



HEBER CITY NEWS

November 2011



MAYOR'S MESSAGE by Mayor Dave Phillips

I have been reviewing the feedback from city residents via the Heber City survey that was sent out with the water bill a few months ago. Survey feedback is always interesting to me. Some people are pleased with certain city functions and others are not. In any event, the feedback was pretty specific (both good and bad). Elected officials always like to hear the good, and that's the understatement in this article. Looking at what might be considered "the bad or negative" by some, it is very apparent to me that we've got our work cut out for ourselves on improving city services. In saying this, I throw out the "variables" that are always factored in on surveys and I am just going with what I'm reading (for instance, one respondent remarked 'Plowing of roads is non-existent' and we know that was not an accurate statement; but point taken!) In no particular order, I would mention a few of the categories for this message.

#1. Code enforcement. This is surely an area in which we need to improve, and one I will be discussing in the near future with the City Council. Trashy yards, junked vehicles and other debris, weeds that are knee-high and other clutter you can describe in many ways, all need to be addressed. This includes weeds around the police station and city buildings as well. We need to do a better job about enforcing ordinances already on the books. Experience has shown us that a high percentage of residents come into voluntary compliance when approached on this issue by the City.

#2. Snow removal. I was a little surprised by the comments received on this subject because I believe our staff does a fairly good job on removing snow, given the miles of road covered and the amount of staff and equipment. However, I pledge to watch this closer this winter. I know our Public Works director has an excellent plan for snow removal as I've reviewed it with him. It's important to push snow on certain streets and thoroughfares

first, and not all the neighborhood roads are reached initially. I will speak more on this subject in the near future (hopefully not the too near future).

We appreciate those who took their time to complete this initial survey. I think it's clear we need more and better feedback from the people we represent. The City gets criticized for not seeking feedback, then on a survey like this it gets criticized FOR asking for feedback. I know one thing; we're going to take a look at the fire hydrant described by one citizen as being broken. Thanks for listing an address with the feedback on the survey. Best wishes to all of our citizens as we roll into the Fall season. Please remember to vote on November 8th!

SHOP WITH A COP PROGRAM

Each December, the local Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge sponsors pre-selected needy children by taking them to Walmart to pick out toys and gifts for Christmas. The success of this program has always been dependent on the good will and participation of our local citizens and businesses. On Saturday, December 3rd, FOP Shop with a Cop program will match area children with local law enforcement officers for a holiday breakfast at the Hub Café. The officers and children will then drive to Walmart and circle the parking lot with lights and sirens as they wait for Santa to arrive in a military HMMV before they start to shop. Monetary donations are welcome and will greatly assist this effort. Please make checks payable to: F.O.P. Heber City Lodge #30, 301 South Main Street, Heber City, UT, 84032, by November 15th. If you have questions, please call the Police Department at 435-654-3040.



EARLY VOTING

The General Election for three City Council seats will be November 8, 2011. Early voting will be held in the Heber City Office Building, 75 North Main Street, from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on the following days: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 25, 26, 27, and 28 and Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, November 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Candidates include: Jeffery M. Bradshaw, Jerry K. Duke, Nile D. Horner, Robert L. Patterson, Erik Rowland and Tracy Taylor.

COMMUNITY DIAPER DRIVE

Timpanogos Regional Hospital is donating diapers to benefit families in Utah, Wasatch and Summit Counties. For every click made on the website www.timpanogosregionalhospital.com, the hospital will donate six diapers to Community Action Services and Food Bank, and Welcome Baby. Clicks can be made daily throughout November and there is no cost to participate.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT NEWS

Building permits are required by State law and are to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the property owner and the public at large. The fees collected from permits cover all of the expenses of the Building Department and are to provide for the review and inspection of the built environment around us. Currently any residential stand alone structure, such as a shed or garage that is 200 square feet or larger in size, is required to be built under a permit. Any structures attached to the main building (home/business) are required to have building permits. The construction of decks, additions, carports, etc., all impact the safety of people who use them and are required to have building permits. If you have any questions, please feel free to call our office at 435-654-6330 and we will gladly help.



FROM POLICE CHIEF RHOADES

As we move into the winter and holiday seasons, please remember if you have sidewalks in front of your residence, you are required to keep them clear of snow. We would like the children and other pedestrians of the community to be able to walk on the sidewalks instead of the streets. When it snows, your vehicles need to be off the streets so they can be cleared, and if vehicles are left on the sides of the streets, they may be towed so they do not hamper the snow removal efforts of Public Works.

It is also illegal for homeowners to push the snow off their property into the street. Leaving the snow on the streets creates a hazard and could cause an accident or injury, which you may be responsible for. Also, if you move all your snow to the streets, it can fill up the areas needed by Public Works to push the snow when clearing the streets.

With the holidays coming, remember to keep your vehicles locked. If you do have items or packages in your vehicle, try to keep them out of sight by putting them in the trunk or covering them with something. Have a great holiday season and please be safe.

BYU VS. UNIVERSITY OF UTAH FOOD DRIVE

From November 12th through the 26th, BYU and the University of Utah will help collect food and money for local food banks and pantries. Food can be donated on either campus or at Community Action Services and Food Bank in Provo. Food donations can also be made at the Holiday Food Drive drop sites at Jiffy Lube locations in Utah and Salt Lake Counties. Monetary donations can also be made at www.alumni.byu.edu or at www.alumni.utah.edu. Help support a great cause this holiday season by making a donation today.

AFFORDABLE HOMES IN WHEELER PARK

Buy a new home with only a \$163,000 mortgage! Utah Housing Corporation has partnered with Wasatch County Housing Authority to construct three well-built affordable homes. Square footage ranges from 2,108 – 2,812 per home. Amenities include: Two car garages, central air conditioning, rock and stucco exteriors, and full sprinklers and sod. Eligible buyers must qualify based on household size and gross annual income. Call Gary McDonald for more information at 435-657-3337.