

# THE AGENDA

## OF THE GREATER AVENUES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

[www.slc-avenues.org](http://www.slc-avenues.org)

August, 2021

Vol. XXV

Issue 8

Representing the Avenues and Federal Heights neighborhoods of Salt Lake City, Utah

### Chair's Message for August

by Dave Alderman

Well, here we are in the dog days of summer. So far this year, the GACC has addressed issues on air quality, re-zoning, water wells, historic landmarks, and trails. But there is nothing that brings out the emotion and interest that comes with off-leash dog parks.

In 2013, the GACC had several meetings on fencing and/or expanding the off-leash area at Lindsey Gardens, with fencing being the favored action. Those meetings easily drew over 100 people packed into our normal meeting room at the Library. That had to set meeting attendance records that we wouldn't approach until Zoom and virtual meetings. (I'm not counting the time Chris Stewart came that same year. That was more of a circus than a meeting.)

From calls and emails that I've received and all the social media postings, it seems that off-leash dogs have again become a topic of concern, especially with regards to Lindsey Gardens.

It appears that there are several reasons that Lindsey Gardens has not been fenced off. The City wanted to take a more holistic approach and develop an overall plan for all City dog parks. Also a lot of people enjoy taking their dogs to a place that isn't fenced in. They feel it is safer than having their dog 'caged' in with other dogs. Even a lot of non-dog owners don't like the idea of a fence running through the middle of the Park. And then there is the cost. A fence would likely have to go through the City's CIP process, which already has a backlog of worthwhile projects. It usually takes three to four years for a project to make it to the top of the list, even when there is full community support. Lastly the off-leash areas are a city-wide resource not just a local one. People come up to use the off-leash area from outside the Avenues.

Of course, that still leaves the issue of off-leash dogs running through the southwest part of the park, or even up to the ballfields and playgrounds.

So let's start with an education campaign. Next there is a list of the off-leash areas in the City and a map of the off-leash area at Lindsey Gardens.

If you are a dog owner, please pay attention to where the off-leash area is and respect the other people that may be try-ing to enjoy the parks. Because it's not the dogs' fault if they're in the wrong area.



### SALT LAKE CITY OFF-LEASH DOG AREAS

#### PARKS WITH DESIGNATED OFF-LEASH AREAS:

These parks have designated areas within them where dogs are allowed off-leash.

- Lindsey Gardens - 9th Avenue @ "M" Street
- Pioneer Park - 300 West 350 South
- Jordan Park - 900 West 5000 South
- Fairmont Park - 3040 E. Sacramento Dr (2235 S)
- Freedom Trail - 375 North Canyon Road (North of Memorial Grove Park)
- Parleys Historic Nature Park - 3750 S Harrison Way (2700 East)
- Herman Franks Park - 700 East 1300 South
- Rotary Glen Park - 3850 E Sunnyside (840 S)
- Cottonwood Park - 300 North 1645 West

#### PARKS WITH TIME LIMITED OFF-LEASH AREAS:

A time limited dog park is a park that allows dogs to be off-leash between Sun - 10am and 5pm - 10pm.

- Warm Springs Park - 840 N Beck St (300 W)
- Jefferson Park - 110 W Fremont Ave (1135 S)
- Parleys Way Park - 3850 E Poole's Way
- Wasatch Hollow Park - 1650 E 5700 S (Dogs are not allowed off-leash in the natural preserve area)

#### PARKS WITH OFF-LEASH AREAS COMING SOON:

Rosewood Park

Public Lands  
Parks / Trails / Watersheds / Open Space / Recreation

Remember to check up after your pup!

## GACC Community Meeting Wednesday, August 4th Virtual Meeting

- 7:00 to 7:05 Welcome, Announcements.
- 7:06 to 7:45 Reports: Fire, Library, Police, City Council, Mayor's Office, School Board, Legislative, LDS Hospital, GACC Committees.
- 7:46 to 8:30 2021 Redistricting Presentation, Utah Independent Redistricting Commission.
- 8:31 to 8:45 Open Forum.
- 8:46 to 9:00 Adjourn.

