TOOELE COUNTY
COMMISSION CONNECTION
2016 SPRING NEWSLETTER

Tooele County - State of the County Address 2016

2015 marked our first year working together, and it was a success. Last year not only brought about increased communication between County Commissioners, at the close of year we also forged new alliances and strengthened old ties with other community leaders and citizens alike. We agreed upon common goals, established benchmarks to gauge our progress, achieved measurable results on several of those goals, and created a balanced budget for the ensuing year. As we begin 2016, we remain committed to build upon last year's successes and have added even more to our to-do list. We expect this year will be even better than the last.

The following represents some of the projects your Tooele County Commissioners are working on:

Planning:

The Governor's Office of Management & Budget (GOMB) has projected that the Tooele Valley will triple our current population by 2040. During the past 15 years, it has doubled. What is now approximately 50,000 residents is expected to become 150,000 before we know it. That makes proper planning all the more important.

At the end of 2014, budgeting was allocated towards updating both Tooele County's Transportation Plan and the General Use Plan. Such documents are supposed to be updated every three to five years, but it's been over ten since they were last reviewed. These plans are vital to managing our communities' growth in coming years. Both of these documents take in to consideration input received from various stakeholders, provided during public meetings. With the drafts of each of these plans now available, the County Commission will meet with city leaders to address any concerns along boundaries between the unincorporated county and city limits.

The County Commission has also committed to performing an assessment of water and sewer needs in the Tooele Valley this year. With the expected growth headed our way, it will become even more important to determine the best placement of wells and expanded sewer services to ensure our growth will not negatively impact our quality of life. That's why we've recently selected an engineering firm to begin this assessment, with results expected by summer. Commissioner Bateman is also the chairman of the state Water Quality Board and will spearhead this effort on behalf of the County.

The Commission will also be reevaluating the master plan for Deseret Peak Complex. The past decade has seen the addition of several types of recreation opportunities at the facility. However, with the growth of our community there will necessarily be changes in recreational trends. We want to ensure that as we grow, we intelligently plan where certain elements are placed on the campus, how traffic patterns will be affected, and that we are able to maintain the grounds as efficiently as possible.

Transportation:

The pioneers that built the first streets in Salt Lake City were wise. They planned wide streets that were easy to navigate and prepared our state for future growth. Like them, the current County Commission has been dedicated to the planning and construction of roads adequate to assist our growing population.

The first step has been updating the Transportation Plan. We have also been working to increase transportation funding for local projects. We continue to work with UDOT and state legislators to address funding for the first phase of the Midvalley Highway. We see the Midvalley Highway as a crucial conduit for our growing economic development interests in the Tooele Valley. More importantly, we believe that the construction of the first phase will help to alleviate current rush-hour congestion and mitigate the severity of accidents along SR36.

We believe that construction of the interchange with I-80 will begin in the next three years and are actively working towards that goal. Our current discussions with other state leaders is further along than at any other point in the project's history. Right-of-way acquisition for the roughly 3.5-mile route is also currently underway. Once fully achieved, our chances for full funding will greatly improve.

The County Commission has also committed to complete the construction of Village Blvd. to SR138 by summer, more than two years ahead of UDOT's scheduled timetable. We have prioritized the completion of the road due to rapid growth in the area and a need for secondary access in and out of the community. This coming year will also see continued progress on the fulfillment of legal obligations to realign South Mtn. Rd., between SR36 and Mormon Trail, along the

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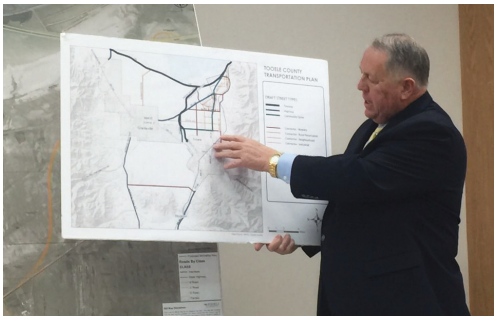
Congratulations Rod Thompson!

Rod Thompson, Tooele County Road Department Director, received the 2016 Charles R. Valentine Award for Excellence in Cold In-Place Recycling from the Asphalt Recycling and Reclaiming Association.

