



Cottonwood Heights, UT | November 2025 | FREE

BETWEEN THE CANYONS

The official newsletter of Cottonwood Heights | ch.utah.gov

Your Tax Bill and the City's Future

Council member Suzanne Hyland



The statements in this article are the author's views and not necessarily of the entire city council.

I was a teenager during the time of the "The Great Inflation" when inflation peaked at 13.5% in 1980. I

remember my parents and grandparents talking about the negative effects frequently, motivating me to study macroeconomics and fiscal policy in college.

Recent inflation has impacted everyone in Cottonwood. Most concerning are increases of basic living costs such as housing, groceries, and utilities. I'm concerned about inflationary effects on families and the city's budget. Road maintenance and infrastructure costs are up 25%. Staff wages have also increased to keep up with inflation.



Close-up of a "Whip Inflation Now" [WIN] button, President Ford's symbol of the fight against inflation. (Photo: Bettmann/Bettmann/Getty Images). Source: The Great Inflation, Federal Reserve History, <https://www.federalreservehistory.org/essays/great-inflation>.

Truths and Myths of Property Taxes

Since it is property tax month, I want to clarify some facts and misconceptions about city taxes.

Truth: The last time the city council voted to increase property tax was in 2018.

Your Tax Bill and the City's Future Continued on page 3

CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

***NO MEETINGS NOV. 4 DUE TO THE ELECTION**

NOVEMBER 18

- PARKS & TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REPORT
- WUI AND FIREWORKS MAPS
- CHICKEN COOPS
- TRUTH IN TAXATION REPORT
- REZONE 3425 BENGAL BLVD.
- SECOND DRIVEWAY
- BONNEVILLE SHORELINE TRIAL FUNDING GRANT EXTENSION

BOARD OF CANVASSERS MEETING

DECEMBER 2

- GENERAL PLAN DISCUSSION
- CANVAS ELECTION RESULTS

DECEMBER 16

- FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PRESENTATION

FOR FULL AGENDAS, PLEASE VISIT CH.UTAH.GOV

Town Center Project Update

Cottonwood Heights continues to make steady progress on the long-anticipated Town Center project. City leaders are working closely with development partners to negotiate a comprehensive development agreement that will guide the next phase of this important community investment. While details are still being finalized, the current timeline anticipates that demolition of existing structures should begin in 2026, marking a significant milestone toward creating a vibrant, walkable Town Center for residents and visitors alike.

Be sure to visit the project website for more exciting updates. ChTownCenter.Com ■

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EVENTS CALENDAR

- **NOVEMBER 4:** ELECTION DAY
- **NOVEMBER 11:** CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR VETERANS DAY
- **NOVEMBER 19:** SENIOR SOCIAL SNOWMAN CRAFT
- **NOVEMBER 27 & 28:** CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING DAY
- **NOVEMBER 27:** 41ST ANNUAL COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS THANKSGIVING DAY 5K
- **DECEMBER 1:** LIGHT THE HEIGHTS FROM 5 - 7:30 PM AT CITY HALL
- **DECEMBER 5:** CHRISTMAS CONCERT WITH ECLIPSE 6
- **DECEMBER 25:** CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS DAY
- **JANUARY 1:** CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR NEW YEARS DAY

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT CH.UTAH.GOV AND CLICK COMMUNITY CALENDAR

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS
**SENIOR SOCIAL
 SNOWMAN CRAFT**

Seniors (55+) are invited to join us for fun!

When: November 19, 2025
 Time: 1:30 PM
 Where: Cottonwood Heights City Hall
 2277 E. Bengal Blvd.
 Cost: Free!
 Limited supplies

20
 2005-2025
 Cottonwood Heights

Light the Heights
 VISIT SANTA & TREE LIGHTING

**Monday, Dec 1, 2025
 5-7:30 P.M.**
 City Hall-2277 Bengal Blvd.

5:00 - 6:45 P.M. Visit Santa (Inside)
5:00 - 7:00 P.M. Holiday Vendors
 Write Letter to Santa
 Kids Craft
5:30 - 7:00 P.M. Hot Chocolate &
 Holiday Cheddar Delight
 Enjoy a delicious small cup of Mac and Cheese!
 (While supplies last!)

