A Message from the Mayor

Monday, January 3rd, 2022, I was sworn in as Cedar City’s 46th Mayor. It is a great honor to serve this community, and I look forward to the months ahead getting to know you and helping the city move forward. I want to thank this community for trusting me to lead the city.

Entering my tenure, I am pleased to report that Cedar City is financially stable, and our city staff is well-organized and actively looking after all aspects of the various departments and divisions that keep this city thriving. I certainly appreciate the warm welcome I have felt from everyone at City Hall so far, and I look forward to getting to know the staff better.

I want to express appreciation to former Mayor Maile Wilson Edwards for her service and commitment to Cedar City and like many others, I wish her well in her future endeavors. I may not make history as the youngest Mayor of Cedar City like my predecessor, but I promise to serve at my greatest capacity as Cedar City’s oldest Mayor.

As an amateur historian, I have enjoyed reading books about the history of Cedar City and you may catch a few history lessons from me in these monthly newsletters. One of my favorite books being “Mayors of Cedar City” by Evelyn K. and York F. Jones, which I have owned for many years, and others more specific to mayoral terms like the Burgess, Shirley and Sherratt books.

I am thankful to these great mayors and the clerks for their contribution and record:

“Sept. 15, 1904
...Matter of recommending a suitable person for City Sexton. Reported that they could secure the services of Mr. Horace Dover— the gentleman, being present, was asked to state what his terms were. He would perform the duties of said officer, keep the cemetery in reasonably good condition and the graves therein properly hilled up for a monthly salary of $15.” (Mayors of Cedar City, Jones, pg. 153)

The Mr. Horace Dover mentioned above was my grandfather who, at the time, lived in Boulderville. This is the area just north of Bradshaw Chevrolet and along Coal Creek where the boulders stopped rolling in the summer flood... thus Boulderville. And just across the Creek to the cemetery, he was hired as the first City Sexton (great job, grandpa). My mother was later born in Boulderville, and my family’s deep roots in the area began.

I am sure my mother and father would be both pleased and anxious as I start my term as mayor. If you knew my parents, you might smile at the thought. I am ready for 2022 and look forward to a great first year.
Cedar City Councilmembers are sworn in for a new term

Last month, Cedar City welcomed newly elected Mayor Garth O. Green and Councilmember Ronald Riddle to the City Council at a swearing in ceremony held in the City Council Chambers.

Mayor Green, Councilmember Riddle and re-elected Councilmember R. Scott Phillips took an oath to pledge their dedication and commitment to serving the residents of Cedar City.

On behalf of our residents, businesses and staff, please join us in welcoming them to your City Council!

Your next good read is at the Cedar City Public Library

Over 200,000 materials were circulated in 2021.

Our librarians are often asked two questions. First, “Got any good books?” and second, generally by non-users, “Is a library really necessary in today’s world?”

The answer to the first question is pretty easy, “Yes.” According to the last annual report, the Cedar City Public Library housed 81,458 printed books, and had access to an additional 90,899 eBooks. 7,078 physical units of audio materials (book on CD, Play-a-Way, etc.) were circulated, plus 181,846 titles on eAudio. 3,999 physical video materials were checked out, and another 5,756 downloadable video materials. Not to mention a few materials in other formats.

In short, the library had access to 371,058 materials in various formats. Patrons are likely to find “a good book” and have ample resources to choose from.

The answer to the second question is really one of perception. In a community of approximately 35,000 residents, the Cedar City Library was visited over 210,000 times last year. The library circulated 200,299 materials of which 117,575 were children’s materials. Electronic circulation (eBook, eAudio, eVideo) circulation was an additional 101,060 materials. Over 2,800 attendees were at the library’s 157 programs in Fiscal Year 2021. Nearly 19,000 users logged time on internet workstations provided by the library. Meeting rooms are often booked months in advance. The art gallery is booked through 2022. And up to seven children's story times are held each week. We’d like to say the library is well-visited and definitely utilized.

The Cedar City Public Library strives to be as viable today as ever. In the coming months, staff and board members will hold focus group sessions to assess patron needs. Then the same staff and board will assess the needs mentioned and formulate ways to address them in the most viable, cost-effective manners, just the way it has happened for the past 113 years.

Visit the Cedar City Public Library and gain access to the many resources and programs by visiting Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Friday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (closed on Sunday) located at 303 North 100 East Cedar City, UT 84721.

NEW: ACCESS YOUR CAR CRASH REPORT ONLINE

Obtaining a copy of your crash report just got easier!

If you are involved in a reportable crash and Cedar City Police Department investigates the crash, you can now access your report online. No need to wait in line or return to the county where the accident occurred.

Simply go to www.buyocrash.com and enter the necessary information. You will be able to view, download and print your report.

It’s quick and easy!

UPDATED ANIMAL SHELTER HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY
10:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.
SATURDAY
9:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.
SUNDAY
CLOSED

1303 W. KITTYHAWK DR.
CEDAR CITY UT, 84721
(435) 586-2960

How can Cedar City improve communication efforts?
Take our 4-question City Communications Survey:
www.bit.ly/cedarcomm
New Year, New Events: Gear up for another year of fun in Festival City, USA

A new year means a new list of community events to add to your calendar! Cedar City’s Events Division is preparing for another year of memories to be made and will be announcing the full line-up very soon.

