

## **Mayor's Report**

**6 November 2023 – 18 November 2023**

Larry Jacobsen

Greetings, boss! Thanks for reading. Although I usually sync these status reports with upcoming City Council meetings, we are not having a second council meeting in November due to Thanksgiving. Nevertheless, I decided to write a status report anyway. These reports are not intended to replace the official public notifications on Nibley's website ([www.nibleycity.com](http://www.nibleycity.com)) and the Utah Public Notice website ([www.utah.gov/pmnl/](http://www.utah.gov/pmnl/)), but rather to provide advance information about what the city is working on before the official notifications.

Here are the topics in this status report:

- **Cache Valley Historical Society: Lecture on the Logan Library**
- **Possible New Connection between US 89/91 and Hwy 165**
- **New Intersection on US 89/91 and 3200 South**
- **Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute: The New Utah**
- **2600 South**

### **Cache Valley Historical Society: Lecture on the Logan Library**

Here is a warm-up question: What do libraries and trash collection in Cache County have in common? Here is a story that eventually gets to an answer.

I have mentioned previously my appreciation for the history of Cache Valley. Despite it having nothing to do with being Nibley's Mayor, I found myself on the board for Cache Valley Historical Society 18 months ago. One of the best things the board does is sponsor monthly (roughly) lectures on Cache Valley history. I wasn't all that enthused about the latest topic, a History of the Logan Library, but I underestimated the topic. Joseph Anderson, Assistant Director of the Logan Library, gave the lecture. My lack of enthusiasm prior to the lecture stemmed from a small chip on my shoulder about not having a county-wide library system. However, I learned from the lecture that Cache County did, in fact, have a county library in the beginning that started from a cooperative effort between the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and Saint John's Episcopal Church. What a great community effort! I was impressed to learn that these two religious organizations donated their own collections to start the Cache County Library. The early county library moved a number of times, but for many years it was located at 100 East and 100 North. You might remember it. This was a county library and equally accessible to all county residents until the mid-1970s when the Cache County Council turned the library over to Logan City. To answer the warm-up question, that was also about the time that Cache County turned trash collection over to Logan City. Although it's been fifty years, we have recently been affected by the 1970s trash-collection decision when Logan decided to terminate trash service outside their boundaries. I feel we are still affected by the decision to not have a county-wide library service (there is a modest county library located in Providence City). If anyone has insight into what seems to be a 1970s attitude of "letting Logan take care of it," I would love to learn about it. There have been several unsuccessful attempts at a county-wide library service since then,

including a ballot referendum that the majority of voters opposed in 2010. In the meantime, I am thankful for the cooperation that Hyrum City shows Nibley residents by making their library available to us with very reasonable terms.

If you are a history buff like me, here is a pitch for the Cache Valley Historical Society. Lectures start again in January, and you can get more information at the society's Facebook page.

### **Possible New Connection between US 89/91 and Hwy 165**

I attended an advance-planning session discussing the possibility of a new transportation corridor that would connect US 89/91 and Hwy 165 and be located between Hyrum and Nibley. One of the reasons to consider this new corridor is to mitigate the impact to Hyrum City from the current location of Hwy 101. The thought is to find an east-west alternative to Hyrum's historic Main Street, perhaps in the vicinity of 4400 South. This possible corridor would also relieve east-west traffic in Nibley. Nibley and Hyrum have previously discussed the possibility of 4400 South being the future dividing line between our cities. We both understand the importance of establishing that dividing line, along with agreed-on land uses on that line, before development pressures pit our two cities against one another. The 4400 South route is not a sure thing. As property owners along that line voiced at the meeting, that area represents prime agricultural ground that might be impacted by a transportation corridor. As mentioned, it's early days on this topic. The goal of the current study is simply to identify a possible location for this east-west corridor.

### **New Intersection on US 89/91 and 3200 South**

Let's celebrate UDOT's completion of the realignment of 3200 S and US 89/91, including the new traffic signal. While stopping traffic on US 89/91 might not be welcomed by Logan residents, the light gives Nibley residents a much safer access to the highway.

### **Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute: The New Utah**

I recently learned at a Bear River Association of Governments meeting about a new publication from the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute describing "The New Utah." It might not surprise you to learn that Utah is (1) moving from a small to medium-sized state, is (2) experiencing decreased fertility rates and increased immigration rates, has (3) an aging population, is (4) increasingly multicultural, is (5) converting a strong economy into an elite economy, and (5) struggles to achieve affordable housing. Because the information in this report represents change, it won't be welcome news for everyone. Nevertheless, Nibley City should be aware of the information in this report. I look forward to additional information more specific to Cache County as it becomes available. I pasted a link to the document below.

<https://gardner.utah.edu/wp-content/uploads/NewUtah-Main-Oct2023.pdf?x71849>

## **2600 South**

Although it has been a long time in the making, I am optimistic that Nibley City is closing in on safely accepting the dedication of 2600 South that is west of 1200 West. Although open to traffic, that section of road is currently under private ownership. This area north of 2600 South and adjacent to US 89/91 represents an opportunity for economic development in Nibley. That economic development won't happen without the dedication of 2600 South. However, we have demanded that the landowner or eventual developer be responsible for completing the unfinished road rather than Nibley's citizens. In recent meetings, the Nibley City Council adopted agreements that would (1) subdivide the area on the west of 2600 South, (2) rezone that same area to Commercial, and (3) accept the road dedication with the legal guarantee that the road will be fully completed by the landowner or developer when the property is developed. The latest wrinkle was Nibley City's expectation of the landowner to warrant the road as outlined by our ordinance. Because the road is already nearly two years old (although not traveled on until recently), the landowner initially balked at Nibley's expectation of an additional year of warranty. However, the landowner verbally agreed last week to the warranty conditions that the council adopted.

I sincerely hope that you have a peaceful celebration of giving thanks for the wonderful place that we live, for our families and friends, and for the community that we enjoy as residents of Nibley.

Please call, text, or write anytime. If you would like me to send you these reports, please let me know with an email. I promise I will not share your email address or use it to campaign during an election.

Thank you for hiring me for this job,  
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My continued thanks to volunteer Leslie Maughan for proofreading and reviewing these reports for clarity before you see them.