7:00 - 7:30 P.M. (Outside)
 Brighton High School -
 Symphonic Band
 Animated Tree Lighting
 Tree Lighting will begin after the band performs,
 at approximately 7:20 P.M.

All activities are FREE!
 Come and join in on the holiday fun!
 More info: CH.UTAH.GOV

Cottonwood Heights Arts Council Rocky Mountain Power

ECLIPSE 6
 Christmas
 CONCERT

**DECEMBER 5, 2025
 7:30 - 9 PM FREE**
 BUTLER MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATRE
 GENERAL ADMISSION - TICKET REQUIRED

Cottonwood Heights Arts & Museums chcityarts.com ZAP IS YOU Arts Council Cottonwood Heights

Myth: Property taxes are the main source of revenue for the city.

Property taxes are about 1/3 of the total annual revenues. Sales tax, franchise taxes, licensing and other fees, and grants also contribute to the city's budget.

Truth: Property tax rates have decreased.

If you compare your current property tax notice to previous years, property valuations have generally increased, but the total tax rate has decreased. Utah law prevents tax entities from automatically collecting windfalls when property values rise.

Myth: The city of Cottonwood Heights is also Cottonwood Improvement District and Cottonwood Heights Parks and Recreation.

These entities appear on your tax notice "Cottonwood Improvement" and "Cottonwood

Heights Parks". They are not part of city government. The names are coincidental. They are independent taxing entities with their own elected boards and budgets.

Truth: Property taxes have increased for multiple entities.

Over the past two years, Canyons School District has raised property taxes by \$15.6 million, Central Utah Water by \$7.6 million, and Cottonwood Improvement District \$1.7 million. Public hearings are always scheduled and noticed for proposed property tax increases.

Truth: There is tax relief for seniors and other qualifying low- or fixed-income residents.

Utah's **Circuit Breaker Property Tax Credit Program** can reduce the amount owed by qualifying homeowners. There is also relief for seniors who rent

through comparable credit on a portion of rent paid. Find out more at <https://www.saltlakecounty.gov/treasurer/tax-relief/circuit-breaker/>. Please help spread the word about this program.

Lower taxes through economic development

Tax revenues fund critical city services. We're looking to boost the city's economy and tax revenues through new projects like the town center and gravel pit developments. These initiatives will bring in sales tax and additional property taxes from new residential and business properties. We've started updating the city's general plan that will include important economic development goals. The public will have a chance to review the plan draft. Your feedback is always welcome—whether on the plan itself, economic development, or any other city issue. ■

