

# The Official Draper City Newsletter

# DRAPER FORWARD

MAY / JUN 2024  
draperutah.gov

## Mayor's Message

### Budget Season and Public Safety



May and June are busy months for our finance department. The current fiscal year ends June 30 and a new fiscal year begins July 1. Preparing a new fiscal year budget is a months-long process involving analyzing costs, assessing needs, and considering public feedback. With final budget approval scheduled at a city council meeting in June, we have a good picture at this point of needs and resources.

A critical area that has become urgent to address is public safety staffing. Fire and police departments are facing recruitment and retention challenges nationwide, and Draper is no exception. Over the past few years, it has become increasingly difficult to recruit and retain qualified personnel. This can be attributed to many factors, including the following:

- A decrease in interest in the professions by young people, resulting in fewer applicants, while retirements and resignations have increased
- Non-traditional work schedules – weekend, holiday, overnight, and multi-day shifts (fire)
- Strong job market with higher

salaries in the private sector

- Cities/counties competing against each other to offer better compensation/benefits to those who want to stay in the profession, leading to frequent turnover
- Negative portrayals of and attitudes toward police
- Stress and traumatic experiences in these careers can adversely affect mental health

Financially, a big impact recently is seeing recruits the City has trained leave for other agencies within one to two years. It takes just under a year to hire and train a police officer, and the cost is significant. Training fire personnel is also expensive. It costs between \$40,000-50,000 per person for the required three-month fire recruit training. We want to attract and retain the best public safety professionals, not be a training ground for other cities.

Draper City's police and fire staffing is currently strained. Overtime shifts are routinely offered and

sometimes become mandatory. With turnover already an issue, burnout is a real concern. Mutual aid agreements with neighboring cities help but can't provide all the coverage needed.

We are exploring ways to keep high-quality professionals in our community. This includes incentives such as bonuses, additional leave time, wage adjustments, and other benefits. And yes, an increase in property tax may be necessary to keep salaries and benefits competitive.

Draper City has the lowest property tax rates in Salt Lake County for general government and public safety services. There has not been a tax increase since 2007. We are conservative with taxpayer dollars but public safety is not something we can skimp on.

Draper is fortunate to have excellent fire and police departments. Our personnel are top-notch, and we want to keep them here.

*Mayor Troy K. Walker*

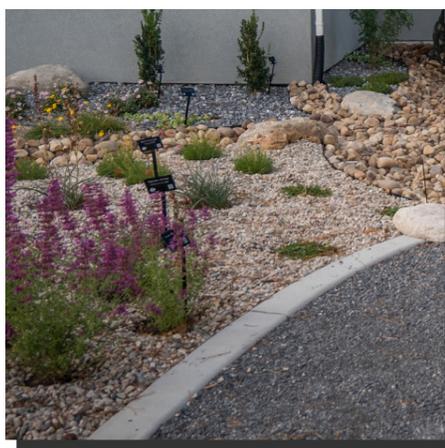
## LOVE YOUR YARD (EVEN) MORE IN 2024!

BY JOCELYN KESSLER, DRAPER CITY TREE COMMITTEE

Dreaming of spring? If you are planning a landscaping project and looking for inspiration, you don't have to go it alone. The Draper Tree Committee has useful information at [draperutah.gov/landscaping](http://draperutah.gov/landscaping) to help you love your yard (even) more in 2024!

Learn about when to plant vegetation to give them the best start in your landscaping, how to choose trees you love that will live happily in your yard (with photos and specs), how-to guides for tree planting and care, rebate info to offset some of the costs of replacing turf with Utah-friendly plants, information about free landscaping classes, or view a recording of a recent session hosted in Draper.

Looking for planting ideas? The Conservation Demonstration Garden at the Draper Parks and Recreation building (12354 S 800 E) is home to hundreds



of plants with interpretive signs to help visualize and plan a successful landscaping project. You can also roam six acres of gardens and waterwise landscape exhibits at the Conservation Garden Park (8215 S 1300 W, West Jordan). Finally, [localscapes.com](http://localscapes.com) has step-by-step classes to help you create your ideal Draper yard.

Trees are one of the reasons Draper is such an amazing place to call home. Choose varieties with the characteristics that fit your needs that you will enjoy for years to come.

