



SEPT 2024

# THE EAGLE'S VIEW Newsletter

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**MAYOR'S MINUTE  
TOM WESTMORELAND**

## We owe it to ourselves to always be prepared

I have wrestled with the topic of this newsletter because it deals with things that are real concerns. I don't want to scare anyone, but I feel the responsibility to share with you some of the things that I know, that keep me awake at night.

I feel the need to talk more about emergency preparedness. For many of you, this is not a new subject. You are already doing what you can to be more prepared.

If I am criticized for what I will say on this matter, then so be it. This does not come out of a place of fear but rather gratitude and a growing sense of confidence. I say that with this assertion: we must all do our part. The sooner the better. Don't wait for something to happen because it will be too late.

Consider this: we have great people working at the City, UFA and the Sheriff's Office. They are capable and are all working together to help the City and residents be more prepared.

However, keep in mind how many people live here. There simply are not enough resources to take care of everyone in a major or complex event. It is the responsibility of each of us to plan ahead, and to know what you will do in a given situation.

If you need help planning and preparing, the City offers a variety of classes that I encourage everyone to participate in. With this training, you can be part of the solution, serving your family, friends and neighbors.

I won't take time here to discuss things you likely already know about that are going on in the world, but they do serve as a poignant backdrop to the subject.

Rising tensions involving Russia, Ukraine, China, North Korea and Iran remind us that the world is far from a state of peace. A pivotal presidential

election with deep emotion attached to it than I have previously seen is also in full swing.

As I write this, there is a threat of a Port Workers strike. We have already been dealing with the rising cost of everything as inflation eats away at our money, and as the national debt rolls out of control.

We know that we will have things to deal with because we are already having to make adjustments. Even as we adjust, I sense the cushion of reliable things we count on getting thinner.

Maybe this sounds like fear mongering. After all, why does my opinion matter? I am just the mayor of a city in Utah.

I don't think it is hyperbole to say that Eagle Mountain is in a unique position and at the forefront of several important measurables. With our size and pace of growth, we are like a growing teenager that is constantly hungry. Other cities that have been around longer or don't deal with the same growth, don't experience or see everything we do.

For example, not long ago, we experienced a power outage that due to where damage to the line took place, we lost power to homes, businesses, traffic lights, cell towers and internet. The cell towers that still functioned were overloaded and became useless. When that happened, I prayed that there were no serious accidents because calling 911 or getting emergency services would be challenging.

Why did this happen? With the growth in our area, the odds are that something will happen to cause power to go out, and that is on a good day. When power goes out, it can have a domino effect on other services.

We are constantly talking to Rocky Mountain Power about getting more redundancy of power

here in Eagle Mountain.

My sense of it is that the problem is much bigger than us. With overregulation at the federal government level and a stressed economy, it is difficult to get companies to invest. So instead, we have services that are nearly stretched to their limits.

I can't go into everything the City is working on to remedy this situation but know that we are being proactive and doing things that are not typically done to create a solution. This is why I am excited about the possibilities that this will make us even better. However, there are no guarantees and even if we are successful, it will take time to see it through.

Meanwhile, I ask everyone to be a little more vigilant. Do what you can do to be a little more prepared.

There is so much more we could cover on this subject. I have not touched on everything, so please keep yourself informed and increase your awareness and capability.

Let's organize as families, neighborhoods, and a city to work together. Caring enough to make even a small difference, we can find greater security in dealing with what may come.

**HALLOWEEN  
TOWN**

**OCT. 5  
11 AM-2 PM**

**HOCUS  
POCUS  
7:15 PM**

**CORY WRIDE  
PARK**



## EAGLE MOUNTAIN NEWS

# EM to invest in public art to further beautify community

Eagle Mountain City plans to invest in public art to beautify its public spaces and inspire community pride, with a new program dedicating 0.25% of future capital projects budgets for creative installations.

At the Eagle Mountain City Council meeting on Sept. 17, a code change was adopted that will allocate 0.25% of capital improvement and large construction project budgets to public art.

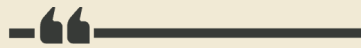
This change is set to begin in Fiscal Year 2026, which starts in July 2025.

The decision marks another step in the City's long-term efforts to beautify and enhance the community. By dedicating a portion of its capital improvement budget to public art, Eagle Mountain aims to ensure that public spaces reflect not only the functionality residents desire but also a sense of creativity and cultural value.

Art installations will be added to the City's capital projects or to public spaces, with the goal of enhancing gathering spaces. Public art can help keep neighborhoods looking well-kept and combat future blight.

The initiative, in the future, is expected to encourage private developers to follow suit, incorporating artwork and other visually appealing features into their own projects.

