



FARMINGTON NEWS

MORE TIME FOR LIVING

Dear Residents of Farmington City,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to share some important information about a critical project to enhance our community's safety and quality of life—a new fire station for Farmington City.

As you may know, our city has grown tremendously in the past twenty-five years. In 2001, Farmington's population stood at just 12,422. From 2001 to 2005, the city grew by ~15% to 14,312. The most significant growth occurred between 2005 and 2013, when Farmington grew by about 50%, reaching ~21,469 people. By 2021, we grew another 15% to ~24,582. In the past four years we have experienced about 6.5% growth, reaching ~26,169 by 2024. This growth brought new opportunities, new neighbors and friends and new challenges, especially in providing the essential services that keep our community safe.

In terms of revenue, in 2001 the city's general revenue (sales tax, property tax, energy use tax, and franchise tax) was about \$2,912,530, and we had only 11 police officers and one full-time firefighter to cover the whole city. By 2024, the general revenue increased to \$16,543,126. We now have 29 police officers and 19 full-time firefighters—finally enough officers to cover each shift fully; however, we are still growing the fire department to provide full coverage for the city. (Every month, we rely on our neighboring cities to the north and south to help us meet fire and emergency needs.)

Some have asked, where is the money from Station Park? Farmington City's sales tax revenue increased from 2013 to 2021 from \$2,581,678 to \$6,271,536, a 143% increase. That was the Station Park effect. Over the past 4 years we've faced significant cost



Mayor Brett Anderson

increases in every aspect of the city, most notably in wages. From 2021, police and fire payroll costs were \$3,794,174, and by the end of 2024, they were at \$6,422,454, a 69% increase in just 3 years. Total General Fund payroll costs during that same time period grew from \$6,880,223 to \$10,728,410, a 56% increase—about 65% of the total general revenue. The growth from Station Park has helped our police and fire departments grow to meet the city's current needs. Previously, the city was understaffed and under-equipped. We finally have the resources to cover the needs of our first responders.

Despite these advancements, our current fire station can no longer meet the demands of our growing city. We literally have firefighters sleeping in modified utility closets. To me, this is unacceptable. We simply cannot house our current firefighters in the existing station.

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SPRING CLEANUP

begins April 7th

PLEASE READ – *new rules and schedule*

As Farmington grows, it becomes more necessary for *all* residents to *follow these rules* so the cleanup service can continue.

Residential limbs & branches only:

Limb and branch maximum size is *8 inch in diameter* and no longer than *8 feet in length*.

RULES: Pile size is *8 feet long, 4 feet wide and 4 feet high*. Only *one pile* from each residence will be picked up. Limbs stacked in the same direction allows for increased volume in the pile. Material must be placed at the curb line **BEFORE** beginning collection day.

Collection trucks will only drive by your home **ONCE**. *No root balls or stumps* will be picked up.

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A new, properly-sized fire station is necessary to ensure our firefighters have the resources and facilities to serve and protect us effectively.

The estimated remaining cost of building the new fire station is \$14,000,000 (and every year, the price goes up). The city does not have the funds available to cover this expense. To move forward with this vital project, we have two potential financing options about which we seek your input:

ONE

Bonding and Tax Increase: We could issue bonds to fund the construction of the fire station. If we bond for the full \$14,000,000 over 20 years, we will pay about \$22,400,000 for the \$14,000,000 fire station. In effect, we'll pay an extra \$600,000 for every \$1,000,000 we borrow. The annual principal and interest obligation on the bond would be about \$1,120,000. To cover the full debt service payment (principal and interest), we would either need to raise property taxes or cut services. We simply do not have an extra \$1,120,000 a year to cover the debt service obligation (last year alone, we had about \$2,500,000 in un-funded budget requests from the city's various departments). While this would allow us to build the fire station immediately, we understand the impact that a tax increase may have on our residents (especially those on fixed or limited income). Those who lack financial resources are often impacted the hardest by any decision to raise taxes.

TWO

Sale of City-Owned Property: Another option is to sell a piece of city-owned property, which could provide necessary funds to build the fire station. The city owns a piece of property on Main Street, just south of Cherry Hill. This property was purchased at a tax sale years ago. In 2005, the land was zoned Neighborhood Mixed Use, which permits single-family homes and

townhomes; thus, the proposed development for this property would consist of single-family homes and/or townhomes, not apartments. There is a density-purchase price trade off. More density fetches a higher price. Less density will yield a lower purchase price and shift more debt obligation onto the residents. We realize that development of any nature introduces issues that must be addressed with eyes wide open, including affordable housing, traffic congestion, loss of open space, efficient use of land, impact on schools and water supply, to name a few.

We understand that bonding, increasing property taxes, and/or selling city-owned property are significant decisions. We are endeavoring to act in a responsible way to fund the new fire station without unnecessarily increasing taxes for our residents and striving to maintain the unique characteristics of Farmington.