Details will be posted at the GACC website  
<https://slc-avenues.org/>.

The password and meeting ID will be posted at  
<https://slc-avenues.org/> at 5 p.m.  
on Wednesday, August 4th.

On a different note, our August meeting will focus on the redistricting work done every 10 years after the Census.

Join us on August 4th on Zoom and you can learn about the redistricting process and how to provide input.

### Off-Leash Dog Areas

A recent Saturday morning headcount at Lindsey Gardens showed 12 off-leash dogs in the Southwest corner of the park and none in the Southeast corner. It's nice to see people out playing with their dogs, but the problem is that only the Southeast corner is the off-leash area.

Next is a picture of one of the signs at Lindsey Gardens showing the off-leash area. If you're a dog owner, please respect the designated area so that others can enjoy the park also.

Even beyond Lindsey Gardens, there appears to be some lingering confusion over where the off-leash areas are in the Avenues. You can learn more on the Public Lands page of the City's website [www.slc.gov/parks](http://www.slc.gov/parks). Comments with your thoughts about off-leash dog areas can be emailed to [parks@slcgov.com](mailto:parks@slcgov.com).



the  
**AVENUES**

## Community Meetings

If you have questions please contact GACC Chair Dave Alderman at [gaccchair@slc-avenues.org](mailto:gaccchair@slc-avenues.org). All are welcome!

### GACC Council Virtual Meeting

GACC Virtual Meeting will be on **August 4th** at 7 p.m. Details will be posted at the GACC website <https://slc-avenues.org/>. The password and meeting ID will be posted at <https://slc-avenues.org/> at 5 p.m. the day of the meeting.

### GACC Board Virtual Meeting

GACC Board Virtual Meeting will be on **August 11th** at 7 p.m. If you wish to participate, send a message to the chair Dave Alderman at [gaccchair@slc-avenues.org](mailto:gaccchair@slc-avenues.org).

## Community Life / Resources / Free Stuff!

**Sweet Branch Library**, 455 F Street, 801-594-8651, [www.slcp.org/branches/view/Corinne+and+Jack+Sweet](http://www.slcp.org/branches/view/Corinne+and+Jack+Sweet). Super Summer Challenge ends August 14. Drawings for the prize baskets will be on August 16.

**Kids Calendar:** Look for storytimes, book reviews, and Super Summer Challenge programs like Hello Music, Books and Boots, Scales and Tales, magic shows, and the Children's Fitness Challenge on the Kids & Tweens Biblioboard. <https://library.biblioboard.com/anthology/29e9ff46-f18d-429f-858e-bff3e2253388>.

Sign up for a year-round reading program for kids from 0-18! Kids track their progress and earn prizes. Pick up your free reading tracker (1,000 Books before Kindergarten, 200 Books before 4th, and 100 Books before Graduation) at any City Library, or register for a digital tracker at [slcp.beanstack.org](http://slcp.beanstack.org). Happy reading.

**Teen Calendar:** Activism Club - Aug 2, 3pm. Are you interested in social justice, the environment, helping the homeless, animal rights, and more? Civically minded teens are welcome to join our virtual summer activism club. We will choose an issue, and the rest of the summer will be devoted to learning about the issue, finding some way to help, and possibly presenting what you worked on to the public. Anyone with questions can reach out to Meagan at [mgonsalves-vorwald@slcp.org](mailto:mgonsalves-vorwald@slcp.org).

Teen Take & Makes - available while supplies last!

Teen Squad Book Club - Aug 6th, 3-4pm. Teen Squad member Kamryn will lead a virtual discussion of *The Summer of Broken Things* by Margaret Peterson Haddix. For questions and the Zoom link please email [mgonsalves-vorwald@slcp.org](mailto:mgonsalves-vorwald@slcp.org).

Teen DIY on Biblioboard and Teen Blog - any teens or tweens interested in fun crafts curated by Teen Librarians should check

out the SLCPL Teens page on our website (<https://services.slcp.org/teens>). You'll find links to our videos and blog posts as well as some curated book lists and other activities you can do at home.

