



Celebrating Orem at the 1st Oremfest

The very first Oremfest (previously known as Summerfest) was a smashing success! Each event provided amazing entertainment, and there was plenty of fun to be had. We enjoyed hearing the laughs, cheering, and oohs and ahs throughout the week. The grand parade and fireworks were the perfect way to end a perfect week, and we enjoyed celebrating and coming together with all of you in Family City USA. Oremfest came and went too quickly, and we are looking forward to next year with great anticipation. We recognize that there are always ways to improve and provide an even better experience, so if you have any feedback, please visit oremfest.org/feedback and let us know.

Property All-Star Program is Back

The Property All-Star Award program is designed to recognize homeowners and landlords who refresh troubled properties to meet or exceed community standards. Homeowners may nominate themselves or a neighborhood home that meets these requirements.

Winners will receive a gift card, certificate, and social media shoutout. Winners from the year will be placed in a pool for the chance to win a grand prize. If you or someone you know should be recognized, please apply at: orem.org/neighborhoods/property-all-star.



Preserving Orem's Public Lands

The Mayor and City Council created a new public facilities zone which includes parks, city facilities and school properties to promote the preservation of public land in Orem. Preserving these lands for future generations was a top priority of the City Council. These lands were paid for with public dollars and it is vital to preserve them for continued public benefit. If the lands were to be redeveloped for non-public purposes, they would likely be lost forever for public use. This zoning change ensures that appropriate due diligence is followed before any public lands can be redeveloped.



Recycle Often - Recycle Right

Recycling programs worldwide face a crisis due to contamination. Lack of proper recycling knowledge leads to high contamination rates. Garbage, non-recyclables, and dirty containers contaminate recycling streams, increasing costs and reducing reusability. Contaminated items are lost resources. Learn how to recycle like a pro with the city's FREE Recycle Coach app. Just search RECYCLE COACH in your app store.

UPCOMING CITY EVENTS

National Night Out: Aug 1, 5-8pm | City Center Park
City Council Meetings:

Aug 1, Aug 22, Sep 12, Sep 26 - 6pm | City Center

Orem Harvest Festival: Sep 25th - 4-7:30pm
Orem Community Hospital

Orem Farmers Market - Every Wednesday in City Center Park from 5-9pm

Orem Outlook

OREM ON THE MOVE | OFFICIAL CITY NEWSLETTER

JULY / AUG 2023 || [OREM.ORG](https://orem.org) | 801-229-7000



Great Things are Happening in Family City USA

One of the things I never get tired of as Mayor is talking about all the great things happening in Family City USA. Orem is brimming with so much good news, I can't get it all in this message. Here are just a few highlights I wanted you to know about.

James C. Christensen Memorial Playground - The City Council joined with 40+ members of the Christensen family to honor one of the greatest Orem artists of all time. Through this playground, we celebrate his remarkable contributions to our community and provide a space where families can come together, create joyful memories, and ignite their imagination.

Lowest Utility Rates in Utah County - We are proud to share that Orem's utilities fees are the lowest in Utah County. This achievement reflects our commitment to ensuring affordable services for our residents while maintaining the highest quality standards. It's a testament to the diligent efforts of our dedicated team and the responsible management of resources.

Securing Water for the Future - Speaking of resources, we're taking big steps in making sure generations of future Orem residents have plenty of the most important resource of all: water. The new well and 10 million gallon tank at Heritage Park is a huge investment in our city's vital infrastructure.

New Ballfields at Lakeside Park - Thanks to a \$2 million grant from the county, these remodeled fields will offer Orem's athletes thousands of additional hours to play, compete, and showcase their talents. This investment in our recreational facilities reinforces our commitment to fostering a vibrant and active community.

City Employee Study - We value and support our dedicated city employees and have created opportunities for them to learn, grow, and develop professional excellence in their fields. An in-depth survey is currently underway to evaluate their effectiveness and happiness. We are investing in our workforce so that we ensure Orem remains at the forefront of innovation and service.

