2020 Brings Opportunity

This is the year! It is 2020, a milestone year with a catchy name many of us held in our sights as “the future”, and it is now “the present”. For myself and City staff, it is a big year because we see it as one of transition and a time to make big plans.

Our City is guided in large part by our General Plan – a strategic plan combined with goals for planning, economic development and community improvement. We last prepared a General Plan in 2009 and it is time for a rewrite. Many of the goals that once seemed like distant dreams are now on-the-ground realities, such as Downtown SSL, a streetcar, high-quality housing, new residents and homeowners, a vast network of stakeholders working on city issues, and a booming economy. It really is remarkable how far we have come with community support, enthusiasm, investment and participation.

This was a team effort if there ever was one. Residents and businesses worked with city staff to envision a very different future and outline goals to get there. City Council members caught the vision and saw their role in adopting zoning codes and city budgets that would make an impact. My staff and I brought forth ideas and solutions that would make an impact. We harnessed a booming economy to shape the community we want to live, work and play in. We are setting our sights on the next decade and will be kicking off a new General Plan process and encourage you to get involved this year.

Transparency is an absolute must in building the community we want to be. Fortunately, city government is setup to instill transparency and shed light on the conversation every step of the way. This often starts in places like Neighborhood Nights and HOA meetings and progresses through planning commission and city council meetings, and open houses on topics across the spectrum. I am fortunate to work with professionals who can state the facts, give a balanced assessment of the pros and cons, and consider the needs of various stakeholders. Every project and decision has steps where the issues are brought up, debated, and ultimately decided upon, in public. We also work hard to share information – with the press, through social media, our website, in this newsletter, through personal contact, and public noticing. The most important ingredient, still, is you. Citizens need to speak up, listen to the debate, learn about the issues, and help shape the future.

It is a balancing act, for sure. As our society shifts and our city grows, some things simply change. Priorities evolve, markets rise and fall, and there are always curve balls. Not every decision is easy, or a win-win, or even within our control. My commitment is that I am always listening and advocating for you. I am putting our community’s needs first. Our city’s future is ultimately tied to the success of every single person in it. I devote each day to this goal– please join me in making a difference as we plan our future.
High-quality, high-resolution images and documents are required to generate the natural text.
Winter Fire Safety

Did you know that house fires occur more in winter than any other season? The winter season brings with it some additional safety concerns. I would like to share some winter fire safety tips with you. Heating equipment is involved in 1 out of 7 reported house fires. All heating related fires occur during the months of December, January and February. When you are using any portable heating equipment, keep anything that can burn at least 3-feet from any heat source such as fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters. Only plug one heating appliance (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet. Never use an extension cord or power strip, they are only intended for temporary use.

An additional way to help increase safety during the winter is to winterize your home. Installing weather stripping, insulation, and storm windows can help keep the cold out and decrease the need for additional heating devices. You can also insulate water lines that run along exterior walls, clean out gutters and repair roof leaks.

Install carbon monoxide detectors in your home and test them monthly. Additionally, have your heating system professionally serviced to make sure it’s clean and working properly to prevent carbon monoxide emergencies. Above all, regularly check on family and neighbors who could be at risk for cold weather hazards and have a wonderful, safe January.

ASSESS YOUR PREPAREDNESS LEVEL

South Salt Lake Fire will discuss steps you and your family can take to prepare for a disaster in a monthly tip.

Assume that a disaster can happen, don’t think that it won’t. Your survival is 90% psychological, so being mentally and emotionally prepared improves your survivability. Part of preparations should be an assessment of your preparedness level. Taking this initial step, you will have completed the most important stage of preparing yourself and loved ones for an emergency. To begin, assess the condition of fire and carbon monoxide detectors, accessibility and exit ability of doors in your home, amount of stored potable water, non-perishable food and quantity of vital medications. These steps set a baseline to building your level of preparedness.

David P. Romrell Public Safety Building

We will never forget November 24, 2018 when Officer David Romrell lost his life protecting the community of South Salt Lake, or the funeral services on December 5, 2018 when thousands of officers from around our nation came to show respect. Those were days of loss, pain, honor and tribute as we said goodbye to our brother in blue.

