

# AGENDA

OF THE

GREATER AVENUES COMMUNITY COUNCIL October 2025

Vol. XXXVII Issue 10

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



#### **October Chair's Message**

by 2025 GACC Chair Dianne Leonard

September has been a busy month in our Neighborhood. Preparation for the Street Fair, and then THE Street Fair have consumed much time from many volunteers. Putting on our Street Fair is a long and highly coordinated process and the time

and talents of many are necessary to make it a success. I want to especially thank Joseph "Jurphy" Murphy, and all of the the Street Fair Planning Committee for their dedication to making this a wonderful event that draws attendees from

all around our city.

Thank you to the volunteers who help with Friday set-up and Saturday during the fair and clean-up. I love our neighborhood and the interesting place that we have created! Not only do I love the neighborhood, I also love the neigh-bor. It is good to hear from you asking questions or making suggestions. I've recently heard from a neighbor that the playground at Open Classroom is left unlocked during the week but is locked on weekends. You may remember in March of this year it was announced that the playground was to be locked after hours due to some vandalism and lots of dog noon on the playground.

dog poop on the playground.
According to research done in 2017, 22% of households surveyed reported having someone under age 18 living with them, while 38% reported owning a dog. Currently there are at least 11 of-leash dog parks in Salt Lake City. The Open Classroom playground is not one of them! I chatted with the Principal and learned that they are trying on a limited basis to leave the playground unlocked. He said that they are seeing more piles on the playground and that they are considering a full closure again. This is a problem with a simple solution. Please clean up after your dog and please respect the No Dogs on Playground signs at the

Open Classroom!

Our neighborhood is known for the many historic homes that line our Streets and Avenues. This month we will learn about expectations and protections offered to these historic homes. Whether your home is newer or older, keeping ahistory of the house and it's residents can be a fascinating and rewarding effort. We will also learn about how to research the history of your home and get some tips about finding the names of the previpous residents.

One of the best-known historic homes in Salt Lake City is Fisher Mansion. We will hear an update about the effort to

preserve and restore this treasured residence.

gaccchair@slc-avenues.org

And finally, as election season is upon us, we will learn a bit about the benefits of Rank Choice Voting. Then on October 15th from 5:30-8:00 pm at the Marmalade Library, there will be a Candidate Forum for the five candidates for the Salt Lake City Council District 3 seat. At our October 1st meeting we will have forms for you to fill out with questions that you would like the canditates to answer during the October 15th forum. We will also post the question form to our website so that you can email in your questions in advance. You may also email questions for the candidates directly to me at

Dianne

#### COMMUNITY MEETINGS

GACC Community Meeting - October 1 - Hybrid
The GACC meeting will be held at the Sweet Branch
Library, and on Zoom at 6 pm. The Zoom link will be
posted at 5 pm on Oct. 1 at www.avenuescouncil.org.

GACC Board Meeting - October 8 - Hybrid
The Board Meeting will be held at the Sweet Branch
Library, and on Zoom beginning at 6 pm. If you need
the Zoom link or special accommodations you can
contact Dianne Leonard at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org.

### OCTOBER 1ST COMMUNITY MEETING AGENDA

6:00-6:20 pm Welcome and Announcements

(Ranked Choice Voting)—

**GACC 2025 Chair Dianne Leonard** 

6:20-7:05 pm Community Reports—

City Council, County Council, Salt Lake School Board, SLC Mayor's Office, SLPD, Fire Department,

Sweet Library

7:05-7:40 pm **Presentations**—

**Understanding Historic Protections** 

and Its Effects

Amy Thompson, Planning Manager SLC

Benefits of Historic Protections

Brandi Strand, Executive Director,

**Preservation Utah** 

Researching your Property's History

**Utah State Historical Society** 

**Historic Fisher Mansion Preservation** 

and Restoration

Brandi Strand, Executive Director,

Preservation Utah

7:40-7:50 pm **Open Forum** 

7:50 pm Adjourn and Clean Up

#### **Neighborhood Plant-based Potluck Luncheon**

Saturday, October 18 at noon Terrace Falls Condos Social Room (5th floor) 171 E. 3rd Ave (east entrance)

