

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



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

As the days get longer I find myself spending more time outside and enjoying the beauty of our neighborhood. I love seeing the flowers and trees bloom each spring. I love seeing the faces of neighbors I pass on my walks turned upward toward the sun and not hidden away in scarves and hoods as they are for much of the winter.

I love hearing the birds early in the morning. I love seeing neighbors out in their yards and gardens cleaning out the leaves that have provided winter protection to small creatures and the delicate plants as they prepare to spring forth.

Our neighborhood includes the lovely Memory Grove. Each May the GACC sponsors the Memory Grove Clean-up. This is a service not only to our community but also to our City and to travelers from all over the world who visit this unique and beautiful place. This year on May 10 we will gather at the gates to Memory Grove and spend a bit of time and energy working to keep this park looking its best. Following the work, LDS Hospital provides lovely box lunches and drinks to all who help with this effort. I hope that those of you who can will come and join us on this service project. It is remarkable how much can be accomplished in a short time with everyone pitching in.

Another thing that I experience at the turning of the seasons, and particularly as spring rolls around, is the desire to clean out and declutter. There is scientific evidence that this process of decluttering has positive emotional, psychological and even physical effects. In a 2018 article from Penn Today, Wharton Professor Katherine Milkman calls it the "fresh start effect" of temporal landmarks such as the first day of spring, New Year's Day, and other meaningful calendar dates. If you find yourself in the mood for a good cleaning, there are several ways to lighten your load. One is the Greater Avenues Buy Nothing Project. This group has been active on the Avenues for a while and adheres to the philosophy of buying less and sharing more. The link to the Facebook page for the group is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SLCAvenuesBuyNothing/>

Donation is another way to share usable items that you may no longer need. There are several different organizations that accept donations. A simple search for "Where do I donate used items in Salt Lake City" gave this answer: In Salt Lake City, you can donate used items to various thrift stores and donation centers like Deseret Industries, Savers, Goodwill, Calvary Thrift Store, and the Salt Lake City Mission. Additionally, organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters, Catholic Community Services, and The Road Home also accept donations. For building materials, furniture, and appliances, Habitat for Humanity ReStore is a good option. You can find others

with a quick search on your computer.

Salt Lake City has a program that can help you get rid of large items that cannot be donated. The Call 2 Haul Program has been around for a long time and is a great help for those of us without large trucks to do our own hauling. Every resident that has Salt Lake City collection services can schedule 2 pick-ups per year and you can coordinate with neighbors for a large group pick up. Information is available on the city website at <https://www.slc.gov/sustainability/waste-management/c2h/>

Happy Spring to you and I hope to see you at our May 7 Community Meeting! As always, if you have suggestions or questions regarding things that are happening on the Greater Avenues I hope that you will reach out to me at [gaccchair@slc-avenues.org](mailto:gaccchair@slc-avenues.org)

**May 7th Community Meeting Agenda**

- 6:00-6:05 pm Welcome and Announcements- GACC 2025 Chair Dianne Leonard
- 6:05-7:00 pm Community Reports- Sweet Branch Library, Utah Legislature, City Council, Mayor's Office, LDS Hospital, Police Department, Fire Department, School Board
- 7:00-7:20 pm Avenues Master Plan Update
- 7:20-7:30 pm U of U Master Plan Survey Findings
- 7:30-7:45 pm Walkable SLC
- 7:45-7:50 pm Open Forum
- 7:50 pm Clean up and Adjourn

**Community Meetings**

**GACC Community Meeting - May 7 - Hybrid**  
The May 7th GACC meeting will be held at the Sweet Branch Library, and on Zoom. The Zoom link will be posted at 5 pm on May 7th at [www.slc-avenues.org](http://www.slc-avenues.org).

**GACC Board Meeting - May 14 - Hybrid**  
The May 14th Board Meeting will be held at the Sweet Branch Library, and on Zoom. If you need the Zoom link or special accommodations you can contact Dianne Leonard at [gaccchair@slc-avenues.org](mailto:gaccchair@slc-avenues.org).

