



EAGLE MOUNTAIN CITY COUNCIL JOINT WORK MEETING – SPECIAL SESSION

January 30, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Eagle Mountain Council Chambers

1650 E. Stagecoach Run, Eagle Mountain, UT 84005

6:30 P.M. WORK SESSION

CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Tom Westmoreland, Councilmembers Donna Burnham, Melissa Clark, Rich Wood, and Brett Wright. Councilmember Jared Gray was excused.

CEDAR FORT OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Wyatt Cook.

FAIRFIELD OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Hollie McKinney, Councilmembers Richard Cameron, and R.L. Panek.

LEHI OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Mark Johnson, Councilmembers Paige Albrecht, Michelle Stallings, Chris Condie, Paul Hancock, and Heather Newall.

SARATOGA SPRINGS OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Jim Miller, Councilmembers Audrey Barton, Lance Wadman, Chris Carn, and Stephen Wilden.

ALPINE SCHOOL DISTRICT: Schoolboard Member Julie King.

EAGLE MOUNTAIN CITY STAFF PRESENT: Paul Jerome, City Administrator; Steve Mumford; Deputy City Administrator/Community Development Director; Fionnuala Kofoed, Assistant City Administrator/City Recorder; and Cliff Strachan, Director of Legislative Affairs.

Mayor Westmoreland called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

1. MAYOR'S WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Westmoreland welcomed everyone and had them introduce themselves.

2. JOINT WORK MEETING WITH STATE LEGISLATORS

- 2.A. DISCUSSION – Items of Mutual Interest to include:
- Coordination of Regional Transportation
 - Transit Corridors
 - Schools

Deputy City Administrator/Community Development Director Steve Mumford presented maps and information about regional projects shared by the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and Mountainland Association of Government (MAG) during the Eagle Mountain City Visioning Conference held on January 25 and 26, 2024. Utah Transit Authority (UTA) and their consultants began the Point West Transit Study for the region.

Lehi Mayor Mark Johnson presented future population data for Lehi, Saratoga Springs, and Eagle Mountain and traffic infrastructure issues impacting all cities to the west of Lehi. Lehi is working with UDOT to update plans to account for growth and to consider a freeway farther south rather than widening Pioneer Crossing.

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- The importance of being united on traffic solutions and coordinated corridor preservation with input from experts on city staffs;
- Water shortage issues and inadequate water sources limiting growth despite land availability;
- Astronomical growth impacting the cities and lack of public transit;
- Holding frequent joint meetings to understand problems and organize efforts to vote on projects that impact the cities;
- Compiling data and jointly funding regional transportation studies to assist with educating the State Legislature about issues impacting the region;
- Exploring methods to reduce school traffic contributing to road congestion;
- Infrastructure improvements planned if Utah hosts the 2034 Winter Olympics and the possibility of having venues in Utah County; and
- The request for an update on the status of an additional post office.

Schoolboard Member Julie King stated that Alpine School District (ASD) has hired a firm to conduct a reconfiguration study. The first report will be presented on February 27, 2024, after which a town hall and open houses will be held to receive feedback. The consultants will hold open houses to protect against bias for or against the split. The initial study includes interviews with a variety of individuals with different interests and perspectives about the school district. Primary concerns with the division are property tax impact and enrollment and projection data. A two-way split will double current expenses. A division into three or more districts will exponentially increase expenses. The new middle school is under construction and will be similar in design and layout to Viewpoint Middle School. ASD has put down earnest money for unincorporated Utah County land that will be annexed into Saratoga Springs for a future high school. Over the past three years, construction costs for schools have increased by 44%. Generally, elementary schools have a one-year construction timeline, middle schools two years, and high schools three years. New designs will be required for future high schools which may impact the cost and construction timeframe.

Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Current and projected middle school and high school enrollment;
- Legislation impacting schools;
- Bus route length designations, safety, and funding;
- A deficit of bus drivers;
- Resident concerns with tax increases;
- The impact of increased housing density on schools; and
- Older schools in need of maintenance and replacements for issues such as seismic safety, pipes, roofs, athletic tracks, and heating systems.

City representatives determined to direct Planning Department staff members from the cities to jointly draft a transportation and transit route plan to be presented to UTA representatives at a follow-up joint work session on Wednesday, May 29, 2023, hosted by Lehi City.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Fairfield Town Council approved minutes

March 14, 2024

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