



# FARMINGTON NEWS

MORE TIME FOR LIVING

## CALIBRATING NEEDS & WANTS WITH RESOURCES

In 1852, the community of Farmington (or the North Cottonwood Ward, as it was then known) levied a poll tax of \$1.50 per male citizen over 18 years of age. In lieu of payment, males were required to work one full day on the road each year. In current value, that poll tax would be over \$220. A day working on the roads of Farmington in early Utah was no easy day of labor. In 1855, the Ladies Hall/Second School House was built two blocks west of the County Courthouse. Adult males paid \$2 per year (almost \$300 in 2023) for its construction and maintenance (or traded labor to meet their civic duty). The facility was later demolished to make room for a Bamberger Rail Station. In 1859, a mud wall surrounding Farmington was completed to protect settlers from outside attacks as an investment in public infrastructure.

Every municipal administration in our community for nearly 180 years has undertaken large community projects. While the demands on our resources have changed through the years, they have never disappeared. Today, we need fire stations instead of mud

walls. Instead of mandating community service to work on the roads and water lines, we procure resources to pay expert professionals to keep the roads maintained and the water system functioning, clean, and safe.

To meet the demands of our community, the city is undertaking a lengthy list of projects. They will get done, but resources are required to build them. Some of these projects have been on the table for years, awaiting adequate funding and resources. The easy response is to divert the spotlight away from the project and then kick the can down the road for a later date. Cities can do that by failing to fund the project or otherwise allocating resources to it on an ongoing basis. Sometimes, city officials will pat themselves on the back and say, "See, we didn't raise your taxes or require a 'day's labor' from you." But the need did not go away, and usually the cost to address the project only increases.

Take the new fire station, for example.

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## get ready for the SPRING • CLEANUP •



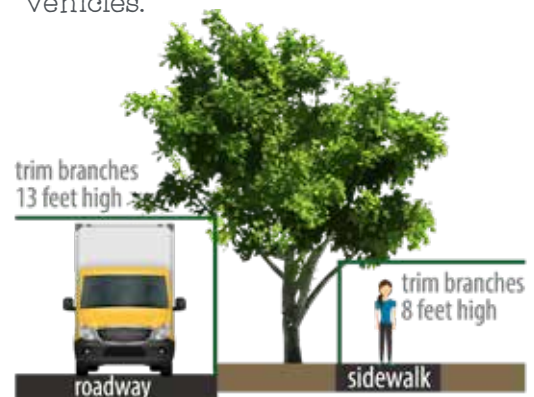
THE CITYWIDE CLEANUP

begins on

**April 8th** and will be  
completed **April 19th**.

Guidelines can be found on the [city website](#).

Spring cleanup is a great time to make sure your trees are trimmed 13 feet above the road and 8 feet above the sidewalk. This will prevent damage to street sweepers, garbage trucks, delivery trucks, and construction vehicles.



*Congratulations to the*  
**FARMINGTON CITY FINANCE TEAM**

for its 11th consecutive year to receive the

**CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING**

The certificate of achievement, issued by the Government Finance Officers Association, is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting.



Front row L to R: Denise Gibb, Greg Davis, Jamie Ellison  
 Back row: Narae Simmons, Kyle Robertson, Shannon Harper

**EXCAVATION PERMITS**

Excavation permits are required for any work done in the public right-of-way. The public right-of-way includes the road, curb and gutter, park strip and sidewalk and up to a few feet behind the sidewalk. If any equipment is driven over the curb, gutter or sidewalk, a permit is required.

Types of work that require a permit: landscaping, building a pool or pool house, addition to house, building a barn, replacing a driveway or sidewalk, building a new house. Excavation Permit applications are on the website on the public works page. The permit fee is \$70.00 and the type of work being done determines the cash bond amount, but the minimum is \$1,000.00. Please contact Public Works at 801-451-2624 if you have questions.

Needs, Wants, and Resources continued

Farmington Fire Station 72 in West Farmington will cost an estimated \$16 million, a price that has already increased from \$12 million in one year's time. The project is 90% designed. It will be under construction by 2025 and completed in 2026. To pay for this, the city may bond against future building fees—construction is required to collect those fees over the life of the bond (typically 20 years). In slow construction years when construction fees are low, the revenue to pay the bond will have to come from general fund revenues. As the market strengthens and building fees come in, the city's general fund is reimbursed.

The city is building a new park in West Farmington. It too carries a hefty price tag of about \$15 million. The park will be built with money from building fees imposed on new construction, RAP tax revenues, and money from UDOT based on parks and properties affected by the West Davis Highway.