**District 3 City Council Update** by Chris Wharton



Photo by Bessie Photography

Dear District 3 Neighbors,  
 Spring is in full bloom here in Salt Lake City, and it's a great time to get out and enjoy our incredible open spaces and trails. I know many of you are passionate about access to our foothills, so I want to acknowledge the ongoing concerns about trail closures near Terrace Hills Drive and City Creek. I'm actively working with city staff to get more information and explore options for improved communication and access. I'll share updates as I learn more.

In the meantime, I encourage you to continue enjoying our city's amazing trail system while we work through any issues that arise. Whether you're hiking, biking, or just looking for a peaceful walk, there are many great options to explore. You can find trail maps, suggested routes, and trailhead information on the city's Foothills Trail System page: [www.sl.gov/parks/trails-natural-lands/fts](http://www.sl.gov/parks/trails-natural-lands/fts).

As always, thank you for staying engaged and for caring so deeply about our community. If you have questions, ideas, or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out.

Warmly,

Chris Wharton  
 801-535-7600  
[Chris.Wharton@slc.gov](mailto:Chris.Wharton@slc.gov)  
[WWW.SLC.GOV](http://WWW.SLC.GOV)

**Where is Your Evacuation Go-Bag?**  
 by Amy Merritt-Smith

If you can't answer this question, it's time to take action! Each family member and any pets need an individual bag with critical supplies to evacuate. Some include: season-appropriate clothing, food supply, medications and charging cables. Pets will also need food, leash or carrier, and any medications. This link provides recommendations for Go-Bag contents to customize for your family's needs. <https://www.sl.gov/em/build-a-kit/>. Additionally, keep a list of items to quickly gather and pack along with your Go-Bag to reduce stress and decision-making during an evacuation. Create a back-up drive, including passwords, and keep it with a portable file hanger box for important written documents. The Wildfire Flyer mailed in your Greater Avenues Community Council April Newsletter has additional preparation tips to support your disaster preparation. Bring this Flyer to the May GACC Community Meeting for free laminating and keep it with your Go-Bag. The GACC website has much more disaster preparation guidance. <https://avenuescouncil.org/project/wildfire-preparedness/>

**Save the Date  
 Memory Grove Cleanup  
 Join us May 10th!**

300 N Canyon Road  
 8:00 am to 12:00 noon  
 Lunch Provided by LDS Hospital

**Land Use Changes and the Avenues Masterplan**  
 by Jim Jenkin, Land Use Committee Chair

The agenda of this month's GACC meeting will include several aspects of City Planning affecting the Avenues. The most significant of these is the Avenues Masterplan revision. Neighborhood Plans are the defining document for



City purposes for any neighborhood. They talk about who we are, where we live, and what we want our neighborhood to become. (SLC also calls them General Plans.) The Current Avenues Masterplan can be found here, PLEASE give it a read: <https://www.sl.gov/planning/general-plans/neighborhood-plans/>

Both City Planning and the GACC Land Use Committee are in the process of revising the Avenues Masterplan, which dates back to 1987. While it does accurately represent many aspects of the Avenues, sections of it are outdated, and some planners do not take it seriously because of its age. In the May GACC meeting I will introduce the GACC to the MasterPlan and describe the process that we are following to update it. The City process is still defining current conditions and, while I expect to meet with City Planners in the future, so far they have declined to discuss their process until the initial phases are complete.

A second land use initiative by the City of particular importance to the lower Avenues is the proposed height increase in residential multifamily structures from 35 to 45 feet ("Multifamily Merger"). As of this writing the Planning Commission has requested significant changes in this proposal and I hope to have a definitive idea of what those changes are by the time of our May meeting. Of potential impact to homes in the Historic District Overlay (SR1-A) is the change restricting Landmarks Commission appeals to District Court, where they were formerly appealable to the Planning Commission.

Third, there is also a City Council-driven attempt to change allowable fence/hedge heights from 6 to 7 feet. The Link for this effort is below, and public comment is solicited through 8 May. <https://www.sl.gov/planning/2025/02/25/openhouse2025-00045/>

Updates are also expected to the types of construction allowable in Single Family Residential zones. See the Building Salt Lake article here: <https://buildingsaltlake.com/salt-lake-city-could-overhaul-its-single-family-zoning-code-to-allow-more-units-heres-how/>

The City will also remove the public hearing requirement for appeals of administrative land use decisions and variances in accordance with House Bill 368. The bill states that cities may not hold public hearings for appeals of land use decisions and applications for variances.