Everyone is welcome! Bring healthy whole foods with minimal oils, salt, and sugar. Avoid animal products and refined grains. Contact Laura at *lapdunn50@gmail.com* 



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



Hello Neighbors! I hope you're enjoying the start of spooky season and the cooler fall weather! Ella and I are especially excited to walk through the neighborhood and see all of your Halloween decorations. This is one of my favorite times of year, and I'm grateful to celebrate it with such a vibrant and creative community.

Last month, I had the chance to speak with many of you about the West High Rezone and street vacation proposal. These conversations have been incredibly valuable. Please remember that this issue is still under consideration — no final decisions have been made yet — so I encourage you to continue sharing your thoughts and feedback with me. *tinyurl.com/WestHighRezoneProposal* 

Looking ahead, on October 7th, the City Council will be holding its meeting on the Westside at the Sorenson Unity Center. This is one of my favorite Council traditions — it's a great opportunity to connect more directly with residents who may not always be able to attend meetings at the City and County Building. In addition to our official agenda, we'll be serving dinner and hosting a cultural performance. I hope you'll join us!

Warm regards, Chris Wharton Salt Lake City Council Member, District 3

### **Salt Lake City North Bench Pump Station - Project Update** *by Sophie Frankenburg*

Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities (SLCDPU) is replacing the 60+ year old North Bench Pump Station (NBPS) and associated piping. The new pump station will be located just north of the Morris Reservoir which is located near 18th Avenue and Hilltop Road. The new pump station will reduce operational costs and significantly increase energy efficiency and improve water distribution. SLCDPU will maintain the existing pump station and pipelines throughout construction until the final tie-in is complete. The 18th Avenue Trailhead will be constructed as a formal trailhead as part of this project.

Access to Bonneville Shoreline and I Street Bike Park will be impacted from 18th Avenue/Hilltop Road for the duration of the project. The existing informal trailhead will be closed for construction; however, access for the bike park and trail bypass will be located east of the existing trailhead, through the vacant lot at 681 18th Avenue. Signage and trail detour markers will be installed and maintained during the project. To accommodate construction, equipment and deliveries parking along 18th Avenue will be limited during construction (M - F 7:00 am - 7:00 pm).







### **Chirping Thermometers** *By Hilary Jacobs*

As hot summer evenings transition to cooler autumn nights,

you may have noticed that the ubiquitous chirping of the cricket changes, too. Crickets are ectotherms, meaning their body temperature shifts with the ambient temperatures. Chirps happen when male crickets rub their wings together to attract mates. While vigorous during the summer months, the tempo of their effort slows as temperatures drop. Hence, in autumn we hear fewer chirps.

Dolbear's law is a mathematical formula that describes the relationship between cricket chirping and temperature. By counting the number of chirps you hear for 15 seconds, and then adding 40, you can calculate temperature in Fahrenheit. Tonight, as you listen to the cricket chorus, test this formula. Who would have thought that these inconspicuous insects, whose nightly chirping reminds us of the changing seasons, would be reliable thermometers, too?

#### Ranked Choice Voting

The Salt Lake City Council passed a resolution, opting for Salt Lake City to participate in the Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, also known as Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), for the 2025 Municipal General Election, November 4, 2025. Salt Lake City also used Ranked Choice Voting for the 2021 and 2023 elections.

A ranked-choice voting system lets voters rank candidates by preference on their ballots. If a candidate wins a majority of first-preference votes, they win. If no one gets a majority of first-choice votes, the candidate with the fewest first-choice votes is eliminated. Votes for the eliminated candidate are given to the voters' next choice. This process is repeated until one candidate wins a majority.

This month at our meeting you will have the opportunity to ask questions about our RCV pilot project.

