



Cottonwood Heights, UT | October 2022 | FREE

BETWEEN THE CANYONS

The official newsletter of Cottonwood Heights | ch.utah.gov

Y2 Analytics: See how we're responding to feedback

Council member Doug Petersen



The mayor and city council members are constantly working to better serve the residents of our city and to help improve our community.

Every couple of years, we contract with survey company Y2 Analytics to help us see how we are doing and learn what is important to you and what concerns you have. Here are some of the results from the data collected:

General health of the city

Overall, residents are happy with the way the city is being run, with 80 percent saying they approve of the mayor and council. The average quality-of-life score was 82 out of 100, and two-thirds say their tax dollars are being put to good use.

Our residents' major concerns are focused on

traffic, growth, and water management. Additionally, as is the case on the Wasatch Front, housing availability has emerged as a top concern.

City services

Residents remain most satisfied with fire and emergency management systems, garbage collection, drinking water, recreation programs, city parks and open spaces, emergency preparedness and city events.

City parks and open spaces

Preserving neighborhood views and a more walkable city are major concerns, along with high-density housing, traffic, and increased housing costs. Residents want to ensure there is a place in the community for their children and grandchildren to live.

The results of the Y2 Analytics survey help us to focus not only on the many positive elements of our city but also the challenges we face moving forward.

We are working earnestly to preserve the many positive aspects of Cottonwood Heights. We hope

See how we're responding continued on page 3

CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

UPCOMING TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS

OCTOBER 4

- CENTRAL WASATCH COMMISSION
- HILLSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PRESENTATION
- UDOT LITTLE COTTONWOOD CANYON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT PRESENTATION
- BIG COTTONWOOD CANYON TRAIL PROJECT BID
- MIDVALLEY ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
- UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY PRESENTATION
- POLICE AND PUBLIC WORKS REPORTS
- UTAH DIVISION OF ARTS AND MUSEUMS (UDAM) GRANT

OCTOBER 18

- LOBBYISTS' REPORT
- SENSITIVE LANDS EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS (SLEDS) ORDINANCE UPDATE
- FOCUS SURVEY DISCUSSION
- PROJECT PRIORITIES DISCUSSION (CONTINUED)
- BUDGET ADJUSTMENT
- MIDVALLEY ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN APPROVAL
- FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FINANCE REPORTS

TO FIND FULL AGENDAS, VISIT CH.UTAH.GOV

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EVENTS CALENDAR

- **OCT. 28:** MONSTER MASH AT COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS REC CENTER
- **OCT. 30:** TRUNK OR TREAT IN THE CITY HALL PARKING LOT
- **NOV. 28:** LIGHT THE HEIGHTS AT CITY HALL

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT CH.UTAH.GOV AND CLICK **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**



MONSTER MASH

Friday, October 28, 2022
5 - 7 P.M.
CH REC CENTER - 7500 S. 2700 E.

Free activities for age 12 and under include carnival games and ice skating!
Scales and Tails is bringing snakes, lizards and spiders, oh MY!

 COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS
PARKS & RECREATION SERVICE AREA

See how we're responding *continued from cover*

to have good news soon on the Hillside Plaza and Doverhill Drive properties, city-wide high-speed fiber, and progress reports on Ferguson Park and Antczak Park. I know that many have had the opportunity to use the new roundabout, and I hope

your experience has been as positive as mine.

As one of your city representatives, I appreciate those who reach out with concerns. With the city staff's help and with thoughtful communication, most times we can help.

Every resident is a vital part of why Cottonwood Heights is a wonderful place to live. The kind neighbors and way so many thoughtfully and considerately help each other are just two reasons why we love our city. ■

Cottonwood Heights' statement on the Little Cottonwood Canyon EIS alternative

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) released its final environmental impact statement (EIS) on August 31, identifying 'Gondola B with phasing' as the preferred alternative to improve transportation in Little Cottonwood Canyon. While this recommendation has major implications for multiple cities and jurisdictions in Salt Lake County, Cottonwood Heights is likely the community most directly impacted, and the potential negative implications for residential neighborhoods near Wasatch Blvd. are daunting.