I look forward to your comments at the meeting. The Land Use Committee can also be reached at [landusecom@slc-avenues.org](mailto:landusecom@slc-avenues.org) for comment, more information, or to attend a meeting.

**1300 East Transportation Study** *by Jim Jenkin*

The Salt Lake City Transportation Department, led by Project Manager Kyle Irvin is updating a 1991 study of transportation around 1300 East. Transportation Staff hope to brief the GACC on the 1300 East / University District Circulation Study—specifically the study's goals around improving multi-modal transportation connections, supporting local businesses, and managing parking and traffic. The Study Area is South Temple to 500 South and 1100 East to University Street. While not in the Avenues, the area is adjacent, and used by many Avenues residents. The Study website is here: <https://www.slc.gov/transportation/plans-studies/1300universitystudy/>



**Environmental Tip: Become a Papertarian** *by Jill Van Langeveld*

A papertarian is a fun term coined by the Paper and Packaging Board to highlight someone who lives a paper-focused recycling mindful lifestyle. It's about

opting for paper-based packaging and then recycling that packaging properly! Papertarians understand the positive impact that small, everyday choices have on our forests and the environment. It's so important to remember that our everyday actions can have a huge impact over time. Did you know that paper and cardboard are one of the most recycled materials in the U.S.? Paper and boxes can be recycled and made into new products up to seven times! Recycling can take place in every room of the house. Keeping a bin beside your waste baskets can encourage recycling throughout the household. You can become a Papertarian by choosing products packaged in paper rather than plastic and then properly recycling paper such as:

- ♥ Pasta and cereal boxes
- ♥ Flour and sugar paper packaging
- ♥ Laundry products in boxes
- ♥ Choose brown paper bags rather than single-use plastic bags
- ♥ Even better, use your own canvas bags when you shop.

You can help make the paper recycling process even more efficient by emptying, flattening, and recycling the paper products you use!

**Spring Art Celebrations at Local Schools**

*by Ashley Anderson*



Spring is a time to celebrate our Avenues schools and their teachers by attending Gallery Strolls and Art Shows! In partnership with parent teacher organizations, elementary schools showcase student visual art, highlight student performances, and fundraise for future arts instruction. West High also celebrates IB student work.

Ensign kicked off the season with an April Gallery Stroll & Tinikling Performance, but you can still catch several events: **Wasatch Arts Showcase**; May 2 – 5:30-8 pm; **The Open Classroom Art Stroll**; May 19 – 5-9 pm; **West High IB Art Show** at the Marmalade Library; May 5-17.

Reach out any time at [ashley.anderson@slcschools.org](mailto:ashley.anderson@slcschools.org) with your thoughts and ideas about topics in the Salt Lake City School District.



**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](http://saltlakecounty.gov/tenth-east-senior-center)

**May Programs:**

**Property Watch, Salt Lake County Recorder**  
**Monday, May 19, 11:00 am-1:00 pm**

Get a free copy of your property records and answers to questions about your property. This service can protect property owners against title fraud.

**Stepping Up Your Nutrition**

**Friday, May 30, 10:00 am-12:00 pm**

Discover how balanced nutrition contributes to the prevention of falls.

**Avenues Community Kindness Program** *by Jenn Beck*

**Bobbi Sausedo** was nominated by her neighbor Lauren Gimbel for her services to her neighbors. Lauren says: "Bobbi is always willing to help out, lend a hand, give advice or connect you with someone in the neighborhood...she always stops to talk, have coffee or lend items. We feel lucky to be a part of the Aves and hope to be the type of neighbor similar to Bobbi!" Bobbi will receive a \$25 gift card to an Avenues business of her choice!

This award happens every month! The GACC Service Committee runs this program to highlight acts of kindness and service in our community. Residents of the Avenues can nominate others in the community who have performed these acts of kindness/service and each month we will recognize the randomly chosen winner to receive a \$25 gift card from an Avenues business of their choice!

To submit a nominee:

- 1) Send an email to Jenn Beck at [jennjbeck@gmail.com](mailto:jennjbeck@gmail.com)
- 2) Provide the name and contact info (phone & email if possible) for the person being nominated
- 3) Give a brief description of the service/kindness

Thank you to those who submitted nominations and to those who serve our community!