November at the County Library | Whitmore

Teens	Family	Adults
<p>Teen Craft Program: Fall and Holiday Bags Monday, November 3, 4 pm Add your personal touch to gift bags decorated for Fall holidays or other special occasions!</p> <p>Teen Monthly Origami: Turkey Monday, November 10, All day Includes folding instructions and paper. This month's origami is a turkey. Packets are first come, first served.</p> <p>Teen Craft Program: Fall Wreath Monday, November 17, 4 pm Create your own seasonal wreath!</p>	<p>Chess Club Wednesdays November 5, 12, 19 6 pm Drop by our weekly chess club to play chess, meet other players, sharpen your skills, and have fun! All skill levels and ages welcome!</p> <p>Utah Puppet Theater Friday, November 7, 11 am Enjoy a fun and funny puppet show presented by the Utah Puppet Theater!</p> <p>Art Explorers Saturday, November 15, 10:30 am Have fun as you explore your creative side! Each month we will experiment with different artistic techniques and materials in this open-ended art program. Great for individuals and families.</p> <p>Babcock Performing Readers: The Odd Couple Thursday, November 20, 7 pm Oscar's messy, chaotic habits are in direct opposition to Felix's tidy, organized lifestyle. Come enjoy this hilarious play to better understand how to live with people who have differing points of views.</p> <p>Craft Supplies Drop and Swap Monday, November 17 thru Saturday, November 22, All day Let the community help refresh your creative spirit for the holiday season with our Fall Craft Swap! Clean out your personal art and craft supplies to drop, swap, or drop AND swap items. The exchange table will be available for patrons to browse all week long, from opening until closing!</p>	<p>All Ability Kits Saturday, November 1, All day Pick up an activity kit designed for ADULTS and TEENS with intellectual disabilities while supplies last!</p> <p>Red Cross Blood Drive Monday, November 3, 1 pm - 7 pm Give blood to help others. You can drop in or schedule your appointment: redcrossblood.org or 1.800.RED.CROSS</p> <p>Fundamentals of Yoga Wednesday, November 5, 5:45 pm Explore the fundamentals of yoga including poses, breath work, meditation, and philosophy. Learn adaptable yoga poses that work for different body types and abilities. Please bring your own yoga mat.</p> <p>Sound Bath Experience Wednesday, November 12, 5:30 pm Join sound healing practitioner Jenny Wigham for a journey into sound and relaxation. Be prepared to lay down, rest and enjoy. Bring a mat, blanket, pillow, warm clothes or anything else to help you get nice and cozy.</p> <p>Nonfiction Book Club Wednesday, November 19, 7 pm Join us for a discussion of new and noteworthy nonfiction books. This month's book is <i>The Year of Living Constitutionally</i> by A.J. Jacobs. New readers are always welcome!</p>
Early Learners	Holiday Closures	
<p>Family Storytime Mondays November 3, 10, 17, 24 Tuesdays November 4, 18, 25 10:15 am Storytime fun for the whole family. We'll be talking, singing, reading, writing and playing.</p> <p>Pajama Storytime Mondays November 3, 10, 17, 24 7 pm Wrap up your day with stories, songs, and movement. Pajamas optional.</p> <p>Ready, Set, Move! Thursdays November 6, 13, 20 10:15 am Can you "head, shoulders, knees and toes" with the best? Music and movement for little ones and their grown-ups.</p> <p>Play & Learn Thursdays November 6, 13, 20 11 am Interactive play and early learning activities for children ages 0-5 and their caring adult(s).</p>	<p>Tuesday, November 11 - Library closed for Veterans' Day</p> <p>Wednesday, November 26 - Library closes at 6 pm</p> <p>Thursday, November 27 - Friday, November 28 - Library closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday</p>	
<p>Kids</p> <p>Read to a Dog! Saturdays November 1 & 15, 11 am Read a book to Geo, a trained therapy dog who loves being read to! Sign up at the children's desk on the day of the activity.</p>		
<p>The County Library Whitmore 2197 E Fort Union Blvd Cottonwood Heights, Utah 84121 801.943.4636 thecountylibrary.org</p>		

Cottonwood Heights Senior Corner



COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS SENIOR CORNER



Do You Know?

Falls are the leading cause of injury for adults ages 65 years and older. Older adult falls are common, costly, and preventable. According to CDC, fatal falls occur most frequently on the months of December and January. Mt Olympus Center's got you covered. **Every Monday at 11 am, you can take the Balance and Fall Prevention Class as long as you register in advance.**

Join our celebration!

- 10th November (Mon) - Veterans Holiday Meal and Music (Center closes on 11th Nov)
- 19th November (Wed) - Thanksgiving Holiday Meal and Music (Center closes on 27 and 28 Nov)

Contact Us!

Mt. Olympus Senior Center
1635 E. Murray Holladay Rd.
Holladay, UT
Call (385) 468-3130 for more information.