Each year, since 1985, AARA has presented special recognition awards to deserving public officials for their overall professional contribution to the recognition, promotion of the asphalt recycling, and reclaiming industry.

The Tooele County Road Department was also presented the 2016 Friend of Industry Award at the annual UAPA Convention. Willie Jaramillo accepted it on behalf of the County.

Each year, this award is presented to an organization that promotes quality application of asphalt pavements in Utah.



southern property line of the Tooele Army Depot.

The State Legislature also allocated additional funding for roads statewide this past year. Combined with the successful passage of Proposition 1 in Tooele County, these increased funds will help us improve maintenance of county roads, such as Mormon Trail and Droubay Rd.

We will also continue working with elected leaders on both sides of the Oquirrh Mountains to create a long-term plan to address a secondary access between Tooele County and Salt Lake County. Likewise, we'll continue our efforts to assist UTA to secure increased services between our county and the Wasatch Front.

Health:

Tooele County has made significant strides in addressing underage drinking, obesity, diabetes, and substance abuse. But we acknowledge that there's more work to do. We will continue to build upon our successful partnerships with the Tooele County School District, the Housing Authority, Valley Behavioral Health, and others to provide aid and support to those in our community that are in need. The effects of substance abuse are far-reaching and it impacts the lives of neighbors, friends, and family. The County Commission meets regularly with other leaders throughout the state to address this growing concern.

Of particular interest is a statewide program called the Justice Reinvestment Initiative, or JRI. It has far reaching implications and is a joint effort with the State of Utah and county sheriffs. It would address mental and substance abuse from a rehabilitation viewpoint, rather than warehousing people in county jails. It has the potential of providing meaningful change in our criminal justice system. The County Commission will continue to be actively engaged in this process.

Also of note, is that this week the County Health Dept. was awarded a $55,000 grant to mitigate the effects of prescription drug abuse.

Economic Development:

Tooele County is growing. The good news is, so are our employment options. This past year witnessed the opening of both Airgas' and Cabela's new state-of-the-art facilities. With them came hundreds of new local jobs for our citizens.

Due to our low tax structure and inviting regulatory climate, Tooele County and our fellow cities receive regular inquiries from companies that are looking to expand or relocate to our area. These requests-for-information, or RFIs, are fielded by our joint economic development consultant, Randy Sant. Randy is the executive director of the Tooele County Economic Development Committee, comprised of all three County Commissioners and elected officials from Tooele and Grantsville cities. The cooperation among members is unprecedented and is a direct reflection of improved communications countywide.

To further our area's attractiveness, Tooele County recently submitted a grant request to the federal Economic Development Administration through a regional 5-county board, chaired by Commissioner Milne, for the planning and implementation of commercial infrastructure in the middle of Tooele Valley. Working with other regional partners, the County Commission is working cooperatively to ensure we're ahead of the population curve and securing a bright future for local job growth.

Tooele County's statewide profile is improving and others are taking notice. At the end of April, we will have the opportunity to host economic development professionals from throughout the state at a conference focused on corporate recruitment. During the conference, our county's recent successes and future plans will be used as examples of how others can organize their strategies to grow their local economies.

Of course, the continuation of operations at Utah Motorsports Campus (formerly Miller Motorsports Park) has been paramount on the Commission's agenda for the past year. It will continue to be an area of intense concentration this year too. We have entered in to a management agreement with skilled professionals who will ensure that the value of this community asset remains intact for the ensuing year. Meanwhile, the Commission is re-evaluating our sale process and expects to have a successful sale conducted by year's end. This approach will offer the greatest viability of the campus and its economic impact on our surrounding community for years to come.

Cooperation:

The current County Commission set a goal early on last year to improve outreach and communication with other community leaders and citizens alike.

We are pleased to report that we are actively engaged with mayors from all cities within the county at periodic Council of Government meetings, attend council meetings as schedules allow, have initiated a Commission newsletter, and are currently holding town hall meetings with constituents to give updates on the progress of various projects.

We are also in regular contact with members of our DC delegation, keeping them informed of local needs and concerns. Likewise, we regularly meet with leaders of our area's military installations, educational partners, state legislators, the chamber of commerce, and more.