**2026 Utah Legislative Session** *by Sen. Jen Plumb*

I am certainly interested in hearing from constituents-if there are issues you would like me to look into for possible bills to run in the 2026 session. May 7th is when we can start opening the files on issues. Please reach out to me at [jplumb@le.utah.gov](mailto:jplumb@le.utah.gov)

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**Avenues Sweet Branch Library** 455 North F Street  
Monday - Thursday - 10:00 am-8:00 pm  
Friday & Saturday - 10:00 am-6:00 pm  
Sunday - Closed

**All Locations:** Sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge: Color My World starting on Saturday, May 31. Pick up a tracker to begin your summer reading challenge!

**All City Library locations are closed on May 26** for Memorial Day.

**KIDS CALENDAR**

**Book Baby storytime.** Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am.  
**Preschool Storytime.** Thursday mornings at 10:30 am.  
**Playtime.** Friday mornings from 10 am - noon.

**Summer Celebration!** Thursday, May 29 from 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm. Kids and families can celebrate the beginning of summer with crafts, games and a sweet treat.

**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 pm - 8 pm.

**ADULT CALENDAR**

**Book Club.** The Sweet Reads Book Club will meet at 7:00 pm on May 27, 2025 to discuss *Becoming Jane Austen* by Jon Spence. At the end of the meeting, copies of June's book, *Sea of Tranquility* by Emily St. John Mandel, will be handed out.

**Art Exhibit:** Trish Melander is a plein air oil painter who explores both urban landscapes of western cities or far from home, sweeping views of red rock deserts and alpine forests. Her art exhibit reception will be held on Saturday, May 10th from 4-5:30 pm in the Sweet Branch Meeting Room. The exhibit will be available for viewing through June 21, 2025.

**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.

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- The GACC web page is [www.avenuescouncil.org](http://www.avenuescouncil.org)



**The Fox Went Out on a Chilly Night** By Hilary Jacobs

Who is this famed fox? Foxes are petite slender canids with relatively short legs, pointed snouts, upright ears, and long bushy tails. Omnivorous opportunists, they thrive anywhere they can

find food and shelter. It's Latin name, *Vulpes*, translates to other "foxy" traits, including crafty, clever, and wise.

The Red Fox, which lives here, is easily identified by its white-tipped tail even though its thick coat varies from reds to grays. Usually solitary, fox parents raise their litters together in protective dens. The pups, born March thru April, are weaned at about twelve weeks and taught their unmistakable hunting technique, pouncing to kill prey quickly and safely.

With a distinct voice that can span five octaves, foxes vocalize to self-identify, sound alarms, and attract mates. Vital in their ecosystems, foxes not only control pests and rodents but are important seed dispersers. It's no wonder foxes loom large in cultural lore.

**Salt Lake City North Bench Pump Station Replacement Project**



Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities (SLCDPU) is in the final stage of designing a replacement pump station for the existing North Bench Pump Station (NBPS) located near the intersection of 18th Avenue and Hilltop Road in Salt Lake City. The new pump station will be located just north of the Morris Reservoir. The existing pump station is over 60 years old and has several issues which require it to be replaced. The new pump station will reduce operational costs and significantly increase energy efficiency and improve water distribution.

SLCDPU will maintain the existing pump station through construction and then repurpose the structure after the new pump station is operational. The entrance to the Morris reservoir and the existing pump station serve as access to the Bonneville Shoreline Trail and the I Street Bike Park. Access to both the trail and bike park will be maintained during the project.

Construction is scheduled to begin late summer/fall 2025. SLCDPU will continue to engage with those who will be most affected and update the Greater Avenues Community Council as work progresses.

For more information or questions about the project please reach out to Chloe Morroni at [chloe.morroni@slc.gov](mailto:chloe.morroni@slc.gov) or Sophie Frankenburg at [sfrankenburg@logansimpson.com](http://sfrankenburg@logansimpson.com).

Request your free Salt Lake Fire Dept. Defensible Space Assessment, where our prevention team will visit your property and provide personalized recommendations to improve wildfire resilience. Request your assessment at [fire.slc.gov/wildland](http://fire.slc.gov/wildland).