The percent-for-art effort aims to establish Eagle Mountain as a community where art plays a central role in shaping the character of neighborhoods and public spaces.



**This public art program is seen as a way to further enhance a sense of community...**



One key aspect of the code change is its flexibility. The percent-for-art funding is designed to accommodate the financial needs of the City each year, allowing adjustments based on available budgets and prioritizing critical infrastructure needs, while still maintaining the commitment to include public art in capital improvement projects.

As Eagle Mountain continues to develop, this public art program is seen as a way to further enhance a sense of community throughout the city.

While specific projects have yet to be identified,

## EVENT CALENDAR

- OCT 1** City Council Meeting – Council Chambers
- OCT 3** Senior Lunch Bunch – Lehi Family Search Center
- OCT 5** Halloween Town – Cory Wride Park  
Hocus Pocus – Cory Wride Park
- OCT 8** Planning Commission Mtg. – Council Chambers
- OCT 9** Senior Arts & Crafts Activity – Senior Center
- OCT 10** Senior Workout Program – Senior Center
- OCT 15** City Council Meeting – Council Chambers
- OCT 16** Senior Arts & Crafts Activity – Senior Center
- OCT 17** Senior Workout Program – Senior Center
- OCT 19** Adaptive Trick-or-Treat – City Hall
- OCT 21** Seniors Bingo – Senior Center
- OCT 22** Planning Commission Mtg. – Council Chambers
- OCT 23** Senior Arts & Crafts Activity – Senior Center
- OCT 24** Senior Workout Program – Senior Center
- OCT 28** Senior Center Guest Speaker – Senior Center
- OCT 29** City Council Meeting – Joint Work Session

the code change provides room for a wide variety of artistic expressions, from sculptures and murals to potentially interactive installations.

Residents can expect to see the first effects of this initiative in the coming years as art becomes integrated throughout Eagle Mountain, further beautifying the city and creating inviting spaces for both locals and visitors alike.



Eagle Mountain City was awarded first place for “Best Branding/Logo” at the 2024 3CMA Savvy Awards in Arlington, TX. In addition to the first place recognition for branding, Eagle Mountain City’s monthly “Living with Wildlife” video series received second place for “Best Educational Video.”



## KNOW THE CODE

# Dark sky standards

Did you know that Eagle Mountain City has dark sky lighting standards that apply to all homes, businesses and industrial users?

Adoption of the Dark Sky Ordinance (17.56) fulfilled a City commitment to Camp Williams to tamp down on light pollution.

This provision is of critical importance for nighttime training missions at the base. By keeping the skies dark, we ensure Camp Williams is able to provide the best possible training for their personnel, and to help ensure the long-term viability of the base.

All new homes will come installed with external lighting that complies with dark sky standards. If residents wish to change the lighting fixtures on their home, make sure it is a "Full Cutoff" product, which means the entire light-bulb/source is covered by shades and no light trespasses beyond a 90-degree angle.

This ensures that all light is directed toward the ground, which not only preserves the darkness of the skies for Camp Williams, but also allows for better stargazing, and fewer interruptions to circadian rhythms. This allows for better sleep and it is key to the survival of many species of wildlife -- particularly nocturnal hunters such as owls and foxes.

Luckily, dark sky lighting standards are becoming more common statewide and local hardware stores are fully stocked with multiple dark sky compliant lighting options. If in doubt, look for the dark sky international label on products that you are considering.

By taking a few moments to ensure you're installing dark sky lighting, you are not only helping wildlife and Camp Williams but you are ensuring you remain in compliance with Eagle Mountain City Code.

17.56.050 General outdoor lighting standards.

17.56.060 Outdoor lighting standards by type.

17.56.070 Prohibited lighting.

17.56.140 Definitions.



## LIVING WITH WILDLIFE TODD BLACK

# Open spaces for wild things

Currently, Eagle Mountain has over 1,000 acres of "native open space" within the city limits, and we continue to acquire more land as developable land is developed and certain land areas are deeded to the City.

Much of this is truly somewhat native, much of our rocky juniper and sagebrush habitat around the city remains undeveloped -- particularly if it's greater than a 20% slope, or along a ridge-line somewhere.

However, there is much that is not and no doubt these places like to grow invasive, noxious and downright nasty weeds. These weeds have evolved to take advantage of disturbed grounds that are not cultivated or planted to grass or landscaped.

I get asked frequently: What do these open spaces look like and where are they located?

Many of these open spaces are trail corridors. These trails are used by citizens and wildlife alike. Others are large tracts of land that are undevelopable according to

our city code. These areas are perfect for nature or natural parks and provide some unique and desirable habitat for wildlife and some limited recreational opportunities.

