

Mayor's Report

09 May 2022 – 14 May 2022

Larry Jacobsen

Here is my Status Report for the week.

3200 South Roundabout East-West Opening. It was great to see part of the new roundabout open to traffic. I know closing 3200 South has been a huge inconvenience for residents. The staff and I appreciate your patience on this important project.

More on 2600 South. I reported in April about the road at 2600 South that was constructed by a private landowner. That is the usual course of events. Developers build roads in conjunction with their development, and once those roads are completed, Nibley City accepts ownership. What's different about 2600 South is the request of the developer for Nibley City to accept ownership before it is completed with curb, gutter, sidewalk, and landscaping. There is risk to Nibley with that early acceptance because we could lose leverage with the developer to ensure the road is finished to our standards. We are working on a process to eliminate that risk.

E-Bike Loan. Bike Utah, in conjunction with the Cache County Trails and Active Transportation, lent me an electric bike for a few days. Because the bike loan was worth more than \$50, I reported it in Thursday's City Council meeting in accordance with Utah State Code. The bike was a pedal-assist version, and the human interface was interesting. The motor's goal was to help me maintain a 19 to 20 MPH speed while I was pedaling. I rode the bike to and from Campbell Scientific for a couple of days, and it wasn't just coasting. In fact, the real-time display reported the range left in the battery, and it was fun to pedal hard enough to maximize that range. I used to wonder if an e-bike was more like a motorcycle or a bicycle. I'm going with bicycle.

Trash collection. I have reported several times about working with other mayors and with Cache County to replace our garbage collection and landfilling now that Logan has announced they will be terminating that contract, effective in about a year. The short-term focus is to create a special service district and contract for a few years with a private company. This approach does not satisfy the long-term objective of ownership of capital assets that will be developed in conjunction with, and with fees collected from, the trash collection contract. Case in point, we are all disappointed that Logan owns a brand-new landfill, developed with help from Cache County and with fees from trash-collection contracts that we all paid into over the years. The two-prong approach – short term and long term – will give us the best solution. We aren't there yet, but we can solve this.

Budget. I spent a reasonable effort on the introduction letter in next year's budget. Nibley City is in a sound financial position. Despite that, we face some challenges that all employers are facing. Specifically, inflation and extremely low unemployment. I will hold off on additional comments and encourage you to get involved in the budgetary process.

CPR Training. Chris Searle, Nibley's Emergency Response Coordinator, gave the staff training on CPR training. The staff let me tag along, and I appreciated the opportunity.

Mayor's Association. The Cache Valley Mayors met on something other than trash collection on Saturday! Sheriff Chad Jensen gave us an update on the animal shelter that is currently under construction. This is going to be a valuable facility. The mayors made numerous of comments about feral

cats, even though there is not a current plan to house cats at the new facility. Certainly, this is an onerous problem and one that we must deal with humanely and cost effectively. I noted to the other mayors that we are lucky that feral cats – rather than more serious issues that some cities face – are at the top our list of things to discuss with law enforcement.

Thanks for reading this report. You are my boss. Please let me know what you are thinking. Call, text, or email.

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