**Adult Calendar:** Sweet Reads - Get to know some of the faces from your neighborhood and read a variety of books from all sorts of genres. This book club will meet virtually on Zoom, on the fourth Tuesday of each month. In August, we'll be reading *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak and will be meeting on August 24 at 7pm. Please email Jen Scott at [jscott@slcp.org](mailto:jscott@slcp.org) if you would like to join!

Take and Makes - Drop by the Sweet Library to pick up a craft kit that you can take home and complete! All of the materials needed for the craft are included, and we will have a new craft at the beginning of each month. The August craft is a stamped tea towel! While supplies last.

### Neighborhood Avenues Exercise Class.

Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 9:40 a.m. FREE! Everyone Welcome! Contact Jan Root for our current location and for any questions at 801-455-2082, [janroot@xmission.com](mailto:janroot@xmission.com).

### City Academy, 555 E. 200 S., [www.cityacademyslc.org](http://www.cityacademyslc.org).

Are you tired of the same-old, same old-school? A wide range of options for learning in class, online, at local colleges and in our city. Smaller classes and flexible scheduling. Check us out at [cityacademyslc.org](http://cityacademyslc.org) or call 801-596-8489.

### Tenth East Senior Center, 237 S 1000 E, 385-468-3140.

<https://slco.org/tenth-east-senior-center/>.

Hours Monday-Friday 7:00 am – 4:00 pm

Drive-Thru Lunch: 10:15 – 11:00 am

Dine-In Lunch: 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

237 S 1000 E with parking in the rear. Call to register for classes. Live Music & Dancing are back! Kay Hunt Combo featuring Beverly Frank on Thursdays from 12:30 to 2:30 pm, \$3.00 suggested donation (pay at front desk).

### Walking Tours on South Temple

Back in 2014, Bim Oliver created a docent-led tour of the modern buildings on South Temple for the Preservation Conference. Bim's extensive knowledge of South Temple resulted in a book, *South Temple Street Landmarks: Salt Lake City's First Historic District* (2017). If you weren't on the tour in 2014, however, you missed out on Bim's research about the modern buildings on South Temple....until now.

Bim used the time during the Shutdown to turn the docent-led tour of South Temple's modern architecture into a self-guided walking tour for Salt Lake Modern and Preservation Utah. The tour is now available on the website for Preservation Utah (<https://preservationutah.org/experience/take-a-tour>). There are 10 other tours available there, including one for the historic buildings on South Temple. All tours posted on the website are free and allow you to walk with an expert.

### Donation Drive for YWCA a Success!

Thanks to our community's generosity, we are donating 81 children's coloring books, 17 puzzle books, 67 adult coloring books, 118 boxes of crayons or colored pencils, 276 masks, and some miscellaneous to the YWCA shelter! Woohoo! your donations will certainly help someone in their time of need.

**Thank you!!**

### The Agenda

#### Publisher's Statement

The monthly Greater Avenues Community Council newsletter "The Agenda" is mailed free to all residences in the Avenues. This publication is created to conduct the business of the Greater Avenues Community Council. Mail correspondence to P.O. Box 1679, Salt Lake City, UT 84110. For advertising call 801-859-5858 or email [newsletter@slc-avenues.org](mailto:newsletter@slc-avenues.org).

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



## Salt Lake Avenues Community Choir Receives 2020 Utah Governor's Mansion Artist Award

In the summer of 2020 Peggy DeAzevedo, Director of The Salt Lake Avenues Community Choir (SLACC), was pleasantly surprised to receive a call from Utah Governor Gary Herbert's office with exciting news. The Choir had been selected as a recipient of the prestigious Governor's Mansion Artist Award. The Utah Governor's Mansion artist awards are presented each year to individuals who have made significant contributions to the visual and performing arts in Utah. Peggy was honored to learn that SLACC would receive one of the two performing artist awards for 2020.



Unfortunately, the 2020 awards ceremony was canceled due to the pandemic and Governor Herbert's term expired before he and First Lady Janette Herbert could publicly present the awards to the recipients.

