



PROVIDENCE CITY NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

City Council

3rd Wednesday
April 21st @ 6:00PM

Planning Commission

2nd Wednesday
April 14 @ 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

Link to Subscribe to

Public Notices:

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

Public Meeting Notice (PMN)
website for all Utah jurisdictions

The Mayor's Memo

BRHD Best Run Utah Health Department

I attended the County Council meeting on Tuesday, March 22 where the Bear River Health Department (BRHD) Director Lloyd Berentzen gave his annual report. He made several very interesting points. First, he said Utah has had one of the lowest Covid death rates per 100,000 of any state; the bottom 5 ranking. He then said Cache County has the lowest Covid death rate of any Utah County.

He mentioned that he and his staff recently traveled to Salt Lake to the Lt Governor's office. Lloyd said the staff told them that they had visited every local health department in Utah, and concluded that BRHD was the best run Utah health department.

Cache Valley Economy

Myself and Ryan Snow our City Manager did a presentation to the bond rating agency, Standard and Poors Global. This was in preparation for issuing bonds to fund the fiber network project.

A segment of the presentation included the state of the economy in Providence and Cache County. One of the concerns of the rating agency is the current and future impact of the Covid virus on the economy and our ability to service the bonds. As such, a discussion of the state of our local

economy was a key element of this discussion.

Sales Tax Revenues Not Impacted

Despite the lockdowns, quarantines and business interruptions, city sales tax revenue only showed one month (April 2020) with a 1% drop in tax revenue year over year. All other months showed increases.

Year on year from 2020 back to 2015 showed growing annual sales tax revenue increases for Providence City over previous years.

Unemployment Rate Remains Positive

Despite the impact on employers, the unemployment rate in Cache Valley never went above 2.9% in 2020. The rate had been on a downward trajectory since 2015 at 3.1% down to 2.2% in 2019. Compare that to the State of Utah at 3.6% in 2020 and total US at 6.7%.

Providence Median Income Highest in Cache Valley

The median income (middle of all household earnings) in Providence for 2019 was at \$80,697 vs. Cache County at \$59,038 vs. Utah at \$71,621 and the US at \$62,843. The Census Bureau does not have 2020 data at this time. Providence median income is the highest of any city in Cache Valley.

We are blessed to live in this amazing place.

John Drew, Providence City Mayor

Why Does the City License Businesses?

One of the interesting facts about Providence is that we have a relatively large entrepreneurial segment of our community. **You might be surprised to know that approximately 10% of homes have a business license.** This does not include businesses not required to be licensed that have little or no impact outside the home.

By state code we may not license businesses that are (state code 10-1-203) operated by someone under 18, operated only occasionally or have no "disproportionate costs" to the city, and also stated as having a "material off site impact" in our city code PCC 3-4-5(G).

Being curious, I asked the question of the city staff as to why we license businesses. More importantly, when we do license a business, what is the expectation when the city has done so? Are we vouching for the quality of the product or service? The character of the individuals operating the business?

The primary reason the city regulates businesses has to do with zoning. In a residential neighborhood, a thriving home business can cause

impacts on traffic, parking and noise. What constitutes "Material Off Site Impacts" is defined in Providence City Code (PCC) 3-1-1, and other nuisances are prohibited in PCC 3-4-5(G).

For example, six customers per day or more is considered a "Material Off Site Impact" for a home business. The types of businesses allowed are also regulated in residential zones in PCC 10-6-1. For example, an auto repair shop is not allowed in residential zones, but a barber shop is allowed if it meets certain conditions.

Because the City requires most businesses to register, we can then approve or deny those businesses based on their compliance with the zoning code.

For residential business owners in the city, I have a question. What can city government do to help promote you and your business? I'm open to suggestions and ideas.

— John Drew, Mayor with contributions from
Jesse Bardsley, Office Specialist

City Office Administration

Recreation Youth Baseball, Softball, and Kickball

Registration for youth baseball, softball, T-ball, and kickball now through April 16. Register online at providence.sportsites.com/player. Please visit providencecity.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: volunteerprovidencecity@gmail.com. Thank you in advance for your support!

