



www.slc-avenues.org

■ THE ■

AGENDA

OF THE
GREATER AVENUES
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**February
2025**
Vol. XXIX
Issue 2

REPRESENTING THE AVENUES AND FEDERAL HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOODS OF SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH



Chair's Message for February *by 2025 GACC Chair Dianne Leonard*

And just like that another month has passed! So much has been going on in our neighborhood as we have all been living our lives. We have new residents for whom this is their first newsletter. Welcome to you and I sincerely hope that you find home here in the Greater Avenues. We have friends and neighbors

who are moving away. To you we bid a fond farewell and wish you well and safe travels.

Daily the Avenues changes and we are not powerless to help shape some of that change.

As our Legislature is in session we each have the opportunity to share our thoughts and ideas with our Legislators regarding those things that are important to us and our community.

Recently we had the opportunity to hear about proposed changes to Block 407 where the Governor's mansion is located. Several of our residents have expressed concern about the loss of historic buildings in this plan and are taking action.

Our Land Use Committee is working to update the Avenues Master Plan. This is a guideline for preservation and development in our community.

We have residents who welcome traffic calming measures such as the restriping of South Temple and the speed bumps on Virginia Street and want such measures to increase on our streets. Some dislike the loss of automobile lanes on South Temple and some feel that the speed bumps, although they slow traffic, increase the stress on drivers and vehicles. Others are asking for more enforcement of speed limits and additional signage to help calm the flow. All want safe streets.

At our February 5th meeting we will have the opportunity to vote on an issue that another group of our residents feel strongly about-the Rio Grande Plan. We as residents have the opportunity to research this plan and cast a vote.

Our Wildfire Preparedness Committee is working on a wildfire preparedness information sheet that we can all incorporate into our emergency planning. This committee needs the help of residents who want to get involved and move this project forward.

I was happy to hear from a few of you with suggestions and questions. The invitation still stands. My email is gaccchair@slc-avenues.org.

We can work to shape the changes that are happening in our neighborhood. Find what interests you. Use your voice and your skills to help shape that change.

February 5th Community Meeting Agenda

6:00-6:05	Welcome and Announcements- GACC 2025 Chair Dianne Leonard
6:05-6:13	2024 GACC Financial Report - GACC Treasurer Ryan Kendrick
6:13-6:20	Vote on Rio Grande Letter of Support - Robyn Christensen
6:20-6:35	Governors Block Presentation
6:35-7:05	SLC Planning Presentation- SLC Planning Director Nick Norris
7:05-7:45	Community Reports-Utah Legislature, SLC Mayor's Office, City Council, School Board, Police, Fire Dept., Library
7:45-7:55	Open Forum
7:55-7:59	Please help put away chairs
8:00	Adjourn

Note Location Change for February Meetings:

Both meetings will be at the LDS Hospital Auditorium, 430 North C Street, on C Street just south of 9th Avenue.

Community Meeting, Wed. February 5, 6:00 pm

Board Meeting, Wed. February 12, 6:00 pm

The Feb 5th GACC meeting will be in person and on Zoom, and the Zoom link will be posted at www.slc-avenues.org at 5pm on Feb 5th.

The Feb 12 Board Meeting will also be in person and on Zoom. If you need the Zoom link or special accommodations contact Dianne Leonard at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org.



GACC Board Member Spotlight - Brita Priest

Brita has been a resident of the Avenues for two years. While still new to the neighborhood relative to other board members, she is eager to become more involved in this special community.

Brita has volunteered to chair the GACC's Social Media committee and is excited to connect with the residents of The Avenues

both online and in person!
When not working from her home office, you can find Brita skiing or hiking in the mountains with her fiancé and rambunctious puppy.