Happily, on Thursday, June 10, 2021 Governor Spencer Cox and First Lady Abby Cox graciously hosted the belated 2020 Governor's Mansion Artist Awards Ceremony in the elegant Utah State Capitol Building rotunda, providing a venue for the former Governor and First Lady to present the 2020 awards. Although unable to perform as a group, all SLACC members were invited to attend the ceremony.

Governor Cox's welcome and introductory remarks were followed by clips of the Avenues Choir 2020 Video Concert, produced last December in lieu of the cancelled 2020 holiday concert. The

video included several musical selections from past holiday concerts, brief comments about the choir's mission from Peggy, and personal testimonials from several choir members.

Remembering the choir's previous six consecutive holiday concerts, Peggy noted "Since 2014 the Salt Lake Avenues Community Choir has performed a holiday concert in Libby Gardner Concert Hall to a standing room only audience celebrating the season through the gift of music to the community within the Avenues and beyond. We have come together each year, 100 voices strong, honoring our diversity by joining our voices and our spirits to create something greater than any of us as individuals could have accomplished on our own. And in doing so, we live our mission statement which is to bring beauty and enhance a sense of community through music."

"I think one of the things I appreciate most about the choir is the diversity," said Brett Parkinson of the bass section. "We have people from all walks of life, people with differing views, people with differing backgrounds. It has brought people out of our community who otherwise might not have connected with their neighbors. We've made new friendships, new bonds, and above all we have really grown to love and respect one another."

Jenn Waterhouse of the soprano section commented, "Music really uplifts you and it really transports you away from everything for a little while. There really isn't anything as enriching as being a part of that collective voice. For about four months of the year I get to sing and I get to enjoy beautiful music as part of my life and I really get to be part of a community which embraced me. So how could I not want to come back to that every year?"

Following the video, Peggy accepted the award on behalf of the Avenues Choir. Former First Lady Janette Herbert draped the medal's slender blue ribbon around her neck while the audience gave an enthusiastic standing ovation. SLACC was in good company that night the other performing artist award went to the Osmond Brothers.

Peggy and the SLACC Board are hopeful for a holiday concert this December and are proceeding with a provisional plan in case the pandemic abates enough that choir members will be able to safely gather and rehearse again. Feeling encouraged by the current positive trend in public health, we hope to hold weekly rehearsals beginning this September and then a holiday concert on Tuesday, December 21st in Libby Gardner Concert Hall.

The Salt Lake Avenues Community Choir is a non-denominational, volunteer organization that is an official committee of the Greater Avenues Community Council, a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Peggy DeAzevedo, an accomplished professional choir director, envisioned this choir. Peggy's approach is cheerful, informal, and inclusive. The choir attracts a diverse range of people - ages 18 to 80, straight and LGBTQ, single and married, students and professionals and retirees - all across the musical spectrum from illiterate to professional. Peggy is expert in adapting the music to the singers instead of the other way around. People love to sing for her. And miraculously, Peggy makes this choir sound fabulous!

A link to the Avenues Choir 2020 Video Concert can be found at the website [avenueschoir.com](http://avenueschoir.com). We invite you to join us! Please contact us at [avenueschoir@gmail.com](mailto:avenueschoir@gmail.com) if you would like to participate in the Salt Lake Avenues Community Choir this year.



## Introducing Mark Walton, the Featured Artist for the 2021 Avenues Street Fair

Each year the Street Fair Committee selects a local artist who then creates an original artwork that portrays what the Avenues means to them. Their creation becomes the official promotional art for the Fair.

In 2020, we selected a design that celebrated the residents of the Avenues coming together. However, because the traditional street fair was ultimately postponed for safety, we decided to wait until we could fully utilize that design, and our Featured Artist could participate in the full experience. In the meantime, he improvised a new design for the popular 2020 T-Shirts with the masked Avenues houses.