Pickleball

We are planning to offer clinics/lessons, ladder leagues, and a tournament this year. Please check our website often for more information <http://providencecity.com/pickleball/>

Fun in the Sun

This program is a favorite for children ages 4-11. Your child will be able to participate in games, crafts, stories, songs, educational activities & field trips. Come join us for some **FUN IN THE SUN!!!!**

- Registration April 1 – May 14 at providence.sportsite.com/player
- For more information visit <http://providencecity.com/other-recreation/>

Games are beginning (weather permitting)

- The youth competitive baseball league on April 5.
- Rocky Mountain School of Baseball (Super League) on April 17
- South Cache Soccer, for schedules visit <https://southcachesoccer.com/>

Coming in May

The 100-Mile Club and the Exercise Club begin May 1. No registration required. Tracking sheets available at <http://providencecity.com/other-recreation/>

Help keep waterways clean

As you are doing your outdoor spring-cleaning, please remember to check the waterways (ditches and gutters) near your property. Clean waterways allow for irrigation and storm water to move freely and safely. Unfortunately leaves and other debris seem to often find their way into the waterways. Your help by regularly checking and maintaining waterways on and/or near your property is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for helping us keep Providence a great place to live.

Before you build

Are you thinking of building a pool, fence, shed, or detached garage or shop? You will need a zoning clearance and you may need a building permit. You will also need to know where your property lines are. For more information please visit <http://providencecity.com/community-development-2/>

— Skarlet Bankhead, Administrative Services Director

Join us for Wiffle Ball

Providence City is offering a new youth and adult program. We will be offering youth Wiffle ball in the summer, running approximately from the first part of July to middle of August. The adult Wiffle ball will run approximately from the middle of August to the end of September. Wiffle ball is a fun and exciting spin off of baseball where Wiffle ball is played in a much more relaxed setting.

- All games will be played on the field located on the North West corner of Zollinger Park.
- League registration for all ages will begin April 12th and go until June 11th.

We encourage youth leagues to register as a team with a minimum of 5 players and a suggested maximum of 7 or 8, we also will accept individual sign ups. Youth ages break down will be 3rd-4th, 5th-7th, 8th-10th, and 11th-12th grades. Registration will be \$245 per team and \$35 per individual. League commissioner will place players signed up individually with other individual sign ups. Nights of the week will be determined by league registration.

We encourage adult leagues to register as a team with a minimum of 5 players and a suggested maximum of 7 or 8, we also will accept individual sign ups. Adult ages are 18 and up. Registration will be \$245 per team and \$35 per individual. Nights of the week will be determined by league registration.

Stay tuned for more information or feel free to call the city office and ask for Sheyler Gunnell with any questions regarding this program.

— Sheyler Gunnell, Athletic Field and Recreation Coordinator

Public Works

Spring Cleanup

The green waste bins are now at the Public Works Facility (350 E Center) and available for use. If the green waste bins are full, please come back later and do not deposit anything onto the ground.

Logan City does offer a green waste curb side pickup. The charge is \$5.00/month and the can is picked up every Wednesday. The season begins the end of March and runs through mid-November. If you are interested in this service, please contact Logan City at 435.716.7955.

We have requested from Logan City one garbage dumpster for spring cleanup. Watch for the dumpster around the 16th of April and it will be here for 2 weeks. Please do not place garbage on the ground if the dumpster is full and **tires are not allowed.**

There will also be a dumpster at the Public Works Facility for metal items. *Just as a reminder, the City will no longer be picking up branches, please use the green waste bins at the Public Works Facility.*

Water Meters

We will be reading water meters April 15th. Please make sure your **entire** water meter lid is accessible.

Public Works office, 435-753-0313.

— Rob Stapley, Public Works Director

Major Streets Project Planned / Fiber Network Corner

Streets Maintenance, Repair and Replacement 2021

We are proceeding with year four of our 5-year plan for streets maintenance/repair/replace. The previous three years we have spent most of our streets funds on maintaining good streets to extend their life. This year we have selected a number of streets, mostly in the downtown area for extensive repairs. Next year we will return to our maintenance program as we have the previous three years.