For more information you can visit: <a href="https://www.slc.gov/attorney/recorder/ranked-choice-voting/">https://www.slc.gov/attorney/recorder/ranked-choice-voting/</a>

#### **Historic Home Designations** By Michael Hughes

There are three historic districts in the Avenues. If your property is noted as Eligible/Contributing within any district boundary, you are part of the Register. Visit the Utah Historic Building Records website at Marriott Digital Collections to learn more about your home's history. Visit the State Historic Preservation website <a href="https://">https://</a>

*ushpo.utah.gov*/ or Salt Lake City Historic Preservation at *https://www.slc.gov/historic-preservation/*. See the How

To Research Your House document at www.avenuescouncil.org/. The State also offers historic tax credits of up to 20% of expenses for an approved project. A property must be listed in the National Register to qualify. Many Avenues homes have taken advantage of these credits over the past few decades. See more at https://ushpo.utah.gov/shpo/financial-incentives/.





#### October is for Demographics by Ashley Anderson

Utah's public schools are funded based on October 1 enrollment counts and average daily membership (ADM) throughout the school year. In our urban public district, as enrollment declines, so do available resources to fund the schools, teachers, and programs that

benefit so many district students. Accordingly, this month the board will review refreshed demographic reports, current student counts, and last year's ADM.

If you are a parent in public schools, the best support you can offer the district and your student is regular attendance. Chronic absenteeism impacts student achievement, but can also impact the limited funding we receive if students miss too many days consecutively.

Whether or not you have current students, I remain concerned about school funding being diverted to development and away from classrooms, especially as enrollment declines and each dollar becomes more critical.

Email me with your own thoughts! ashley.anderson@slcschools.org

#### **Open Classroom playground update October** 2025—ATTENTION NEIGHBORS:

Our school playgrounds are NOT dog parks. Last spring Open Classroom began locking their playground after hours and on the weekends due to some vandalism and lots of dog poop on the playground. This fall the policy was relaxed allowing after school access. This limited use is in jeopardy by those who disregard the "No Dogs" signs. Many neighbors like being able to use the playground and field on evenings and weekends. Please be considerate and obey the posted signs.

#### Interested in Joining the 2026 GACC Board? By Joseph "Jurphy" Murphy

Have you ever wondered what it takes to serve on the board of the GACC? It's so much more than just planning our monthly community meetings--although we do that too. Serving on the board is a volunteer position where you can join committees that align to your passion--such as the Service Committee or Civic Engagement Committees--help organize events to educate and bring the community together. In addition to board positions, the 2026 GACC officer positions that are up for election include: Chair-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary.

If you're interested in joining the 2026 board, please email GaccPastChair@slc-avenues.org.

At our October 1 Community Meeting, the tentative slate of candidates for officers and board members will be announced. Any additional interested individuals may also submit themselves on the spot if they are present at the meeting. Elections on the final slate of candidates will occur at our November 5 Community Meeting.

#### Thank You for An Amazing 2025 Avenues Street **Fair!** By Joseph "Jurphy" Murphy | Photo: Jennifer Gueldner



It was a perfect Street Fair topped off with perfect weather! On behalf of the entire planning committee, we would like to say thank you to all who make this 48-year tradition possible--our vendors, our volunteers, our sponsors,

our entertainers, Salt Lake City and its employees, our community artists and featured artist Trevor Dahl, the residents along 8th Avenue, and YOU, our attendees! It takes a village.

See you next year! See our event recap at www.avenuescouncil.org/street-fair.

Tag your photos on Instagram @AvenuesStreetFair and Facebook.com/AvenuesStreetFair. If you're interested in joining the 2026 planning committee, reach out to StreetFair@slc-avenues.org to learn more.

#### 2025 People's Art Gallery

The People's Art Gallery displays and celebrates Avenues artists work.

The artwork is professionally judged. This year's judges were Sheri Gibb and Todd Oberndorfer.