## DRAPER CITY ANIMAL SERVICES

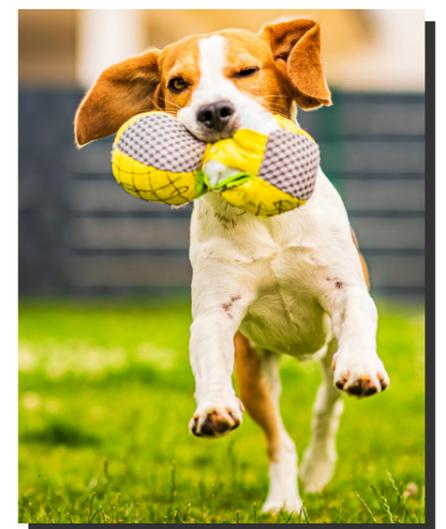
BRING ON THE SUNSHINE!

Draper Animal Services would like to remind all fur families about a few things as we enter the warmer weather. Make sure your pets have adequate water and shelter from the sun. Check gates and fences for any damage the wet winter may have caused to prevent any escape artist from leaving your yard unattended.

Unless you are at one of the three off-leash dog parks in Draper, always keep your pets on a leash when out for a walk or visiting the city parks and trails — it is the law, and we don't want to ruin your day by issuing a citation. You need to stay present with your dog while in the off-leash parks. An updated City license is required as well.

Our staff loves to see pets and their owners out and about enjoying the nice, warm days. Please follow the rules that are posted at all park and trail entrances. Don't forget to pick up your dog's poop and toss it in the trash.

Please make sure to update your dog's City license. If you need assistance or have any questions



or concerns, give the Draper Animal Shelter a call at 801-576-1805, or visit us at 12375 S. Vista Station Blvd or [draperutah.gov/animalservices](http://draperutah.gov/animalservices).

### Off-Leash Dog Parks

#### Dayland

300 East 13400 South

#### Galena Hills

715 West 12300

#### West Bluff (not fenced)

1455 East Deer Ridge Drive

## DRAPER CITY AFTER-HOURS CONTACTS

Parks Department: (801) 831-7194  
Water Department: (801) 831-7212

Streets Department: (801) 831-7195  
Non-emergency Police: (801) 840-4000



1020 East Pioneer Road  
Draper, UT 84020  
(801) 576-6500

Postal Patron  
Draper, UT 84020

Standard Rate  
U.S. Postage  
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Draper City  
Permit No. 6

Draper is a wonderful place to live, with great things to see and do. Here are ten fun, free things to do in Draper this summer:

## City Council Message

Council Member  
Tasha Lowery



- 1 Hike the Jungle Trail. Specifically built for children with lots to climb over and under and through, it's only one mile out and back — perfect for the littles.
- 2 Visit the Splash Pad. It's a great place to cool off on super hot days. The ice cream truck is also often found at this summer favorite.
- 3 Ride bikes and scooters on the paved Porter Rockwell Trail, starting at Draper Park. Make sure to check out the Unity Playground, with the tallest slide in Utah!
- 4 Explore Mehraban Wetlands. This is a short, easy paved trail rests between two ponds with lots of ducks and geese, and a great pier area for aspiring fishers. Interpretative signage along the path explains the plants and wildlife you may encounter.
- 5 Hike to the Suspension Bridge.

At 2.5 miles this hike is slightly more difficult, but the awesome views and bridge make it worth it. The bridge is 185 feet long and was donated to the city by the Wadsworth family. Dogs are allowed, but must be leashed.

- 6 Take a blanket and a picnic to one of the summer concerts in June at the Historic Park. These are free and kids can dance and play right up front. See a full listing of performers and dates on page 4.
- 7 Take advantage of the new My County Rec Pass, open to all Salt Lake County kids ages 5-18. The pass offers free entrance to all county facilities, including swimming pools, drop-in gym use, use of the climbing wall, and more. Learn more about this on page 3.
- 8 Hike the Lupine Loop. This short trail is perfect for families and is only for hikers — no bikes or dogs allowed. There are plenty of wildflowers, great views, and

even wild turkeys to spot.

- 9 Visit the Flight Park. As one of the very best places to paraglide in all of the United States, the smooth, consistent winds have long made the Point of the Mountain a destination for flying. Originally a site to launch test planes during World War I, this is a great place to have a picnic, watch pilots take off and land, fly a kite, and stargaze.
- 10 Try your hand at pickleball at the expanded courts at Southfork Park! With double the courts, more people can get in on the fun.