So for 2021, we are excited to re-introduce this year's Featured Artist: Mark Walton, a freelance storyboard artist living with his family in the Avenues, where he grew up. He has worked on 27 animated films for Walt Disney Animation Studios, DreamWorks Animation, Blue Sky Studios, and Warner Animation Group, including Tarzan, Home on the Range, Chicken Little, Meet the Robinsons, Duck Duck Goose,

NextGen, Angry Birds 2, Ella Bella Bingo, and DC League of SuperPets. Mark has lectured, lead workshops, and taught basic drawing, gesture drawing, color and design theory, storyboarding, and visual development at Cal Arts, Academy of Art, Capilano, Westwood, USU, BYU, UVU, SAU, IUPUI, Sofa Studios, and CGMA. He also has been the voice of a few animated characters, including Rhino the Hamster in Disney's Bolt. In his free time, he also enjoys drawing caricatures of friends, family, colleagues and complete strangers.

You can buy a T-Shirt with Mark's artwork at the GACC Booth at the Fair. Even better, stop by Mark's Featured Artist booth at the Street Fair to see more of his work, and to get your own custom caricature! You can also visit [markwaltonart.com](http://markwaltonart.com).

## UTA's on Demand Service



The late night pilot will allow those within the Salt Lake City limits to book a ride using UTA's on Demand service.

The service is running from now through Labor Day weekend, ending Sunday, September 5 at 4 AM. Service in the Salt Lake City area will be available Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights from 10:00 PM – 4:00 AM. The service will cover Salt Lake City, excluding the airport; the trips must start and end in the designated service area. Find out more on the website! This trial run fills gaps in our service and we know there are residents of SLC who will greatly benefit from transportation services like Via.

Our hope is that more SLC residents, especially those with a need to commute late at night, are able to utilize this service to better their connectivity and enhance their lives. To sweeten the opportunity, you can try UTA on Demand by Via and get your first two rides FREE! Use promo code: RIDEVIA in the Via app. To ride, you must 1) Download the Via App (App Store | Google Play) and follow the set-up instructions, 2) Request a ride, and 3) Get in and Go!

If there are any questions or concerns about UTA on Demand by Via, you can call 385-217-8191 or send a message to Via's rider support at [support-slc@ridewithvia.com](mailto:support-slc@ridewithvia.com).

Cristobal Villegas, MPA, Community Engagement Specialist  
Utah Transit Authority, 801.287.3246 (Office), 801.243.7165 (Mobile), [cvillegas@rideuta.com](mailto:cvillegas@rideuta.com).

## Got Zucchini's?



Are you a gardener with more produce than you can use? Would you like to find someone who would love your fresh produce as much as you do?

Waste Less Solutions is a local nonprofit whose mission is to divert edible surplus food to people in need. One of their programs is GardenShare. Residents can sign up to be a 'collector,' which means they have a cooler on their porch or driveway where gardeners can bring their surplus garden produce. Then the volunteers of Waste Less Solutions use an app to see that a donation needs to be picked up. The volunteer picks up the produce and takes it to a nearby nonprofit that can get that fresh, healthy produce to people in need. Some of the nonprofits Waste Less Solutions works with are YWCA, The Road Home's Midvale family emergency homeless shelter, Jewish Family Services and Boys and Girls Clubs. You can also be part of the solution by hosting a yard sign to help get the word out about the GardenShare program. If you are interested in being a collector or hosting a sign, please reach out to Waste Less Solutions at [danaw@wastelessolutions.org](mailto:danaw@wastelessolutions.org).

We will also have a booth at the Avenues Street Fair on September 11th 2021, come visit us so you can know more about it!

Dana Williamson | Founder & President 801-879-9046

## Be Fire Ready!

The GACC Firewise Sub-Committee wants to remind Avenue's residents that the current "Exceptional"/"Extreme" drought conditions can create exceptional wildfire behavior. In the event of a fire, "Don't Wait to Evacuate!" Move yourself and your loved ones to safety sooner, not later.

The sub-committee is working on a webpage as a Firewise resource for GACC residents but in the meantime, the Salt Lake City Fire Department has much firewise information online at <https://www.slc.gov/fire/wildland/>.

