for landscaping companies to use. If you see this type of violation, please report it to the Public Works office, 435-753-0313.

We will have **garbage and scrap metal dumpsters** at the public works facility sometime in April for 2 weeks. Check the city website, watch the newsletter and sign up for the Providence Pipeline for notification.

— Rob Stapley, Public Works Director

## Volunteer Opportunities

**We are on a mission to create a greater sense of community in Providence.** We need help! Following is what we are currently working toward and we are hoping to form citizens committees to help.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** The Easter Egg Hunt is a new tradition for Providence. If you'd be willing to help the Youth Council execute this event please let us know.

**Car Show:** The car show has become a nice tradition in Providence. We are planning to grow it to a larger city celebration. We could always use help.

**Christmas Tree Lighting:** We will also be looking for a committee to help us refine and grow the Tree Lighting Ceremony and Charity Event. We have lots of ideas and a couple successful years under our belt, but we would really love to have a citizen committee help in the execution. There is so much potential.

**Concerts in the Park:** We believe that taking the opportunity to gather creates a sense of community. We would like to see a few concerts take place each summer. If you have ideas, contacts or if you'd be willing to serve on a committee to make these concerts successful this is another volunteer need we are looking to fill.

**Youth Council:** We have an AWESOME youth council of high school students. They are so fun to work with! It is our vision to have 4-5 advisors work with the council so no one person needs to do any heavy lifting. The youth council helps execute each of the above events and plans other fun service activities though the year. They have about one activity per month.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in working with us on these community events or to volunteer in any way we would appreciate the help. If you have questions or ideas please reach out. We are looking forward to a great future!

— Carrie Kirk and Kristina Eck, Providence City Council —

435-757-1444 and 435-757-7259

# Why a Fiber Network is the Best Choice for Internet Service

**More than a dozen** forward looking communities in Utah have had a track record of success with local fiber networks to provide a premium, reliable, ultra-high-speed (super highway) internet service.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic with quarantines, shutdowns, and social distancing, internet usage has increased exponentially.

We have seen dramatic increases in:

- distance education/learning
- remote work environments/telecommuting
- social media
- video conferencing
- tele-health
- voice over internet protocol (VOIP)
- digital payments
- online shopping

As more family members are staying home using internet connected devices, scaling the internet service to accommodate this usage requires more bandwidth and speed than ever before. Building the necessary infrastructure is key to our citizens' success, for their children's education, business ventures, communication, and entertainment.

## *Fiber Infrastructure*

Fiber cable is made of glass fibers using light to transport data versus copper cable which transmits data using electrical current. Signals over fiber move at the speed of light.

Satellite and wireless services use radio signals and are subject to interference from other radio signals and naturally occurring phenomenon in the air. Fiber installation protects the connection from outside interference, including weather conditions, moisture, fire and other electronic or radio signals.

Signals over cable copper lines degrade the further from the source. Signals using a fiber connection are the same regardless of distance.

## *Speed is Great, as Long as There is a Reliable Connection*

*Not all internet connections are created equal.* Fiber network design is such that customers are not sharing bandwidth with neighbors, offering a consistent, reliable experience. Network speed and reliability is not impacted by other fiber users.

Our fiber network will offer 250 Mbps and 1 Gbps speeds, along with a basic service with limited capability at 5 Mbps. Additionally, the fiber network will be capable of providing speeds beyond 1 Gbps if/when the citizens deem it necessary.

## *Supports Multiple Users*

A fiber network, coupled with high-quality WiFi and in-home networking supports multiple users in the home on multiple devices all at once for the same cost. There's no need to ration usage for certain activities during certain times.

A family of four can max out a copper connection quite easily with little more than a movie marathon and a popular online game, but fiber

Gbps service supports far more data simultaneously, making it possible to stream music in the kitchen, a 4K video in the living room and a game in the kids' rooms without a hiccup or slowdown.

Video chats, gaming, distance learning, streaming videos, social media, homework, music; a 2 hour HD video could be downloaded in 25 seconds, whereas, with copper, the same download could take 30 minutes or more. Video buffering goes away with fiber.

## *4K Streaming Media Devices*

HD TV is being upgraded to 4K. Gbps speeds allow for 4K streaming, which requires much more bandwidth (about five times as much) as a regular high-definition stream.

With our fiber network, new media formats such as 360-degree video and Virtual Reality (VR) can be deployed to provide ever-increasing user engagement and enhanced experience.