Sextortion: What It Is and How to Protect Yourself

Police Chief Robby Russo



The Cottonwood Heights Police Department wants to remind everyone to stay alert for an online crime called sextortion. It usually starts when someone you meet online convinces you to share personal or intimate photos. Once they have them, they threaten to post the images or send them to your family and friends unless you pay money or send more pictures. These scammers can be very convincing, and they often target both teens and adults.

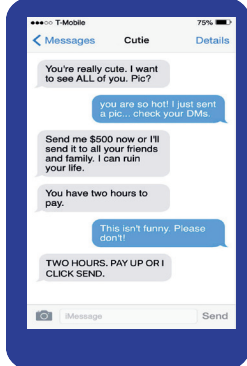
If this happens, remember — **you're not alone**, and help is available. Stop responding right away, take screenshots of the messages, block and report the account, and tell someone you trust. Never send more images, never pay, and don't try to negotiate. Even if you meet their demands, scammers often continue to

threaten their victims. Report the crime to the police department at 801-840-4000.

The best defense is awareness. Talk with your kids, friends, and family about safe online behavior. Encourage open communication and remind them that they can always come forward for help. Unfortunately, there have been cases resulting in suicide because of the overwhelming shame. Please call us; together, we can protect each other and keep Cottonwood Heights a safe and supportive community for everyone. ■

THIS IS SEXTORTION

YOU ARE NOT ALONE. There's help.



IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT HAS HAPPENED.

If you have been a victim, please get help.

- Report to local law enforcement. HSI and FBI may provide additional help
- Report to the CyberTipline: cybertipline.org
- Call or text the Suicide Crisis Lifeline: 988



National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. Sextortion Resources: missingkids.org/netmartz/topics/sextortion


This project was supported by Grant # 19PDP-23-GK-00804-MECP awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication (program/website) are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Justice.

If it happens:

- Stop responding
- Take screenshots
- Report and block user
- Tell someone!
- **DON'T** send more images
- **DON'T** pay any money
- **DON'T** respond to demands
- **DON'T** continue the conversation

Even if you comply with demands, they may carry out the threat.



Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Fire Code

Earlier this year, the Utah Legislature passed H.B. 48, requiring all cities to adopt the State's Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Fire Code to remain eligible for state reimbursement of wildfire suppression costs. Cities must adopt this code by January 1, 2026, to comply with the state mandate.

The Wildland Urban Interface refers to areas where urban development meets or is adjacent to undeveloped wildland or dense vegetation - locations where the risk of wildfire spreading to homes and structures is greatest.

The WUI Fire Code is designed to reduce wildfire risk, protect life and property, and promote fire-resilient building practices. Properties within these areas may be subject to additional fire safety requirements for new construction

and additions, including standards for building and roofing materials, and for creating defensible spaces by utilizing appropriate landscaping around structures.

City staff are preparing to discuss the WUI Fire Code with the City Council during their regularly scheduled meeting on **November 18th**.

Additional Information:

The Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands will host one of three statewide public meetings to discuss House Bill 48 (HB48), offering an important opportunity for city staff, planners, elected officials, and residents to learn how HB48 could affect local communities and wildfire preparedness.

This meeting is the only one scheduled in Salt Lake

County.

Meeting Details:

- **Date:** Thursday, November 6, 2025
- **Time:** 6:00–7:30 PM (Presentations: 6:00–7:00 | Q&A: 7:00–7:30)
- **Location:** Utah Department of Natural Resources Auditorium (1594 W. North Temple St., Salt Lake City, UT 84116)

Additional information can be found at the following links:

- <https://le.utah.gov/~2025/bills/static/HB0048.html>,
- https://ffsl.utah.gov/wp-content/uploads/06_Utah_Wildland_5thdnd.pdf ■

Parks, Trails, and Open Space Committee Hosts Cleanup Day

The Cottonwood Heights Parks, Trails, and Open Space Committee (PTOS) recently hosted a "cleanup day"



at Berry Hill Park. Members of the Volunteers In Parks (VIP) program, and Butler Elementary's "Nature's Girls" also joined to lend a hand. The work focused on removing a large number of invasive vines that were covering the park's bushes and shrubs and climbing the larger trees. The crew battled steady rain while removing the vines and smaller trees, but quickly pulled together to completely transform the area in a short amount of time.

