

Wasatch Hollow Community Council

<https://wasatchhollowcc.org/>

Minutes for the meeting of May 22, 2024

Anderson-Foothill Library, 1135 So 2100 E, Salt Lake City, UT 84108

City Council Report

Dan Dugan, District 6 City Council Representative

Street Calming

- Dan has held two meetings open to all of District 6 for anyone with street calming ideas or concerns, and to present a portfolio of solutions that the city has applied.
- The portfolio focuses on inexpensive, rapidly implementable street calming interventions.
- At the most recent such meeting on 05/20/2024, Dan had a conversation with a resident about the intersections of 1500 E with Emerson Ave and Kensington Ave (15th and 15th area), in particular the observation that people seem to roll through the stop signs in that area.
- They discussed a number of options.
 - Large planters in the intersections that turn them into mini-roundabouts (like can be seen farther north on 1500 E in the Yalecrest area) are probably a no-go because of the need for large commercial vehicles to make deliveries to businesses in the area.
 - Curb bump-outs are probably infeasible for the same reason.
 - Ultimately, the decision was made to re-paint the crosswalks at those intersections so they're more visible, maybe using the faux-brick pattern.
 - Also, due to the stop sign serving southbound 1500 E at Emerson Ave being difficult to see, going to install a "Yield to Pedestrians" sign in the middle of the road there.
 - Transportation department going to explore feasibility of rearranging the bus stop and stop signs at that intersection to make the stop sign more visible.
- Several attendees requested the same faux brick crosswalks and yield to pedestrians signs on 1700 S at 1400 E and 1600 E.
 - If you have other ideas for places that could benefit from these interventions, [please contact Dan Dugan](#) so he can relay that to Transportation. If there's a lot of similar projects in a confined area, they can send a crew out for a day to take care of them all.

Budget

- Lots of comments at the city council meeting last night regarding the [reimagined downtown proposal](#).
 - Many of the comments focused on opposing the proposed demolition of Abravanel Hall.
 - Note that Abravanel Hall is a County property, not City.
 - Salt Lake **County** mayor Jenny Wilson has stated that she wants to see Abravanel hall remain as it is.

- More on this in Hannah Barton's update below.
- A small property tax increase (about \$49 per year on a median-value property) to fund municipal water infrastructure improvements.

Office of the Mayor's Report

Hannah Barton, Community Liaison Districts 6 & 7

Budget

- Mayor Mendenhall has proposed the following:
 - To allocate \$2.59m to affordable housing city-wide
 - To prioritize the green loop and Main Street pedestrian promenade projects
 - To double size of "rapid intervention team" interacting with unsheltered population
 - To increase ACE Grant (Arts, Culture, and Events) funding pool from \$200k per year to \$300k per year.
 - Expand funding for UTA On Demand. (Basically an Uber for underserved areas intended as first-mile/last-mile service to get people to other transit options).
 - To provide free bus passes students, guardians, teachers
- There is still one meeting to occur re: the budget if you want to provide feedback: Tuesday June 4th at 7:00 PM at the City and County Building.
- You can also submit comments by e-mail to: council.comments@slcgov.com
- ...or by phone at (801) 535-7654

Parks, Natural Lands, Urban Forestry, and Trails

- There is a vacancy on Parks, Natural Lands, Urban Forestry, and Trails Board (PNUT). The vacancy is for a District 6 resident specifically. Anyone passionate about SLC Open Spaces welcome to apply.
 - No specific qualifications stipulated.

Street Lighting Master Plan

- Public Utilities is working on a master plan for upgrades to street lighting infrastructure.
- Priorities: increase safety, improve visibility for pedestrians, motorcycles, and motorists. Reduce crashes at intersections.
- Also seeking approval from international dark skies initiative.
- There is a survey available. You are invited to respond especially if you feel there is an area that is not adequately lit at night, or is too brightly lit (e.g., too much light coming in your bedroom window!):
 - [Click this link.](#)
 - Alternative, here is the URL:
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e842e2a45c714e2f9af5cee2103b7aa6>

“Golf with a Cop”

- SLC Police Foundation runs “Golf with a Cop” each summer. Free golf clinics for kids at Glendale golf course. Ages 7-17.

Office Hours

- Hannah will hold community office hours at Tulie (1510 S 1500 E) on 06/10/2024 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Abravanel Hall

- Jenny Wilson has expressed support to retain Abravanel Hall, but \$200m of upgrades / refurbishments are needed, which is comparable with the cost of building anew.

Sales Tax Increase

- Legislature passed *permission* for Salt Lake City to increase sales tax on non-food items by 0.5% sales tax in order to fund the downtown entertainment district improvements. The City Council must now decide whether to do that or not to pursue that option.

Smith’s Ballpark

- Salt Lake Bees will be playing at the Smith’s Ballpark through the end of the 2025 season due to construction delays on their new stadium at Daybreak, so plans to redevelop Smith’s Ballpark are on hold.

Hollow Fest Update

Marley Bramble, WHCC Second Vice Chair

- We’re having trouble deciding on a date. Last year we held Hollow Fest in late August. Some attendees felt that it was too hot, as well as some entertainers / booth operators (especially the band).
- Hence this year we would like to do it later in the year and give the event a little bit more of a fall, harvest, or Halloween theme.
- Possible dates:
 - Our plan A was October 12th, but WHCC Chair Taymour Semnani will be out of town.
 - Plan B was October 5th, but that is General Conference weekend.
 - Plan C was September 28th, but WHCC Second Vice Chair and Hollow Fest Organizer Marley Bramble will be out of town.
 - Plan D is October 19th, but there is some concern that the chance of unfavorable weather increases dramatically as we go later into October.

- This year, we want to be sure to include Jolley's and Emigration Market (the festival will still take place at 15th and 15th though).
- Activity / entertainment ideas:
 - Instead of mask painting, maybe see if Harmon's will donate pumpkins for painting.
 - We may try to get professional face painters
 - We may hold a Halloween costume contest for dogs (dress up your pet)
 - We will invite the band back
 - We will invite the balloon animal artist back
 - Public Lands, Fire Dept, Gold Cross, Police will all be there
 - Going to have Smokey the Bear this year
 - Possibility of street performers (stilts and stuff)
- Marley would appreciate referrals to artisans in the community (soap makers, jewelers, etc.) to come have booths.

Open Forum

- Concern in the community that invasive squirrels are taking over, especially that people are feeding them.
 - Any possibility to make it illegal to feed the squirrels?
 - Feeding creates a mess, attracts rats and raccoons.
 - Invasive squirrels are damaging overhead lines (telephone wires and such).
 - Reach out to the Natural History museum to present on invasive squirrels?
 - Health Department might have enforcement power over feeding squirrels?
 - How to abate responsibly? For example, poison is probably a no-go because it might go up the food chain
- Community interested in having the various neighborhood councils organize a debate among the candidates for Utah House District 23 (after the party primaries).
- The community would like to get an update on the status of additional entrances to Wasatch Hollow Nature Preserve
- The community would like to know when the erosion damage to Wasatch Hollow Park from last year's flooding will be repaired.
- The community would like to know if the city will make any effort to revegetate the off-leash dog area?
- The community would like the board to be sure to submit a CIP application this year to try to win funds to better delineate the different use areas of the park.
- Some concern about hooliganism in Wasatch Hollow Nature Preserve. Apparently someone saw a campfire. If you see this, call the fire department non-emergency line.
- Community would like to know whether park rangers regularly patrol Wasatch Hollow Park and Nature Preserve, and whether there is any phone number you can call to request enforcement?
- Community interested in permanent radar speed sign on 1700 S? Targeted traffic enforcement?