## *Symmetrical Download and Upload Speeds*

Older copper wire has dramatically different download and upload speeds. The upload speed is still a small fraction of the download speed. With the fiber network, download and upload speeds are the same, which is called, "symmetrical bandwidth." Why is that important? Today, more so than ever, users are backing up their data to the cloud in the background, operating apps in the cloud and uploading data intensive files of photographs.

Live streaming such as video conferencing, online education, and online gaming

— activities that require a device to continuously upload and send data to a server and to recipients' devices — will need good upload speeds. And all the other times? Users with large file transfers along with cloud storage and backup solutions. Working from home will be increasingly reliant on upload speeds, particularly for communication and collaboration tools used to connect with business peers.

## *Data Backup*

*In the past*, backing up data has been to local storage, like external hard drives, especially for data-heavy uses like videos. With the move to fiber speeds, expect more cloud capability for services and data backups that can be accessed anywhere, anytime.

## *Local Support*

For assistance, service personnel will all be local, here in Utah, not an offshore call center. Field technicians will be located in Cache Valley for greater efficiency and customer service.

You should know the city staff is committed to managing and rolling out the fiber project throughout the city in responsible and respectful manner, and will hold our contractors who perform the installations to a high standard.

We encourage further questions and a civilized dialog on our fiber project as it rolls out.

— John Drew, Mayor. Contributing to this article; Rick Hughes, Technical Advisory Committee; Kathleen Alder, Planning Commission; Jeanell Seally, City Council

For more detailed information see fiber network terms at [providencecity.com/fiber](https://providencecity.com/fiber) under [Fiber Basics](#) see [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#), and [Glossary of Fiber-related](#)

## Pioneer Home Undergoing Repair and Restoration

# Maddison-Luthy Home

John and Valérie Luthy purchased the historic home and property at 104 West, 100 North (southwest corner of 100 North and 100 West) in 2019 with the intent to repair and restore the home. This is one of the original pioneer homes built by Providence settler John Maddison.

For a walking tour of Providence City historic homes, <http://providenceuthistory.com>.

This was submitted by the Luthys:

John Francis Maddison was among the first settlers of Providence. He arrived in the spring of 1859. In October 1860, he married Emily Hemming. John was the first justice of the peace and second postmaster in Providence. Emily was the first school teacher in Providence and the first professional candy maker in Cache Valley. In April 1876, John married Emma Dell. Emma had one son and one daughter who lived to maturity. Emma died in 1884, and Emily raised Emma's young children.

In about 1875, John built the home located at 104 West 100 North, which John, Emily, and Emma then lived in. The home was made of stone and then covered with stucco in the early twentieth century. The home remained in the Maddison family until the fall of 2019, when John and Valérie Luthy purchased it from Gary and Michael Hanson, great-grandsons of the Maddisons.

John Luthy is a native of Cache Valley. Valérie is French. The Luthys met in Salt Lake City, have two children, Élodie and Adrian, and lived for a time in South Carolina. They are now happy to be restoring, and adding onto, the Maddison home, with the help of Peck Brothers Construction. Among other things, the Luthys are using St. Astier lime imported from France to authentically repair and restore the old stone walls. They hope through their restoration of the Maddison home to honor the heritage of the Maddisons and other Providence pioneers who laid the foundation for the community we enjoy today.

— John Luthy



The John Francis Maddison House, 100 North and 100 West

## Planning and Zoning Commission

### Common Terms, Phrases and Acronyms

In this and in future monthly Providence City Newsletters, the Planning Commission will discuss terms, phrases, and acronyms that are used in the Planning Commission's normal course of business.

Although these terms, phrases, and acronyms may not be familiar to the average person, they are, no less, important to understand and may help you comprehend the work of the Providence Planning Commission.

#### *Townhouse vs. Condominium*

This month we will help you to understand the often-misunderstood differences between a townhome (or townhouse) and a condominium.

Simply put, with a townhome you own the interior, exterior and the land on which the home sits. With a condominium, you own the interior of that space, wall-to-wall, floor to ceiling

Generally speaking, condominium and townhome owners contribute to a HomeOwner's Association (HOA) that covers necessary upkeep outside of the owner's unit. HOAs will be covered in a future discussion.



—Bob Perry, Providence City Planning Commission

## Providence Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 27 - Von Baer Park

Two Groups; Noon and 1:00PM

Come have some fun! There will be lots of great prizes as well as an opportunity to meet and get your picture with the Easter Bunny!

There will be two groups limited to 100 children ages 1-12 at each hunt so sign up early.

Advance sign up required:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e48a8ac22a4fb6-providence1>

**Register now to hold your spot!**

— Carrie Kirk, Providence City Council