

# Council Report

## **Paiute Tribe Powwow**

Rick Wixom, Tom Dansie, Ryan Gubler and I attended the annual powwow event in Cedar City. Rick and I had a chance to say hello to the Tribal Leader, Corinna Bow. She seemed to appreciate that we were there, and we agreed to get together soon.

## **ULCT: Short-Term Rental Policy Workgroup**

Attended a workgroup meeting via Zoom. Their priorities with the State legislature are removing the disincentive for long-term rental use, leveling the playing field between legal overnight rentals and illegal overnight rentals, and minimizing the impacts of short-term rentals on neighbors and the community. One of the more interesting ideas they're working on is for the city or town to keep all of the TRT rather than sharing it with the county. The money could be used for enforcement.

## **Housing Committee**

Attended a meeting with Lisa Zumpft to talk about a workforce housing zone and ordinance. The group will include our housing consultant, two members of the Planning Commission, and Tom Dansie. We'll meet every two weeks to talk about how to facilitate workforce housing.

Attended a second meeting with the housing committee to talk about deed restriction language for the Workforce Housing Zone. Future meetings will address other items related to this zone.

## **DTEC Meeting**

Dr. Wayne Provost from Utah Tech University presented a concept for a solar rail transportation system. He designed it as a possible solution for the campus but wonders if it could benefit the community at large. It's an elevated train (16' above ground) using "tudor track," the same technology as Disney's monorail system. Speed is 20 to 40 mph. Trains would run through the St. George area and as far as Springdale.

As an indicator of growth in our area, taxable grocery store sales in Washington County are at \$668 million, up from about 250 million in 2008.

## **Utah Wildfire Prevention Workshop Webinar**

This webinar was hosted by Conserve Southwest Utah and was held on June 29. We are at a very high risk for wildfire, and residents should educate themselves about how to create defensible space around their homes. Many resources are available online through the State of Utah.

## **Streetscape Committee**

Attended the kickoff meeting of the Streetscape Committee. The Streetscape Plan should be completed in November of this year. The process will include community engagement, and we will ask a resident and local business owner to join the committee. We hope to create some aesthetically-consistent areas for pedestrians to find shade and take a break. We also hope to "send" some pedestrians further south to some of the businesses outside of the central commercial zone.

### **GNAR Initiative**

Attended the kickoff meeting of a study being done by researchers from various universities. They're looking at issues that are specific to "gateway communities" and what solutions are being used to address those issues. They are focusing on land use and transportation. Other communities in the study re Whitefish MT, Jackson WY, Moab UT, Aspen CO and Patagonia AZ.

### **Zion Regional Collaborative Guiding Committee**

The pedestrian bridge at Confluence Park connecting LaVerkin to Hurricane via trail was completed this month. Here's a picture:

