



RIDGERUNNER

OCTOBER, 2015

WWW.FRUITHEIGHTSCITY.COM

STREET MAINTENANCE



“\$1 of maintenance is equal to \$7-\$10 of reconstruction.”

This was vital information gleaned after many months of studying the conditions of our city roads and how to best maintain and repair them.

Failing roads is a chronic condition affecting many cities nationwide. See <http://www.sltrib.com/home/2113211-155/study-local-roads-deteriorate-amid-declining>

Currently the remaining “street life” of the average road in Fruit Heights is about 6 years, with 23% of our roads in “critical failure” with 0% life left. If we continue with current funding, our roads will be at 5% in 10 years with 63% failing. With current funding, our roads will continue to fall farther and farther behind.

How does Fruit Heights fund its roads and pay its bills? Because we live in a city with little to no commercial tax revenue, the main sources of revenue are property tax and utility fees. The City Council Meeting minutes of June 16 give an excellent in depth explanation of city funding and budget and can be found at www.fruitheightscity.com The city always tries to save for projects instead of borrow money and in accordance with state law, has a balanced budget. Residents in Fruit Heights enjoy a relatively quiet lifestyle free from “big-box” stores and the ensuing traffic, but must make up for our lack of commercial tax revenue from other sources, mainly ourselves.

“Class C” road funds come from the state annually in the amount of about \$134,000, which the City saves to complete capital projects, such as the recent reconstruction of Nicholls Rd. The recent tax fuel increase will generate around \$29,000 a year for the city. Between \$10-15,000 is generated from the General Fund from property tax for road maintenance. 2010 was the last year of a city property tax increase. The city does not have a tax rate that it gets from every residence, but rather it gets a total dollar amount combined from all residents. The current rate is \$650,000. Even though the amount of homes has increased in the city, without a raise in taxes, the total dollar amount coming to the city stays the same. In fact, the average amount a resident is paying to the city has actually decreased. The proposed “local option” sales tax which may appear on the November ballot would also benefit our city streets.

We as a City Council take our residents’ concerns seriously and recognize the importance of frugality in spending and are continually looking for ways to save.

After two public hearings, much public input and study, the City Council passed a compromise on June 16 to raise funds for street maintenance. A \$7.50 per month street utility fee will be added to residents’ monthly utility bill. In addition, city property taxes will be increased the equivalent of \$7.50 a month based on the average valued residence through a truth-in-taxation hearing. The fee can only be used for road projects, and the current Council and Staff have agreed that the tax increase will only be used for roads.

We have a plan to move forward using new road mapping software to help explain how the money will be allocated. With advancements in technology and this new road mapping software, road maintenance will save money in the long run as we are able to pinpoint how best to identify and strategically improve and maintain all of our streets and begin to improve the life expectancy of our roads, rather than continue to fall behind.

- by Julia Busche, City Council Member

C.E.R.T. TRAINING

The Community Emergency Response Team will begin classes again January, 2016. Look for more information in our December Ridgerunner or go to their website to enroll: www.kaysvillecert.org.



PLANNING COMMISSION

We wish to say “*Thank You!*” to Kristi Bybee for her service to Fruit Heights City on the Planning Commission! We appreciate all you have done.

Fruit Heights city gives our “*Welcome*” to Chris Martineau as a new member to the Planning Commission.

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Don Carroll

Council Members:

Diane Anderson

Julia Busche

Craig A. Hill

Eileen Moss

Scot Poole

Email:

www.citycouncil@fruitheightscity.com

City Hall hours:

8 a.m.—5 p.m. Mon.—Fri.

After hours emergency call the Sheriff’s Dept. 801-451-4150, they will call our Public Works representative.

IRRIGATION WATER

In an effort to help conserve this precious resource, the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District will cease all irrigation and secondary water deliveries on October 1, 2015. This early shutoff will help conserve water for next year’s needs. This will include Haight’s Creek, Benchland and Special Improvement District Eastoaks and 1800 East.



Winter Parking Restrictions

Beginning November 1st

through April 1st, overnight parking is prohibited on streets from

12:00 a.m.—8:00 a.m. and during times of snowfall. Please

tell your guests/renters so the snowplows are able to do a more effective job. **Violators will be cited by the Sheriff’s Dept. whether it snows or not.**

Also, please remove trash cans from the street as soon as possible to help facilitate snow removal. Our snow removal crew appreciates the residents’ compliance in the past and asks for your continued cooperation.





CAUCUS RESULTS

The following nominees are a result of the city caucus meeting held on August 11th : Diane Anderson (incumbent), Gary Anderson, Carol Elliott, Brandon Halliday, Michael Swift, and John Wilson. The candidates accepted to run for City Council in elections to be held Tuesday, November 3rd. Only three positions will be filled.

Ballots will be mailed 28 days before the election. You will have time to study the candidates and issues. Vote at your convenience—3 easy ways: In the mail; In a drop box at city hall; At any polling location on election day in Davis County. The closest polls to Fruit Heights are City Hall, 910 S. Mountain Rd.; Kaysville City Hall, 23 E. Center St.; Farmington City Hall, 160 S. Main St. among others.

Learn more at www.DavisVotes.com or call 801-451-3217.

Meet the Candidates—Two Nights

Come to meet the candidates! There will be 2 nights to visit, Thursday, October 1 and Tuesday, October 13, 2015. Both nights begin at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 910 S. Mountain Rd.



Crime Prevention Begins With You!



Crimes of opportunity are on the rise in Fruit Heights. The Davis County Sheriff's Office would like to remind the citizens of Fruit Heights, a few simple steps can protect your home and property.

1. Lock your vehicle doors and keep objects of value out of sight. Most all burglaries committed are from thieves entering vehicles via unlocked doors. Homes are easily accessed through garage door openers left in unlocked vehicles.
2. When you are home, remember most burglars enter through unlocked or open doors and/or windows. Keep all doors, including your garage door closed and locked. It's easy for criminals to walk away with a set of golf clubs, a nice road bike or other items left in an open garage.
3. Exterior lighting during dark hours and having the shrubs trimmed back as to not offer hiding places will help deter crime.
4. If you're going on vacation, don't advertise your absence. Arrange for someone to pick up the mail, newspapers, mow the lawn, shovel the snow, and set out trash cans regularly.
5. Report suspicious activity to the Davis County Sheriff's Office, I promise, we don't mind. Call with any issues of concern, it is our job and we are more than happy to drop by and check it out.

Davis County Dispatch non emergent number. (801) 451-4150
Save a Life, Stop a Crime, Report a Fire. dial Emergency 9-1-1.
These are just a few tips to keep your families and property safe.



GREEN WASTE CONTAINERS CAN BE USED FOR REGULAR TRASH FROM DECEMBER 1ST TO APRIL

CHRISTMAS LIGHT PARADE

This year's parade will take place Mon., Nov. 30th beginning at 5:45 p.m. in Kaysville with the lighting of the City Block and the mountain Star (above Fruit Heights). The parade begins at 6:00 p.m. and will travel from 500 S. Main to 100 N. Main, Kaysville.



CLEAR SIDEWALKS—BUT NOT INTO THE STREET PLEASE

Sidewalks must be cleared of all snow, sleet or ice within a 24-hour period. Pile the snow onto the sides of driveways or parking strips - not into the street. Plowing of the roads will be avoided in areas of the city streets where obstructions exist which have the potential of damaging snow removal equipment. Thrown snow from driveways and sidewalks into the streets create ice and has damaged city plows. It is against city ordinance to throw/shovel snow into the street or any other public right of way. This is classified as a B misdemeanor citation. *Thank you!* (Ord. 7-1-2)



TREE TRIMMING TIME

Remember to trim your trees! All property owners and/or occupants shall trim all trees within the parkways abutting their property, or between the street and the front of their property to a height of **ten feet (10')** above the curb, on the curb side, or **twelve (12')** above the street, to allow large trucks and/or equipment to pass freely. Failure to remove obstacles, the city may initiate and cause to be removed, any obstruction in the curb or street any hazardous tree limbs or bushes. The expense of such removal shall be itemized and a statement mailed or delivered to the owner and/or occupant for reimbursement to the city within 30 days of the mailing or delivery. **Ordinance 7-1-2(A)**



Building Permits Required

Just reminders that Building Permits are required by Fruit Heights City, listed below are the most common permits required by the city.

- New Home Construction
- Finishing a basement
- Building a shed or garage
- Installing a new furnace or water heater
- Upgrading an electrical system
- Installing a swimming Pool
- Installing a fence

Failure to obtain the correct permits can result in fines, delays and added expense. If you have plans to update, remodel or build, check with the City before you start.