

# PROVIDENCE CITY NEWSLETTER

## Upcoming Events

### City Council

3rd Wednesday

September 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00PM

### Planning Commission

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday second meeting as needed

September 23 @ 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

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

[www.providencecity.com](http://www.providencecity.com)

## The Mayor's Memo

### Car Show Canceled

Our annual car show has been canceled until next year. We've had a successful run of car show events for the last ten years with an increasing number of participants.

The city staff and volunteers that organized the event said that a number of regular participants were reluctant to sign up this year due to the virus emergency. So we will plan for next year.

### Cache County Fair a Success

The Cache County Fair and Rodeo was held and had better than expected attendance. I was there both Friday and Saturday evenings. In the rodeo stands, people were sitting shoulder-to-shoulder with very few wearing masks.

There were predictions of the fair being a "super spreader" event and a huge spike in positive virus cases.

I personally spoke to the health department director a week and a half after the fair. He said they had not seen any spike in cases or any indication of increase due to the fair being held. He said to the contrary that all indications continue to be positive.

### Cache County Petitions to go Green

Also, the Cache County Council last week asked the County CEO to send a letter petitioning the governor for our county to go to green, which is minimal restrictions. There are currently 10 Utah counties that are following green guidelines. See [coronavirus.utah.gov](http://coronavirus.utah.gov) for more information.

### Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Over last weekend, there was a storyboard display of the existing park facilities. The display was at the Concert in the Park event held at Zollinger Park. Visitors were asked to leave sticky notes with their comments next to city parks as well as general comments.

You can take this survey and add your comments here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/providenceparks>.

### Transportation Master Plan

You should also weigh in on our Transportation Master Plan. We are looking for community input, so please take our survey here, <https://arcg.is/Tn8Xi0>

The City website has links for both surveys. See more details from the City Manager on page 2.

John Drew, Providence City Mayor

## Providence City Celebration

### CONCERT in the Park Friday, September 18 - Bleach Blondes

Join us for a night of fresh air and fantastic music. Bring your own chairs to Zollinger Park Pavilion, music will start at 7:00.

The **Bleach Blondes** are so fun and play a variety of music including pop, rock, country, blues, ballads, oldies, and even one rap song. This concert will have something to please everyone. The band includes Jocelyn Mckee, Jan Richins, Jackie Freeman, Kathi Bischoff, and Karen Campbell. Learn more at: <http://wk77.net/bleachedblondes/>

All social distancing and precautionary actions will be observed.

Come listen and sway with us!!!!!!

### Annual Car Show Will Not Be Held

The much successful annual car show which was scheduled for Saturday, October 10 will not be held. I am told that some of the participants that bring their cars to be entered in the show were concerned about the virus outbreak and prefer it be postponed until next year.

We will be planning for the Car Show next year.

—John Drew, Mayor

## City Office Administration

### *Providence City Youth Council*

We are now accepting applications for the 2020/2021 Youth Council. This is an opportunity for youth in the 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades to acquire a greater knowledge of the community through active participation in community affairs. Applications available on the City website: <http://www.providencecity.com/youth-council.htm>

We are also looking for **youth council advisors**. Generally, the youth council meets twice per month at the Providence City Offices. One meeting is a planning meeting and the other meeting is an activity or guest speaker. In the past, youth council activities have included a visit with the Easter Bunny, packets for storm water education day, city celebration, city tree lighting and visit with Santa. If you enjoy working with youth and serving the community, please contact Council Member Carrie Kirk, 435-757-1444, [ckirk@providence.utah.gov](mailto:ckirk@providence.utah.gov); or email [providencecityyc@gmail.com](mailto:providencecityyc@gmail.com)

### *Concert in the Park – Zollinger Park – Friday, September 18 7:00PM*

*Bleach Blondes* is a talented group of Providence residents that perform various styles including pop, rock, country, blues, ballads, timeless oldies, and one rap.

As you visit our recreation facilities and participate in our programs, please remember to practice the appropriate social distancing guidelines. Also, please help us keep our parks clean and user friendly by putting your trash in the trash cans.

