

Mayor's Report
04 April 2022 – 09 April 2022
Larry Jacobsen

******* Tell Your Neighbors *******



Free trees and shrubs! If you have ever visited our yard, then you can tell that Becky and I like trees and shrubs. So much so that our yard might border on the wild side (my opinion, only). Either way, the birds and pollinators seem to like it. Many of our plants originated as small bare root starts that we purchased through the Utah Association of Conservation Districts. To honor Nibley as a Tree City USA, and to thank the citizens of Nibley for welcoming us as part of the community, Becky and I are donating trees and shrubs for you to plant in your yards. We purchased 120 bare root starts and we will give them away at **6:00 pm on 25 April 2022 at Nibley City Hall**. To give more people a chance, we will ask each family to start with two plants for the first half hour, and then increase the limit until everything finds a good home. See you there! Please call or text Becky (435-757-6283) or me (435-512-7495) if you have questions.

Here are the type of bare root starts available.

- Peach Leaf Willow
- Golden Currant
- Nanking Cherry
- Red Splendor Crabapple
- Red Osier Dogwood

Here are some of the things I worked on this week, and an indication to what's going on in Nibley City governance.

- Nibley and Caldwell Youth Councils
- US-89/91: 3200 S and 2600 S Updates
- Mayor's Association
- Upcoming Public Hearings at P&Z

Rather than type full names and titles throughout this report, I use these references.

Justin	Justin Maughan, City Manager
Darren	Darren Farar, Engineer
Levi	Levi Robers, Planner
Cheryl	Cheryl Bodily, Recorder



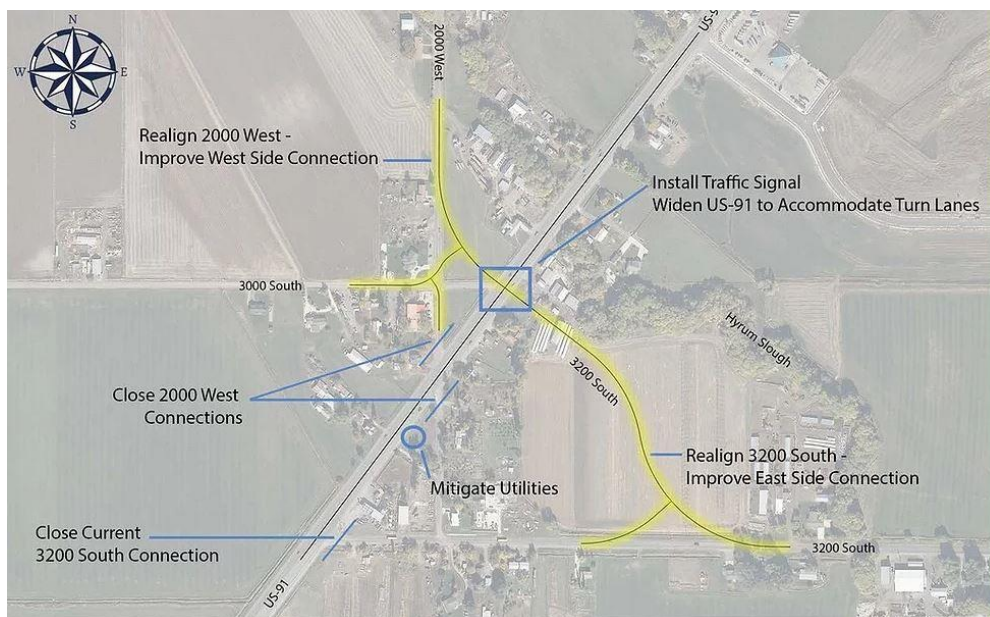
Lunch with Nibley and Caldwell Youth Councils. This was the highlight of my week! Caldwell, Idaho is a city of about 70k people located halfway between Boise and the Oregon border. Jarom Wagoner, Caldwell's Mayor, contacted me (I didn't know him before) to tell me that he, his wife, and Caldwell's



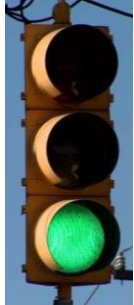
Youth Council, were road-tripping to Lagoon for the weekend and Caldwell's Youth were interested in meeting Nibley's Youth. Despite Nibley schools being out on spring break, Shauna Young (Nibley Youth Council Leader) organized several Nibley youth to meet and have lunch with the Caldwell youth. I so appreciate Anna, Ben, and Maddie representing Nibley and hanging out with us at City Hall. I had a blast, and I hope the kids did too. While having lunch, we started talking about Youth Council activities, and our conversation continued with challenges that our two towns face – what we have in common and where we might be different. We talked about governance all the way from the municipal level up to the federal level, and back down. Rats, I just realized that I owe Maddie an apology. She was going to do an icebreaker to help get the conversation going, and after nearly two hours of chatting, we never got to the icebreaker. Note to self: I need to spend some time with the Nibley Youth Council – if they will let me.



