

August 2013 Newsletter

Staying Connected with the Citizens of Orem

Mayor's Message



Time always seems to fly by faster than we'd like, especially in the summer. It seems like we just celebrated Summerfest and the Timpanogos Storytelling Festival is already around the corner!

With how quickly time passes, it makes me think about how much things change over time. My family and I have called Orem home since 1984, and it seems like yesterday that Tana and I had three little ones at home. Now our children have grown, left home, and are starting families of their own.

Time changes cities, too. Our City Recorder recently found some figures from Orem's 50-year anniversary (1969) and it's amazing how much things have changed! I've included some figures from last year's city report so you can see how much has changed in the past 40 years.

	1969	2012	Increase
Population	25,000	89,021	256%
Streets (in miles)	114	270	137%
Concrete Sidewalks (in miles)	65	500	669%
Number of Street Lights	425	5,157	1113%
Sewer Lines (in miles)	84	284	238%
Water Lines (in miles)	100	475	375%
Water Used per Person (in gallons)	150	239	59%
Number Parks/Playgrounds	4	22	450%
Park/Playground Space (in acres)	152	304	100%
Public Schools	12	23	92%
Total Library Circulation	272,925	1,200,000	340%
Library Circulation per Person	10.6	13.5	27%

I'm proud of what this city has become and of the progress we've made. Our city has grown because people love Orem and want to call it home. Our city employees are doing a great job keeping up with the ever increasing demand for service that accompanies city growth.

In just a few short years, Orem will celebrate its 100th anniversary. I'm sure that Orem will continue to grow, and that's not something to be afraid of. With optimism and dedication, we can meet the challenges

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Primary Election Information

The Orem City Primary will be held on **August 13th from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.** Two Mayoral candidates and six City Council candidates will move on to the general election on Tuesday, November 5th.

For information about polling locations, candidates, and more, please visit our [elections page](#).

Upcoming Events

Aug 9: Early voting for city primary election

ahead of us. Let's all work together to make Orem a great place to live for years to come.

Sincerely,
Mayor Jim Evans

Orem City Debt Report

Some Orem residents have recently expressed concern about the City of Orem's debt levels. To help residents understand Orem's debts and what they have been used for, we have published an [informational flyer](#) that outlines our debt obligations. Here are a few of the key points:

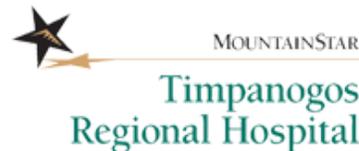
- Compared to five other Utah cities of comparable population, Orem has the second lowest city debt per capita. Even after factoring in UTOPIA obligations, Orem's debt levels are in line with other cities.
- Orem's debts are well within allowable limits set by the state.
- Orem bonds are used for capital projects and economic improvements such as roads, water/sewer lines, parks, and other city facilities and equipment, *not* ongoing operational expenses.
- The city consistently makes bond payments on time and is making steady progress in paying off its bonds.
- Orem issues bonds because they can reduce costs, provide up-front benefits for citizens, and increase fairness in who bears the cost of projects.

For more information Orem's debt obligations, including UTOPIA, you can read the flyer [here](#). We have also provided a [complete list](#) of all Orem bonds issued in the past 20 years.

Free Swim Day at SCERA Park Pools

Come celebrate the end of summer and beginning of school with a free family swim day at SCERA Park Pools! "Splash Back to School" will take place on **Saturday, August 17th, from 12:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.** All admissions will be paid for by Timpanogos Regional Hospital!

This is a great way to end your summer! For more information visit the [Orem Recreation webpage](#).



[More Information](#)

Aug 10: Community Dance featuring CB Jazz Band, Senior Friendship Center, 8 p.m.–11 p.m.

Aug 13: Primary Election Day, 7 a.m.–8 p.m.

[More Information](#)

Aug 17: Free Community Swim Day at SCERA Park Pool, 12:30 p.m.–6 p.m.

[More Information](#)

Aug 19–Sep 2: Fitness Center CLOSED

[More Information](#)

Aug 20: Special City Council Meeting, City Center, 5 p.m.

Aug 27: City Council Meeting, City Center, 6 p.m.

Aug 29–31: Timpanogos Storytelling Festival, Mt. Timpanogos Park

[More Information](#)

Summer Music Series

Join us for free Saturday concerts this Summer at The Stage at City Center Park at 7 p.m. Brought to you by the Orem Public Library and Orem Arts Council.

Aug 10: Caleb Blood

Aug 17: Bittersweet Bluegrass

Aug 24: The Accords

For more information about these performances, [click here](#).

Timpanogos Storytelling Festival

The 24th Annual [Timpanogos Storytelling Festival](#) will take place August 29–31 at Mount Timpanogos Park in Orem. This renowned storytelling event will feature [nationally known storytellers](#) including Donald Davis, Bil Lepp, Carmen Deedy, Ed Stivender, and others. The festival will also feature folk music, puppetry, mimes, jugglers, and food from local vendors. With storytellers performing each hour in six different tents, there are a wide variety of stories to enjoy.



The festival has received up to 30,000 visitors in past years, and has become one of the largest and most prestigious storytelling events in the nation. Those interested in attending are encouraged to [purchase tickets](#) in advance and arrive early for events to ensure good seating. Parking is limited; you are encouraged to [take a shuttle](#) to the event from a designated event parking lot. We hope you enjoy this Orem tradition!



Fitness Center Shutdown

The Orem Fitness Center will be closed for maintenance from Monday, August 19th, until Monday, September 2nd. During this time, staff will complete cleaning and maintenance projects that are difficult to complete during regular operation. For more information contact the Orem Fitness Center at 801-229-7154 or visit the [Orem Recreation webpage](#).

Stay Connected



Street Connection Master Plan

The City is in the process of updating our 1993 Street Master Plan. There are several locations around the city where new development can occur in the future. Our draft plan update indicates which stub roads (dead end roads without cul-de-sacs) need to be connected to other streets when development occurs.

The City will be holding two open house-style meetings to receive input for our plan update:



For residents that live
WEST of State Street:
August 28, 2013,
6:00 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

For residents that live
EAST of State Street:
September 11, 2013,
6:00 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Both meetings will be held in the Orem City Hall Council Chambers at 56 North State Street. If you are not able to attend the meeting please contact our Transportation Engineer, Paul Goodrich, at 801-229-7320 or prgoodrich@orem.org. Your input is very important.

City of Orem | (801) 229-7000 | communications@orem.org | <http://www.orem.org>
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