These are just a few of the many positive developments happening in Orem. As a community, we have so much to be proud of, and it's truly an exciting time to be part of our city's journey. Let's continue to build on these achievements and work together to make Orem an even more remarkable place to live, work, and play.

Mayor Dave Young

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MORE UPDATES & NEWS!

46th Anniversary of the Freedom Tree



This Summer will mark the 46th anniversary of the dedication of the Orem Freedom Tree on the Orem City Center campus. Conceived and executed as an Eagle Scout project by Craig Meyer, son of Orem resident Margo Harrington, the Freedom Tree stands as a symbol of remembrance and honor for our brave service members who are prisoners of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA). The genesis of this noble endeavor can be traced back to a poignant final conversation Craig had with his late uncle Gary, which inspired him to pursue his Eagle Scout award.

The inspiration for the Freedom Tree project was further fueled by Doris Dingwall, a close family friend who experienced the pain of having her husband go missing in action during the Vietnam War. Doris used to decorate a tree in Provo to honor the memory of her beloved spouse, and Craig strongly believed that individuals like Doris deserved a dedicated place in Orem to pay tribute to their fallen loved ones. With the support of the Mayor, City Council, and city staff at the time, Craig diligently collaborated to bring this memorial to life.

Craig led his scout troop in raising the necessary funds for the monument and actively participated in its construction and placement. Over the years, Craig has been invited by many City Councils to speak about the project. Craig's service to the community continues as he has served in law enforcement for many years.

During the Christmas season, the Freedom Tree takes on a profound significance as it is adorned with blue lights, serving as a solemn reminder of the immense sacrifices made on behalf of our nation. It lets the families of these lost service members know that their loved ones may be gone, but they are not forgotten. You can read more about this memorial at orem.org/freedomtree.



New Budget, No New Taxes

On June 13th, the Orem Mayor and City Council passed a balanced city budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The council set the priorities for the budget with a special focus on living within our means. Other priorities included reinvestment in critical infrastructure, securing the safety of neighborhoods, creating a thriving business environment, and building a community-focused local government. Open work sessions have allowed the council to keep a close eye on the budget while looking for improvements and efficiencies. Budget highlights include no new taxes, a reduction in some fees, reinvestments in parks, and improvements in public safety.



Orem is Open for Business

We are so thrilled that so many businesses have chosen to invest in Orem. Over the past few months, we have welcomed the following new businesses to the city:

- Buffalo Wild Wings
- Lay-Z-Boy Furniture
- Pier 8 Cajun Seafood
- Little Beakers
- Fancy Burger
- Mr. Shabu
- CB Cycle Works
- Upright Spine Solutions
- McDonald's
- Dave's Hot Chicken

Be sure to follow us on social media to see all the exciting business announcements.



Orem Neighborhood Commission Expanding

The Neighborhood Commission has expanded in order to receive more feedback and input from residents. Each of the nine neighborhood districts will have two representatives. Members advise city leaders and management on neighborhood issues and help determine neighborhood plan projects and priorities. Members must live in the district they are representing. To apply, please visit orem.org/boards-commissions.



Orem Police Give a Lift to Local Students

Det. Hansen, one of our School Resource Officers, identified students lacking adequate transportation to and from school. To address this need, he ingeniously utilized our surplus of unclaimed bicycles slated for the police auction. Collaborating with Mad Dog Cycles, who graciously donated labor, Det. Hansen, Det. Christensen, and Mad Dog Cycles worked tirelessly to ensure the bikes were in optimal working condition. Thanks to their dedication, Nadia and Camila, twins from Canyon View Jr High, now have bikes to commute to Orem High School. We hope to continue this program and make it an annual tradition.



Major City Project Updates

The three major capital improvement projects in the city are moving along nicely. Footings for the new City Center have been set and poured. The creation of the concrete floor slabs for the new 10 million-gallon water tank at Heritage Park is underway. Enough gravel has been delivered to cover one-half of the floor area. This is being distributed over the top of the protective cover that is over the liner. At the new Hillcrest Park, much of the curbing and sidewalks have been completed as well as extensive renovations on the remaining building, including the restrooms and community spaces.