#### Youth ages 0-9 years

1st place—Rose Marie Weeks Way to Go HUNTR/X 2nd place—Esme Brennan 3rd place—Esme Nierenberg Junk Food

The 8 Shapes

#### Youth ages 10-13 years

1st place—Audrey St. John 2nd place—Arya Wood 3rd place—Shirley Whitehead Unsuspected Murder

**Circle of Life Kitty Pride** 

#### Youth ages 14-18 years

1st place—Samuel Jergensen 2nd place—Lucy Dahl 3rd place— Connor Garlish

**Mantis in Prayer** Persephone's Demise **Oldsmobile Taillight** 

#### **Adult Amateur**

1st place—Bret Jackson 2nd place—Jayda Gillette 3rd place—Helene Seegmuller **Ember of Fall** 

57 Bel Air **Waiting for Spring** 

#### **Adult Professional**

1st place—Kindra Fehr 2nd place—Mario Alcauter 3rd place—Helen Hodgdon **Searching for Answers** Colores de Mi Herencia Still Life

2025 People's Choice Awards as voted by fairgoers Adult—Christie Whipple Nighthawkes (Avenues) Youth—Audrey St. John Circle of Life

Special thanks from the Avenues Street Fair to Mary Shaub for her donation of the People's Choice Award gift certificates!





**www.slcpl.org** 801-594-8651 455 N F Street

#### **Sweet Library October Events**

Monday - Thursday - 10:00 am-8:00 pm Friday & Saturday - 10:00 am-6:00 pm Sunday - Closed

#### **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-12 pm.

**Baby's First Halloween.** Saturday, October 18th at 11 am. Little ones 0–4 years old can explore a not-too-spooky touch-and-feel pool. Drool during the photo op, and play until the bubbles come out for the Monster Mash dance party! Costumes encouraged.

#### TEEN CALENDAR (10 years old and up)

**Dungeons & Dragons for Beginners**: First and third Tuesday of each month from 6 - 8 pm.

#### **ADULT CALENDAR**

**Book Club.** The Sweet Reads Book Club will meet at 7:00 pm on October 28, 2025 to discuss *Magpie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz. At the end of the meeting, copies of November's book, *Alexander Hamilton* by Ron Chernow, will be handed out. November's meeting will be the last meeting for 2025. The Book Club will resume meeting in January 2026!

#### **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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Newsletter: Olivia Christensen, newsletter@slc-avenues.org
Online Newlsetter: Thank you Barack Williard!
The GACC web page is www.avenuescouncil.org

### The Avenues Choir Returns for the 2025 Holiday Season. Join Us!

Since 2014 the 100-member Salt Lake Avenues Community Choir (SLACC) has thrilled its standing-roomonly audiences in Libby Gardner Concert Hall with its Annual Holiday Concerts of joyful seasonal music.

SLACC is a non-denominational, all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) non-profit. Our mission is to increase unity in the Greater Avenues community, celebrate the rich diversity in our neighborhoods, and bridge cultural and political divides through the unifying power of music. We are funded entirely through individual charitable donations and institutional support.

However, SLACC is much more than a choir. It is an inclusive and welcoming community where singers ages 16+ are invited to join without cost or audition. The first weekly rehearsal is Thursday, September 18, 2025, in preparation for the 10th Annual Holiday Concert on



December 16, 2025 in Libby Gardner Concert Hall at the University of Utah.

Do you love music? Do you enjoy singing? Would you like to become part of a loving and inclusive community with a supportive learning culture? If so, we invite you to join us!

### Community Kindness Program - Winner for September is DR MATTHEW SZADKOWSKI!!

Dr 'Shad' was nominated by his neighbor Seth Black who says: "he truly exemplifies a kind neighbor with numerous generous acts of service to various residents of the Avenues. Some examples are regularly raking leaves in his neighbor's yards, providing free healthcare services to neighborhood children and thoughtfully contributing meals to residents in need including sharing some of his famous homemade artisanal cheeses!" Thank you to Dr Shad for his service!