At the September 20 city council work session, the city council expressed disappointment in the decision and the negative consequences some aspects of UDOT's recommendation will create for Cottonwood Heights. The mayor and city council deliberated and identified a number of concerns and issues to be included in the city's position and submitted to UDOT officials as part of the current public comment period.

Throughout the years-long EIS process, Cottonwood Heights has consistently opposed any gondola alternative, issuing a public letter in September 2021 stating this opposition because of the direct impacts on traffic and adjacent residential city neighborhoods, particularly those along Wasatch Blvd. In March 2022, the city council unanimously adopted a resolution supporting a 35-mph maximum speed road design on Wasatch Blvd. Cottonwood Heights continues to oppose the Gondola B option in any form.

The city supports a phased approach to canyon transit solutions that includes creating carpool/transit hubs and snow sheds, tolling, and creatively prioritizing buses throughout the Salt Lake Valley, reducing vehicular traffic on Wasatch Blvd. and city streets during peak traffic periods and facilitating viable transit options for Big and Little Cottonwood Canyon recreationalists year-round.

City leaders recognize the complexity of the EIS and UDOT officials' efforts to review and respond to over 14,000 comments about this critical issue and appreciate the time UDOT officials have taken to meet with city officials and residents to discuss EIS issues and implications. However, there are concerns that this decision, which includes a large gondola station and a 2,500-stall parking structure (nearly double the originally proposed size) in the heart of a Wasatch Blvd. residential area, will be a significant detriment to thousands of city residents.

The public input city officials are preparing will

emphasize the detrimental effects for neighborhood residents and will strongly encourage UDOT officials to work directly with the city to consider practical solutions that mitigate these impacts.

At the September council meeting, the mayor and city council decided to strongly reiterate the previous input points identified in the public letter submitted in 2021. Some of the reemphasized points include safe neighborhood access onto Wasatch Blvd., limited added roadway width (for transit-oriented lanes only), enhanced pedestrian crossings, and reducing speed and noise through effective and collaborative roadway design. Other points of emphasis include considering viewing Wasatch Blvd. as a special character gateway with a unique and contextual boulevard feel in any future road design.

Additional input will focus on the need to keep transit hubs and stations outside of the Wasatch Blvd. EIS study area. Locating a large parking structure so close to the Little Cottonwood Canyon entrance may exacerbate current corridor traffic issues. City officials expressed a need for a more detailed description of the bus-phasing strategy, which should prioritize creative solutions to incentivize ridership and consider tolling and transit priority measures. These items should be de-coupled from the building of the gondola.

It should also consider environmental impacts and encourage tree preservation along the corridor. UDOT officials should consider a year-round plan to use bus investment beyond resort demand. An investment in buses provides this flexibility.

Other critical points will include more deliberate consideration of the local impact to Cottonwood Heights residents. Neighborhood access needs to be a priority, and UDOT officials must address quality of life, safety, noise and neighborhood character when reconsidering this issue.

Local elected officials have also weighed in on the UDOT EIS.

"We have been in constant communication with UDOT officials on this matter and will continue to pursue efforts to enhance safety and minimize impacts to residents living in close proximity to Wasatch Blvd.," said Mayor Mike Weichers.

Cottonwood Heights city council member Ellen Birrell, who represents city district 4, said, "I feel strongly that better bus frequency, including direct service from transit lots within existing, unused parking lots within Salt Lake Valley to both Big and

