



The Eagle's View

City News Aug. 31, 2021 Eagle Mountain City Government

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A city with a business perspective



1 - Mayor Tom Westmoreland

For years, Eagle Mountain's struggle for economic development seemed like a dead end.

Eight years ago, all the city could do was get Ridley's grocery store to locate here because Eagle Mountain was literally the end of the line, did not fit the established criteria and, therefore, was considered high risk. The things businesses typically look for such as large daytime population or drive-through traffic weren't present and Eagle Mountain would not possess for many years.

Let's look at why businesses choose one city over another. There are many factors that businesses use to determine where they might expand. Population, education, labor market, household income, political climate and cost of doing business all factor into the equation, but for most businesses location is the most important factor. This is especially true with retail.

Our sister cities to the east have location; meaning, we drive through their cities and spend money. So, they use our population combined with theirs for the basis of their economic development.

Since we don't have location or several other factors that businesses need, we had to create it. Instead of focusing on retail and commercial businesses, we focused on industrial development. Companies like Facebook and Tyson give us the daytime population we need to drive the retail.

We then created the Eagle Mountain Chamber of Commerce to provide a way for our business community to connect and to assist our small business owners.

Now, businesses want to be here and, once here, are doing well. There is a high degree of business confidence in Eagle Mountain. For 2021, Wallet Hub named Eagle Mountain top 25 in the nation for “Best Small Cities for Starting a Business.” We have come a long way. We now have three Fortune 100 companies and dozens of retail establishments being planned or in development in several retail centers around the city.

These local businesses are important because they bring with them convenient shopping, jobs, tax revenue, roads, water, resources in an emergency, and respect and influence around the state.

We understand that when more tax revenue is created through business, that relieves tax burdens that would otherwise fall directly on homeowners. In other words, a strong local economy helps keep property taxes low. For this reason, many cities consider themselves to be business-friendly. However, if we are to be prepared to meet the challenges of an increasingly uncertain world, we must learn to be an economic development powerhouse.

That means better understanding the world of business and economics, then applying it to the way we think and function as a city.

It has been said that the poor buy liabilities, the wealthy buy assets, and the middle class buy liabilities that they believe are assets. Another way it has been said is, poor people spend their money, the middle class saves their money, and the wealthy invest their money.

In the book “The Richest Man In Babylon” (first published in 1926 by George S. Clason), disciplines of wealth building are dealt with in an entertaining and detailed fashion. These concepts work on a personal level, in business and in local government.

I want to state this before we go any further: building wealth can be motivated by greed, but that does not have to be our motivation. There can be as many different motivations as there are people. It is up to us, just like any other ability we acquire, to use it for good, for bad, or even just give it away.

I think that wealth building should be our base, a common sense, and something we just do as free Americans. It is not so important the amount of money we make but the fact that we are creating value where there once was none.

Some people create value and wealth, not for themselves, but for other people. I believe this is the proper role and best practice of local government: to create value for which the residents are the beneficiaries.

I do not believe the proper role, or best practices, of government is to merely tax and spend. Anybody can tax and spend, following the financial practices of the poor. When this happens in a state or a city, both thinking and spending are limited by base tax revenue. Then, the only way forward is to raise taxes or borrow money. In this scenario, it doesn’t matter how much revenue you bring in because you are always in a danger of expenses exceeding revenue.

Some may manage tax dollars better and spend it more wisely, following the financial practices of the middle class. This is much better than tax and spend but it still falls short of potential. It is still driven by short-term goals. Goals that are based in the satisfaction of fulfilling some perceived deficiency, or the resolution of some existing problem.

For too long we have thought and acted like a poor or middle class-minded city. We need to start managing our resources like we want to make Eagle Mountain a wealthy city. Applying the lessons taught in the Richest Man In Babylon, we need to consider our return on investment (ROI) in everything we do.

In other words, we need to build the highest value possible in our city. This value-based mindset will help us focus on the right things and worry less about the wrong things. By building value, we also build quality of life because we can afford to preserve open space for wildlife and outdoor recreation and we can afford to build roads and improve services.

