

LET'S GROW LEHI TOGETHER

2017 STATE OF THE CITY FROM MAYOR BERT WILSON



GROWTH COMES WITH CHANGE, BUT IT DOES NOT REQUIRE THAT WE CHANGE WHO WE ARE AS A COMMUNITY. LEHI AT ITS HEART IS A FAMILY COMMUNITY. I INVITE EACH OF YOU TO JOIN US AS WE PIONEER LEHI'S FUTURE.

What a great time to live, work, and play in Lehi. This year marks my eighth year as mayor of this wonderful city. When I first took office the population was just over 47,000 residents. Today we estimate our population is approaching 65,000. We have two high schools, a full-service hospital, over 300 acres of parks, an ever growing commercial sector, and over 480 lane miles of road. According to our residents, Lehi provides a high quality of life and remains a great place to raise a family.

RECREATION AND LEISURE

Leisure and recreation opportunities continue to be in high demand. The Literacy Center expanded to the old bank building on Main Street in August, making way for the development of a Story Time area at the library. Involvement in recreation programs is at an all-time high with 10,343 participants in our sports programs, 86.5 percent of which are Lehi residents.



We are also fortunate to have three new parks in our city. Ivory Ridge Park opened this year with the city's first splash pad, and it was well used throughout the summer. Spring Creek Park features pickle ball courts, and Snow Springs Park pays tribute to Lehi's heritage. In 2017 we plan to complete the skate park at Pointe Meadow Park and half of Shadow Ridge Park in Traverse Mountain.



Parks continue to be an area of concern for the city. While we need more playable recreation space, the residents of Lehi have spoken and voted against a bond to fund these projects. In 2017 the city will identify priorities for parks and identify alternative means to fund these projects, albeit at a slower pace.



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UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Most frequently I am asked what the city is doing to ensure sustainable infrastructure to meet the demands of a growing population. In a recent survey the majority of residents indicated that they believe the biggest issue facing Lehi City over the next five years is growth. Not surprisingly, that same survey showed that 40 percent of our residents could not compare Lehi today to Lehi 5 years ago because they have not lived in the city long enough. In the last year we saw considerable commercial and residential growth, and it shows no sign of stopping.

Throughout the city we have extensive capital improvement plans to help us meet future needs. In 2016 we realigned Center Street to provide a safer commute for students at Skyridge High School, reconstructed Ashton Boulevard, and installed traffic signals at five new intersections. We have also completed the Sandpit Reservoir for pressurized irrigation and in 2017 we plan to complete the Jordan River Reservoir. This will provide additional storage capacity for pressurized irrigation.



More Information

Find the complete annual report online at
www.lehi-ut.gov/annual-report.

I assure you that the city is planning for Lehi's future. This often requires cooperation with a number of agencies like UDOT, UTA, and Mountainland Association of Governments. Improvements are years in the making and take a large investment. Too often timing and funding mechanisms are out of our control. However, we continue to aggressively advocate for Lehi's needs.

DEDICATED WORKFORCE

Our employees are dedicated to making the right decision for the future of Lehi. For example, our Planning Division recently went above and beyond to preserve open space along the Jordan River corridor. One by one our city planners met with property owners to develop an overlay zone that balances the needs of public and private groups and limits development along the river. The zone was officially adopted this year. This is just one example of the exemplary service offered from our city employees.

Growth comes with change, but it does not require that we change who we are as a community. Lehi at its heart is a family community. We are inherently good people focused on helping those with whom we live, work, and play. Our pioneering history shapes who we are and what we will become. The future of Lehi is bright. I invite each of you to join us as we pioneer Lehi's future. Let's grow together.

Your Mavor.

Bert Wilson