To stay updated, be sure to follow Cedar City Events on Facebook and Instagram, visit www.cedarcity.org/events, or read these Monthly Community Updates. Here’s a few first events you can look forward to marking on your 2022 calendar:

Mark Your Calendar:

- **St. Patrick’s Day Bagpiper** - March 17th, 2022
- **Cedar City Star Search** - March 26th, 2022
- **Cedar City Half Marathon** - September 10th, 2022

St. Patrick’s Day
Thursday, March 17, 2022
Enjoy the ambiance of a bagpiper on the corner of Main and Center Street!
Bagpiper to perform every two hours from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Cedar City Half Marathon 2022
September 10, 2022 • www.cedarcity.org/half

Coal Creek Bridge is now open and ready to use

On January 25th, 2022, Coal Creek Bridge officially re-opened following a small ribbon cutting ceremony.

As a main thoroughfare crossing over I-15 to Cedar City’s heavy and light industrial areas, as well as the City’s Regional Airport, Coal Creek Bridge is now safer for both vehicles and pedestrians with a wider road and 6-foot sidewalk on the north side. Crews will return in Spring of 2022 to landscape the area and resurface and stripe the new pavement.

“We are thrilled to have Coal Creek Bridge completed and available for the public to use,” said Mayor Garth O. Green. “Drivers and pedestrians can now feel safer with these much-needed improvements. Thank you to the crews who worked tirelessly to make this project happen.”

The UDOT Coal Creek Bridge project replaced and widened the existing bridge structure over the I-15 and installed a T-intersection at Kitty Hawk Drive and Bulldog Road. Constructing the bridge required two I-15 freeway closures and a great deal of preparation and coordination for the project team. These included demolishing and removing the pre-existing bridge, installing large support beams on the new structure, and pouring the bridge deck.

“The completed project will enhance quality of life for years to come by not only connecting the community and its commerce on each side of the interstate, but by also providing healthy transportation alternatives and maintaining I-15 mobility into the future,” stated Rick Torgerson, UDOT Region Four Director.

The project was initiated after evaluating the increased use of the overpass since it was first constructed in the late 1960’s.

All will feel safer when traveling on Coal Creek Bridge, thanks to these necessary improvements to accommodate the needs of the Cedar City community.
City officials continue to work on obtaining flood damage relief and improving infrastructure

Cedar City’s recent flooding in July 2021 initiated a State of Emergency, after extensive damage was assessed for both private and public property.

Cedar City officials have been working with State and Federal agencies and the City’s insurance to evaluate potential funding opportunities to help cover costs for the unexpected damage to public property.

On Wednesday, February 16, 2022, the City Council will hold a public hearing to discuss allocating the funds received through the federal government’s American Rescue Plan Act.

Opportunities continue to be explored for different funding sources and the City damage continues to be assessed as the new budget for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 is created.

In order to get ahead of this year’s monsoon season, City engineers are working to identify various locations and projects that are available for rapid improvements.

Residents can expect to see some of the identified projects beginning soon, such storm drain maintenance.

As a reminder, low-interest federal disaster loans for those experiencing economic injury from the severe storms and flooding are still available through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

The deadline to apply for SBA funding is July 1, 2022. Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/.

Applicants may also call SBA’s Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance.

A few helpful reminders and tips from your Public Works Division

Water, wastewater, and general maintenance for winter and beyond

WATER: As a reminder, during the winter season you may be faced with problems of frozen or broken water pipes due to the cold weather. The Water Division would like to remind homeowners that on extremely cold nights, you may want to leave an inside faucet dripping to avoid frozen pipes.

WASTEWATER: Did you know that it is illegal to dump any substances into a sewer manhole? The wastewater system is regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Utah State Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Contrary to widespread belief, the city’s wastewater system is not a series of pipes that carry waste away from your home.

This piping system flows to the wastewater treatment facility where waste is treated using approved chemicals and microorganisms that break down the waste. If fuels, oils, antifreeze or other potentially harmful substances are dumped into the system, these substances can kill the microorganisms and cause damage to the plant itself. They can also be harmful to the plant employees and line maintenance crews while they are working within the system, checking manholes, cleaning lines, taking samples, working on pumps and equipment, etc.

These substances can also cause the wastewater to be discharged from the plant and out of compliance with the permits issued to the city by the EPA and the DEQ, resulting in permit violations.

It is a felony offense to illegally dump any substance into the wastewater system and the violator can be faced with potential jail time and fines.

Cleaning and treating the wastewater plant following illegally dumped substances is expensive and has the ability to affect future costs for all residents.

If you witness any tampering of manholes or illegal dumping into the city’s sewer system, please contact the wastewater plant at (435) 865-4552 or (435) 867-9430, or contact the Cedar City Police Department’s 24-hour dispatch call center at (435) 586-2955.

UTILITIES: The Public Works Department can help you with maintenance of streets, water lines, water meters, water leaks, sewer lines, missed trash pickups, replacement trash cans, streetlights, etc., but we cannot help you set up new service or pay your utility bills.

We are happy to forward requests regarding utilities to the City’s Utilities Department, but to help save you the inconvenience of being transferred from department to department, please call (435) 586-2951 to ask questions about your utility bills, pay your bill or set up new services with Cedar City.