As we entered into the year 2019, we knew that we would be honoring Officer Romrell, as we traveled to Washington D.C. to attend National Police Week, to see David’s name placed on the National Law Enforcement Memorial Wall. The year continued as David was recognized on the Utah Fallen Officers Memorial wall on the West lawn of our State Capitol, and as he was posthumously awarded and recognized several other times throughout the year.

We continued honoring Officer Romrell as we wore his “end of watch” patch on our right uniform shoulder, closest to the badge and to our hearts, serving as a reminder to our community of David’s sacrifice.

David’s locker was converted into a memorial in the men’s locker room, forever assigning locker #15 to him. This reminds us that David will forever be with us.

We dedicated an “end of watch” car by wrapping it with the thin blue line flag and David’s E.O.W. date. We had it driven in the 4th of July parade in honor of David.

And as the year came to an end, we recognized Officer David P. Romrell a year from the day he was taken from us, with the rebranding of the South Salt Lake Police Department building to the David P. Romrell Public Safety Building.

The David P. Romrell Public Safety Building will stand as a symbol reminding us all that public safety comes with a risk that all the men and women of the South Salt Lake Police Department are willing to take, even with their own life. As you approach the front doors of the police department you will see a new sign, the city’s police department logo, with David P. Romrell’s name displayed below. When you enter the police department you will immediately be greeted by a beautifully constructed memorial, honoring Officer Romrell in the form of a bronze bust.

Please stop by the Police Department to view the memorial located in the front lobby. You may also view Officer Romrell’s memorial locker upon request at our desk officer or records window located in the lobby of the South Salt Lake Police Department.
Over the last few years, redevelopment and construction in South Salt Lake has increased dramatically. Like other communities along the Wasatch Front, South Salt Lake is a built-out community that is seeing a major shift from single-story development to higher density multi-story projects located along main roads and transit corridors. Developers are drawn to South Salt Lake because of our prime location. In 2019, South Salt Lake construction project valuation estimates increased by over 100 million dollars from the previous year. The City anticipates seeing similar growth patterns in 2020.

This map shows current projects under construction. These project values, on average, range from $1 to 350 million dollar investments.
Help Keep Our Storm Drains Clear

While clearing snow and ice from walks and driveways take a minute to ensure the storm drains are not clogged. This will prevent flooding and keep our waterways clean.

South Salt Lake Recreation Presents:

**3 on 3 Basketball Tournament**

When: **Saturday, January 25th 10:30 AM - 3:00PM**
Where: Columbus Center Gym
2531 South 400 East
Price: $20.00 Per Team
(Maximum of 4 players per roster)

**MUST be 18 years or older to play!**
*Round Robin Format*  
(First 8 teams to pay get in)

**Last day to register is Wednesday, January 22nd**

******3 POINT CONTEST after Pool Play****
Prizes for 1st Place Team and 1st Place 3 Point Contest

Register at Open Gym on Tuesdays and Thursdays or REGISTER ANYTIME MON-FRI 8:30AM-5PM AT:  
SOUTH SALT LAKE RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
Columbus Center 2531 S. 400 E.  
SOUTH SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84115  
Info: 801-412-3217

South Salt Lake Recreation Presents:

**Youth Baseball**

**WHO:** Ages 7-8 (MACHINEPITCH) – Games - WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY*  
Ages 9-10 (MINORS) – Games – TUESDAY & FRIDAY*  
Ages 11-12 (MAJORS) – Games – MONDAY & THURSDAY*  
(Up or 4/30/20)

**WHEN:** Practices starting the week of March 16th  
Games start March 30th and end May 30th  
Weekday games start at 6pm/Saturday game times TBD

**WHERE:** Home Field - Central Park Ball Field 2797 S, 200 E.  
Other practice times and game locations TBD  
*Please note that all locations and times are subject to change

**Cost:**  
$25 for South Salt Lake Residents  
$30 for Non-Residents  
**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO QUALIFY**  
801-412-3209 or dpermann@sslc.com