Here is where economic development gets really exciting. For much of what we need, we don't have to wait until we can afford it, we can use other people's money now.

By other people's money I mean Fortune 100-company money. For example, Facebook and Tyson together have invested approximately \$130 million toward infrastructure in our city, and they continue to invest in Eagle Mountain to improve the quality of life here.

By continuing to make economic development a priority and use ROI as our focus, we can accomplish some very impressive things. We will be able to do things that haven't been done in other cities.

By acting quickly and decisively, we just might stay ahead of this crazy world. We just might create a place of safety and plenty.

Mayor Tom Westmoreland

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Know the code - Street parking



We all know the song lyric, "They paved paradise and put up a parking lot."

While nobody wants a city full of parking lots -- especially in their neighborhood -- everyone needs a place to park their vehicle. That place is often on the side of the street.

Parking on a public street comes with rules and regulations that everyone needs to follow. Common courtesy suggests the following actions:

- The sidewalk is intended for safe pedestrian travel, including children. Cars parked on sidewalks send pedestrians into the street.
- Park by your own house rather than in front of a neighbor's house. If you feel you need to park by a neighbor's house, make sure they are OK with it.
- Don't park on, or near, a crosswalk; or by a fire hydrant, for obvious safety reasons.
- Park in a way that doesn't block traffic or make it difficult to see around a corner.
- Park in your garage or driveway whenever possible.

Eagle Mountain also has regulations that govern parking within City limits. Here are the regulations to keep in mind:

10.10.010 "No Parking" Zones

A. Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or in compliance with law, the directions of a peace officer, or a traffic-control device, a person may not:

1. Stop, stand, or park a vehicle:

a. On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge of the curb of a street (double parking);

b. On a sidewalk;

c. Within an intersection;

d. On a crosswalk;

e. Between a safety zone and the adjacent curb or within 30 feet of points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone, unless a different length is indicated by signs or markings;

f. Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when stopping, standing, or parking would obstruct traffic;

g. On any bridge or other elevated structure, on a highway, or within a highway tunnel;

h. On any controlled-access highway;

i. In the area between roadways of a divided highway, including crossovers; or

2. Stand or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except momentarily to pick up or discharge a passenger or passengers:

a. In front of a public or private driveway without owner's permission;

b. Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant;

c. Within 20 feet of a crosswalk;

d. Within 30 feet upon the approach to any flashing signal, stop sign, yield sign, or traffic-control signal located at the side of a roadway;

e. Within 20 feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station and on the side of a street opposite the entrance to any fire station within 75 feet of the entrance when properly signposted;

f. At any place where a traffic-control device prohibits standing;

g. Within 30 feet from start of curb curvature leading up to an intersection (including roundabouts);

h. Opposite the flow of traffic; or

3. Park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading property or passengers:

a. Within 50 feet of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing; or

b. At any place where traffic-control devices prohibit parking.

B. A person may not move a vehicle that is not lawfully under the person's control into any prohibited area or into an unlawful distance from the curb.

C. This section does not apply to a tow truck motor carrier responding to a customer service call if the tow truck motor carrier has already received authorization from the local law enforcement agency in the jurisdiction where the vehicle to be towed is located.

D. It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle or leave any vehicle standing unattended in Eagle Mountain City on park strips, sidewalks or a city street marked as a "no parking" zone either by signage or by curb marking established by authority of the city.

E. Parking may be restricted on one side of surface streets when the width of asphalt is less than 28 feet.

F. Parking may be restricted on one side of surface streets when the width of asphalt is less than 36 feet and vehicle ADT (average daily trips) exceeds 6,000.

G. In addition to the specific parking restrictions set forth in this section, parking may also be restricted or prohibited wherever city staff deems necessary to provide for the health and safety of residents of the city.

10.10.030 Parking on Public Streets Without Being Moved

It is unlawful to leave any vehicle parked on a public street for longer than 72 hours without being moved.

10.10.040 Enforcement

Penalties associated with violations of this article shall be consistent with the consolidated fee schedule as adopted by the City Council and/or towing and removal by the City.