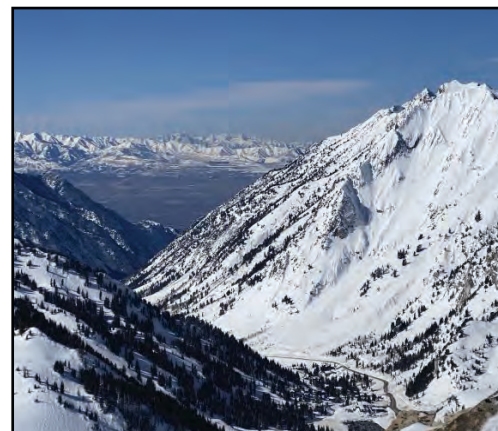


Photo courtesy Little Cottonwood Canyon EIS site

Little Cottonwood Canyons, can be accomplished by repurposing. Our residential 'Bengal/Golden Hills Corridor' includes cyclists, runners, walkers, children, and 11 intersecting local streets. This is no place for a posted speed of 50 mph. UDOT reduces speed limits on their roads through towns and residential areas throughout the state. The problems of SR-210 need immediate improvement, not expansion. A narrow, curving road redesign, including chicanes at the north and south ends with protected pedestrian/bike paths, would signal drivers that they are entering our residential area and to slow down and be cautious."

Representative Gay Lynn Bennion also supports a phased, flexible transportation plan and said, "UDOT plans to enact a toll in both Big and Little Cottonwood Canyon, at least on days with heavy use, to incentivize use of buses and carpooling. With a toll and increased buses from various hubs in the county, we can achieve our goal of less vehicles in the canyons at a greatly reduced cost to taxpayers and to the environment."

Senator Kathleen Riebe expressed concerns with the traffic congestion and said, "Reducing the number of cars that come to the Wasatch Corridor is the answer. I support the county's multi-step approach."

The city will continue specific discussions with UDOT officials on the proposed phasing and substantial Wasatch Blvd. redesign that slows roadway speeds, implements traffic calming measures, and greatly improves safe mobility for all users.

The city will finalize its public comment letter in upcoming weeks and submit it to UDOT officials. Residents interested in submitting comments to UDOT on this matter may submit them at littlecottonwoodeis.udot.utah.gov by October 17. ■

Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and replace them if needed

Assistant fire chief Riley Pilgrim



In August, I encouraged homeowners to implement and practice their home escape plans in the event there was a fire or other emergency in their homes. For October, Unified Fire

Authority is reminding you to check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to ensure they are functioning properly.

With the end of Daylight Savings time coming in November, this is a great time to check and replace batteries in each of your detectors and ensure they are dust-free. Most detectors have an operational life of seven to 10 years, so many manufacturers encourage replacing devices that are 10 years old or older.

Smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, especially at night. You should install them in each bedroom, in areas outside sleeping areas (like hallways), and on each level of your home, including the basement. They are not necessary in kitchens or bathrooms.

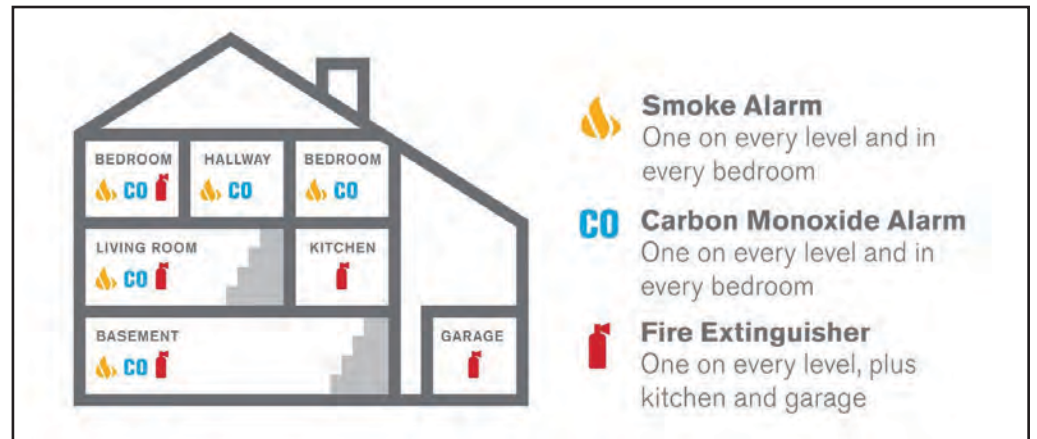
When working appropriately, smoke alarms will alert you to danger. If possible, we strongly encourage you to install dual carbon monoxide/smoke detectors in your home.

