



PROVO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Joint Meeting with Orem City Council

12:00 PM, Thursday, March 01, 2018

Room 310, City Conference Room

351 West Center Street, Provo, UT 84601

Agenda (0:00:00)

Roll call

The following elected officials and executive staff were present:

Council Chair Gary Winterton, conducting
Council Vice-Chair David Harding
Council member George Stewart
Council member David Sewell
Council member Dave Knecht
Mayor Michelle Kaufusi, arrived 12:10 PM
Wayne Parker, CAO
Cliff Strachan, Council Executive Director

Mayor Richard Brunst, Orem
Jamie Davidson, Orem City Manager
Brenn Bybee, Orem Assistant City Manager
Steve Downs, Orem Assistant City Manager
Mark Seastrand, Orem Council Member
Debby Lauret, Orem Council Member
Sam Lentz, Orem Council, arrived 12:08 PM
Brent Sumner, Orem Council, arrived 12:07 PM

The prayer was given by Council member David Sewell.

Business

1. A discussion on how the cities of Provo and Orem can work together to improve air quality in Utah Valley. (0:01:37)

Council member David Sewell introduced the discussion, sharing that the air quality is a great concern to all cities in the Valley. Provo and Orem could set a powerful precedent by working together on air quality.

Jamie Davidson, Orem City Manager, and Brenn Bybee, Orem Assistant City Manager, shared details of Orem's Purple Air project and commented on the success of the technology and its implementation locally. Orem City paid for and installed the \$200 monitor devices throughout the city at key intersections and residents can view the readings online. Council member Gary Winterton suggested that Provo City explore compatibility with the AMI electric meters. Orem Council member Sam Lentz noted that with free and accessible data, local businesses or entrepreneurs might be able to utilize this to other means.

Mr. Sewell also suggested that Provo and Orem could pursue more sustainable initiatives with the City-operated fleet vehicles, perhaps introducing hybrid or electric cars as fleet vehicles need to be replaced. Both cities have several electric vehicle recharge stations at the city facilities.

Several other elected officials shared ideas and progress regarding improving air quality:

- Orem Mayor Richard Brunst noted changes made by the state legislature regarding tier 3 fuel.
- Council member David Harding explained key elements of the Clean Air Toolkit which focus on new construction and encourage installation of energy-efficient appliances.
- Mr. Davidson explained that Orem recently made changes with their contracted solid waste pickup contractor—the garbage truck fleet has been updated to CNG vehicles.

- Orem has retrofitted other vehicles in their fleet to use CNG, but the results have been mixed.
- Hybrid vehicles were selected for BRT, as electric-only buses were not powerful enough for the hills.
- Orem Council member Mark Seastrand noted that UTA offered free bus rides on a red-level air quality day and this was very successful.
- Mr. Harding noted other benefits of promoting transit—it takes cars off the road and frees up parking. Mayor Brunst noted that it also keeps the roads in good repair longer.

2. A discussion on plans to address affordable housing in Utah County. ([0:23:37](#))

Council member David Knecht introduced this discussion and gave background information on the issues related to affordable housing in Provo and surrounding communities. Mr. Knecht outlined some ways Provo was pursuing affordable housing options, including inclusionary zoning and land trusts.

Members of the group shared other comments on affordable housing:

- Mayor Brunst noted that the majority of Orem’s recent affordable housing projects have been developer-driven. He would like to see more of this in Orem. Bruce Dickerson was the developer of a recent project off of University Parkway, Running Horse, and has done others in the area.
- Mr. Knecht gave background information on land trust programs used in Park City, where there are many low-income workers, but not adequate housing supply for that demographic.
- Mr. Lentz explained Orem’s affordable senior housing overlay, which encourages redevelopment.
- Council Chair Gary Winterton explained Provo’s accessory apartment program for residents over 65.
- Mr. Davidson was concerned that the state legislature conflated homelessness with the availability (or lack) of affordable housing. He felt this was a problematic approach.
- Mr. Harding suggested there were a correlation between homelessness and affordability in a community. He felt that the land use decisions that cities make either contribute to a solution or to compounding the problem. He has policy issues with how the related bills at the state are being implemented, but he is supportive of the broad principles.
- Mayor Brunst and Orem Council members noted that the affordable housing projects had to be built to Federal Housing Administration specifications and sold to a certain proportion of owner-occupants.
- Mr. Knecht noted that land prices are a major factor in affordability.
- Both cities face similar challenges with housing needs and zoning enforcement in the community.
- Orem has a Neighborhood Preservation Unit, which is part of the police department and handles the civil concerns in many housing and zoning enforcement situations.

3. Additional discussion topics as needed. ([0:49:31](#))

Council members and the Administration shared comments on BRT construction. Mr. Lentz suggested exploring fare-free zones/times in conjunction with BYU sporting events, which often result in traffic and congestion. Wayne Parker, CAO, explained that the restrictions on University Avenue parking were made by the Provo Police department after observing conditions dangerous to pedestrians and cyclists.

Mr. Davidson and Mr. Parker shared an update on the BRT station art selection processes in Orem and Provo, respectively. Orem is working with UVU to produce the designs for the stations. Provo is still in the evaluation phase, but BYU is contracted to produce their own station designs, and elsewhere in Provo, designs will be created by local artists working with a local committee. Mr. Knecht updated the group on the recent BRT economic impact study presented by Benj Becker to the Council and later the Council’s Housing Committee. Orem officials heard a similar presentation.

Next meeting: April 19, 2018 at 12 PM at Orem City Center.

Adjournment Adjourned by unanimous consent.