At the same time, we recognize that there are other important projects that require funding, such as the restoration of the Old Richards Gristmill or a swimming pool upgrade. While these projects are critical to preserving our city's heritage and further enhancing the quality of life for all residents, we are not currently expending city funds on this project and hope to do so through donations or other funding sources.

Over the years, the city received numerous proposals relating to the property, which were not pursued for various reasons. Some have asked, why consider selling the land now. The reason we are considering selling the land is because it may provide a source of revenue to pay for the construction costs for the fire station. Every year we wait to build, the construction costs go up, not down.

So, why didn't we build it years ago? We simply did not have the money. The city is trying to repair the streets and water infrastructure.

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Heidi Gordon, Farmington City Building Permit Technician, was awarded the Chapter Service Award in Government Relations for her outstanding leadership and service to the Utah Chapter ICC at the ABM spring conference. The city congratulates and appreciates Heidi for all of her hard work and dedication to her position.

Disposal: Material is mulched at the Central Davis Sewer District Treatment Plant.

THESE RULES WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.

Citywide Collection Schedule:

Monday April 7, 2025: *All debris must be out at the curb before this date.* The city is no longer being divided in half for pickup. Spring cleanup will be completed by April 18, 2025.

Street sweeping will be done after spring cleanup is completed. The street *sweeper cannot pick up limbs or twigs over 6 inches long.* They plug up the vacuum hose. After cleanup is done *please rake up the limbs and twigs in your gutter and throw them in your garbage can.* This will help the street sweeper be more efficient. 🌱



FEBRUARY POLICE STATS

Traffic Accidents — 38
Traffic Stops — 242
Adult and/or Juvenile Arrests — 23



On **SATURDAY APRIL 19, 2025**, there will be an **EXTRA GARBAGE COLLECTION DAY**. Mark your calendar now and watch for more information in the April newsletter.



CITY INFORMATION

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

Brett N. Anderson, Mayor
mayor@farmington.utah.gov

CITY COUNCIL

- Roger Child
rchild@farmington.utah.gov
- Scott Isaacson
sisaacson@farmington.utah.gov
- Melissa Layton
mLAYTON@farmington.utah.gov
- Alex Leeman
aleeman@farmington.utah.gov
- Amy Shumway
ashumway@farmington.utah.gov

CITY OPERATIONS / CITY MANAGER

Brigham Mellor
bmellor@farmington.utah.gov

CITY PHONE NUMBERS

- Main Number 801-451-2383
- Police Administration 801-451-5453
- Police Non-Emergency... 801-298-6000
- Fire Department 801-451-2842
- Fire Non-Emergency... 801-298-6000
- 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.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

March 2025

March 4	1 TUES	GENERAL PLAN NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE Canyon Creek Elementary, 755 S 1100 W	6:00–7:30 pm see page 6
March 6	THURS	PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING 160 South Main Street	7:00 pm agenda posted at city hall 24 hrs prior
March 13	2 THURS	GENERAL PLAN NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE Eagle Bay Elementary, 1933 W Clark Lane	6:00–7:30 pm see page 6
March 18	TUES	CITY COUNCIL MEETING 160 South Main Street	7:00 pm agenda on city website
March 20	THURS	PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING 160 South Main Street	7:00 pm agenda posted at city hall 24 hrs prior
March 24	MON	HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 160 South Main Street	7:00 pm agenda available on the HPC website
March 25	3 TUES	GENERAL PLAN NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE Knowlton Elementary, 801 Shepard Lane	6:00–7:30 pm see page 6
March 27	4 THURS	GENERAL PLAN NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE Farmington City Hall, 160 S Main Street	6:00–7:30 pm see page 6

This month, Student of the Month goes to a young boy whose passion for baseball and unyielding positivity have drawn attention. Meet Liam, a nine-year-old whose journey on the baseball field is nothing short of inspiring.

LIAM GRIFFIN STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Liam's dream of becoming a great pitcher began with a simple yet determined routine: throwing a ball against a rock. Each time the ball bounced back, he would throw it again, strengthening his arm and refining his pitch. This relentless practice paid off, and Liam's throws soon began to sail accurately across the plate.

But what truly sets Liam apart is his exceptional sportsmanship. A consummate team player, Liam's encouragement and support lift the spirits of his teammates. He plays any position he's asked to with enthusiasm and skill, always ready to contribute to the team's success. Even if he strikes out or gets hit by a pitch, Liam's smile never fades. His positive attitude is infectious, making him a favorite among his peers and coaches.

Liam is one of the youngest and smallest players in the 3rd and 4th grade league, but his heart and determination are unmatched. His story is a testament to the power of perseverance, positivity, and teamwork. In a world that often emphasizes competition and winning, Liam reminds us that true greatness comes from the love of the game and the support of those around us.