**FREE Salt Lake Bees Tickets, practices, games, a team uniform, a team picture, and an award!**

**Deadline:** **MARCH 6TH, 2020**

**REGISTER ANYTIME MON-FRI 8:30AM-5PM**
SOUTH SALT LAKE RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
Columbus Center 2531 S. 400 E.  
SOUTH SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84115  
801-412-3217 or online @ sslc.com

**Questions:** Myrna Clark mclark@sslc.com  801-483-6076

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**Community Happenings**

**Friday, February 7th, 2020**
**6:00-9:00 p.m.**
**Columbus Community Center**  
2531 S 400 E   SSL, UT 84115

- Special guests appearance  
- Live entertainment  
- Photo for nominal fee  
- Food  
- Princess parade  
- Games

$4 per couple  
$1 for each additional daughter

Questions: Myrna Clark mclark@sslc.com  801-483-6076

**Come BOWL with a COP!**

Presented by South Salt Lake PAL

Where: Bonwood Bowl: 2500 S. Main Street, SLC  
When: Every 3rd Thursday of the Month @3:30pm-5:00pm

OPEN TO ALL KIDS 8-18!

Go To: www.sslpal.org for more information!

Thursday  
January 16

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**South Salt Lake Recreation Presents:**

**Adult Open Play Basketball**

**Columbus Community Center**  
2531 S 400 E  
18 years and older  
Jan. 2 – March 26  
Tues & Thurs nights  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Fee: $20 Season Pass or $1 Night Pass  
For more information call 801-412-3217

**Pickleball**

**Central Park Community Center**  
2797 S 200 E  
Jan. 6 – March 26  
Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Monday & Wednesday Evenings  
7 – 9 p.m.

18 & Older  
Equipment for Checkout  
FREE to play

FOR REGISTRATION CONTACT:  
Dustin 801.412.3209 or dpermann@sslc.com
Animal Shelter Update
Happy New Year from your local shelter! We’re having a wonderful fur filled season and would like to remind you of the adoptable fur-babies we have at the shelter. They would love to go to forever homes for the New Year.

We would also like to recognize every dog owner that has been walking their dog on leash. By doing so, you are keeping our parks and sidewalks safe and enjoyable for everyone. We also appreciate those utilizing our city disposal stations for dog waste. We know all about picking up after dogs and so we appreciate effort by owners to keep the parks and sidewalks clean. We wish you a Happy New Year and thank you for your continued support!

Justice Court Hosts Granite Park Jr. High Mock Trial

On November 21 Granite Park Jr. High 8th graders began the trial of the year: The State vs. Samuel Snow. There was tension and excitement in the air as Judge Peralta prepared to take the bench to preside over her first jury trial. Defense attorneys Xavier Yazzi and Ephraim Cano Garner looked confident yet serious as they gave last minute advice to their client, Samuel Snow (Anthony Bianca). District Attorneys Nava Sharma and Tu’imana Talanoa double checked their notes with law enforcement witnesses (Andre Thomas and Ruby Carranza Gonzalez). Snow’s sister (Sofia Arostegui Romero) looked anxious on behalf of her brother, while his girlfriend (Leeloo Lerwick) appeared to be ready to take on the whole justice system by herself. The Club Bouncer (Joaquin Ramos-Matem), also an important witness, gave no indication of partiality concerning the matter.

Opening statements set the tone for what was to be a very emotionally charged night of testimony. Prosecutors animatedly drew facts from the witnesses while the defense attorneys objected and tried to establish lack of absolute identity. Finally, with all those in the gallery on the edge of their seats, the jury, Henry Rainey and Alaric Welsh began deliberations. To everyone’s surprise, in just minutes the bailiff was escorting them back into the courtroom. The moment had come. Would Samuel Snow be found guilty or not guilty? And the verdict… Guilty! The court erupted! Judge Peralta demanded order and Mr. Snow was taken into custody. Will he appeal the verdict? No word on that yet.

Prior to this culminating event, GPJH 8th graders studied the judicial system in their Social Studies class. Throughout the semester they had visits from Mayor Wood, Council Member Pender, Judge Anna Anderson and Judge Marsha Thomas, who explained the various branches of government and their individual duties. In October, the students visited the court and heard directly from Defense Attorneys Nathan Evershed and Joel Kittrell, Prosecutor Brian Page, Midvale Justice Court Judge Augustus Chin, Court Clerk Monica Medina and Constable Brent Groth about their jobs within the judicial system. We hope to see many of these students rushing through the halls of justice in the near future in various capacities so we can say “we knew them when”.