US-89/91 Update. I hope you aren't tired of hearing about the highway to the west. US-89/91 is going to be an increasingly important part of Nibley. It figures heavily into our future – from a safety standpoint as well as commercial potential that will build Nibley's property and sales tax bases. Traffic signals are the key. The US-89/91 Corridor Plan call a stop light at a realigned 3200 S and either 2600 S or 2300 S. It is all but certain that the second light will be at 2600 S. That's a good spot for Nibley. Justin and I attended a Region 1 UDOT meeting for an update on both traffic lights. Justin interrupted his vacation to "zoom in" to the meeting. What a guy! The 3200 S light construction will start this summer, but a new road must be built to veer north from the 3200 S to meet the new light. I mentioned previously how an earlier plan to signalize the existing 3200 S location fell through, and I showed the new plan for 3200 S. Here it is again.



Although the 3200 S traffic light construction is supposed to start this summer, the new road to get to the new light is at the property-acquisition stage. This new road and completed intersection won't come along until the summer of 2023.



Regarding the traffic signalization at 2600 S, we have additional process in front of us. You may have noticed a paved road on the west end of 2600 S that is currently blocked. That road was built and is owned by a private landowner. That landowner has not opened the road to the public. Nibley City and the landowner want to get to the same point - eventually. Specifically, a light on US-89/91 and Nibley owning (and maintaining) the new 2600 S road. However, the two parties are on different timelines. The landowner wants a faster process because the traffic light will enhance the value of his land, and Nibley City wants to proceed with caution. UDOT's traffic-signal process starts with having an intersection with roads that are open, then doing a traffic study to warrant a light, and eventually building the light. The landowner wants to open the road, but only when Nibley City is responsible for the road, which means Nibley taking ownership of it. Nibley City could be at risk if we take ownership of a road that isn't finished. "Finished" means all the utilities are installed that go under the road, as well as the curb, sidewalk, and landscaping being completed. Although you see pavement, these other things are not done. They usually happen when the land around the road subdivides and develops.

The risk to Nibley in taking an incomplete road is that Nibley's citizens could get stuck with finishing it. I worked with Rob Patterson, Nibley City Attorney, to consider a partial dedication of the road. This would mean Nibley City takes ownership – and responsibility – of the center strip of road that is finished and wait to take ownership of the rest of the road that isn't finished. With Rob's help, I believe we can make this work. On similar note, we will ensure that the center strip of road is built to Nibley technical standards before taking even a partial dedication. You will likely hear about the traffic light and this road again (and again, and again) before everything is finalized. This is happening outside our normal process, and Nibley City needs to proceed with caution. As mentioned, I believe it will be worth it.

Mayor's Association. Becky and I attended a Cache Mayor's Association function on Saturday. As mentioned earlier, this is largely a social function (not my best subject), but I do get to call it a "date night". I was able to follow up with David Hair of Millville and Stephanie Miller of Hyrum on a couple of items. In addition, we listened to a legislative update from our local State Senators and Representatives. The allotted time was too short, and the audience was too big to get into meaningful details (my opinion). One-on-one, I have started pressing our state legislators to help us figure out how cities, towns, and the unincorporated parts of the county can work with each other rather than against each other. We shall see.



Planning and Zoning Public Hearings. Finally, there are a couple of meaningful Public Hearings at the Planning Commission on 14 April. I hope you will have a look at the P&Z agenda (<http://nibleycity.com/index.php/government/planning-zoning/planning-zoning-agendas-minutes>) and offer comments at the hearing, send a message to Levi, or contact a Councilmember (including me). Depending on what happens at P&Z, these items will hit the 28 April City Council Agenda.

Thanks for reading, boss. Please call, text, or email.

Larry

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