The city recently acquired the Rock Mill, a historic treasure in Farmington. The city purchased the six acres of land in 2023, using money from the sale of land owned by Farmington to Weber State University. WSU will use the land for a Farmington satellite campus. The city is investigating options to preserve and enhance the Rock Mill property, a process that will include seeking input from residents. At present, there is no funding source for the Rock Mill improvements.

The city has received repeated requests to expand the pool and the gymnasium. Farmington spends over \$1 million annually on parks and recreation. A healthy parks and recreation department is a blessing and a burden. Some Davis County cities do not have a parks and recreation department. While we love those programs, they come with a cost. The immediate intent is to move the recreation offices to the gymnasium at the regional park and expand the gym facility to house more amenities and provide more recreational opportunities for the residents. The present pool is small and inadequate for demands.

**THE POTHOLE PROBLEM** a message from City Manager, Brigham Mellor

As residents are painfully aware, driving through some of Farmington's main thoroughfares is an exercise in dodging potholes. Apart from the Legacy Highway, WDC, I-15, and I-89 freeways, Farmington is home to three additional state routes (SR). SRs are owned and maintained by the State of Utah (see maps below). "Maintenance" means snow removal, pothole fixes, and chip sealing surface measures, all of which are managed by the state. These roads, especially Main Street's surface, are not built to a Farmington standard and thus are not in good condition after decades of wear and tear. People consistently call city hall and public works with concerns about Main Street: "Why is one of our main roads in the city falling apart and almost dangerous to drive along due to potholes?" That question is important and deserves a response.



The State of Utah has thoughtfully provided a way for residents to notify UDOT about potholes and troublesome areas on these roadways: the website CLICK'N FIX. Rather than have the city relay your concerns about these roads and their condition (which is done regularly), it is far more effective for citizens to relay their concerns themselves.



The State of Utah is responsible for responding to the needs of its constituents, of which you are a part. One voice has some power; multiple voices are a force to be reckoned with. Help us help you. Let your voice be heard.  
[https://seeclickfix.com/web\\_portal/7XvZktSsKScqJDFrbt5vCvo/report/category](https://seeclickfix.com/web_portal/7XvZktSsKScqJDFrbt5vCvo/report/category)

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# CITY INFORMATION

City Hall  
160 South Main  
P O Box 160  
Farmington, Utah 84025

Brett N. Anderson, Mayor  
[mayor@farmington.utah.gov](mailto:mayor@farmington.utah.gov)

## CITY COUNCIL

Roger Child  
[rchild@farmington.utah.gov](mailto:rchild@farmington.utah.gov)

Scott Isaacson  
[sisaacson@farmington.utah.gov](mailto:sisaacson@farmington.utah.gov)

Melissa Layton  
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Alex Leeman  
[aleeman@farmington.utah.gov](mailto:aleeman@farmington.utah.gov)

Amy Shumway  
[ashumway@farmington.utah.gov](mailto:ashumway@farmington.utah.gov)

## CITY OPERATIONS / CITY MANAGER

Brigham Mellor  
[bmellor@farmington.utah.gov](mailto:bmellor@farmington.utah.gov)

## CITY PHONE NUMBERS

Main Number ..... 801-451-2383  
Police Department ..... 801-451-5453  
Fire Department ..... 801-451-2842  
Public Works ..... 801-451-2624  
Storm Water ..... 801-451-2624  
Parks & Recreation ..... 801-451-0953  
Gymnasium ..... 801-939-9229  
Building Department..... 801-939-9214  
Inspection Hotline ..... 801-882-8954  
Water Department ..... 801-451-2624  
Planning & Zoning ..... 801-939-9215  
Historical Museum ..... 801-451-4850  
Animal Control..... 801-444-2200  
Garbage ..... 801-825-3800  
Benchland Water ..... 801-451-2105  
Weber Water ..... 801-771-1677

## AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY

Davis County Sheriff ... 801-451-4150  
Emergency ..... 911



A wealth of information is available on the city website. Scan the QR code to go directly to [farmington.utah.gov](http://farmington.utah.gov).