Photo by Busath Photography

Happy February! *by Chris Wharton*

With the New Year already in February, I wanted to take a moment to share my top five priorities for 2025:

1. Create an updated Parks and Trail Maintenance Plan.
2. Adopt updated Wildfire Mitigation Plan.
3. Streamline and consolidate planning and zoning processes to make it easier for residents and evaluate alternative response methods.
4. Secure funding for renter resources, the Cemetery Master Plan, Memory Grove Improvements, public art, and traffic calming initiatives.
5. Advocate for senior housing for the LGBTQIA+ Community and a public market.

As we embrace the heart of winter, I'm reminded of the warmth and resilience of our community. This month is filled with opportunities to connect, celebrate, and come together as a district.

Sign up for regular District 3 emails at <https://tinyurl.com/SLCCouncilEmails>.

Memory Grove Update

by Craig Ogan and Kathryn Wright

The Salt Lake City Council approved a Community Improvement Proposal for inclusion in the 2025 Salt Lake City Budget. The improvements involve refurbishing monuments in Memory Grove; replacing deteriorating lamp posts; and improvements to the westside paths to the Capital. You can read more here: <https://memorygrovefoundation.org/>

The City has also committed to improvement of the Freedom Trail which is a trail just north of Memory Grove. The trail is a popular off-leash area for dogs. Initial grading of the trail to improve safety has been recommended as well as longer term upgrades.

Residents who frequent the Memory Grove area and the Freedom Trail express ongoing concern about the camping that occurs on the hillsides and around the monuments. Camps become quite large, some with wooden structures. It takes time to disperse the camps and afterwards, significant amounts of trash are left. It takes considerable time for the trash to be removed. The camping attracts animals, including dogs from the off leash trail.

Join the Wildfire Committee *by Amy Merritt-Smith*

The GACC Wildfire Committee is developing a public outreach plan and materials for the upcoming fire season. We plan to present this information to the public this spring, at the start of Utah's fire season. The recent Los Angeles fires are another reminder that Avenues' residents, plus business and property owners, need to prepare themselves and their properties for wildfire. Your help developing and providing this critical information to support our efforts is an important contribution. To volunteer, please contact: gaccchair@slc-avenues.org with "Wildfire Preparedness" in the subject line.

Senator Jen Plumb, Utah State Senate, District 9
jplumb@le.utah.gov

To all my constituents in the Avenues:

I'm excited to share the Senate Democratic Caucus and my legislative plans for the 2025 General Session. While Utah is experiencing economic prosperity, many Utahns are still left behind. Our focus is on bridging this gap by revisiting the core principles of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

In Utah, Life means ensuring equal access to healthcare, clean air, and food security for all communities. Liberty calls for a fairer judicial system and enhanced resources for victims. The Pursuit of Happiness is rooted in thriving communities supported by affordable housing and accessible childcare. Our goal is to make Utah's prosperity—and these ideals—a reality for everyone.

I'm personally working to better represent underserved Utahns with legislation to provide

intermediaries for our homeless population, strengthen workplace discrimination protections, and ensure safe, private spaces for students to change and use restrooms. To enhance safety, I'm proposing bills addressing infant drowning prevention, e-bike regulations, and improved data collection on inmates struggling with substance abuse.

In 2025, we're going back to the basics—ensuring that every Utahn has the tools and opportunities they need to succeed.

Follow my legislation here: <https://le.utah.gov/asp/billsintro/SenResults.asp?Listbox2=PLUMBJ>.

Utah House District 22 *by Jennifer Dailey-Provost*

The 2025 General Legislative Session is upon us – January 21 is day one of our fast and furious 45-day session. This year is sure to be as provocative as the last few years, with a notable uptick of contentious issues that often test the patience and credulity of even the most sanguine observer. Over the last six years I've had the privilege of visiting with many community members who continue to be engaged in the work at our state's capitol. I'm ever grateful for the opportunity to do my best to represent the diverse voices in District 22.