This is also a great time to check for fire extinguishers in your kitchens, garages and each level of your home. These are intended to stop small fires or provide enough protection to escape a dangerous situation. We still encourage you to call 911 any time you use an extinguisher so the

fire department can ensure the fire is out.

Similar to smoke detectors, extinguishers also have a lifespan of 10 to 12 years. Since most home extinguishers cannot be tested, it is best to replace them if you believe they have reached that age.

October is a great time to review your escape plan and to check your home for fire preparedness. Please be sure that each member of your family knows what to do in the event of an emergency in your home. ■



Graphic courtesy First Alert

Bengal Boulevard roundabout: See drone photos of the finished project



Pick up leaf bags and drop off bagged leaves beginning October 15

As the temperatures cool down and fall begins, Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District will resume its seasonal fall leaf pickup service. Starting Oct. 15, residents can pick up leaf bags at the following locations:

- **City Hall (2277 E. Bengal Blvd.)**
- **Whitmore Library (2197 E. Ft. Union Blvd.)**
- **Cottonwood Heights Recreation Center (7500 S. 2700 E.)**

Due to limited supplies, WFWRD requests you take only one roll of leaf bags per household and not pick up bags for your neighbors.

Once you fill your bags with leaves, you can take them to Big Cottonwood Park (4400 S. 1300 E.) or Bywater Park (3149 Banbury Rd.) and put them in the designated trailers.

Please do not dump garbage or other items at these or other locations, and do not put leaves and other yard waste in your recycle cans. ■



Have a sustainable Halloween!

Spooky season is among us, and WFWRD wants to give you the tools to succeed with Halloween waste and recycling.

- **Donate decorations like spider web décor, string lights, plastic pumpkins, and yard signs or save them for next year**
- **Put candy wrappers and containers in your trash can, and consider repurposing an old pillowcase or reusable grocery bag for trick-or-treating**
- **Put old pumpkins, fruit and vegetables in your green curbside can; these can't be recycled**

Don't have a green can? Subscribe to WFWRD's green waste collection program at wasatchfrontwaste.org/services-requests/additional-subscription/green-waste. ■

Follow WFWRD on social media

Connect with Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram! WFWRD recently started a video campaign as a new form of educational outreach. Follow along to learn more about things like recycling contamination, the recycling process and end products, and recycling labels. ■



City celebrates solar array completion with ribbon-cutting Sept. 23

Cottonwood Heights officials held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday, Sept. 23, at City Hall to celebrate the completed solar array installed on its rooftop thanks to a grant from Rocky Mountain Power's Blue Sky program. The solar array is designed to offset about 67 percent of the building's annual electricity usage, and the grant received covered \$366,181, or approximately 70 percent, of the project's cost.

The city has adopted a goal of achieving clean, renewable electricity for city operations by 2022 and city-wide by 2032 spurred by residents, students, and nonprofits who asked the Cottonwood Heights city council to support and sign a clean energy resolution in 2019. The solar array helps Cottonwood Heights to achieve this goal.

For more information about the Blue Sky renewable energy program, visit RockyMountainPower.net/BlueSky. ■



Join us this Halloween for a community trunk-or-treat in the City Hall parking lot

Bring your family and friends to the Cottonwood Heights Business Association's annual trunk-or-treat on Monday, Oct. 31, from 3-4:30 p.m. in the City Hall parking lot. Costumes (without masks, please) are encouraged.

Interested in participating in the trunk-or-treat as a local business? Call our new business development specialist Hope Zitting-Goeckeritz at 801-944-7067 or email her at business@ch.utah.gov. ■



City council district 4 town hall meeting Oct. 10

All residents are invited to a town hall meeting from 5:30-7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 10, at City Hall.