10.10.100 Parking prohibited on Public Streets – Exceptions

A. It is unlawful to park any:

1. Commercial vehicle, agricultural vehicle, recreational vehicle, occupied or empty trailer or truck on any public street within a residential zone of the city for a period of time longer than 24 hours;
2. Agricultural vehicle, recreational vehicle, occupied or empty trailer, or truck within the front yard area of any residential zone of the city; or
3. Commercial vehicle on any lot or parcel within any residential zone of the city.

B. Exceptions. This section shall not restrict the temporary parking or stopping of a city vehicle or of a vehicle owned and/or operated by a public utility for the purpose of conducting repairs or related work. This section shall not restrict the temporary parking of vehicles actively used to deliver building supplies and materials to property in any residential zone, nor shall it prohibit the temporary parking of vehicles used while performing work upon property in residential zones.

10.10.110 Towing Authorized

In addition to the fines adopted in the consolidated fee schedule and all other penalties authorized by law, and at the expense of the owner, any vehicle or trailer parked in violation of this article may be towed to impound.

Congressman Burgess Owens hosts town hall

For Congressman Burgess Owens, "We the People" is the most powerful phrase in human history.

"I'm more encouraged than ever before," said Owens. "We have more people being educated, deciding to get engaged and taking that punch. Because it's going to be We the People that makes sure our country continues to move forward in the right direction."

The first-term Republican, representing Utah's 4th Congressional District, hosted a public town hall in council chambers at Eagle Mountain City Hall on Tuesday, Aug. 31. Town halls are designed to give the public an opportunity to ask specific questions of their elected representatives in Congress.

Greeting the room full of Eagle Mountain residents, Boy Scouts and local elected leaders, Rep. Owens focused his initial comments on a theme common throughout his campaign: a set of core values.

"When you're totally committed to faith, family, free markets and education, when you know that this is truly the gateway out, that you will command respect because of it, we as a community in the 1940s, 50s and 60s...part of our history of what we have done as We the People has been to delete it, and I think it's time to bring it back," Owens said.

Born in the segregated south, Owens referred to his time growing up in Tallahassee, Florida in the 1960s, and pointed to how far the United States has come on many issues.

"It is an amazing thing to see our country grow."

Those values that Owens says were ingrained in him as a child are, according to the congressman, still found in Utah.

Rep. Owens added The Beehive State is one of the few places that gets values right by prioritizing innovation, service and embracing others.

The former NFL free safety and nonprofit executive referenced many of those values when he put himself in the center of the debate around Critical Race Theory by introducing [a bill](#) in May to restrict its teaching in federal institutions as well as a resolution to highlight "the dangers of teaching CRT in U.S. schools," according to a statement from Owens' office.

"I see that as one of the most evil ideologies in our country today," Owens said following a resident question. "When I say this, guys, I'm talking from experience. When you start teaching kids how to hate each other because of skin color, you've got a mess."

Owens defeated Rep. Ben McAdams, D-UT4, in the 2020 General Election in a highly contested and relatively close race. The 4th congressional district encompasses parts of Salt Lake, Juab and Sanpete counties.

Fielding several questions from residents on the topic of education, specifically on education outcomes and federal funding for students with disabilities, Rep. Owens alluded to his support for school choice and local control.

"The best outcome for education is giving parents a choice and once we have choice, we bring in meritocracy. Guess who wins? Those who are giving the best education outcomes to our kids because that's their product," Owens said.

Owens is being challenged in the 2022 Republican primary by [Jake Hunsaker, R-Riverton](#), in the 4th district congressional race in 2022. Hunsaker declared his candidacy for the seat in early August and launched his campaign a couple weeks later. Hunsaker has spent his professional life working for Goldman Sachs and Google, Inc., according to his campaign material.

Throughout the Aug. 31 town hall, residents peppered Owens with questions about Afghanistan, agriculture and drought. Owens specifically commented on what federal representatives can do to combine forces to address the west's water woes.