PARKS & RECREATION

FARMINGTON

GET READY FOR A
SUMMER OF FUN!

PROGRAM REGISTRATION
OPENS APRIL 7TH.

DIVE INTO SAVINGS!

EARLY BIRD SEASON
POOL PASSES ARE ON
SALE MARCH 3RD-
APRIL 30TH.

SAVE \$25 ON FAMILY
PASSES & \$10 ON
INDIVIDUAL PASSES.

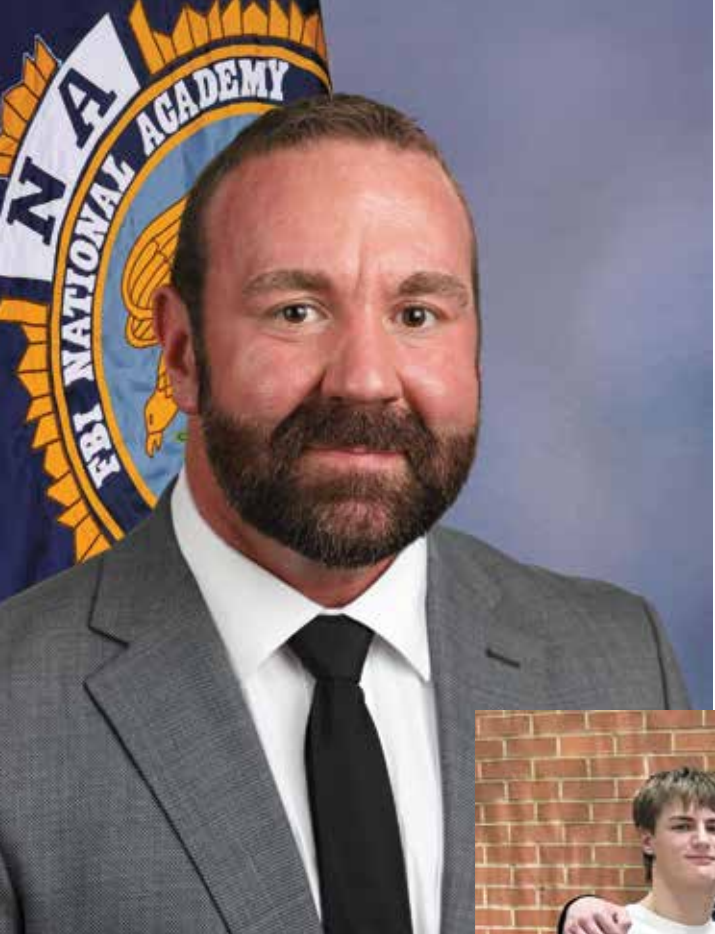
DON'T MISS THE
SPLASH!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- ARCHERY
- BASEBALL
- BASKETBALL
- FISHING CLUB
- LIFEGUARD CLASS
- MUSIC IN ME
- PICKLEBALL
- SKI & SNOWBOARD
- SUPER SPORT
- SWIM LESSONS
- TENNIS
- TRACK CAMP
- VOLLEYBALL

To view a *complete list* of programs, explore detailed info, and *register*, simply scan the QR code!





Farmington City is thrilled to introduce new police chief, Austin Anderson, whose lifelong dream of service in law enforcement has brought him to this pivotal moment.

FARMINGTON POLICE CHIEF AUSTIN ANDERSON



"Becoming a police officer has been one of the most rewarding and fulfilling experiences in my life," states Chief Austin Anderson. "I can still vividly remember the first time I saw an officer in uniform—it left a lasting impression on me. The sight of that uniform, the way they carried themselves, and the nobility of what they swore to protect sparked something inside me. I admired their sacrifice and commitment to something bigger than themselves, and I knew right then that I wanted to follow in their footsteps. As I grew older, my admiration only deepened. The desire to make a difference became my driving force. At 16 years old, I enrolled in an internship program to start my journey into the profession."

Anderson has amassed over 17 years of experience, including more than ten years in supervisory roles. Most recently as the Syracuse Police Department Assistant Police Chief, Anderson has served in various capacities, from undercover narcotics assignments to instructing at the Police Academy.

A proud graduate of the FBI National Academy and the FBI Command College, Anderson has been recognized by his peers and community. He was nominated for the International Association of Chiefs of Police 40 Under 40 Award and received the Mayor's Award of Excellence twice. With a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice, graduating magna cum laude, and a graduate certificate from the University of Virginia in criminal justice education, he is projected to earn his Master of Public Safety in December 2025 from the University of Virginia.

In addition to his professional achievements, Anderson has experience officiating football, having officiated at the junior college level. He values the memories of officiating several 6A state championships and of serving on the

Joint Board of Officials for high school football.