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## April 2024

April 2	TUES	CITY COUNCIL MEETING 160 South Main Street	7:00 pm agenda on <a href="#">city website</a>
April 8	MON	SPRING CLEANUP BEGINS CITYWIDE see <a href="#">city website</a> for guidelines	
April 16	TUES	CITY COUNCIL MEETING 160 South Main Street	7:00 pm agenda on <a href="#">city website</a>
April 18	THURS	PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING 160 South Main Street	7:00 pm agenda posted at city hall 24 hrs prior
April 20	SAT	EXTRA GARBAGE DAY see the <a href="#">city website</a> for details	beginning at 6:00 am
April 22	MON	HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 160 South Main Street	7:00 pm agenda available on the <a href="#">HPC website</a>



## STUDENT OF THE MONTH CANNON CHRISTENSEN

Cannon is an exceptional member of the Farmington Youth City Council and has proven himself time and time again. He always shows up for monthly council meetings or communicates why he's not able to attend. He is one of the first to sign up for service opportunities, and is the first to ask if he can help with any setup or takedown at city events. Cannon is kind, dependable, and exemplifies great leadership in all that he does.



720 West 100 North  
801-451-095  
farmington.utah.gov/parks-re

PARKS & RECREATION

FARMINGTON

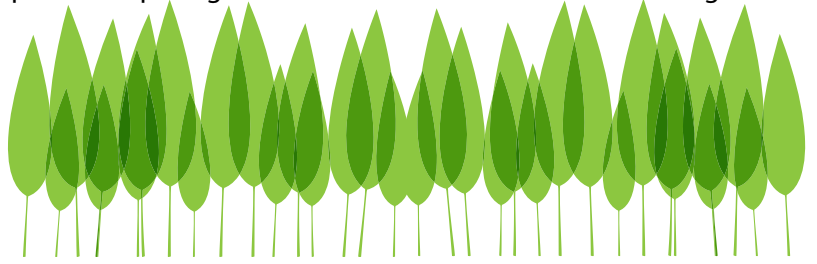


Devin Rushton and Tyler Gee received the Utah Recreation Parks Association **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR** award for their assistance with **FARMINGTON'S ADAPTIVE JR. JAZZ**. Farmington is one of only a few city recreation departments that provides adaptive programs. Both coaches have expressed how much they enjoy seeing the players' joy as they participate in basketball. "The entire team celebrates when someone makes a basket."

Congratulations to the **FARMINGTON YOUTH CITY COUNCIL**, recipients of the **OUTSTANDING PROGRAM OF THE YEAR** at the URPA Conference. The award was accepted by advisor Emme Kovacs. The FYCC represents an esteemed volunteer initiative deeply committed to serving the local community through active participation in various city-sponsored events. Youth members have the opportunity to cultivate essential life skills, including leadership, effective communication, and decision-making.



**THE TREE-LINED STREETS PROGRAM WILL BE OFFERED AGAIN THIS YEAR**, giving residents the opportunity to pay 50% of the cost of trees to be planted in their park strips. The city will buy a limited number of appropriate species of trees at a bulk discount. Effective now through April 19, trees may be purchased at the Parks and Recreation Office. Those who buy trees will also receive helpful care tips to give their trees the best chance of thriving. Join the effort in 2024 to increase the number of trees along city streets, and enhance the beauty of Farmington.



*Exciting news! Because response to The Blue Blog police report has been enthusiastic, readers will now have the opportunity to learn more fire department business as well. Farmington City is unique in its shared appreciation, bond, and friendship between brothers and sisters who make up the fire and police departments. This is not always the case across the county. To celebrate this unity, The Red and Blue Blog has been created. We hope you enjoy this new and improved view into what's happening in your community.*



<b>FEBRUARY 2024 POLICE STATS</b>	
In total, police responded 897 calls for service	
Auto Accidents	— 43
Traffic Stops	— 389
Adult and or Juvenile Arrests	— 29

On January 27, 2024, Officer Pence was working his regular patrol shift. Davis County Dispatch had broadcast an ATL (attempt to locate) for a blue Kia Optima. It was reported to dispatch that the driver of the vehicle had been drinking during the night and was driving to the Chevron on Lagoon Drive to buy more beer.

Officer Pence located the vehicle and observed the vehicle fail to stop prior to the crosswalk upon leaving the private business and entering a roadway, fail to

stop at a stop sign, and making a wide turning into the oncoming travel lane. Upon these observations, Officer Pence conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. During the traffic stop, Officer Pence established probable cause that the driver of the vehicle was impaired. He was arrested and booked into the Davis County Jail on several charges.

While this may not seem all that interesting of a case, it is important for a couple of different reasons. According to NHTSA data, in 2021 there were 13,384

deaths from drunk-driving crashes. The website (<https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunken-driving>) states, "Everyday, about 37 people in the U.S. die in the drunk-driving crashes..."