We need to keep a sharp eye on policy issues like preserving universal vote by mail and protecting the independence and authority of our judicial branch, but also look for every opportunity to watch for the unintended and unanticipated consequences of policy decisions, particularly when the health and well-being of people in our state may be harmed. It may also be of some comfort that despite the seeming endless stream of ill-advised laws, there is so much good work to be done. This year we will fight for more resources to address the opioid crisis, homelessness, access to mental health services, and ensuring children in our state never go hungry. The good work of government is often hard to see, but I believe that our community stands as a pillar for the good fight and I'm delighted to stand with you as we collectively work toward a better future.

Reach me at: jdprovost@le.utah.gov

February's Environmental Tip by Tom Brooks



2014 through 2024 have had the highest temperatures since 1850. Ocean temperatures are at their highest and ice fields are shrinking. Is this only a weather cycle, like climate hoaxers call it? Absolutely not! This crisis is man-made. CO2 a.k.a. Carbon Dioxide, a Greenhouse Gas, generated from burning petroleum products, is at an all time high. CO2 levels have risen from 75 ppm to 455 ppm, indicating trapped heat, changing ocean currents, storm intensity, and increasing lightning strikes. Dry vegetation creates fuel for wildfires. Removing and reducing CO2 pollution is the only solution. See the NOAA Study at the QR code.

Questions/comments: cooper.brooks@gmail.com



League of Women Voters Legislative Update by Katharine Biele, League of Women Voters, Utah President

Lawmakers tell you the laws they pass come from their constituents. Sit in any legislative meeting, and you'll hear problems from concerned citizens. The next concerned citizen could be you. You can make a difference, and you have a voice. The League of Women Voters can help you broadcast that voice. It's easy and fulfilling - and you might be surprised about your power as a citizen. See our website for more info. Legislative advocacy is a cornerstone of our League; based concerted efforts to achieve public policies consistent with League positions.

Our over 150-year mission is to empower voters and defend democracy. We welcome men and women to join us our citizen-involved effort. Meet with us from Jan. 23-Feb. 27 at noon in Rm 105 at the Utah Capitol.

Historical Markers in the Avenues by Ryan Kendrick and Peg Alderman

Salt Lake City has announced a new Historical Markers Pilot Program. The Avenues plans to apply for a marker. Do you have any suggestions? Send comments or ideas to Ryan Kendrick at gacctreasurer@slc-avenues.org by Feb 12.



See more at <https://www.slc.gov/access-belonging/salt-lake-city-historical-markers-pilot-program/>.



Tenth East Senior Center
237 South 1000 East
Salt Lake City, UT 84102
(385) 468-3140

M-F 7:00-4:00
Lunch daily 11:30-12:15
237 S 1000 E Enter on north side for parking in rear.

saltlakecounty.gov/tenth-east-senior-center

Handyman & Home Repair Information Seminar: Monday, 2/10, 11:00 am—12:30 pm

Learn about Salt Lake City's Handyman and Home Repair programs for eligible residents. The Handyman program offers grant assistance for small household repairs and preventative maintenance. The Home Repair program offers a low-interest or no-interest loan for large necessary repairs.

Valentine's Day Party: Friday, 2/14

Enjoy a special meal and music provided by Alobar & Kudra. Their guitar, bass, and sweet harmonies reach out to include their audience in historically popular songs, with thanks to sponsor Heart and Soul.

Closed for Holidays: Monday, 2/17— Presidents' Day

The Center still does not have a date for its closure for remodeling. The GACC newsletter will contain information as it becomes available. Classes for exercise and other activities continue in the meantime.

Utah Senate District 8 Update by Todd Weiler

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

January 21st marks the start of Utah's 45-day legislative session—a time when my colleagues and I will work together to craft policies and establish budgets for programs and services.

As I consider bills and policy initiatives, I want to ensure your concerns and ideas are at the forefront of my decisions. To make it easy to share your thoughts, I've provided a link to a quick survey, which should only take about five minutes to complete. Your input will help shape my work during this session. Please take the survey here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf5cIof-S4wYnCHD4CO42A_tMI9ePWzElq23mv1QPPnrGGA-g/viewform

I'm grateful for the feedback and insights many of you have shared throughout the year—your engagement strengthens the policy-making process. Please don't hesitate to reach out as we navigate the critical decisions ahead. It is an honor to represent you.

