



**WEST JORDAN
HIGHLIGHTS**
Week ending August 29, 2014



Dear Mayor and City Council:

The excitement started last Saturday when Mayor Rolfe, Councilmember Haaga, Representative Earl Tanner, West Jordan Hospital CEO Steve Anderson, IT Manager Michael Oliver and I participated in Fire Ops 101. Our West Jordan firefighters were on hand with several other agencies that we cooperate with to show elected and appointed officials the details of their role. After cutting cars apart with rescue equipment, performing CPR on a mannequin for five minutes straight, and crawling into a dark structure with a fire going inside, we had a much better idea why these professionals are so darn buff. It was very helpful to see what tools they use, how they use them, and why it takes so many to respond to an emergency in order to ensure safety and maximum performance when seconds count. No one expected to see our dept. in response mode, but a minor situation that could have turned very bad, sent everyone into high alert for a minute. What could have turned Council Member Haaga and a few others into burnt marshmallows ended without serious incident thanks goodness.

Mr. Scott Brown from Salt Lake Community College stopped by to introduce himself as the new Director of Government Relations. We will be looking for opportunities to partner with the college in ways that will benefit both organizations.

We were saddened to hear that Fairchild will be relocating chip manufacturing overseas in one to two years. Our staff is already beating the bushes looking to find a firm that will fit in this facility and keep jobs in our city.

Staff met with our two lobby groups this week to evaluate progress and plan for meetings with legislators in the coming months. Efforts for road project funding and changes to state law that prevents auto dealerships from coming to West Jordan are both high priorities. And finally, staff has begun meeting to evaluate compensation issues per Council direction. We will continue an aggressive schedule and report on our progress to keep you up to speed.

Other amazing accomplishments by our staff this past week include:

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The 2014-15 budget book is so close to being released that anxious readers are lining up at the door. It will be online Tuesday Sept. 2 and available in hardback very soon.

We received word that the Government Finance Officers Association has once again awarded the City of West Jordan the Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the CAFR. If you think that a CAFR is just a young bull then think again. It really stands for something that finance staff makes for the rest of us to read intently and say "Interesting!" (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report).

HR staff is hard at work shucking lettuce for our Employee Recognition Lunch next Wednesday from 11:30-1:00. We look forward to seeing our staff swing by for a lot of recognition and a little lunch.

PARKS

Biggest soccer tournament in the state was held at the Utah Youth sports complex. Parks staff did a wonderful job in making all of the tournaments held at the complex a complete success.

FIRE

Last Thursday the Deputy Fire Marshal helped conduct a fire drill for those at the West Jordan Senior Center. With the new director these will occur on a more regular basis.

Our Firefighters don't just save lives they help finish projects according to Captain Mike Powell. On August 26th crews were dispatched to a fainting. On arrival they found a patient who became light headed and had passed out while finishing concrete. After assessing the patient Medic 52 decided to transport the patient to the hospital. The concrete that the patient had been working on was unfinished so Engineer Skip Taylor went to work and within minutes had the concrete looking great. He then cleaned up the materials and washed all the tools. The next shift back the patient stopped by with donuts thanking us for our quick response and especially for finishing his concrete. Way to go Skip!!

Engine 52 and Medic Ambulance 52, Medic Ambulance 53 responded to report of an unexpected childbirth at a resident's home. We were met at the door by the mother of a newborn baby girl. She was holding the infant in her arms and the cord was still attached. Mother advised us that the child was a full-term delivery with no complications. The mother sat down on her stairs and we carefully cut the umbilical cord. We immediately suctioned the baby's airway, dried and stimulated the new born until she began to cry. The surprised father arrived and we congratulated him on the new addition to his family. We then transported both mother and baby to Jordan Valley Hospital where we admitted both directly to the Labor and Delivery team.

Units from West Jordan, South Jordan, Unified Fire Authority, and Sandy fire departments responded to a structure fire at 1457 W. Twin Oaks Drive. The fire started and was contained to the kitchen of the home. No injuries occurred to either occupants or firefighters. Cause of the fire was determined to be an unattended toaster being used to cook a frozen pancake. Damage to home is estimated at \$30,000.