## Avenues Street Fair

The Avenues Street Fair is back! We're planning for a full, in-person event on Saturday September 11th. This year's Fair location is planned for 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue between D and I Street.

Visit [www.avenuesstreetfair.org](http://www.avenuesstreetfair.org) for more information and mark your calendar.

There are many opportunities to participate, a few of these are:

The "**People's Art Gallery**" is a contest where prizes are given in five categories: 0-9 years, 10-14 years, 15-18 years, adult amateur, and adult professional, as well as the People's Choice Award. Applications are available at [www.avenuesstreetfair.org](http://www.avenuesstreetfair.org) or are due by August 31st.

Booth applications are now open and filling fast. All applications are due by August 15. Both on-line and paper copy application forms are available on the website.

The band list is set and we will have live performances from Emily Hicks, Gaylen Young, High Nowhere, Music & Arts Collective, SLAM: Salt Lake Academy of Music, The Silver Tongue Devils Band, Wasatch Music Coaching Academy, Strange Medicine, Twisted Brothe and Lisa and The Missing Pieces.

Also, every year we are in need of volunteers on the day of the Street Fair. Even if it is for just a couple of hours!

Sign up for volunteer spots online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DA9A72DABF8C70-2021>, or contact volunteer coordinator Paul Walton at [pwalton@dstdmail.net](mailto:pwalton@dstdmail.net).

## 4th Avenue Well Update

**Well Operation:** The well has been completed. However, the well is not currently running due to a faulty component that has been returned to the manufacturer for repair. The goal is to have the component re-installed in the next week or two and to have the well operational.

**Sound Mitigation:** Once the building structure is complete Spectrum Engineering will measure the sound levels coming from the building and as necessary additional sound mitigation elements will be implemented.

**Electrical Boxes:** The electrical boxes on the north side of the building will be painted to match the brick color. This along with the stone fence installed around that area will help make them less noticeable.

**Landscaping:** Because of the high temperatures and drought situation, SLCDPU in coordination with the Parks Division, has decided to grade the area around the building and install the sprinkler system in the coming months but wait to put in the sod and plantings until this fall.

**Sidewalk Changes:** We discovered a large tree root at the location of the northern most end of the sidewalk we are installing on the west side of the building. The root would be under the northern 2-3 feet of the proposed sidewalk in the area immediately north of the worker entry door. After discussing the issue with Urban Forestry and Planning and in the ongoing effort to protect and preserve the large plane tree, we will eliminate the sidewalk in that location and instead install grass sod and steppingstones. The area is circled in red in the image above.



**This is more information on the Utah Independent Redistricting Commission, who will be presenting at the GACC meeting on Wednesday, August 4th at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.**

### Utah Independent Redistricting Commission

In 2018, Utah voters narrowly passed a proposition creating an independent redistricting commission that will recommend redistricting maps to the Utah State Legislature covering Utah Senat and Utah House District boundaries, and Utah's four U.S. House districts and the 15 Utah State Board of Education seats.

**Utah's Redistricting Principles** - Ten principles for redistricting have been adopted by the Commission.

Four are mandatory and six are to be implemented where practical.

The mandatory principles are: 1. Equal Population, Single Member Districts, Contiguity, and Compactness.

The As Practical principles are 1. Preserving Communities of Interest. 2. Preserve geographical and man-made boundaries. 3. Preserve the core of prior districts 4. Minimize division of municipalities and counties. 5. Maximize the agreement of boundaries between different types of districts. 6. Prohibit the purposeful favoring or disfavoring of a party, incumbent or potential candidate.

More about the Utah Independent Redistricting Commission can be seen here:

<https://www.utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/publicbody/7241.html>.

## TIMELINE FOR REDISTRICTING AFTER THE CENSUS



The commission will provide three districting proposals each for the Utah House, Utah Senate, U.S. House and Utah State Board of Education seats. Those will go to the Utah House and Senate for consideration, and the legislative bodies may use the independent commission's options or come up with their own plan.

The Utah State Board of Education District Map can be see here. There are 15 School Board districts.  
<https://www.schools.utah.gov/board/utah/districtsmap>.