Todd Weiler, 801-599-9823, tweiler@le.utah.gov, <https://senate.utah.gov/sen/WEILET/>

PHILLIPS
Fine Art • Custom Framing • Art Supplies

MAIN GALLERY
JOHN ERICKSON
February 21 - March 14

DIBBLE GALLERY
FLOCK & AWE...ART THAT SOARS

A group show of bird-inspired art

PHILLIPS-GALLERY.COM 444 E. 200 S. SLC, UT 84111



www.slcp.org
801-594-8651

Avenues Sweet Branch Library, 455 North F Street
Mon-Thurs 10:00 am-8:00 pm

Fri & Sat 10:00 am-6:00 pm, closed Sundays

Closure Feb 3-15, 2025: The Library will undergo upgrades to the data cables/wiring. Any hold items not picked by Sat, Feb 1 will be sent to the Main Library.

Closed Monday, Feb 17, 2025 - Presidents Day

KIDS CALENDAR

Book Baby storytime. **Wednesday mornings** at 10:30 am. A fun storytime that encourages playful interactions between little ones and their caregivers. Ages 0-3

Preschool Storytime. **Thursday mornings** at 10:30 am. Stories, rhymes, and fun to help kids get ready to read! Ages 3-5

Playtime. **Friday mornings** from 10 am - noon. Playtime is an unstructured time for little ones to play with toys and make new friends! Drop in anytime between 10am-12pm.

TWEEN CALENDAR

Tween STEAM: A LEGO challenge. Friday, **January 10** at 2:30 pm - 3:30pm. What can you build with random LEGO pieces?

TEEN CALENDAR

Dungeons & Dragons for Beginners (10 years old and up) A friendly introduction to Dungeons & Dragons for first-timers, led by an experienced player. Held on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 6:00pm - 8:00pm.

ADULT CALENDAR

Sweet Reads Book Club: **Feb 25** 7:00 p.m. to discuss **Maybe You Should Talk to Someone** by Lori Gottlieb. At the end of the meeting, March's book, **Uncle Tom's Cabin** by Harriet Beecher Stowe will be handed out.

Publisher's Statement

This publication is to conduct the business of the Greater Avenues Community Council (GACC). Mail correspondence to GACC, P.O. Box 1679, Salt Lake City, UT 84110.

GACC 2025 Officer and Editor Contacts:

Chair: Dianne Leonard, gaccchair@slc-avenues.org
Chair-Elect: Steve Miller, gaccchairelect@slc-avenues.org
Secretary: Lori Galindo, gaccsecretary@slc-avenues.org
Treasurer: Ryan Kendricks, treasurer@slc-avenues.org
Newsletter: Michael Hughes and Olivia Christensen, newsletter@slc-avenues.org

The GACC web page is www.avenuescouncil.org

Avenues Community Improvement Grant - Applications Available!

Do you have ideas on how to improve our neighborhood? The 2025 GACC budget includes \$3,000 for Community Improvement Grants. Applications are being accepted through October 15th or until all 2025 grant funds have been awarded. Visit slc-avenues.org/our-neighborhood/avenues-grants for more information.



Chicka-dee-dee-dee
By Hilary Jacobs

Who is the little black-capped native bird that calls "chick-a-dee-dee-dee" and remains here even when the winter snows arrive? It's the Black-capped chickadee,

easily identified by its black cap, black bib, white cheeks, and loud call. Well adapted to seasonal changes, chickadees eat primarily insects during the summer, and mostly seeds and berries that they carefully cache for the winter. Agile little acrobats, chickadees hop along branches—and even hang upside-down—while collecting food.