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.



### Grant Writing Help Needed

The GACC is looking for a Greater Avenues resident interested in helping research and apply for grants that can help us keep our newsletter going out to our community each month. For the past several years we were fortunate to have sponsors who contributed sufficient funds to print and mail the newsletter. The most recent sponsor has decided to move in a different direction with their community support dollars and so we are looking for additional funds to cover the printing and mailing costs into the future. If you have grant research and writing skills and would be willing to help us form a Grants Committee we would love to hear from you! For more information. Please contact Dianne Leonard at [gaccchair@slc-avenues.org](mailto:gaccchair@slc-avenues.org).



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2025 Avenues Street Fair
September 13, 2025
8th Avenue between D and K Streets

Vendor Applications are LIVE!

Planning for the 2025 Avenues Street Fair is underway! The planning committee is working hard on logistics for the Fair which is scheduled for Saturday, September 13, 2025.

Are you interested in:

Volunteering on the planning committee?

Email StreetFair@avenues-slc.org

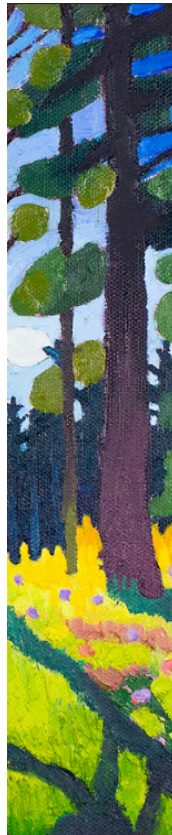
Our next planning meeting is on Saturday, May 3 at 10:15 am at the Sweet Branch Library, 455 North F Street.

Learning more about the fair?

Visit avenuesCouncil.org/street-fair

Being a Street Fair vendor?

Use the QR code to apply online!



We are pleased to announce the selection of our 2025 Avenues Street Fair Featured Artist: Trevor Dahl. Trevor has been in the fair for many years and says:

"As a painter and muralist, I create whimsical and contemplative artwork that combines Utah landscapes and animals with mythology and imaginative creatures and symbols, crafting a style I call "friendly surrealism".

My goal is to craft works that spark delight and reflection, connecting with viewers of all ages and backgrounds and contributing to the contemporary visual culture of Salt Lake City."

Trevor's art may be seen at www.goodhappystuff.com and on Instagram @goodhappystuff.

See his solo show through May 11th at Red Flower Studios, 339 West 700 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84101.



Stronger Together

by SLCPD Det. Marie Stewart

While sexual assault is not highly reported, we know that this crime is vastly under-reported. There are many reasons for the hesitancy to report. We are focusing on prevention and community partnering to make a difference. Each of us has the ability to step in and help, when you can tell someone may be in trouble, or even just in an uncomfortable situation. Be aware of the bystander affect where people who know something is wrong don't take action. You are more likely to change that way of thinking if you set your mind to it beforehand. Each of us has the ability to step in and help, when you can tell someone may be in trouble, or even just in an uncomfortable situation. Step in and do what our intuition is telling us to do.

The message to potential victims is that we are here to help you. No questions. No need for evidence. If you don't feel comfortable, follow that feeling and ask for help. Staff will walk you to your car, call a rideshare or stay with you while you report a crime to the police. We are safer in numbers, but only when the people around us are empowered to help and we empower ourselves.

We are stronger together. Lets get to work. Thank you for your efforts to keep our community safe.

Utah Sexual Violence Help Line: 801-736-4356.

Utah Domestic Violence Help Line: 800-897-5465

SLCPD Victim Advocate Office: 801-580-7969.

SLC Police non-emergency: 801-799-3000.

In an Emergency always call: 9-1-1.



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Avenues Free Exercise Class - the best fun way to stay in shape!

The Avenues has a free exercise class that has been meeting twice per week since 1986! It helps us older people with core strength, flexibility and balance. People of all abilities and ages attend.

Currently Jan Root leads the class. We meet at the Federal Heights Ward (1300 Fairfax Road) gymnasium at 8:30 am on Mondays and Wednesdays (enter from the east). Our exercise sessions typically run a little over an hour. Rug samples are available to use for floor cushioning or you can bring a towel or yoga mat.