It is imperative for the safety of our community— if you see something, say something. This incident began with someone calling 911 and ended with the police arresting a driver that was almost three times the legal limit. Luckily, this incident did not end in someone being seriously injured or killed.

## INTRODUCING SIX NEW FARMINGTON FIREFIGHTERS



Nakoa Sadang

Nakoa "Koa" came to Farmington Fire in November 2023 and performed extremely well in testing. While in the St. George fire academy three years ago, Koa graduated with his fire certifications and advanced EMT. He has been working with the Syracuse Fire Department for the past year and has most recently become part of their full-time crew. Koa recently became dad to a beautiful baby girl. He comes to Farmington with a bit of experience and a great work ethic.



Jacob Arbuckle

Jacob comes to Farmington directly from the Davis Technical College Fire Academy. Before graduating with his certifications in December of 2023, he passed his National Registry of EMTs. He continues to work hard and master as much as he can. Jacob graduated from Bountiful High school and has been hard at work as a first-generation firefighter. Jacob has trained diligently and looks forward to continued growth here at Farmington Fire.



Levi Blough

Levi is a new, part-time firefighter with Farmington Fire Department. He was born and raised in West Jordan and is the eldest of three in his family. He enjoys hiking, shooting, and spending time with family. He continues to grow and master the craft of firefighting. Levi is so grateful to be here and looks forward to serving our wonderful community.



Grant Glover

Grant was born in Southern California, but, since age 11, has lived in the Ogden/Riverdale area. He graduated from Bonneville High School and married his high school sweetheart, Chelsea. They have two children: a four-year-old son and four-month-old daughter. As a new firefighter for the Farmington Fire Department, Grant looks forward to many years of protecting your loved ones and homes.



Julie Speckman

Julia is a new hire for Farmington Fire. She loves to bake, fish and be outdoors. She loves spending time with her family. Julie has a bunny, two cats and a dog. She launched into the world of firefighting because it fulfills her dream of a career that not only challenges her, but also provides her with a family atmosphere.



David Cerchio

David, a husband and father, graduated from the University of Utah and holds a masters degree from Webster University. He's spent over 20 years serving Utah's communities as an army officer in the Utah National Guard. He enjoys everything this state has to offer. When looking for his next career, David wanted something as fulfilling as his service to state and country. Firefighting was a perfect fit. Serving others is important to him and is a part of who he is. He is thankful to serve the community as a firefighter for Farmington Fire Department.

The intent is to upgrade the facility to make it bigger with more swimming amenities for both kids and adults. At present, however, there is no funding source for these projects.

Your elected officials are tasked with the responsibility of allocating assets to best serve the needs and desires of residents. Assets available for allocation include sales tax revenue, property tax revenue, impact fees (aka construction fees), and hard assets, like real property holdings owned by Farmington City. For example, the city could raise property taxes to be allocated to a particular project, or sell surplus real estate holdings to cover those costs. Every approach has its pros and cons. We welcome the public's ideas on how to address some of these funding issues. Please contact your elected officials, as they are eager to hear your thoughts and ideas. 🌱

Secondary water service will be available on April 15th. **Water users are responsible to close valves prior to that date to avoid damage or flooding.**



801-451-7999  
www.farmingtonutsuites.hamptoninn.com



Beginning at 6:00 am on SATURDAY, APRIL 20, there will be an extra garbage collection day. For guidelines, see the March newsletter or [click here](#).



180 N UNION AVENUE, SUITE E5  
801-451-8881



Farmington City has actively engaged in water conservation efforts for many years. The utilization of smart controllers began in 2002 and has since been upgraded to one of the most sophisticated irrigation controllers on the market, enabling the input of various parameters, including plant and soil types, sprinkler precipitation rates, slope percentage, and root depth. The software combines this data with high-resolution weather forecasts to schedule irrigation, ensuring plants receive the optimal amount of water.

Although it might appear that parks are watered nearly every night, the city does not water the same zones each time. In fact, a single zone may be watered three or four times in one cycle to prevent runoff and enhance soil absorption. Additionally, if you notice sprinklers operating during the day, it's likely because maintenance staff is conducting checks for broken or misaligned sprinkler heads and other inefficiencies.

Despite best efforts, some water wastage is unavoidable due to damaged or improperly adjusted heads and broken lines. Park visitors often play a crucial role in identifying these issues. If you spot a problem, we encourage you to report water waste on the Farmington City website under online services/provide feedback.