

Mayor's Report

3 October 2022 – 15 October 2022

Larry Jacobsen

Greetings, Boss. Here is my status report with some of the Nibley activities for the first two weeks in October.

Cache Metropolitan Planning Organization (CMPO)

I talked in my last report about Nibley's request to the CMPO for a three-phase project totaling \$4.6M to build 1200 West. The 19 mayors and county executive are currently scoring the different requests from around the county. These scores, along with a technical rating, will determine how \$7.5M from our local-option transportation sales tax will be distributed this year. I had several conversations with mayors following up after our presentation on 3 October. We are still hopeful that at least some of our Nibley phases will be funded this year. We should know the recommendation that the CMPO will send to the County Council by 24 October.

Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT) Annual Conference

We have two chances each year to attend conferences with other cities and towns from around Utah. Over the past twenty years, this has been a great opportunity to learn the powers and duties of elected and appointed officials, along with land-use principles and municipal governance. The Annual Conference was in Salt Lake City on October 5 – 7, and several Council Members, Planning Commissioners, and Staff attended. I admit that after twenty years of attending these conferences, I have heard much of the information before. However, there are always new things to catch up on. In addition, the ULCT is an active and productive Utah legislative lobby for municipalities. There are always new legislative issues, especially when the legislature tries to shift local control to the state level.

This conference was all about growth in Utah. Perhaps you know that the 2020 Census showed that Utah's population grew faster than any other state at 18.4 percent since the 2010 Census. Keeping up with that statistic brings its own set of challenges - challenges that we are all aware of. This growth is driven by economic success, and as I have previously mentioned, we might have too much of a good thing. Without feeling sorry for ourselves, I believe local cities and towns take the brunt of the responsibility to deal with the unintended consequences of the rapid growth associated with very strong economic success. Open space preservation, obtainable housing, transportation congestion, environmental impacts, and our quality of life are things that most cities and towns in Utah are trying to deal with. We will keep working to understand that economic development is about more than creating jobs. It is also about the people that fill those jobs and their quality of life.

Backpacking

OK, not part of my job with Nibley City. Regardless, I blew the dust off the gear that I bought 45 years ago (and haven't used for nearly that long) to spend a few days backpacking with our oldest daughter. We had a great time with beautiful fall weather in the Mount Olympus area outside Salt Lake City. I'm trying to figure out why I let that gear sit idle for all those years. I can't wait for our next trip.

Thanks for reading. Please call, text, or write anytime.

Larry

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