### *OHV Compliance Reminder*

We continue to receive calls about unsupervised OHV operators under the age of 16. Please remember Providence City Code requires operators under the age of 16 have in their possession a Utah OHV Education Certificate for the OHV type they are operating AND are under **adult supervision**. Operators age 15 may substitute a valid Utah Driver Learner's Permit for the adult supervision requirement. **Adult Supervision means: Direct visual supervision by a licensed driver who is at least 18 years of age.**

Please visit [https://providence.municipalcodeonline.com/book?type=ordinances#name=Chapter\\_5-9\\_Off-Highway\\_Vehicles](https://providence.municipalcodeonline.com/book?type=ordinances#name=Chapter_5-9_Off-Highway_Vehicles) for more information.

— Skarlet Bankhead, Administrative Services Administrator

## City Manager

### *Transportation Master Plan, and Citizen Survey*

CRS Engineering is working with us on our Transportation Master Plan. We are looking for community input, so please take our survey here, <https://arcg.is/Tn8Xi0> You can also find links to this survey from the city website and city Facebook page. The council and staff cannot have eyes on every issue throughout the city so we ask that resident use the survey to make sure that the issues they are aware of are inventory, so we can prioritize, and addressed them.

### *Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan, and Citizen Survey*

Providence City is also creating its first **Parks, Trails, and Recreation Continuous Improvement Master Plan**. The citywide effort kicked off in early August and the plan is currently expected to be adopted in mid-November. The city would like to hear from residents on how they feel about and experience their parks, trails, and open space. A public survey and can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/providenceparks>. The survey will be open until 9/11/2020.

The purpose of this plan is to identify and inventory current programs and facilities, provide short and long term guidance to administration, delivery of recreation services, and generate a sustainable and implementable action plan for the maintenance and development of parks, trails, and recreation programs.

### *Wastewater/Sewer Master Plan*

At the August meeting, the council chose to engage Sunrise Engineering to assist in the preparation of the city's **Wastewater/Sewer Master Plan**. More details in the near future.

### *Fiber Network*

The council continues its due diligence in looking at ways to provide a fiber network in Providence. The city has is forming a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that will help look into some of the more technical issues of the possibility of city provided fiber network. If you have interest in service on the committee please contact the City Manager or Mayor to express your desire. The city will also hold various workshops to help answer public questions and get public input as the process moves forward.

As Benjamin Franklin said, "If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail!", and we are working very hard to plan for the future of Providence City so please give us your input.

— Ryan Snow, City Manager

## Public Works

The condition of our streets in Providence always seem to be a hot topic, especially potholes. Our streets department works hard to keep up on the potholes throughout the entire City. With that in mind, here is a little trivia on where the term "**pothole**" comes from.

Pottery makers in 15th and 16th century England would take advantage of the ruts that wagon and coach wheels gouged into roads. Anxious for a cheap source of raw materials for making clay pots, the potters would dig into the deep ruts to reach clay deposits underneath. Teamsters driving wagons and coaches over those roads knew who and what caused these holes and referred to them as "potholes." - Story is attributed to the late trivia expert and syndicated columnist L. M. Boyd

— this was taken from the "Pothole Fact Sheet" on the APWA (American Pubic Works Association) website.

Thank you for your patience through the construction season so far this year. We know that some of our road projects have been an inconvenience but they have been necessary projects to improve our City. We would like to remind you that if you are in the area of any projects, please use caution and please respect the road closed signs. The signs are placed to protect you as our citizens, those working in the area and the project. Thank you again for your patience.

— Rob Stapley, Public Works Director

# Resident Comments

We frequently have notes dropped off, emails with suggestions, comments and questions of city staff. I hope you find this useful and informative.

## *Speed Limits, Stop Signs and Speed Bumps*

I recently attended a meeting of the Cache Metropolitan Planning Organizations (CMPO) which I chair. Every metropolitan area with a population of more than 50,000 persons must have a designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to qualify for federal highway or transit assistance. Our MPO has representatives from the Logan Urbanized area covering Smithfield, Hyde Park, North Logan, Logan, River Heights, Providence, Millville, Nibley, Hyrum and Wellsville as well as portions of Cache County.