A couple of extras just for fun: Launch a kayak or paddle board at the new Draper launch pad at Jordan River Rotary Park, providing access to the Jordan River Trail. Or check out the Draper Farmers Market this summer at Smith Fields Park.

Councilmember  
Tasha Lowery

## CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT

GET A JUMP ON HIGH SCHOOL THIS SUMMER WITH CANYONS VIRTUAL ACADEMY

Looking to get a jump on high school and graduate early or catch up on missed credits? Enroll now in Canyons Virtual Academy's online summer courses. As a certified Statewide Online Education Programs, Canyons Virtual Academy (CVA) is approved to serve high school students from all across Utah. The courses are completely free of charge. What's more, the learning is self-paced and competency-based, which means students can complete the coursework while traveling with family or hanging out at the pool.

Get a Jump On High School With Canyons Virtual Academy's Free Online Summer Courses

REGISTER NOW!

"Summer is a popular time to take advantage of CVA. We have students who want to get credits out of the way to free up space in their fall schedule. Others sign up to retake a class for a better grade," said CVA Principal Amy Boettger. CVA offers

several electives and most core classes, including honors courses, physical education, and financial literacy. Students can sign up now for the summer session, which runs from May 31 to Aug. 31, 2024. See above for more information.

## PET WASTE IS A BIG DEAL

Draper City is working with the community to keep our water sources clean. Join us by keeping pet waste out of streams, canals, rivers and lakes.

When cleaning up pet waste, do you bag and trash it? That's the right thing to do! Trash collectors pick up garbage and take it to the landfill facility, located at the watershed's bottom so potential problem-solving components of the trash aren't carried through our waterways.

concentration that ends up in the waterways. A gram of dog waste can contain 23 million fecal coliform bacteria and parasites, whose eggs dispersed from feces can survive for years outdoors. These pathogens can be passed to other dogs or humans, and gets washed into lakes and rivers where people swim.

When reaching streams, canals, rivers or lakes, waste decays, using up oxygen and releasing ammonia. Low oxygen levels and ammonia

**We ♥ our dogs, but their poop - not so much! Scoop the poop every time!**

- Dog waste is NOT fertilizer for your lawn.** In fact, it's just the opposite and can be very toxic to your soil. Due to their high-protein diet, dog waste is highly acidic and will actually burn your grass creating brown patches.
- Just one gram of dog waste can contain as many as 23 million fecal coliform bacteria.** Waste can seep into groundwater and spread salmonella and giardia. This poses a hazard to your pets, your family and your landscape.
- Dog fecal matter is a major contributor to stormwater pollution.** One out of three households have at least one dog, and all that dog poop left out can be blown into storm drains, lakes, and streams. When in water, the liquid waste consumes the oxygen and releases ammonia which contaminates our resources as well as harms the fish that reside there.
- Your lawn mower doesn't help, in fact can make it worse.** Mowers will actually chip up the waste into smaller pieces and spread it further throughout your yard where you, your children, and your pets continue to step in it and then bring it into your home.
- The EPA classified dog waste as a dangerous pollutant in the same category as toxic chemicals and oil.** The average dog defecates approximately three quarters of a pound of waste per day, which adds up to 275 pounds per year. Your yard might be more polluted than you think.
- The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) confirms that hookworms, ringworms, tapeworms and Salmonella can be spread by contact with infected dog waste.** It can take over one year for dog waste to decay but even when it has visibly disappeared, the parasite eggs it contained can linger on for years in your soil - leaving your family and your pets vulnerable to serious infection.

**What you can do. Bag it and trash it. ALWAYS.**

## DRAPER AMPHITHEATER



**Draper Jam**  
Draper Parks and Recreation presents Draper's premier musical event featuring high school PTSA band winners from across the Wasatch Front.

May 10 | Gates - 6:00 PM | Show - 6:30 PM  
**Free Event**



**The Little Mermaid**  
Based on the classic fairy tale Disney animated film, this musical features familiar and new compositions in a magical theatrical experience for audiences of all ages.

May 24, 25, 27, 31, June 1, 3, 7 and 8  
Gates - 7:30 PM | Show - 8:00 PM  
Get tickets at [draperutah.gov/littlemermaid](http://draperutah.gov/littlemermaid)



**Draper Idol & Movie Night**  
Enjoy performances from local singers as our Draper Days singing competition returns before a screening of *The Super Mario Bros. Movie!*

July 17 | Draper Idol - 6:30 PM | Movie - 9:15 PM  
**Free Event**  
Learn more about Draper Idol on page 4



**Legally Blonde Jr.**  
This musical adaptation of the film and Broadway show is specifically designed for young performers, with energetic, upbeat musical numbers and a positive message.