PTOS encourages residents to visit Berry Hill Park

(6677 Coba Court) to see the dramatic transformation, and to join PTOS members when hosting future projects in YOUR local parks.

For more information about participating and becoming a park VIP, scan the QR code. ■



Storm-water Tip of the Month

Everything that goes into the gutter is gobbled up by the storm drain, then flows into Big or Little Cottonwood Creek. Dumping anything besides stormwater down the gutter is illegal and known as "illicit discharge". If you see an illicit discharge report it to the City. ■

Celebrating Our Healthy Utah Community Designation: Cottonwood Heights Shines!

Cottonwood Heights is excited to share that we have received the Healthy Utah Community designation! Cottonwood Heights has received this honor by Get Healthy Utah and the Utah League of Cities and Towns and was publicly honored alongside the cities of Bountiful, Cedar City, Midway, and Murray on October 2, 2025.

This achievement would not have been possible without our health coalition, Health in the Heights. The committee selected and implemented health strategies from the categories of access to healthy food, active living, and mental health resources. The committee focused on what

Cottonwood Heights is already doing, such as organizing a seed exchange and hosting the annual Thanksgiving 5K, to implementing new strategies such as hosting a National Drug Take Back Day and QPR (Question. Persuade. Refer) suicide prevention training for community members.

This designation is a great opportunity to highlight the work our community is doing to support healthy living, and we are thrilled to keep the momentum going! Cottonwood Heights and the Health in the Heights committee will continue to add and refine strategies to ensure that our city is one in which every resident can live a healthy life.



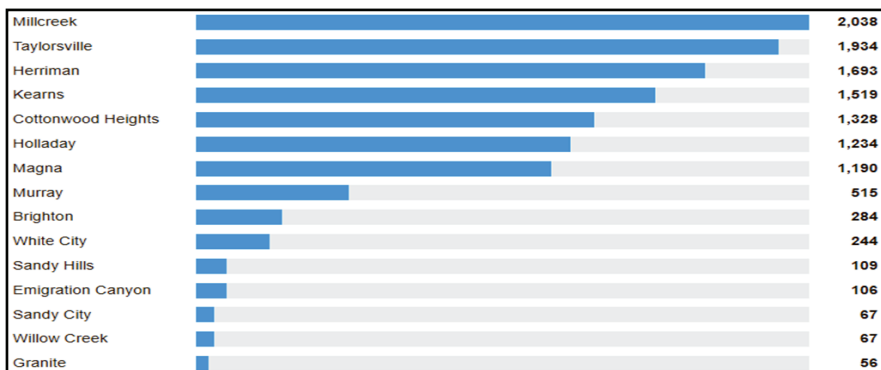
We hope you will join us in celebrating this great achievement and invite you to help spread the word throughout our community. For more information, you can view the awards video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPY6153h7IU&feature=youtu.be>. ■



Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District - House Bill 107 Recycling Reporting & Transparency

In response to HB107 requiring political subdivisions to publish information about the collection of recyclable materials, we are happy to share “District Statistics” on our website (wfrd.utah.gov) under the “About” tab.

The chart on the right shows recycling tonnages collected in the District’s service areas from January to September 2025, totaling 12,582 tons! ■



Exciting News from Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District!

Starting in January 2026, Wasatch Front Waste and Recycling District is making it easier for you to manage your waste and recycling services by switching from quarterly to monthly billing. This change means you’ll receive smaller, more manageable bills each month, simplifying how you track your expenses.

Stay Organized with Paperless E-billing!