In the November City newsletter, we commented about plans for major streets projects in the downtown area. Since then, we have had a lot of discussions and field surveys to determine the possible extent of the project. As a result of our review, we will likely be doing much more than originally planned. The streets selected are beyond the usual repair/patch maintenance.

This will involve doing a “partial” rebuild where we will be removing the top layer of asphalt, patching as needed, grading and shaping, and compacting the underlying base and sub-base, and putting down a fresh 3” layer of asphalt. A complete rebuild would involve removing and replacing the existing base. This “mill and fill” process is more cost effective and allows us to accomplish more with budget funds.

We have engaged Sunrise Engineering to prepare bid documents expected to go out the first part of April to prospective bidders. Once we receive bids, we will know the project scope based on budgeted funds available. Streets affected will be listed in the June newsletter.

Five-Year Streets Plan

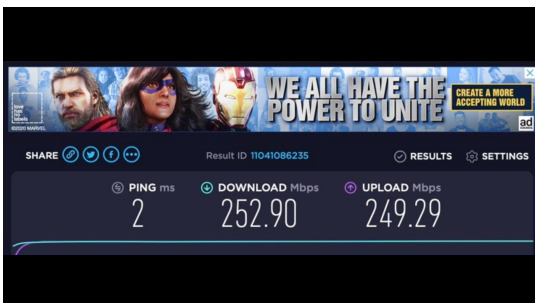
In October of 2017 we engaged the USU Local Technical Advisory Program (LTAP) of the School of Civil Engineering to survey all city streets. Their report recommended a 5-year program which emphasized spending budget funds to preserve good streets to extend their life, and to delay reconstruction (replacement) of bad roads. In 2018 we began the first year of the 5-year plan. See <http://providencecity.com/public-works/> under Reports to view this report.

Coordination with Fiber Project

Our public works department will be coordinating roads projects with the Strata Networks field crew. The “micro trenching” (1 ¼” to 2” wide) to install fiber conduit that goes down about 16 inches will precede the “mill and fill” and other streets projects.

Fiber Speed at the City Office

A few months ago the City office had a fiber connection installed. Last week I ran a speedtest (speedtest.net) on my office computer and took a screenshot of the result. Clearly, we are getting what we pay for, 250 Mbps fiber service with comparable download and upload (symmetrical) speeds.



The Fiber Network Corner

Now that our fiber network project is moving forward and on schedule, we will devote this section of the monthly newsletter to keeping you updated on the status and upcoming events.

Network Buildout

We are expecting that buildout for the fiber network will take 3 years. Every residence will receive a baseline internet connection at 5 Mbps for \$10 as part of their monthly utility bill as approved by the City Council.

Pre-registration for fiber service beyond the baseline 5 Mbps is at <https://providence.fibertomycity.com/>. The interest level for 250 Mbps and 1 Gigabit service will help us determine which part of the city will be constructed first, by zone. There are 5 zones. See the link above to find your zone. As of today (March 30) we have over 250 commitments in less than a week.

The faster speed tiers (internet connection only) will cost a residence approximately \$65 for 250 Mbps and \$75 for 1 Gigabit depending on the Internet Service Provider (ISP) you chose. These ISPs will also offer phone and content packages (Netflix, Hulu, Disney, ESPN, etc.). All requests for service and programming will be through the ISP you select. At this point, we have 5 ISPs interested in being on our network.

Service Billing

Your utility bill will reflect the level of fiber service. Access to the level of service (Basic - 5 Mbps, Standard - 250 Mbps, Premium - 1 Gig) will be reflected on your utility bill.

You will also receive a bill from the ISP if you have service above Baseline level. See the example below. Some Internet Service Providers will be more. This does not include phone service or video programming.

	Basic 5 Mbps	Standard 250 MBPS	Premium 1 Gigabit
City Utility Charge	10	32	38
Internet Service Provider (approximate)	0	33	37
Total Cost (estimated)	\$10	\$65	\$75

Basic Service

If you think the basic service at 5 Mbps is of little use, Netflix says otherwise. Visit the Netflix link here: <https://help.netflix.com/en/node/306>. It says at 5 Mbps you can stream High Definition (HD) videos (and other services). At \$10 a month on your utility bill, it's a screaming deal. You will still have to pay Netflix \$13.99 a month, and you may need a TV set box (Apple, Roku, etc.).