Utah is facing an historic dry spell that has placed 100% of the state in a [severe drought](#). Owens says that, at the federal level, considerations need to be made that allow Utah to capture water earlier and use it "the right way."

"It shouldn't take a crisis to finally get it," Owens said. "We are the people that plan, that look ahead, that make sure that when tough times come, we have some resources to make it through this."

Individuals and volunteers representing the Utah State Democratic Committee were [handing out literature](#) combating some of Owens' messaging at the town hall. One questioner affiliated with the group pressed Owens about the nonprofit Second Chance 4 Youth, the subject of [a story](#) by the Utah Investigative Journalism Project and The Salt Lake Tribune.

"This is what we call disrespect," Owens said to the question. "Let me tell you what's interesting. When people don't really care about truth, this is what happens. No I am not receiving anymore money. Yes, I am still consulting with them because it is my dream."

The town hall ended with Owen's field office offering their assistance to residents of the 4th congressional district with local problems and help with federal agencies. Residents can contact their federal representatives in Congress [here](#).

Wildlife - Bird migration in full swing



If you observe the bird population in Eagle Mountain, you may notice a shift in species as the seasons change.

The city is strategically situated along an important Western Hemisphere migratory path which is in full-swing this time of year. July and August are just the beginning. For instance, Bullock's Oriole migration peaks in August and September, according to Journey North, a publication of the Arboretum at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Few of the Orioles remain in the northern part of their range past August. They are off to their wintering grounds in Mexico. Any stragglers may die as winter becomes too severe for them.

For some species, the changes in daylight duration and the abundance of flowers and insects play a part in what triggers their travel to warmer climes. Powerful instincts also play a role in their decision to migrate.

Just as residents are able to observe the arrival of various bird species in the spring and winter, we can also watch as they begin their fall migration to the south.

In addition to the local area, there are three national wildlife refuges in Utah. There are hundreds of different bird species located in these refuge areas, and other birding locations.

One of the most popular sites is northern Utah's Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. It is considered one of the top 10 locations for birding in the world and is the summer home of millions of migratory birds, including: the American White Pelican, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, White-faced Ibis and Snowy Plover.

The Great Salt Lake and its nearby wetlands are the main areas for millions of migratory waterfowl and shorebirds during spring and autumn. Each year in May, there is a bird festival held in Utah. Antelope Island, Mirror Lake, as well as the nearby Provo and Jordan Rivers are also good places for birdwatching.

There are myriad other areas to catch migratory birds here in Utah. Peak time for observing the fall migration is July through September. The spring migration peak time is late-March through May.

Eagle Mountain residents can visit the [Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge](#) (located near Brigham City) during the month of September. You will notice that the alkali and hardstem bulrush in the marsh have turned from bright summer green to the brown tones of fall.

You can bid farewell to the American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Snowy Plover, Long-billed Curlew, Franklin's Gull and White-faced Ibis as they depart. The California Gulls begin to leave as the Ring-billed Gull arrives. Northern Harriers are arriving in large numbers to the refuge from their breeding grounds even further north, according to the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge.

The Tundra Swan stop here in November for a respite on their way to California from their western Alaska summer home. There is something new to see every month of the year at this important refuge.

Here in Eagle Mountain, there are myriad bird species that pass through on their migratory path at the same time as those birds who have been here in summer begin to leave.

Hummingbirds are leaving as well as migrating through and need sustenance to keep up their energy needs. Hummingbird feeders (no red dye, please – it's harmful) should be kept full and cleaned frequently.

A good variety of wild birdseed would help the seed eaters along their way. It is worth noting that thousands of birds are flying overhead at night. For instance, Aug. 19 - 21, there were upwards of 2,000 birds/kilometer flying over Eagle Mountain at night.

More information on night migration forecasts can be found at the [BirdCast Alerts](#) website.

Some of them may be honking and encouraging each other on as they travel the many miles to their final destination, some as far away as Central America. As they arrive, there is a great gathering of the various species and much enthusiastic communication among the flocks.