Units from West Jordan, Unified Fire Authority, West Valley, and South Jordan responded to a commercial building fire at 6147 So. Airport Road. First arriving units reported heavy smoke conditions coming from the second story window. Fire hoses were quickly deployed into the structure and an aggressive fire attack brought the fire under control within 20 minutes. Damage to the business is estimated at \$250,000.

POLICE

Officers responded to a hit and run on Jordan Landing Blvd. On arrival they found the suspect had wrecked his car into a fence and fled on foot. He was found in a nearby neighborhood trying to kick the door in at a stranger's home. When officers attempted to take the suspect into custody he resisted, and assaulted several officers. He admitted to officers he was extremely high, and told officers he had used methamphetamine, marijuana, and bath salts. He was charged with DUI, attempted residential burglary, and assaulting police officers.

Officers were dispatched on a theft from Lowes. A witness had followed the suspects to a home in Kearns. When officers arrived the suspects tried to run and hide. While making the arrests officers observed narcotics in the home and a bomb with a timer going. The house was evacuated and the bomb squad was called. The device was determined to be a fake. The suspects all had active warrants from other crimes; they were booked into jail on the warrants and numerous new charges.

A family called at 11:00 pm reporting their twelve year old son was missing. He left home to go to the skate park at 1:00 and hadn't been heard from since. Officers searched and investigated all night. Using cell phone records to see who the child had been talking to earlier in the day eventually allowed officers to locate the boy at a friend's home. The boy told police he told his mother he was sleeping over at this friend's home, but the mother didn't recall.

This week officers made several arrests when checking on suspicious people during the night. One suspect had just done a beer run in Taylorsville, one had just done a residential burglary in West Jordan, and another was wanted for several robberies and fleeing the police.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

Code Enforcement attended a Salt Lake County District Attorney sponsored training on Environmental Crimes.

The vehicle lease agreement was negotiated, finalized, and approved by City Council Wednesday.

City Council approved prosecution's proposed Specialized Domestic Violence Unit Wednesday.

Darien Alcorn obtained summary judgment in the City's favor in the eminent domain action regarding the 2700 West project.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Issued a Request for Professional services for the redesign of the 70-acre "Big Bend" Habitat area located along the Jordan River. The selected firm will design 3 concept plans and cost estimates for the City Council to review and select one for construction. Activities may include the development of wetlands, a bird/habitat sanctuary, elevated walking trails with a river/habitat viewing and education station and an urban/river fishery. Proposals are due on Thursday September 18, 2014.

Submitted a request for funding under the National Park Service RTCA program for continued assistance in the development of the “Big Bend” Habitat area. The RTCA program has been instrumental in the past development of the Jordan River Trail connection between 8300 S and 9000 S, development of the 8600 S Neighborhood connector trail and the proposed Gardner TRAX station connector trail.

Received consultant proposals for urban design services for Redwood Road Corridor. The proposals include services for streetscape, traffic, and transit planning.

The Board of Adjustment held a public hearing on August 26th and voted favorably to grant a variance at 8730 South Newell Drive to allow construction of a 2-car garage on a corner lot.

The City Council held a public hearing on August 27th and approved in a 7-0 vote a Text Amendment to the West Jordan Municipal Code to allow Planned Center signs.

Issued a Temporary Occupancy Permit for Boeing’s first phase of construction/remodeling.

PUBLIC WORKS



Fire Station 54 construction: Masonry is well under way

The wastewater maintenance crews dedicated themselves to the task of 1:00 a.m. work to clean portions of the sewer system that cannot be serviced during the day. Over 12,000 feet of main line sewer was serviced with proper traffic control being utilized.

Oversaw the successful reconstruction of the first of three sewer diversion manholes at 9000 South 4200 West. This ongoing project will save over 400 man hours annually, and will greatly reduce the risks involved with operating the sewer main in this busy road.

Crews responded quickly to a sewer main blockage due to asphalt paving operation at 8984 South 1075 West. The blockage was cleared and flow to the mainline was restored before the mainline flows backed up into homes at this location. Good communication between Public Works departments resulted in a fast response by the wastewater operations crew.