During winter chickadees flock together, often joined by other birds who benefit from chickadees' skilled foraging. For protection they sleep in thick vegetation or cavities, and they can reduce their body temperature dramatically to conserve energy on cold nights. Few birds have this adaptation.

The Foothills are now blanketed in snow, but if you look and listen carefully, you might spot a little bird making the most of the chilly season in this vital habitat.

Voices For Animals by Paul Zuckerman

Dog and cat breeding goes back centuries. Many continue the practice to this day for the love of certain breeds. There are breeders on farms and in homes, that are motivated by profit alone. So how to choose a reputable seller? Most importantly, whether online, by email or word of mouth, choose one you can visit in person. You will want to meet the breeder, see the conditions in which their animals are housed, cared for and socialized. Assess the health of the animal and it's mother. The cost should be reasonable if provided evidence of medical care, nutrition, licensing and registration. A caring breeder will want to talk to you as well. They want good homes for their animals. Alternatively, consider adopting a pet from a nearby shelter or rescue organization. If just 6% more were adopted, no kill status would result nationwide according to Best Friends Animal Society.



The Greater Avenues Community Council recognizes the Shoshone, Paiute, Goshute, and Ute Tribes, whose ancestral homelands we occupy today. The Council honors the enduring relationship that exists between these peoples and their traditional lands, and we thank them for their longstanding land stewardship.



SLC Waste & Recycling

slcwasteandrecycling@slc.gov, 801-535-6999
 Trash Pickup Date Change: Starting February 3, 2025, the Avenues trash pickup day will be on Tuesdays. Salt Lake City is changing its curbside collection route for weekly pickup of garbage, recycling, and compost cans.
 The schedule change does not affect: Apartment buildings w/ private dumpsters; Businesses w/ private dumpsters; those in the Thursday zone; or Call-2-Haul availability +/- or pick-up
 Residents who participate in optional curbside glass recycling services may be assigned a new pickup day by service provider Momentum Glass Recycling via an email or text notification.
 Brown Yard Waste Can Suspension until March 1:
<https://www.slc.gov/sustainability/waste-management/holiday-waste-collection-schedule/winter-suspension-for-brown-cans/>

School Board Update by Ashley Anderson

Managing tax dollars is one of the most critical jobs for a school board, especially as the legislature has heavily restricted the collection of curricular fees in the coming year. As the board absorbs the cost of course fees in the budget, we have heard and responded to student concerns about the cap on expenses for extracurricular clubs and activities. We try to keep fees at a reasonable rate to serve all families, but some clubs find they hit the maximum before attending all the competitions on their list. Did you know the Salt Lake Education Foundation helps with this exact problem? Families and community members can make a donation on saltlakeeducationfoundation.org specifically to cover the difference between the maximum expense and the cost of their program.
 Have questions about clubs and activities? Send me an email any time ashley.anderson@slcschools.org

YOUR EDUCATION—YOUR WAY
ENROLL NOW





OPEN HOUSE
TUES & THURS AT 4:00
Grades 7-12

Tuition-Free Public School
 555 E. 200 S. Salt Lake City, UT 84102 • 801.596.8489 to tour

Life can change in a heartbeat.




Heart disease is the number one killer of women and men in the United States. Take the Healthy Heart quiz to assess your risk.



Scan the QR code to take the Healthy Heart quiz

we can help!



MARK HOWELL
 CPA, MBA, PFS
 International CPAs & Advisors, P.C.
info@tax-time.cpa
 website : tax-time.cpa
 tel : 385 261 2426

DESIGN BUILD




CAPITOL HILL CONSTRUCTION
 RESTORING & REMODELING
 THE GREATER AVENUES
 533.0204 • caphillcon.com

CIDER HOUSE & BAR
 OUTDOOR GARTEN SPACE
 EVENTS AND CLASSES



425 N 400 W
 Salt Lake City 84103
 801-935-4147
 mountainwestcider.com

Cat et cetera
 Loving care for your cat.
 Daily or twice-daily visits.
 Licensed, bonded, insured. 
 catetcetera.com • 801.560.1394