A topic presented by UDOT was about setting speed limits. One of the UDOT directors did the presentation and led the discussion. UDOT is continually surveying streets and highways and making adjustments in posted limited as determined appropriate. One guide used is the "85% rule." This states that the speed limit should be set at the speed at which 85% of the vehicles are traveling.

One point UDOT was emphatic about was stop signs and speed bumps are NOT appropriate in attempting to force speeders to slow down, and can worsen the problem. If most vehicles are speeding, then the road was designed for higher speed than posted.

Wider roads make people feel more safe driving at a higher speed. In other words, cities should design roads for the speed you intend to post. Designing roads to control speeds is a long discussion, but one salient point is that wider roads encourage speed. Another is the installation of traffic calming measures are effective in some instances.

Providence City follows the Federal Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices to govern the use of traffic control devices.

## *Fiber Network*

The city council continues to discuss and guide the project to construct a fiber network in Providence. There is much to cover in planning the project and as Council member Carrie Kirk put it, "Its a journey we are undertaking along with our community."

As Ryan our City Manager stated in his comments on the previous page, we will be creating a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to explore and advise on the network specifics. We have two volunteers for the committee at this point; both electronic engineers. We will populate this committee with "subject matter experts" who can delve in to the details.

We would appreciate receiving comments on our fiber network plans. Please contact me or our city manager.

## *Green Waste*

I have gotten a number of questions from residents about the green waste program and if it has been approved.

The county council met on July 27 to discuss and decide on approving an update to the fee schedule to include a green waste program fee. There was discussion about the amount that Logan City residents would pay, and objection to the rest of the county paying a different rate.

I've also had residents ask that if they have a green waste can, that they get a reduced rate on the green waste fee. As I've explained, the fee for the curbside can is for the convenience of having their green

waste picked up at their curb at their home. Part of the fee also covers the recycling portion of the program.

There is a long story to that issue, but there is no solution that will make the fees 100% equitable. For example, it costs Logan City Environment Department more to service Paradise and Avon than Providence, but residents pay the same rates. Ultimately the decision to proceed with the program will be made by both the County Council and Logan City Council; a political decision.

## *Spring Creek Crossings*

The two crossings that will complete and connect the stretches of Spring Creek Parkway should be finished, paved and open for traffic before the end of September. Both crossing projects have experienced unanticipated delays. Spring Creek Parkway has been on our Master Transportation Plan as an open connector road to connect the upper benches for over 20 years.

## *Election Signs - City Code*

This is a general election year, and many races for political office will be hotly contested. Next year is a municipal election year. We regularly get questions and complaints about election signs. Here is what our City Code says about placement of signs.

*10-15-1, Definitions, POLITICAL SIGN:* A sign used on behalf of a candidate for public office or in opposition to or in support of a ballot proposition as defined under section 20A-1-102 UCA. Political signs are considered expressions of freedom of speech. They must be placed on private property and must be placed so they do not obstruct the view of pedestrians or drivers of vehicles (motorized or non-motorized). Depending on the structure, a permit may be required.

*10-15-6E Public Property:* No sign shall be located on or in public property except signs for City sponsored events, regulatory and/or information street signs.

This means signs cannot be placed in the park strip, on the street side of the sidewalk

## *Referendum on the Ballot*

I have received a number of questions about a referendum on the ballot. A bit of history and reference to state code is necessary to explain the referendum status.

In April of 2019, petitioners submitted paperwork asking to gather signatures to put a referendum on the ballot. The referendum was to ask the voters to reverse a unanimous council decision to annex a parcel of property in to the city and assign a mixed residential type zone. The property in question is in the county between Providence and River Heights. Ultimately enough signatures were gathered to qualify for the ballot.

The State Code says that if the referendum petition relates to a council decision made after January 30, and it is a municipal election year, the referendum must be on the ballot for the subsequent municipal election year which would be in 2021. The Code does allow the council to declare a special election, but both the past and current councils have declined to add the referendum to the ballot last year and this year, so it will be on the 2021 municipal election ballot.

As always if you have any questions, please call or drop me or Ryan our City Manager a note.

