

Heber City News

OCTOBER 2016

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MCDONALD

As Mayor of Heber City, I would like to thank all those who attended and supported the City's Farmers Market this summer. There were record crowds that attended this year's market. This City event has brought our community together with live entertainment, great food, and an opportunity to meet your neighbors. I would like to thank City staff and all the volunteers for pulling off another very successful summer at the park.

September is recognized as National Preparedness month, which serves as a reminder that we all must take action to prepare, now and throughout the year, for the types of emergencies that could affect us where we live, work and visit. This year I would like to put an emphasis on preparedness for the elderly, people with disabilities and other special needs. The City and County is sponsoring their annual CERT training program starting in September and will continue until November. The program can teach and help you prepare on what to do during an emergency. My challenge to the citizens of Heber is to have at least one member of every house hold go through the CERT training program. All you need to do is to go down to the new public safety building to sign up for these free classes.

Here are a few easy steps to start your emergency communication plan:

1-Understand how to receive emergency alerts and warnings.

The City and the County have a local emergency notification phone and email system. Please register your family in both of these systems. You can register online for the City emergency notification system at <http://www.ci.heber.ut.us/news/documents/Community%20Messenger.html>.

The County emergency notification system registration is at www.wasatch.utah.gov/EmergencyNotification.

2- Discuss family/household plans for disasters that may affect your area and plan where to go: Plan together in advance so that everyone in the household understands where to go for each type of disaster whether it's wildfire, flood, earthquake or snowstorm.

3- Collect information: Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family: Phone

numbers, email, social media, medical facilities, doctors, service providers, and schools.

4- Pick an emergency meeting place. Pick a safe place for your family to meet in an emergency; it can be in your neighborhood, outside your neighborhood, or outside of your city.

5- Share information. Make sure everyone carries a copy of your emergency plan in his or her backpack, purse, or wallet.

6- Practice your Plan. Have regular household meetings to review your emergency plans, communication plans and meeting places after a disaster, and then practice, just like you would a fire drill.

In an emergency, every second counts – that's why it's crucial to have an emergency plan and I encourage every family to develop a family game plan. Different types of disasters and emergencies happen in communities across the country, but there are key steps that every household can take to be better prepared for them. Be sure to take time this month to create a disaster plan including a home fire escape plan. With emergency preparedness, there is always more that can be done but it has been good to see the progress we have made within our city over the past few years.

--Mayor McDonald

FORM BASED CODE PUBLIC HEARING

As you may be aware, over the past several months Heber City has been reviewing a new zoning map and new zoning ordinance to replace the current zoning map and zoning ordinance. If the proposed changes are enacted, most properties in the city will have a new zoning designation.

The City Council will host a Public Hearing on October 12, 2016 at 6pm in the Wasatch County Senior Citizen Center located at 465 East 1200 South to solicit public input on the revised draft of the form based code. This new draft is available on the city's website at <http://ci.heber.ut.us/departments/planning/formbasedcodes/index.html>, or a hard copy can be viewed at the Planning Department at 75 North Main Street. All members of the public are invited to attend the public hearing and comment on the proposed zoning map and ordinance.



In a separate future meeting(s), date to be determined, the City Council will discuss the public hearing comments and objections, and vote whether or not to adopt the proposed Form Based Zoning Map and Zoning Ordinance as proposed or with further modification.

COUNCILMAN CRITTENDEN'S ARGUMENTS AGAINST FORM BASED CODE

I appreciate Mayor McDonald making available to the council a turn at addressing our citizens via this newsletter. I had planned to comment on the important issues regarding our City's **airport expansion, population growth and main street traffic**; but another issue that I now realize is **more important right now** for the City's future is the decision to implement, **or not**, the Form Based Code [FBC]. Therefore, I will write about the FBC because the biggest **problem about FBC is that many of you are not aware nor paying attention to it, any more than I did prior to being elected!**

Form Based Code [FBC] was promoted to the City prior to 2016 as a way to have our city be more wonderful and beautiful with a more pleasing & 'proper look' or **form** (as determined by a few) with which aesthetics, architectural style and materials would be allowed, or **not allowed** for constructions and even streets etc. under the new form of zoning. This concept was accepted by the City Council, who agreed to pay **\$110,000.00 to promoters of the FBC**, plus City Staff time and expenses, to institute the FBC into our City zoning.

As soon as I heard about it I googled 'Form Based Code' and was shocked at the information that came up, including about the 'model' cities that had received accolades for their development in conformity with this **nationally and internationally promoted agenda** of moving their people and city infrastructure away from the use of cars and giving 'equal footing/consideration' to the use of bikes and walking. I was bewildered at **how our City of mostly conservative, limited government, freedom loving people could ever support this** – if they understood it. How had I, along with most the rest of you, missed this movement. **How could we know so little about an agenda funded at this level?**

So why is Ron Crittenden against the implementation of the Form Base Zoning Code? :

>First of all, it is a major zone change which transfers private property rights over to the whims of the group. Much of the code mandates upon each individual, business and even public buildings and streets the 'subjective'

preferences of the code. It dictates what types of building, sidewalk & driveway widths, house siding (**no vinyl or aluminum allowed**) etc. that you may have on your property.

>The **costs** of this 'new look' are **astronomical!** Consider the cost to provide staff to implement, manage, review & approve what you're allowed to build. Consider the costs imposed on most architects, builders, developers etc., in both time and money, to be trained to conform to this required 'form'. The **increased cost to build** has been **estimated**, by one of the consultants, **at 30%**.

>I've been told that if this code is applied to our whole City, the City's 65 miles of road will need to be brought into conformity (in segments from 1 to 40 years) at a **cost of many \$millions**. This cost would be in addition to the maintenance cost we now fund for the existing roads. At the present rate of property tax collection this funding may require a huge tax increase (maybe in the magnitude of 70% per year for 40-50 years. If this figure is not accurate I renew my request for the consultants to provide their cost estimates to implement, manage and build city infrastructure to the FBC standards.

Well, I'm out of space so **PLEASE** pay close attention to the **mailing from the City - for the rest of the story**. Then come **tell us how you feel** about the City adopting this code.

Thanks for being a part of our 'already great City',

- Councilman Ron Crittenden

CEMETERY CLEAN UP NOTICE



Heber City Cemetery will be conducting a clean-up beginning **on Monday, November 7, 2015**. The clean-up will last approximately four days. We ask that any decorations that visitors wish to save be removed before the scheduled clean-up. All decorations left will be discarded; this includes all floral decorations, baskets, shepherd hooks, solar lights, pin wheels, etc. If you have any questions please feel free to call the Parks & Cemetery Department at 654-3952.