July 26, 27, 29, August 2 and 3  
Gates - 7:00 PM | Show - 8:00 PM  
Get tickets at [draperutah.gov/blonde](http://draperutah.gov/blonde)



**Broadway Family Favorites**  
This musical variety show returns, composed of songs from Broadway shows and tied together with an original script.

August 16, 17, 19, 23 and 24  
Gates - 7:30 PM | Show - 8:00 PM  
Get tickets at [draperutah.gov/broadway](http://draperutah.gov/broadway)



**The Spirit of Polynesia**  
This first-class show brings professional dancing, hula, haka, poi, singing, music, fire dancing, and sand art to the Amphitheater.

September 7  
Gates - 7:30 PM | Show - 8:00 PM  
Get tickets at [draperutah.gov/polynesia](http://draperutah.gov/polynesia)

If left to decay on the sidewalk, gutter or grass near the street, dog waste breaks down until washed into storm drainage systems by rain or melting snow. None of the water in gutters, storm drains, creeks, rivers and lakes in Salt Lake County goes to a treatment plant.

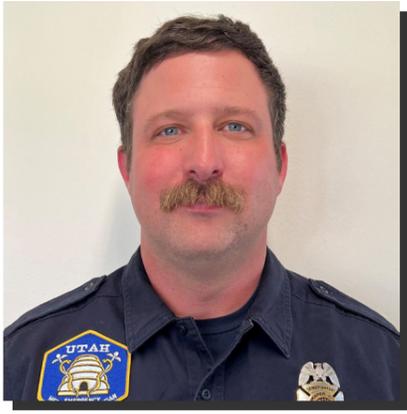
As carnivores, dog waste differs from other wildlife, containing higher concentrations of bacteria than wildlife that consume ecosystem resources. Nutrient-heavy pet food is designed to give dogs a complete diet. A single pile of pet waste will continue to release nutrients every time it rains until flushed away. If added to the waste of other wildlife, pet waste creates too high of a bacteria/pollutant

combined with warm temperatures kill fish. Pet waste contains nutrients that encourage weed and algae growth. Overly fertile water becomes cloudy, slimy, and green/black as a result of eutrophication, causing health concerns for waterbodies, fish, and recreationists.

Pet waste carries diseases which can make water unsafe for contact. In addition to E.coli, health concerns include Campylobacteriosis and Salmonellosis bacterial infections, Toxocariasis roundworm infection, and Toxoplasmosis and Giardiasis protozoan parasite infections.

Be part of the water pollution solution — scoop the poop every time!

NEW DRAPER CITY FIREFIGHTERS



Lance Ellsworth was born and raised in Gilbert, Arizona. He has a bachelors in Business Communications from Arizona State University and worked in recruitment in education for over eight years. He enjoys outdoor activities like camping and hunting and has been coming to Utah to hunt upland birds for over five years. He married in 2013. In 2020, his wife's job took them to San Antonio, Texas, where he began working as a fire fighter in a nearby department. Since relocating, he is excited to continue his growth as a fire fighter in Draper.

Tyler Cox was born and raised in Evanston, Wyoming, where he attended Western Wyoming Community College and played two years of soccer. After college he worked in many different fields until taking an EMT class shortly after turning 30, and fell in love with EMS and fire. He began working part-time for Summit County EMS in 2018 and since worked for the U of U ED and Park City Fire before applying to Draper FD. He lives with his wife Hailei, 7-year-old daughter Evie, and two border collies, Toby and Mia. He loves to mountain bike, run, and travel with family.



## Heritage Banquet

July 17 — 6:00 PM  
Draper Elementary School

Make time to meet your neighbors and learn more about our community.

\$15

per person

Additional information and tickets can be found at [draperutah.gov/heritage](http://draperutah.gov/heritage).