New business development

Embed://<iframe src="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/e/2PACX-1vS2ESW-FoK18HUp7VxR1mjaGRzhgSp35FmjL7CfHhNdsSg6BrtUMogp3eUeXHF-Q/pubhtml?widget=true&headers=false"></iframe>

Eagle Mountain continues to grow. Follow along each month as we track the progress of businesses with plans to locate in the city.

City Council candidates advance to November



The Eagle Mountain City Board of Canvassers held a meeting Aug. 24, 2021 to certify and approve the results of the municipal primary election. Following unanimous approval by the board:

- Brett Wright
- Rich Wood
- Donna Rivera Burnham
- Jason Allen

These candidates will vie for two available seats on the Eagle Mountain City Council. Candidates Tom Westmoreland and Melissa Clark will face off in the mayoral race. The municipal general election will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2021. More information will be provided on voting availability as Election Day draws closer.

Emergency prep - National preparedness month



National Preparedness Month is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster and emergency preparedness.

The current pandemic, Hurricane Ida and the wildfires of the past few years has reminded us of the importance of preparing for disasters. Here are a few things you can do to prepare yourself and your family:

1. Know the risk of disaster in your area and what common types of disasters you might encounter – this will help you plan appropriately.
2. Prepare a 72-Hour Emergency Kit with an adequate three-day supply for each family member and periodically use and replace your 72-Hour Emergency Preparedness Kit perishable supplies. Include medication or other unique items needed on a daily basis.
3. Prepare a family communication and reunion plan in the event family members are separated during the emergency.
4. Maintain a list of emergency numbers including key contacts you may need after the disaster. Include at least one out of town contact.
5. Have a home evacuation plan and practice periodically with your family. Designate a meeting spot outside your home and a second one outside of your neighborhood in the event that it is not safe to stay near your home.
6. Request a copy of the school's emergency plan for your child and incorporate this into your family's emergency plan. Make sure your contact information is up-to-date with the school so you can be reached in the event of an emergency. Do the same with your workplace.
7. Find out in advance how to care for your pets and other animals when disaster strikes. Most emergency shelters cannot house animals. Also be sure to store extra food and water for your pets.
8. Take a safety walk through your home to identify potential hazards and fix them:
 - Secured water heater
 - Identify top-heavy furniture and secure them
 - Identify heavy and breakable objects and secure or move them
 - Know how to shut off gas, water and electricity
9. Create copies of important documents and store them in a secure location, preferably off site.
10. Know if your community has a neighborhood plan in place and if any family member or neighbor has completed CERT Training (Community Emergency Response Training). Consider becoming a certified CERT member in your community.

In conjunction with the 20th anniversary of the attacks on September 11th and the National Day of Service, Be Ready EMC will be holding a CERT activation drill and will be running a mock VCC (Volunteer Coordination Center) on Sept. 18 between 8:30a.m. and noon. We invite all those with CERT training, and anyone interested in volunteering during an actual emergency to join us.

Visit [Be Ready Eagle Mountain City | Facebook](#) for additional information.

City jobs available



Eagle Mountain City is looking to fill several positions. Currently, the City is hiring for:

City Treasurer

FT Neighborhood Improvement Officer

PT Recreation Aide

Seasonal storm water

Seasonal Streets Operator (2 positions)

Streets Operator I or II

For a full list of available City positions, visit <https://emcity.applicantpro.com/jobs/>.

Upcoming events

- Sept. 6 - City Hall and Public Library closed for Labor Day
- Sept. 7 - [City Council Meeting](#)
- Sept. 9 - [Chamber Luncheon](#) Garden Near the Green - Speaker Scot Hazard, please register.
- Sept. 14 - [Planning Commission Meeting](#)
- Sept. 16 - [Chamber Connect 4 Lunch Networking](#)
- Sept. 16-20- [Fall Clean-up Dumpsters](#)
- Sept. 21- [City Council Meeting](#)

- Sept. 28 - [Planning Commission Meeting](#)
- [Junior Jazz Registration](#)

Contact us

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Visit us on the web at www.eaglemountaincity.com.

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Can't find the answers you need on the website? Email info@emcity.org

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