The current U.S. Congressional House District Map is here. There are four U.S. House districts in Utah.  
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/UT#map>.

The current Utah Senate District map is here. There are 29 Utah State Senate Districts.  
[https://ballotpedia.org/Utah\\_State\\_Senate#District\\_map](https://ballotpedia.org/Utah_State_Senate#District_map).

The current Utah Legislative House District map is here: There are 75 House Districts in Utah.  
[https://ballotpedia.org/Utah\\_House\\_of\\_Representatives#District\\_map](https://ballotpedia.org/Utah_House_of_Representatives#District_map).



## Wildland Fire Preparation

### Are you and your home prepared for a wildfire?

The GACC has a new committee working on wildfire preparation and education. See more about their efforts on the GACC web page here: <https://www.slc-avenues.org/wildfire-preparedness/>.

Wildfire is a threat we face in the Wildland Urban Interface area that surrounds the Avenues. What is a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)? The zone of transition between unoccupied land and human development. It is the line, area, or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels. Communities adjacent to and surrounded by wildlands are at varying degrees of risk from wildfires" ([www.usfa.fema.gov/wui/](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/wui/)). Much of the Avenues is a border of our local Wildland Urban Interface and is vulnerable to wildfire risks as a result.

In cases of a wildfire threatening our community, residents who have prepared their homes appropriately will reduce their exposure. The goal of our Wildfire Preparedness committee is to get all Avenues residents to prepare their homes and for the Avenues to be a Fire Adapted Community.

**What is a Fire Adapted Community?** "A human community consisting of informed and prepared residents collaboratively planning and taking action to safely coexist with wildland fire" ([www.fireadapted.org/](http://www.fireadapted.org/))

### Salt Lake City Fire Department offers an at-home Defensible Space Assessment


Preparing your home to better withstand a wildfire event might seem overwhelming. SLC Fire can help. If you'd like to schedule time for a fire crew to come visit your home and provide some suggestions about how to start adding defensible space at your residence, please contact us. Complete the Contact form at <https://www.slc.gov/fire/contact/> with your information and select "Defensible Space Assessment." One of our staff members will respond to your request and proceed with scheduling. Please allow at least one business day for email responses and at least three weeks' advance notice for scheduling purposes.

While waiting for your assessment, consider the zones around your home. The Immediate Zone is your home itself and the area 0-5' from the your home. Science tells us this is the most important zone to take immediate action on as it is the most vulnerable to embers. **START WITH THE HOUSE ITSELF** then move into the landscaping section of the Immediate Zone.

Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers. Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration. Reduce embers that could pass through vents in the eaves by installing 1/8 inch metal mesh screening.

Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.

Move any flammable material away from wall exteriors – mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles – anything that can burn. Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches. See [www.firewise.org/](http://www.firewise.org/) for more information.



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## Air Quality: What is Good about Bad Air? Red Sunsets!

by Jill Van Langeveld



We've been looking at yucky air for most of the summer-beautiful sunsets but yucky air. We have had the usual culprits causing our grief: (1) ozone, (2) wildfires, and (3) vehicle exhaust.

Salt Lake is receiving recording-breaking heat this summer. June set a record for the number of 100 degrees+ days and reached an all-time summer high of 107 degrees. The 15 days of 100 degrees+ we've had in June and the first two weeks in July have put us on track to match or break the record of 21 days reached in 1961 and 1994. These very hot temperatures have sent our ozone levels through the roof. Re-read Gwen Springmeyer's article in last month's newsletter for a refresher on ozone. You can still find it on the GACC's

website, <https://www.slc-avenues.org/news-events/the-agenda-newsletter>. If you don't save the newsletters like I do, email me and I'll send you a copy, [jill.van@hotmail.com](mailto:jill.van@hotmail.com).

Our wildfire season in Utah, and all over the West, began early and is worse than usual with 65 major fires and over 1,000,000 acres burned in the West. Besides the smoke from Utah fires, we have been getting smoke from neighboring fires in Oregon, Idaho, California and Nevada. Wildfires have been bad everywhere. So has our air quality as a result.