Other areas are around our public utilities, adjacent to existing City parks, many are our water detention ponds, I even consider our sewer ponds and our rapid infiltration basins part of this.

—“  
**These areas are perfect for nature or natural parks...**  
”—

Like anything else, these areas, and particularly those areas behind houses and along our washes and streets, need to have some level of management if they are going to function as we would like them to and/or persist over time. In other words, we can't just sit back and do nothing

Since the first of the year, we have partnered with Utah State University on an Open Space Plan. We hired a grad-

uate student to work full time this summer and part time while in school. Their sole responsibility is to have a draft plan to City Council by December/January of this year.

This student has surveyed key citizens and selected City staff.

The plan will identify goals, objectives, strategies, actions, implementation and timelines. Next, hopefully happening before the end of the year, the City will be appointing an open space manager housed under the Parks and Recreation department. This will provide appropriate levels of manpower with the needed tools to start implementing the open space plan.

I'm confident we will start to make progress, kill a few weeds, create a few "natural parks," restore banks in washes and protect the wildlife corridor. This will all take time, hang in there.

Oh, and don't forget to volunteer and help with our upcoming open space projects this fall and spring. Stay tuned for information about those.



## BUILDING & PLANNING MIKE MALAY

### Protecting irrigation from the cold

As winter approaches, it is crucial to prepare your irrigation system, especially in areas like Eagle Mountain where the weather can be unpredictable. You can easily winterize the system yourself. Here are some essential steps to winterize your system effectively:

#### Disconnect hoses

Remove all hoses from outdoor faucets to prevent freezing. Allow them to drain completely before storing.

#### Manage repairs before winter

Take time to look over your system and make any repairs before the freeze comes in. Preventive maintenance is imperative in protecting your system.

#### Turn off the control box

Disable any timers or control boxes for

your sprinkler system to prevent it from activating during freezing weather.

#### Turn off water supply

Shut off the irrigation water supply at the stop-and-waste valve. This valve is typically located near your water meter. Use a stop-and-waste key to turn it a quarter turn to the right, allowing excess water to drain.

#### Protect valves and backflow preventers

Insulate any above-ground components, such as the backflow preventer and main shut-off valves, to shield them from freezing temperatures.

#### Drain or remove the backflow preventer

Ensure all water is drained from the backflow preventer. If possible, remove it entirely to avoid damage from freezing.

#### Use automatic draining

If your system has automatic drains at low points in the piping, utilize this feature to help clear water.

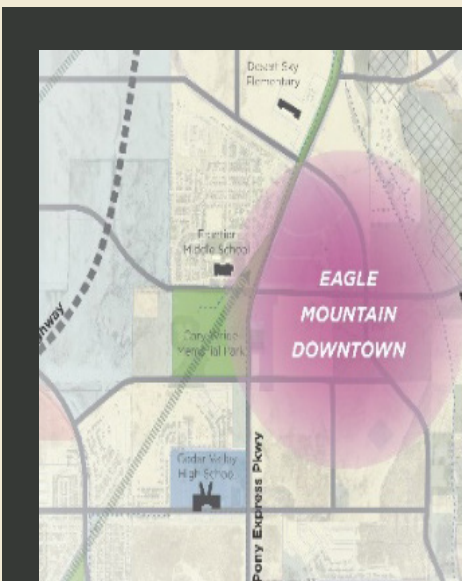
#### Blow out water lines

Use compressed air to blow out each sprinkler line, which is the most effective way to remove remaining water. This should only be done by experienced individuals, as excessive pressure can damage the pipes.

#### Important Reminder

Failing to properly drain your irrigation system can lead to broken lines and flooded yards.

Taking these steps will help protect your investment and ensure your system is ready for next spring.



## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT Downtown architects invite public input

Eagle Mountain's pattern of growth resulted in the absence of a downtown, main street district, or other similar commercial core. Now that the city is seeing greatly increased interest from commercial developers, a boom in growth of local businesses, and an influx of tourism focused on outdoor recreation, Eagle Mountain City desires to plan a modern, family-centric and active downtown that matches its identity.

The downtown area has already been identified, though its geographic extent may evolve depending upon arrangements with

landowners, method and feasibility of executing on the plan, and so forth.

The Eagle Mountain Downtown Plan will support Eagle Mountain City in envisioning a vibrant downtown and guide future conversations with the community and stakeholders. The project team will examine the site, identify future programming and uses, and explore high-level concepts and recommendations for the downtown. A series of surveys, open houses, and other in-person events will be hosted to facilitate these discussions throughout the planning process.