The simplest way to keep up with your new monthly statements is by signing up for Paperless E-billing. Your statement will be delivered directly to your inbox, providing a fast and convenient way to transition to monthly billing while saving paper and resources.

Here’s What You Need to Know for 2026:

- **January 2026 Bill:** This will cover services provided from October to December 2025.
- **February 2026 Bill:** Your first monthly bill covering January’s services.
- **March Onward:** Expect a bill every month for the previous month’s services.

Planning your budget has never been easier with Paperless E-billing. Don’t wait—sign up today at wfrd.utah.gov or scan the QR code to make the switch hassle-free! ■

Scan the QR code below to enroll in e-billing today!



Scan Me

Switching to **e-billing** is the easiest way to manage your new monthly bills and reduce paper waste!

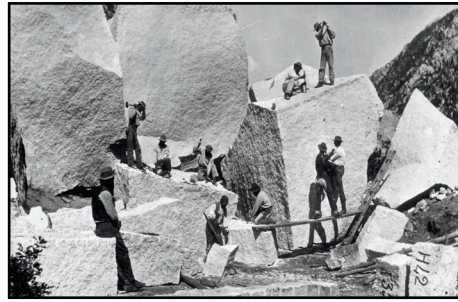


Digging Into our Past: How Quarries Shaped Cottonwood Heights

Many of the familiar landscapes of our current city sit on top of a fascinating history associated with the historic quarries that once operated within what is modern day Cottonwood Heights.

The earliest history of quarrying in our area began in the 19th century, with excavation of granite from Little Cottonwood Canyon. From the 1860s to the 1890s, the Temple Quarry site supplied the immense stone blocks for the LDS Church's Salt Lake Temple on Temple Square. In the early 1900s, the quarry sprang to life again, providing granite for the Utah State Capitol and other (now historic) buildings of that era in downtown Salt Lake City. This early extraction industry established the Cottonwood Heights area as a vital resource hub that helped fuel development along the Wasatch Front.

As the 20th century and the post-WWII housing boom arrived, the demand shifted from monumental stone to the materials of modern life: sand and gravel left behind from the ancient tributaries and seabed of Lake Bonneville when it receded more than 10,000 years ago. Companies like



Walker Sand and Gravel operated large pits, some located where neighborhoods and businesses now exist. These operations provided some of the essential material needed to build the homes, schools, and roads that transformed the "Butler Bench" and other surrounding areas into the suburban community we know today.

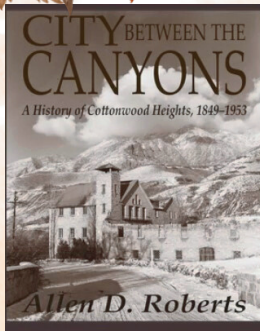
So, what happened to those massive quarries? They have since become the canvas for the unfolding chapters in our city's history. Land once dedicated to quarry mining has been reclaimed and repurposed into development projects like the Old Mill golf course and nearby subdivision, the Family Center

shopping center on Ft. Union Blvd., and business settings like the Cottonwood Heights Corporate Complex.

This historical legacy is all around us in Cottonwood Heights. The Wasatch Mountains and the rich (and often rocky) soils at their base yielded both the granite for Utah's historic landmarks and the sand and gravel that built our streets and neighborhoods. This transformation from an industrial landscape into the vibrant community we enjoy today is a key part of our city's story. ■



Explore the Historic Exhibit "Celebrate 20 Years of Cottonwood Heights" Visit the City Hall Lobby to experience the exhibit celebrating two decades of Cottonwood Heights. The exhibit is open until **November 12th, from 8 AM to 5 PM on weekdays.**



PLAN AHEAD FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Give the gift of local history with *City Between the Canyons: A History of Cottonwood Heights, 1849-1953.*

\$10 – at City Hall
\$15 - online with shipping:
ch.utah.gov/history-book

41ST ANNUAL COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS PARKS & RECREATION

THANKSGIVING DAY 5K

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH @ 9AM

REGISTRATION

ADULT: \$38
YOUTH (11 & UNDER): \$28

20% OFF PER PERSON FOR GROUPS OF 5+

SCAN TO REGISTER



PRICING INCLUDES SHIRT AND CHIP TIMING



PURCHASE A LIMITED EDITION HAT BEFORE WE RUN OUT!