If you have multiple points of access in your home you should consider at least the 250 Mbps service.

— Ryan Snow, City Manager

Long-Term City Employee Announces Retirement

Beth Munson, City Treasurer, Court Clerk and Crossing Guard Supervisor



Beth Munson, City Treasurer and Justice Court Clerk recently announced she planned to retire effective April 15 after 20 years of service.

Beth started with Providence City in 2001 as a part-time court clerk in 2001 under Mayor Alma Leonhardt. Initially she worked for the justice court with Judge Vail, and then Judge Funk in 2014. If you've had any dealings with our Justice Court (maybe you are glad you haven't) you may have encountered a helpful, friendly Beth.

Shortly after being hired part-time, Beth took on additional administrative tasks and went to full time. In 2009, she took on the job of City Treasurer being responsible for ensuring City funds are safe, liquid and provide a fair return.

Beth and her husband Brian have sold their home in Millville which was their residence for over 30 years and where their 3 children grew up. They are building a home in Arizona.

Beth tells us she has lots of good memories working for the City with lots of good people.

—John Drew, Mayor

Easter Egg Hunt a Smashing Success

Youth Council Organized Event Attracts a Large Crowd of Youngsters

The Easter Egg Hunt organized by the Youth Council on Saturday, March 27, and held at Von Bear Park was a huge success. Comments from parents and children were very positive. Many said that they were looking forward to returning next year. One parent commented that it was the most successful City event she had ever attended.

One-hundred children signed up for the noon event and 100 for the 1:00 PM event.

There was more than enough space in the park and plenty of great hiding spots for those golden eggs. Everyone seemed to have a great time, including the Easter Bunny who spent his time getting his picture taken with the cute Providence children.



— Carrie Kirk, Providence City Council

Planning and Zoning Commission

Common Terms, Phrases and Acronyms

As introduced in last month's newsletter, 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 important to understand and may help you comprehend the work of the Providence Planning Commission.

Home Owners Associations

What does **HOA** stand for? HOA is an acronym for "Home Owner's Association." A HOA is a governing organization in a subdivision within a community. The HOA makes and enforces rules for the properties and its residents. People who purchase property within a HOA in most cases, become HOA dues paying members. Some HOAs can be restrictive and some not so restrictive.

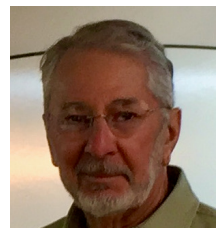
In most instances, the HOA owns the streets and common areas and is responsible for maintenance, upkeep and eventual major repairs and replacement. In some HOAs, the development operates recreational facilities and related amenities such as swimming pools, club houses, pickball courts, playground equipment, etc.

Fees collected by a HOA are used to pay for common area maintenance, and/or upkeep of facilities like a clubhouse, parking areas, swimming pool, tennis courts, and trash and snow removal.

Generally speaking a HOA is formed to enhance real estate values, cleanliness, repairs, and condition of the HOA area. A HOA has board members that are normally volunteers who live within the HOA area. A well working HOA and its board members can reach a consensus with everyone within the HOA area when making decision. Some guidelines of HOAs may include, but are not limited to, type of fencing and color, type of pets if any, installation of solar panels, and vehicle-parking guidelines.

Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions

Another acronym associated with a HOA is CC&Rs. CC&R stands for Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions. Basically, CC&Rs describe the requirements and limitations of what you can and cannot do with your HOA property. The goal of a well-written CC&R is to protect, preserve, and enhance property values within the HOA.



—Bob Perry, Providence City Planning Commission

Events Calendar

Date	Event	Location
Saturday, June 12	Concert - 8 Track Mind	Zollinger Park
Friday, July 16	Concert - Down Yonder	Zollinger Park
Friday, Aug 20	Movie in the Park	Vons Park
Saturday, Sept 18	Concert - Bleached Blonds	Zollinger Park
Saturday, Oct 9	Concert - Denovo & Car Show	Zollinger Park

Put these dates on your calendar; more details in future newsletters.