People are driving more. Covid-19 has lessened its grip on our lives thanks to the vaccines. We were tired of being cooped up and now we want to be in places we love with those we love. We are taking trains, planes and automobiles. Did you realize that vehicle exhaust makes up over 50% of the air pollution in Utah? Unnecessary idling of cars and buses contribute a significant amount of emissions released into the air we breathe. Any time we reduce our vehicle exhaust helps the overall air quality.

We've talked about idling before. The reasons most people give for idling are: (1) stopping and restarting the engine is hard on the car and (2) my car needs to be warmed up before driving especially in the winter. Answers: (1) The starter motor is unlikely to need to be replaced during the vehicle's life. Today's starters are more robust than those in cars 20 years old. (2) Assuming that your windows are free of ice, run the vehicle for about 30 seconds and drive gently, no hard acceleration. The engine will warm up more quickly by being "at work" than by idling, which helps the car's interior warm up more quickly. Also, the catalytic converter, which reduces harmful emissions, reaches operating temperature much more quickly if the car is driven rather than idled. Most auto manufacturers recommend against idling even on the coldest days.

If you ignore these reasons for not idling, have you thought about this: "An idling car is a target for thieves." The police have.

In 2011 SLC adopted an idling ordinance that has since been amended to comply with bills the Utah Legislature then passed. The State had changed its requirements so that the City can give a ticket to Two-Minute-Idlers after only one warning. The ticket is the same as a parking violation so the cost is not much, but the benefits to our air and our pocketbooks are very real. I was surprised when I read that engineers have found that if you are going to be stopped for more than 10 seconds, you save gas by turning your car off. However, when stopped at a traffic light, it is safer to leave the car idling. Lucky you if your car has the stop/start system which does this automatically. Remember the slogan -Turn your key. Be idle free! See more at <http://utahcleancities.org/idle-free/>.

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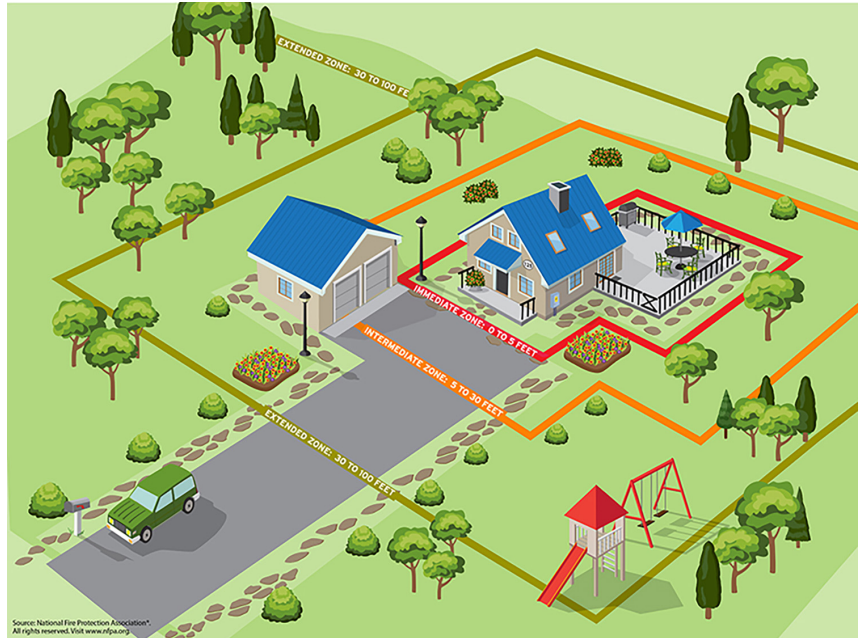
**GACC  
August 4th  
Virtual Meeting!**

Details will be posted at the GACC website  
<https://slc-avenues.org/>.

The password and meeting ID will be posted at <https://slc-avenues.org/> at 5 p.m. on the day of the 7 p.m. meeting.

Continued from Page 6

Fire Zone 1 - the five foot area immediately surrounding your home.



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