Outside of work, Chief Anderson is a family man, married with three wonderful kids—two boys and one girl. They enjoy boating, fishing, hiking, concerts, and beach vacations together.

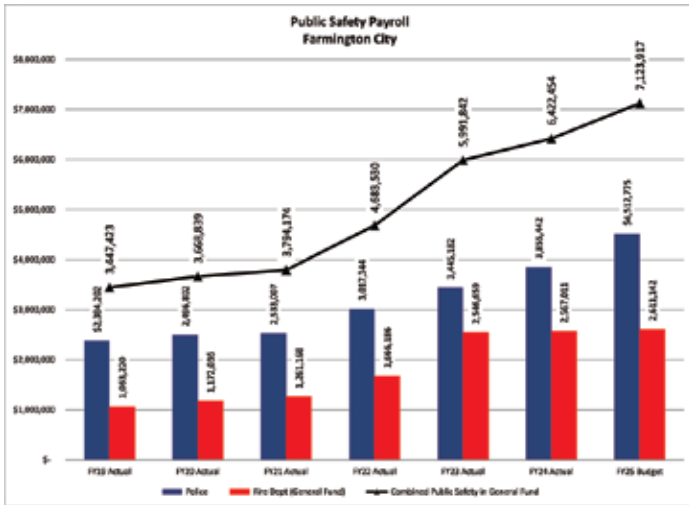
"To be appointed as the chief of police for Farmington City is truly a dream come true," says Anderson. "I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside the amazing men and women of Farmington Police Department, and to serve the community in which I live. Your support and trust mean so much to me and to my family."

Farmington City is incredibly grateful to have Austin Anderson as the new police chief and looks forward to his leadership and contributions.

Many of these issues have been lingering for over twenty years. We are using current revenues to solve problems that have existed for decades. Like you, the city is still trying to get through these latest inflationary cycles. In the past four years, we have seen a significant increase in the cost of providing essential services that exceeded record rates of inflation. For example, total police payroll costs have increased from \$2.5 million to \$3.9 million, and firefighter wages have increased from \$1.2 million to \$2.5 million in the General Fund. Combined public safety payroll was \$6.4 million of the \$10.7 million payroll of the General Fund, reflecting the growing demands of our public safety services. We can no longer push this decision off to another year. As Farmington continues to grow, we need to be able to provide the essential services for all residents, now and in the future. Our immediate priority is the fire station because it will help ensure that our first responders have the tools they need to protect us effectively.



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



Please provide your input at a
**FARMINGTON GENERAL PLAN UPDATE
NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN HOUSE**

South West:
Canyon Creek Elementary
755 S 1100 W
Tuesday, March 4
6:00—7:30 pm

North West:
Eagle Bay Elementary
1933 W Clark Lane
Thursday, March 13
6:00—7:30 pm

North East:
Knowlton Elementary
801 Shepard Lane
Tuesday, March 25
6:00—7:30 pm

South East:
Farmington City Hall
160 S Main Street
Thursday, March 27
6:00—7:30 pm

I recognize that I have not addressed every issue or question relating to the fire station and the possible land sale. We are committed to involving you in this decision. In the coming months, we will host a series of community meetings and public hearings to discuss funding the fire station project, to hear your concerns, and gather your feedback. We want to ensure that your voice is heard as we make this critical decision for the future of Farmington. If you have opinions on the matter, please email me and the city council. We can make better decisions when we receive more feedback and information.

Thank you for your continued support of our city and for your thoughtful consideration of this important issue. Together, we can build a safer, more vibrant community for generations to come.

PLEASE NOTE

An upcoming closure of **Shepard Lane** will begin in April and last 4–5 months.

Watch for more details.

**LOCK IT UP
SELF STORAGE**

50% off
YOUR FIRST 3 MONTHS
on select unit sizes
Call for details. Offer ends 5/30/2024.

CONVENIENT

- COVERED LOADING BAYS
- DRIVE-UP ACCESS UNITS
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SECURE

- STATE OF THE ART SECURITY
- INDIVIDUAL UNIT ALARMS
- SMART KEY APP ACCESS

CLIMATE CONTROL

- TEMPERATURE CONTROLLED UNITS

FREE TRUCK

- FREE MOVING TRUCK FOR MOVE-IN
- MOVING SUPPLIES FOR PURCHASE
- SHREDDING SERVICES AVAILABLE

BOUNTIFUL 620 S 200 W, Bountiful • (801) 397-5700

LAYTON 495 King St • (801) 444-3000

OGDEN 895 Wall Ave • (801) 393-8000

FARMINGTON 761 Lagoon Dr • (801) 682-4881

CLEARFIELD 1500 E 800 S • (801) 444-3000

NORTH OGDEN 305 E 2000 N • (801) 782-2800