## MY COUNTY REC PASS

for Salt Lake County residents, ages 5-18

Pre-Registration Opens: April 1, 2024  
Pass Activates: June 1, 2024

[slco.to/my-county-rec-pass](http://slco.to/my-county-rec-pass)

**ART IN THE BARN — CALL FOR ARTISTS**  
BY JENNY HENDRICKSEN HAASE

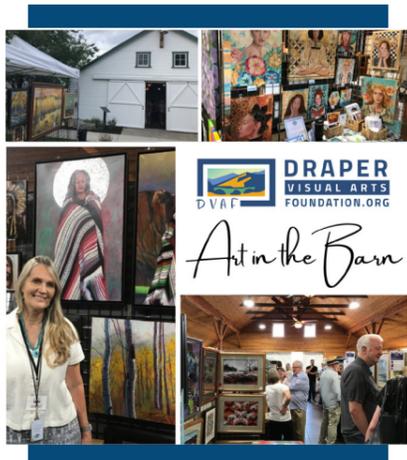
Founded in 1992, Draper Visual Arts Foundation's (DVAF) mission is to conserve, promote, and celebrate art in Draper. To showcase local artists, DVAF holds "Art in the Barn," an annual fine art show and sale. It will be held August 23-24 at the Day Barn and surrounding area at Draper Park. Admission is free — come browse and enjoy, or purchase original art.

In 2023, we featured 45 artists showcasing their work. Live music, a children's art activity and food trucks added to the celebration.

To apply, artists must fill out an application, submit five photos of their work, and a profile photo. Applications are due by June

15. For more information, visit [drapervisualartsfoundation.org/art-in-the-barn](http://drapervisualartsfoundation.org/art-in-the-barn).

We are looking forward to another extraordinary event this year!



# DRAPER DAYS 2024

- JULY 11**  
Rodeo
- JULY 12**  
Rodeo  
Pickleball Tournament
- JULY 13**  
Rodeo • Strider Bike Race  
Pickleball Tournament • 5K
- JULY 15**  
Horse Pull  
Historic Walking Tour
- JULY 16**  
Farmers Market  
Food Truck Night
- JULY 17**  
Heritage Banquet  
Draper Idol  
Amphitheater Movie Night
- JULY 18**  
Children's Bike Parade  
Car Show
- JULY 19**  
Park Activities • Concert  
Fireworks  
Softball Tournament
- JULY 20**  
Parade • Concert  
Fireworks  
Basketball Tournament

Draper's summer festival returns July 11 - 20, bigger and better than ever before! Save these dates for fun for the whole family, and join us for summer memories that will last a lifetime.

Musical performances by:  
**PARTYCRASHERS**  
**SAVANNAH KEYES**  
**JOE NICHOLS**



Learn more at [draperutah.gov/drapperdays](http://draperutah.gov/drapperdays)

**WATER CONSERVATION REBATE PROGRAMS**

Thanks to Draper City's adopted water-efficiency standards and partnership with Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District, Draper residents are eligible to earn up to \$3 per square foot for replacing the lawn in your park strip with a water-efficient design. Landscaping project options include park strip, side yard, and full yard conversions.

Homeowners can receive \$0.50 per square foot to convert planting beds watered with spray irrigation to drip irrigation.

Homeowners can receive \$100 per tree for up to five trees, when planted in conjunction with a turf conversion

project.

Get paid up to \$75 when you purchase and install a WaterSense-labeled smart controller that adjusts the water your yard gets based on local weather and yard conditions. All Utahns are eligible.

Receive up to \$100 by replacing your old toilet with a WaterSense-labeled one. Any toilet manufactured before 1994 may qualify. You may submit up to 2 toilets per application. All Utahns are eligible.

Visit [utahwatersavers.com](http://utahwatersavers.com) for more information about all rebate programs.



# DRAPER FORWARD

## RECREATION PROGRAMS

### EVIL SCIENTIST SUMMER CAMPS

Youth ages 5 - 12

Fun four-day camps over the summer teach kids about various elements of science in a fun way with lots of cool tests, experiments, and explosions!

Where: Draper Parks and Recreation Office (12354 South 800 East)  
When: Dates TBD  
Cost: \$120 per child, per camp

### FLAG FOOTBALL

Youth ages 6 - 12

A fast action game that lets everyone throw, run, catch, and play defense. Six on six non-contact flag football on shorter fields. Emphasis is on fundamentals, learning, meeting friends, and fun!

Where: Galena Hills Park  
When: 7 weeks, dates TBD  
Cost: \$50 per participant

### YOGA ON THE MOUNTAIN

Anyone ages 12+

Join us and enjoy the quiet of Corner Canyon and sweeping views of the valley at Peak View Trailhead with our Certified Yoga Alliance instructor.