Visit the digital archives exhibit at City Hall now until November 15!

October is American Archives Month, and the Cottonwood Heights Historic Committee is celebrating with a historic exhibit about the launch of its online digital archives. Visit City Hall now through Nov. 15 to see the exhibit and get more information about Cottonwood Heights' history, now accessible 24/7 at ch.utah.gov/archive.


The Historic Committee is actively gathering a wealth of historic materials, like photographs and building information, to help tell the stories of the people and places who've grown in our community. By understanding where we have been, we will have a better sense of where we are going.

The digital archives is also a space where the Historic Committee can capture and record history as it is happening. They are building a resource that provides you with online access to oral history interviews with long-time area residents as well as important figures in city government. By maintaining a 21st-century archive, future generations will be able to understand the history of the place, as well as pivotal decisions that have shaped our community.


Our Historic Committee looks forward to working with Cottonwood Heights residents to continue growing the digital archive into something that will have lasting value for the community. They hope you enjoy the exhibit at City Hall and the work the Historic Committee is doing to preserve and provide access to shared community history. ■



Cottonwood Heights Digital Archives



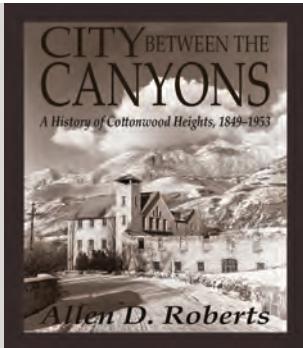
The Cottonwood Heights Historic Committee invites you to learn more about the history of our City by visiting the new Cottonwood Heights Digital Archives! Here you will have 24/7 access to the history of our community from the convenience of your smartphone, computer, or tablet!



Historic Cottonwood Heights Paper Mill

The Historic Committee meets monthly to plan initiatives highlighting Cottonwood Heights' history. Members must demonstrate interest in or knowledge of history and historic preservation.

Interested in joining? Fill out an application now at ch.utah.gov/history to apply for a position.



Buy the book!

Find more community stories in *City Between the Canyons: A History of Cottonwood Heights, 1849-1953*. Buy yours at City Hall for \$20 (3 for \$50) or online at ch.utah.gov/history-book for \$25 (3 for \$59) with shipping. ■

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS

THANKSGIVING DAY 5K

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH
@ 9:00 AM




REGISTER NOW

City council members

MAYOR: Michael Weichers

801-944-7087 | mweichers@ch.utah.gov

DIST# 1: Douglas Petersen

801-944-7089 | dpetersen@ch.utah.gov

DIST# 2: J. Scott Bracken

801-944-7086 | sbracken@ch.utah.gov

DIST# 3: Shawn E. Newell

801-300-3068 | snewell@ch.utah.gov

DIST# 4: Ellen Birrell

385-910-5942 | ebirrell@ch.utah.gov

CITY MANAGER: Tim Tingey

801-944-7010 | tingey@ch.utah.gov

City office

2277 E. Bengal Blvd.

Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121

Phone 801-944-7000

Fax..... 801-944-7005

Numbers to know

Emergency..... 911

Dispatch 840-4000

Fire authority 743-7200

Animal control 944-7100

Justice court 273-9731

Call direct

City manager 944-7010

City planning 944-7065

Public works 944-7000

Recorder 944-7021

Finance director 944-7012

Code enforcement 944-7095

Police administration 944-7100

City council meetings

- **Oct. 4:** Work session at 4 p.m., business meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- **Oct. 18:** Work session at 4 p.m., business meeting at 6:30 p.m.

City council meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Agendas are posted at least 24 hours before public meetings on ch.utah.gov.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission generally holds meetings at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

Editor

Lindsay Wilcox

Canyons School District provides globally competitive education from first grade and up

Did you know that Canyons District has some of the most extensive language immersion offerings in Utah? Ten elementary schools offer dual immersion programs in Spanish, French, or Chinese — and it's nearly time for entering first graders (current kindergarteners) to apply to enroll for the 2023-2024 school year.