Huge thank you to teachers Emily Mijarez, Curtis Jones and Principal Aaron Wilson for their work making this program a great success. Stay tuned for next year!

Creative Arts for Life in January

Art classes for seniors and adults

Blind Contour and Color
with Artist Natalie Oliver

Inspired by Elizabeth “Grandma” Layton who began drawing at age 68 using the technique of blind contour drawing.

Participants will learn blind contour drawing, beginning color theory, watercolor and a slice of contemporary art history. Using intuition as opposed to skill, students of any ability can create genuine portraits and still life images by letting go of perfection and embracing spontaneity.

All materials provided and no previous experience necessary.

Wednesdays 6:30 -8:30 PM, January 6, 15, 22, & 29
Columbus Center Room 162
2531 S 400 East, South Salt Lake

Creative Arts for Life classes are free to SSL residents and Senior Center clients. $40 for all others. Supplies included. Registration is required by calling 801-412-3317 or emailing jhedna@slc.com.

Visit saltarts.org for more info

Landscapes Painting
with Artist Maddie Christensen of Bad Dog Arts

Have fun exploring the many facets of painting landscapes on canvas with acrylic. Basic techniques and use of materials will be introduced the first week for participants to learn new skills or brush up if you have used acrylic paint before. Maddie will bring project ideas for everyone to mix colors and try a variety of brush techniques. No previous experience necessary.

Wednesdays 10:30 - 11:30 A.M., January 8, 15, 22, & 29
Columbus Senior Art Room
2531 S 400 East, South Salt Lake

Creative Arts for Life classes are free to SSL residents and Senior Center clients. $40 for all others. Supplies included. Registration is required by calling 801-412-3317 or emailing jhedna@slc.com.

Visit saltarts.org for more info
This past year, volunteers have poured into the halls and classrooms of the Hser Ner Moo Community and Welcome Center with a strong commitment to inspiring youth to engage in academics, community engagement and recreation. We hosted an estimated 150 volunteers, totaling 1,200 hours served. These hours were spent by students from local universities and colleges including the University of Utah and Westminster College, additionally local church groups and professionals offered of their time and expertise.

They hosted high quality STEM and recreation activities, and assisted with literacy, math and other tutoring needs. Volunteers provided financial literacy and college readiness courses, created hygiene and food kits and provided mentorship to the youth in program. Volunteers are vital at the Hser Ner Moo Community and Welcome Center as they assist in providing hands-on interaction to the youth we serve. They continue to help us develop and maintain our strong community and for that we are grateful.

This semester Lincoln youth had the opportunity to host a cooking club through USU Extension’s 4H program. Our students have been able to learn about what their bodies need to grow and thrive. The highlight each week is making nutritious snacks to enjoy. Through this club our students have been able to try smoothies and quesadillas for the first time – each were met with mixed reviews. Through hands on experiences and games our students have learned to identify different vitamins, proteins and carbs in their food. The youth even found cookbooks from the library and were eager to share them with all of us. This club has helped them gain a love for cooking and understanding of nutrition to help fuel them through their lives. Thank you, Utah State University and 4H!

Grant funds from Rocky Mountain Power Foundation afforded the Best Buy Teen Tech Center the opportunity for their first field trip. We were joined by youth from the Kearns-Saint Ann afterschool program. Youth were able to become engineers at the Microsoft store at City Creek on Dec. 4. The field trip was the perfect mix of hands-on learning and free exploring, which is perfectly aligned with the learning model at the Teen Tech Center. The youth were able to use Scratch, a programming platform developed by students at MIT, to make a robot move and talk. The robots were even able to tell a joke by the end of it! The employees at Microsoft were all smiles while they watched the youth explore the store. They were able to interact with the technology by playing video games, using a giant TV to do trivia and checking out the latest and greatest gadgets at the store. The Teen Tech Center is so grateful for our partnership with Microsoft and for the grant from Rocky Mountain Power!