The County Commission is dedicated to working with everyone we represent to improve the way our county functions.

Other projects we are or have worked on include:

- Working with mayors, councils, and state legislators, we succeeded in defeating relocation of the State Prison to either the Miller property or the west side of Grantsville.
- We have committed to assist our USU regional campus with a sizable donation to their new Science & Technology building, which will of course bring more opportunities to our citizens.
- Expansion of the Utah Test & Training Range (UTTR).
- We are sponsoring a CDBG request for the construction of a new Children's Justice Center building, to provide greater security and safety for our workers and the families they serve.
- We are working on a remodel of the Tooele Senior Center, to give the facility a facelift and improve services.
- Public Lands issues and potential endangered species designations.
- Degradation of the Salt Flats and creating a balanced approach to use of our area's natural resources and management of unique geology.

Of course, none of this great work would be possible if not for the support and professionalism of the other County elected officials, department heads, and staff. We are blessed to have the finest employees. They serve the public each day and are happy in their work. We acknowledge and thank them.

So too, each of us are thankful for the unwavering support of our wives and families. They give us strength and purpose. They are our foundation. We are forever grateful for their encouragement and love.

In closing, Tooele County is back on solid footing. We are better today than we have been for a number of years. We are once again moving in the right direction and our momentum is building. We will continue to improve relationships with other community leaders, use technology and innovation to increase efficiency, and strategically plan for the coming growth. By adhering to the tried-n-true principles of conservative budgeting and managed growth, the County Commission is committed to increasing the quality of life for citizens throughout the county.

Calling All Shutterbugs

Submit your favorite Spring photo for a chance to win one (1) 20-Punch Pass to the **Energy Solutions Aquatic Center** at Deseret Peak Complex for the 2016 Season!

The winning entry will be featured in our next **Commission Connection Newsletter!**

Please submit your photo to:

Commissioner Shawn Milne

Email: SMilne.Tooelecounty@gmail.com

A Special Thank You to Kristie Selin, Winner of our Winter Photo Contest!

Coming Soon!

Monthly e-newsletter and Commission blog!

To be first to receive notice when these are available, send an email with "subscribe" in the subject line to: CommissionNewsletter@gmail.com

Tooele Food Bank

Phone # correction 435-566-5936

Items in need are:

Canned Foods
- Chilli
- Stew
- etc

Boxed Dinners
- Mac N Cheese
- Hamburger Helper

Protein based items

Spring Word Search

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AIRY	BEAUTIFUL	BLOOMING
BREEZY	CHEERFUL	CHIRPING
COLORFUL	FLORAL	FLUFFY
GRASSY	HATCHING	PASTEL
PLAYING	RELAXING	SPRINGTIME
SPROUTING	SUNNY	SWIMMING
VIBRANT	WARM	

Congratulations to Alyssa Banks 2016 Miss Tooele County!

Alyssa Banks Crowned Queen

Please also join us in congratulating Kendra Martell as 1st Attendant and Shanna Shepherd as 2nd Attendant!

Kendra Martell 1st Attendant

Shanna Shepherd 2nd Attendant

Special Recognition to Jenny Fawson,

Utah's SBDC "Small Business of the Year" recipient.

Through hard work, dedication, and sacrifice, Grantsville business owner Jenny Fawson grew her home-based daycare in to a 20-employee business, Kidsville Early Learning Center.

Tooele County Chamber of Commerce Community Events

April 2016:

20th : Tooele County Emergency Management luncheon at noon. Location is TBD. Please contact the Chamber of Commerce at 435-882-0690 to R.S.V.P.

21st: Tooele County Business Expo & conference from 8AM—3PM at the TATC building located at:
88 South Tooele Blvd

June 2016:
10th: Tooele County Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament at Oquirrh Hills Golf Course.

TOOELE COUNTY

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

7 p.m. - March 9	**Stockton Town Hall**
7 p.m. - March 16	**Lake Point Fire Station**
7 p.m. - March 23	**Grantsville City Library**
7 p.m. - March 30	**Vernon (TBD)**
7 p.m. - April 6	**Wendover Community Center**

Open Q&A with the Public