Run FIRST Gobble LATER

City council members

MAYOR: Michael Weichers
801-944-7087 | mweichers@ch.utah.gov
DIST# 1: Matt Holton
801-944-7089 | district1@ch.utah.gov
DIST# 2: Suzanne Hyland
801-944-7086 | district2@ch.utah.gov
DIST# 3: Shawn E. Newell
801-300-3068 | snewell@ch.utah.gov
DIST# 4: Ellen Birrell
385-910-5942 | ebirrell@ch.utah.gov
CITY MANAGER: Jared Gerber
801-944-7010 | jgerber@ch.utah.gov

City office

2277 E. Bengal Blvd.
Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121
 Phone 801-944-7000
 Fax..... 801-944-7005

Numbers to know

Emergency..... 911
 Dispatch 840-4000
 Fire authority 743-7200
 Animal control..... 944-7100
 Justice court 273-9731

Call direct

City manager..... 944-7010
 City planning 944-7060
 Public works..... 944-7002
 Recorder 944-7015
 Finance director 944-7012
 Code enforcement..... 840-4000
 Police administration..... 944-7100

City council meetings

- **November 18:** Work Session at 4 p.m. (tentative time), business meeting at 7 p.m. (tentative time)
- **December 2:** Work session at 4 p.m. (tentative time), business meeting at 7 p.m. (tentative time)
- **December 16:** Work session at 4 p.m. (tentative time), business meeting at 7 p.m. (tentative time)

City council meetings are held the first and third Tuesday each month at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. unless otherwise noticed. Agendas are posted at least 24 hours before public meetings at ch.utah.gov/agendas.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission generally holds meetings at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

Editor: Beatriz Mayorga,
Communication Manager

Dual Immersion: A Pathway to More Learning, Career Prospects, and Fun

Dual-Language Immersion is a great way to learn another language. More than that, it's a proven path to academic success and wide range of career prospects. Canyons School District has some of the most extensive language immersion offerings in Utah. Twenty-one elementary and secondary schools offer dual immersion programs in Spanish, French, or Chinese — and the time to consider applying is now. **Applications for the 2026-2027 school year close Friday, Dec. 19, 2025.** Any kindergarten-aged student who will be starting the

first grade in fall 2026 may apply. Students in DLI spend half their day learning in English and the other half learning in a world language. The programs continue through high school where students can work to pass the Advanced Placement exam in the 9th or 10th grades and take college-level courses for early college credit. The result? Higher academic achievement on end-of-year tests and bilingual skills that open up job opportunities for students and give them a competitive advantage when applying for college. Learn more at canyonsdistrict.org. ■

Save the Date: School Choice Open Enrollment Starts Nov. 15

In Canyons District, school choice means parents have options — and the comfort of knowing that whichever option you choose, it will be the right choice for your child. In Utah, parents can apply to have their students attend a school outside their neighborhood boundaries by submitting a School Choice/Open Enrollment request. The application window for the **2026-2027 school year opens Saturday, Nov. 15, 2025 at 10 a.m.** and closes at midnight on Friday, Feb. 6, 2026. Applications are

reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis when space is available. As always, families may submit more than one application. Parents will rank their preferred schools, and CSD's enrollment team will work to place students wherever space and eligibility allow. **All transfer requests will be processed after the application window closes on Feb. 6, 2026.** Administrators will work with families to find a spot for students who meet transfer requirements. Learn more at canyonsdistrict.org. ■

SUSTAINABILITY

Shining Bright—But Smart: Holiday Lighting and Our Night Sky

Maverick Yeh, Planner III

As the holiday season approaches, Cottonwood Heights begins to glow with festive lights and decorations. While holiday lighting brings joy and community spirit, it's also a great time to remember the importance of dark-sky friendly practices that help protect our beautiful mountain views, wildlife, and sleep quality.