—John Drew, Mayor

## September is Emergency Preparedness Month

*EMERGENCIES CAN HAPPEN AT ANY TIME, SO BE PREPARED*

September is emergency preparedness month and the Fire Department encourages you to be prepared. Having an emergency plan will not only keep you safer, but make dealing with the incident and the aftermath a whole lot easier. Now is a great time to prepare for the type of emergencies that are likely in our state.

**DISCUSS.** Talk with those in your household to plan and prepare how your household will respond to emergencies that are most likely to happen where you live, learn, work and play. Where are emergency items kept? How will you contact each other if phone lines are tied up or not working? Do you have two places designated to meet if you are not together when the emergency occurs (one close to home and one away in case you can't get home)? If you need to evacuate your home, what is the route and where will you go? Who is responsible for your pets? Does everyone have emergency contacts programed in their phones or written down and kept in a wallet/backpack?

**COLLECT.** Have a kit of basic items that you would need during an emergency in your home and cars. Some items to consider include water, a radio, a flashlight, batteries, a blanket, snacks, a first aid kit, medications, a list of needed medications, a multi-purpose tool, copies of important documents, family and emergency contact information, cash, extra phone chargers and maps.

**LEARN.** What is the emergency plan where you work or at school? Do you know several ways to exit the buildings you are in regularly? Where can you find out if there is an emergency in your area and whether you need to take action? Providence City residents can sign up for emergency alerts via Providence Pipeline Community Alert System. In addition to local TV, radio, web, and social media you can go to emergency information websites and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

## Providence Justice Court

Providence Justice Court has been closed to in-person sessions since March. In the interim, the court has held video arraignment and pre-trial sessions. All court trials have been delayed until the court re-opens.

The State Supreme Court has recently approved the justice courts re-opening in a Yellow risk status. The Utah Court Administrator (UCA) is developing specific procedures for opening and has not set a specific opening date as of today. It is anticipated that the move back to regular in-person hearings will be some time in September and the end of the month at the latest.

—Beth Munson, Justice Court Clerk

## Fiber Workshops for Public Discussion

We are offering to hold workshops to introduce and discuss plans to construct a city-wide fiber infrastructure network. If not already, sign up for the Providence Pipeline and add "Fiber" as a topic for notification. If already signed up, open your account and add "Fiber" to be notified of fiber news and information.

—John Drew, Mayor

## Lets Keep Providence Canyon Clean

*Council Member Carrie Kirk is organizing a cleanup of Providence Canyon. We have had groups in the past that have conducted cleanups, but the effort has not been consistent. Residents have noticed the trash.*

*The canyon is part State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) land and beyond the 2<sup>nd</sup> parking lot is US Forest Service land. The City owns property at the storage reservoir only.*

### Providence Canyon Clean Up Week

Plan to get some fresh air and do some service with your family the week of September 14-19. You may have noticed that Providence Canyon could use some clean up. This year it has had a lot of use and a little abuse. **Working together we can make a real difference.**

We are asking families to pitch in on any date that works for them. You can go to the city office and pick up garbage bags or use your own. Leave the garbage you collect in bags along the canyon road and city crew will collect the bags and take them to the dump a few times during the week. Garbage bags and popsicles will be distributed at the canyon parking lot on Monday **September 14 from 6-7 PM, Tuesday September 15 from 7-8 PM** and Saturday **September 19 from 10-11 AM.**

If you have a group you know will be coming at a time other than those listed above you may contact the city office to schedule Bob Perry, the Forest Protection Officer to join your group and speak to you briefly about the canyon and dealing with the trash you will find. **Your help is needed and appreciated!**



Early Intervention

## We are offering FREE evaluations!

The Up To 3 Early Intervention program is a home-based service program which provides services to promote the development of children under the age of 3 with developmental delays or disabilities of various kinds. These services include Behavior services, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Feeding and Nutrition, Speech and Language, Physical Therapy, Occupation Therapy, and Vision and Hearing Services. We are located in the Center for Persons with Disabilities at Utah State University.

Do you have concerns about your child? We can help. Please contact us at 435-797-3727 or visit our website at [Upto3.org](http://Upto3.org)

**UtahStateUniversity**  
CENTER FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