Parents and guardians can apply online anytime from Monday, Oct. 3, through Nov. 21, 2022. A lottery will be held to determine entrance into the programs if the number of applicants exceeds the seats available, but any kindergarten-aged student in Utah may apply.

Immersion programs are a great way to challenge students while preparing them

to compete in today's global marketplace. Elementary students spend half the day learning core subjects in English and the other half learning in a target language. The program extends through high school, where students can work to pass an Advanced Placement exam and take college-level courses for early college credit.

Not only is this an efficient and effective path to learning another language, but being multilingual has been shown to improve students' academic performance. The cognitive skills and cultural knowledge immersion students acquire are in high demand by colleges and employers. ■

Want your child to be bilingual?

Apply by Nov. 21 for first-grade enrollment in a Canyons District Dual Language Immersion Program

English and Spanish	English and Mandarin	English and French
Altara Elementary Alta View Elementary Midvale Elementary Midvalley Elementary Silver Mesa Elementary	Draper Elementary Lone Peak Elementary Ridgecrest Elementary	Oak Hollow Elementary Butler Elementary

CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT | canyonsdistrict.org | 801-826-5026

We're hiring an associate planner, police support specialist, and public works operations specialist!

Cottonwood Heights has the following positions open now:

- **As-needed facilities rental assistant (\$14.82 hourly)**
- **Associate planner/sustainability analyst (\$24.05 - \$35.61 hourly)**
- **Police support specialist (\$17.38 to \$25.72 hourly)**
- **Public works operations specialist (\$21.65 - \$28.13 hourly)**
- **Substitute crossing guard (\$19.91**

per crossing)

Full-time employees are eligible for benefits, including medical, dental, and vision insurance, savings accounts, retirement pension, tuition reimbursement, and reduced recreation center memberships.

To learn more about these five open positions and to apply online, visit ch.utah.gov/jobs. For details on the benefits Cottonwood Heights provides, visit ch.utah.gov/benefits. ■

Business spotlight

Twenty & Creek | 2050 E. Creek Road | twentyandcreek.com

Twenty & Creek is the product of Megan Bonham's vision, the design talents of the renowned Fox Group, and the artistic eye of Oxford-trained landscape and floral designer Emily Brooks Wayment. Together the team has created a stunning space built for any event or celebration.

Visit twentyandcreek.com to take a tour and view the venue, perfect for events ranging from corporate meetings and retreats to baby showers and timeless weddings. ■



Shaklee: Make a Difference, LLC | pws.shaklee.com/jackiesciotto

Shaklee has been making healthy happen for 65+ years with personalized nutrition, healthy weight, natural skin care, sports nutrition and green home products. They are building healthier communities and a healthier planet with safe, proven, and guaranteed products.

Owner Jacqueline Sciotto's mission is to help people achieve and maintain a healthier and better life with Shaklee, and she is proud to serve Cottonwood Heights and the surrounding areas. To learn more about the Shaklee Difference, call 614-309-7280 or email jesciotto@gmail.com. ■



Want to spotlight your business or participate in our Love Your Locals campaign, offering Cottonwood Heights residents a discount to shop at area businesses? Email business development specialist Hope Zitting-Goekeritz at business@ch.utah.gov.



City staff welcomed Dynamic Chiropractic with a ribbon-cutting Sept. 15

Get free financial tips from Mountain America Credit Union

Get your overspending under control. No matter what your financial goals are, developing and sticking to a spending plan is the key to achieving them. People tend to have a lot of feelings about money, and these feelings often translate into spending more than we should. So, whether it is the flashy advertisements that you can't resist or maybe an underlying desire to keep up with the neighbors, take the first step to financial freedom by reviewing areas where you're spending too much.

Mountain America offers complimentary, personal, one-on-one financial coaching in their financial guidance hub (macu.com/education/financial-guidance-hub). Businesses interested in helping employees achieve financial wellness can also schedule free financial literacy seminars at macu.com/education/financial-education. ■