Where: Peakview Trailhead  
Length: 4 weeks, dates TBD  
Cost: \$40 per session



Corner Canyon



**HALF MARATHON**  
10K, 5K

September 21  
7:00 - 11:00 AM  
Andy Ballard Arena

Half Marathon — \$55  
5K and 10K — \$25

Register: [draperutah.gov/half](http://draperutah.gov/half)

Register online at [draperutah.gov/programs](http://draperutah.gov/programs)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS



### MAYOR'S BIKE RIDE

MAY 13

6:30 PM  
Draper City Park  
12500 South 1300 East

Join Draper City Mayor Troy Walker on this fun, family-friendly bike ride that travels both the Porter Rockwell & Canal Trails. Enjoy complimentary coffee, juice, and snacks to fuel your ride.

Learn more at [draperutah.gov/bikeride](http://draperutah.gov/bikeride)



### GOLD STAR MEMORIAL DEDICATION

MAY 18

11:00 AM  
Draper City Park  
12500 South 1300 East

Gold Star Families Memorial Monuments honor the families of active military members who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. Join us for a ceremony to commemorate the completion of the monument.

Learn more at [draperutah.gov/goldstar](http://draperutah.gov/goldstar)



### MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

MAY 27

3:00 PM  
Draper City Park  
12500 South 1300 East

Please join us as we remember and honor those Americans who have died in military service to the United States. This simple service features a brief ceremony in remembrance of Americans who died defending this Nation.

Learn more at [draperutah.gov/memorialday](http://draperutah.gov/memorialday)



### FARMERS MARKET & FOOD TRUCKS

JUL - OCT

Tuesdays, 6:00 - 9:00 PM  
Smith Fields Park  
200 East 13400 South

Draper City's Farmers Market offers community members an opportunity to purchase fresh, locally grown produce, artisan goods, and delicious food on a new day and location. Food trucks available on site.

Learn more at [draperutah.gov/farmersmarket](http://draperutah.gov/farmersmarket)

Learn more at [draperutah.gov/events](http://draperutah.gov/events)

**Cinco De Mayo Festival**  
ENTERTAINMENT . FOOD . CRAFTS  
May 4th 2024 | 6:00-8:30 pm  
DRAPER CITY PARK

**TINY TOT TRIATHLON**  
BIKE | RUN | SLIDE  
Limited Availability  
Register your child today!  
Saturday June 15th  
9:30 am - 12:30 pm  
Galena Park  
Now with Foam Area!  
Register at [draperutah.gov/tinytot](http://draperutah.gov/tinytot)

**SUMMER CONCERTS**  
FREE 7 PM WEDNESDAYS HISTORIC PARK  
RED LIGHT CHALLENGE — JUNE 5  
MADE FOR MIDNIGHT — JUNE 12  
ROCK UNIVERSITY — JUNE 19  
COLE HARTLEY — JUNE 26

**DRAPER IDOL**  
July 17, 6:30 PM  
Draper Amphitheater  
Do you have a passion for performing? Want to showcase your talent in front of others? Draper Idol is a perfect platform for local performers to shine in front of a live audience. First-place winners will perform on the main stage at Draper Days 2024!  
Individuals only — no bands  
Junior Division: Ages 11-14  
Senior Division: Ages 15+  
All competitors receive a commemorative T-shirt  
Learn more and apply at [draperutah.gov/draperidol](http://draperutah.gov/draperidol)



Dirt started turning at The Point in March as crews began installing a major natural gas pipeline. This construction represents the culmination of years of proactive planning and signals the start of a major development milestone. In the coming months, construction will commence on the installation

of water, sewer, road and utility infrastructure.

The Point of the Mountain State Land Authority anticipates construction of buildings to start as early as the end of this year. They are hiring a Director of Land Development to oversee these development efforts, and are working with the Utah Department of Transportation and the Utah Transit Authority

on environmental studies of both light rail and commuter rail projects at The Point.

The progress made in a short period of time could not have happened without the collaboration and support of the public and strategic partners.

To learn more, visit [thepointutah.org](http://thepointutah.org).

## CITY INFORMATION

### MAYOR

Troy K. Walker

### CITY COUNCIL

Mike Green  
Bryn Heather Johnson  
Tasha Lowery  
Fred Lowry  
Cal Roberts

### CITY MANAGER

David Dobbins

### CONTACT

(801) 576-6500  
[draperutah.gov](http://draperutah.gov)

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