#### SUBMIT NOMINATIONS FOR FUTURE AWARDS!

We know that there are members of our community that are quietly going about doing good. LET THEM KNOW YOU NOTICE!

We draw a winner for this award every month and we really love highlighting the amazing acts of kindness and service in our community. Nominate your neighbors, friends, teachers - anyone who is showing care and respect through their service in our community. Winners receive a \$25 gift card to an Avenues business of their choice!

To submit a nominee:

- 1) Send an email to Jenn Beck at <a href="mailto:jennibeck@gmail.com">jennibeck@gmail.com</a>
- 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!





### Community **Drive-thru** Flu Shot Clinic

October 23 6-8 p.m.



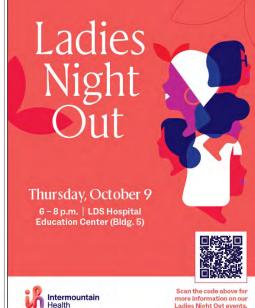




















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**The Agenda** is the monthly newsletter of the Greater Avenues Community Council, and is mailed free to all residents.





#### The Avenues Masterplan By Jim Jenkin

The updating of the Avenues Masterplan has occasioned a lot of discussion on the "character of the Avenues."

In my view the major contributors to the unique character of the Avenues has been the establishment of the Avenues Historic Districts and the adoption of SR1-A single-family zoning.

#### Seemap at: https://slcgov.maps.arcgis.com/home/ index.html

The Avenues would not be the same without the historic buildings, mature trees, and relatively open space lots that typify the Avenues.

At our October 1st GACC meeting, we will have two guests who will help us better understand historic protections and their effects.

Amy Thompson, Salt Lake City Planning Manager, will speak to the effects of Masterplan changes on homeowners, and Brandy Strand, Executive Director of Preservation Utah, will speak on the benefits of historic preservation. A period of questions and answers will follow. See these links for additional information:

Salt Lake Zoning map: <a href="https://slcgov.maps.arcgis.com/">https://slcgov.maps.arcgis.com/</a> home/index.html

SLC Preservation page: <a href="https://www.slc.gov/">https://www.slc.gov/</a>

historic-preservation/

Avenues Plan Update: https://www.slc.gov/planning/2025/05/29/avenuesplan-update/ SR-1 Zoning (the actual Code): https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/saltlakecityut/latest/ saltlakecity\_ut/0-0-0-64320

Preservation Utah: https://www.preservationutah.org/

for-property-owners

The Future of Fischer Mansion by Merrilee Morgan Fisher Mansion, built in 1893 by brewer Albert Fisher, stands at the Jordan River and 200 South as one of Salt Lake City's most remarkable historic landmarks See more at https://www.facebook.com/people/Friendsof-Fisher-Mansion/



Known for its ornate architecture and ties to the City's brewing heritage, the mansion has served many purposes over the years, and remains a beloved reminder of the City's past grandeur.

A new 2025 Executive Summary report has been published by the Friends of Fisher Mansion (FOFM), a 501c3 formed to advise and advocate for the mansion's restoration and re-activation as a public space.

At the October 1st GACC meeting, Brandy Strand, Executive Director of Preservation Utah and Chair of FOFM will share stories of the mansion's history from its brewing industry origins to its role in the neighborhood over time.

She will also share the findings of the Executive Report and what goals FOFM has for the mansion. Join us to learn how history and vision are coming together to shape the next chapter of Fisher Mansion.

Read the Executive Summary at https://cdba1ef7beaa-4b32-9363-ece86e28bb72.usrfles.com/ugd/ cdba1e 9798 629362794cc5817ba71a2e06d2ad.pdf

See the City's visionining for Fisher Mansion at https://www.slc.gov/parks/fisher-mansion-visioning/

Send your thoughts or your own vision to Makaylah Respicio-Evans, Salt Lake City Public Lands Planner, by email to makaylah.respicio-evans@slcgov.com.