Mike Evertsen
 801-560-2138
 merunner54@gmail.com
 Plumb & Co. Realtors



Cafe on 1st
 39 I Street
 SLC, UT 84103
Cafeonfirst.com
 801.532.8488



COFFEE STOP

SOLD





COLDWELL BANKER REALTY

Advertise With Us Our circulation is just under 9,000 monthly. You can reach every home in the Avenues with an ad in this space at reasonable rates. Info: treasurer@slc-avenues.org

GACC Community Meeting
February 5th - 6:00 p.m.
LDS Hospital Auditorium and Zoom

The Zoom link will be posted at
www.avenuescouncil.org *at 5pm on Wed. Feb 5*

Announcement of a Vote on February 5th
 for a **Rio Grande Plan Letter Of Support**
 by Robyn Christiansen



The Avenues Council has been asked to write a letter of Support for the Rio Grande Plan similar to letters written by other Salt Lake City Community Councils. The Rio Grande Plan is a new concept for a transportation hub in downtown Salt Lake City. More info is at <https://riograndeplansaltlakecity.org/> There will be a vote on Feb 5th and the entire support letter is posted online at www.slc-avenues.org.

Mayor's Office News
 by *Alicia DeLeon*

Alicia.Deleon@slc.gov
 385-454-3824
 (Hablo español)



Three Salt Lake City Advisory Board Openings:

Planning Commission Opening - See more info here: <https://www.slc.gov/planning/public-meetings/planning-commission-agendas-minutes/>.

Bicycle Advisory Board Opening - See more info here: <https://www.slc.gov/boards/boards-commissions/bicycle-advisory-committee/>

Transportation Advisory Board Opening - See more info here: <https://www.slc.gov/boards/boards-commissions/transportation-advisory-board/>

Salt Lake City Public Safety Plan

Salt Lake City's top priority is creating and maintaining a safe city where families and individuals can live, work, and thrive, including our strong business community. This plan addresses the serious public safety and humanitarian crisis on our streets.
<https://www.slc.gov/homelessness/public-safety/>

NEW FITNESS STUDIO IN THE AVENUES!
 High repetition, low impact - maximum burn, minimal strain.

Your 2025 wellness community!

BOOK YOUR FIRST CLASS TODAY!

the bar method

BOOK HERE

Phone: 801-784-2963
 Address: 480 E. 6th Avenue Unit 100 SLC

Avenue Bakery
 on Fourth

gluten-free

PIES CAKES PASTRIES
 BREAD ROLLS DONUTS
 GRAB & GO MEALS

4th Ave and E Street

and gifts

Zoning 101

by *Nick Norris*
 Salt Lake City Planning Director



Have you ever wondered what zoning is? Or how decisions about new buildings are made?

Or why some development proposals are sent to community councils for input and some are not? The process that developments, from a new home to a high-rise building, go through are not always easy to understand. Zoning is where it all begins. Zoning determines how land can be used, what can be built, and the size of buildings.

Zoning also determines the process for reviewing and approving development. In Salt Lake City, development is approved in two ways: at the staff level if a proposal complies with zoning regulations or by the Planning Commission (PC) if the building is over a certain size, a new business is proposed that may create negative impacts, or the owner is proposing a modification to a standard. Within historic districts, the Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC) reviews and decides all new buildings, while staff typically decides changes to existing buildings. When a project is required to go to either the PC or HLC, some applications require a 45-day public input period before a decision can be made. The 45-day public input period requires notice to nearby neighbors as well as community councils (called "Recognized Organizations" in city code)

If you want to hear more about zoning and the role that the community council plays, come to the February 5th meeting where Nick Norris, the Salt Lake City Planning Director, will provide a "Planning and Zoning 101" overview and answer questions about the approval processes and the role of the community council.