Keep It Festive, Keep It Responsible

The City encourages residents to enjoy holiday lighting while also following good lighting etiquette — and city code standards (CH Code 19.77.050 Lighting Standards). Here are a few simple tips:

- **Turn Lights Off Overnight**
Outdoor decorative lights should be turned off by 11:00 p.m. or when you head to bed. This helps preserve dark skies and reduces energy use.
- **Use Timers or Smart Controls**
Plug-in timers or smart plugs make it easy to automatically turn lights on at dusk and off before midnight—saving both effort and electricity.
- **Direct the Light Downward**

Avoid upward-facing lights or overly bright fixtures. Aim lights toward the house or landscaping, not the sky or neighboring properties.

- **Choose Warm and Energy-Efficient Bulbs**
LED lights with a warm color temperature (2,700–3,000K) use less energy and reduce glare.
- **Be a Good Neighbor**
Keep lighting focused on your property. Shield bright displays so they don't spill light into nearby homes or streets.

Why It Matters

Reducing light pollution helps everyone enjoy clearer night skies, improves safety by reducing glare, and protects nocturnal wildlife. Plus, turning off lights when not needed can lower your utility bill during the busy holiday season. Let's keep Cottonwood Heights bright with holiday spirit, not excessive light. Together, we can celebrate sustainably and keep our mountain skies twinkling — naturally. ■

Business spotlight

Hillside Veterinary Hospital | 7054 S 2300 E | 801-943-2154 | hillside@hillsidevt.com

Hillside Veterinary Hospital is excited to announce that we are extending our operating hours to better serve our community! We understand that urgent health issues don't always happen between 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, that's why our team is now available later into the evening to provide prompt care for non-life-threatening emergencies and urgent concerns like:

- Sudden illness or injury
- Vomiting or diarrhea

- Minor wounds or limping
- Changes in appetite or behavior

Beginning November 3, 2025, we will be open until 8pm, Monday – Friday. Call Us: 801-943-2154 Visit Us: 7054 South 2300 East, Cottonwood Heights, More Info: hillside@hillsidevet.com ■



Congrats to the 2025 landscaping/beautification award winners!

Sydney Pierce, Business Development Specialist

In a celebration of community pride and environmental stewardship, Cottonwood Heights is pleased to announce the winners of the 2025 Beautification Landscape Awards. The annual program honors homeowners who demonstrate exceptional creativity and dedication in enhancing the beauty of their properties and the overall appeal of the city.

This year's nominations featured an impressive variety of landscapes, reflecting the passion and effort residents put into their gardens. After careful consideration, city council members selected four outstanding homes, each representing the unique charm and character of their district.

The winners were recognized at a recent city council meeting and received a certificate

commemorating their achievement, along with a Home Depot gift card. This recognition is intended to celebrate their efforts, inspire continued gardening excellence, and encourage all residents to explore innovative ways to beautify their outdoor spaces.

The Beautification Landscape Awards continue to grow in popularity, fostering friendly competition and strengthening neighborhood connections. The program not only highlights individual accomplishments but also emphasizes the positive impact that well-maintained and thoughtfully designed landscapes have on the community.

As Cottonwood Heights continues to embrace its natural beauty, the 2025 awards serve as a tribute to the dedication of residents who contribute to a vibrant, picturesque, and welcoming city. Each garden tells a story of care, creativity, and pride, reinforcing the community's commitment to preserving and enhancing its environment for years to come.

Residents interested in participating in next year's awards are encouraged to submit nominations and showcase their own contributions to making Cottonwood Heights an even more beautiful place to live. ■



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