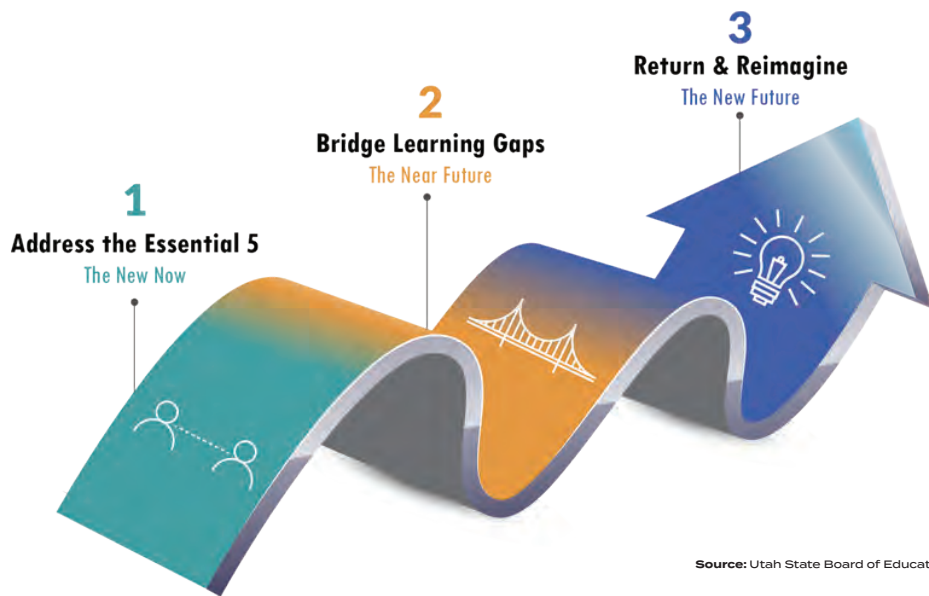


The HUB

The Official Newsletter of American Fork City

Back to School

Three phases of recovery to help keep our children safe



Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information and Resource

The social and economic effects of COVID-19 will be significant and touch every corner of our state. But there is much that can be done to mitigate impacts to students and families and create educational success for the long term. The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) envisions three phases on the path to recovery and our new future.

As schools, students, families, and communities plan for reopening schools for in-person instruction in the fall, the Utah State Board of Education is committed to providing ongoing guidance and resources as we sort through this unprecedented situation together.

Reopening Schools

The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) worked with a panel of experts—educators, administrators, public health experts, physicians,

epidemiologists, and teacher representatives—to articulate minimum elements and requirements that Local Education Agencies (LEAs) must address as they plan to reopen schools for in-person instruction in the fall of 2020.

A document has been developed outlining the certain minimum requirements to serve as an addendum to the Utah Leads Together Color-coded Guidelines. The purpose of this addendum is to itemize the requirements LEAs would abide by to safely reopen schools to in-person learning in fall 2020. The intent is to clearly define what to do while enabling adaptability and innovation at the local level to determine how to do it by applying a set of principles and levers to mitigate risk of spread of COVID-19 across school settings.

For information on Opening Schools in Alpine School District visit:
www.alpineschools.org

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Office Numbers

Administration	801-763-3000
Public Works.....	801-763-3060
Library	801-763-3070
Fitness Center.....	801-763-3080
Senior Center.....	801-763-3090

Non-Emergency

Police	801-763-3020
Fire & Rescue.....	801-763-3045

On-Call / After-Hour

Water/Pressurized	801-404-1253
Sewer/Storm Drain	801-404-7167
Streets	801-404-1255
Garbage	801-924-8500
Street Lights	801-814-4311



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www.americanfork.gov



From the Mayor's Desk

One hundred and sixty-seven years ago American Fork was incorporated as a city. That was a tumultuous time filled with uncertainty and risk. Back then the settlers in the area decided to



build a fort to help protect themselves and ensure their survival. There is no doubt there were difficult times for those few people. But in addition to grit, fortitude, and ingenuity our pioneer ancestors also needed understanding and compassion to survive. And those characteristics are as important for us today as they were for our ancestors. But it's the characteristics of understanding and compassion that I'd like to focus on right now.

Understanding is the ability to view something through the eyes of someone else. In doing so you increase your objectivity by considering things from multiple subjective points of view. Understanding is hard to cultivate. It requires a curiosity about other people, a willingness to remove your own expectations, and an ability to listen well. Those that put in the effort to increase understanding find it easier to make good decisions.

Compassion is the ability to care about what happens to another person. If you have compassion you are sympathetic to the misfortunes of those around you. Our pioneer ancestors probably laughed, cried, celebrated, and mourned together. They were invested in each other's wellbeing and cared about what happened to each other. Compassion in a community is as essential as roads or public safety. Without, it there is no community.

Difficult times still exist in our community today, whether individually or collectively. Our communities are still filled with uncertainty and risk. But American Fork has been around for one hundred and sixty-seven years because we have always held in high esteem the qualities of grit, fortitude, ingenuity, understanding and compassion. Let us continue that legacy for our posterity by seeking to understand and care for those around us.



Talk Shop With a Cop Protect Yourself from Vehicle Theft

A vehicle burglary is defined as when a suspect enters a vehicle with intent to commit a theft. It is not uncommon for there to be an increase during the summer months, and American Fork is seeing an increase in these types of thefts.

The vast majority of vehicle burglaries are crimes of opportunity where the suspect will walk the neighborhoods trying all of the door handles. If the door is locked they move on to the easier target. A suspect will also take advantage of opportunities when valuables are left out and visible.

In addition to vehicle burglaries, those walking the neighborhoods will take items left out in the driveways and in garages where the door has been left open.

There are several steps you can take to reduce your chances of being the victim of a theft:

- Always lock the doors to your vehicle and ensure your car windows are rolled up all the way.
- Close your garage doors. This would include during the daytime, as well as at night.

- Keep your valuables out of sight. If you are at a business and do not want to take items into the store, consider putting them in the trunk or under the seat.
- Install good lighting and motion detectors. If at a business at night, park where there is good illumination.
- Install security cameras. There are many reasonably priced cameras available to help cover the exterior of your home.
- Help your neighbors. Tell them if you see their garage door open. If you see suspicious people and/or vehicles in the area call the Utah County Dispatch Center.
- Consider starting a Neighborhood Watch Program in your area. If you are interested in starting Neighborhood Watch contact Detective Austin Lunt or Lt. Josh Christensen at the police department.

You are encouraged to contact the police department if you have any questions; e-mails may be sent to polictalkshop@afc.city.net. Depending on the number and type of questions received, your question may be answered via the city newsletter, e-mail, or phone call.

American Fork City

Celebrates the Grand Opening of Art Dye Park

Mayor Brad Frost and members of the American Fork City Council held a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the newly renovated Art Dye Park on Wednesday, July 15th. The ceremony marks the celebrations of a collaborative effort involving American Fork City, American Fork PARC, and input from American Fork citizens in the construction of the city's newest public park.

Nestled in the heart of American Fork, the roughly 48-acre public park located at 1000 N 550 E St. was designed to offer citizens an array of recreational opportunities. Amenities include five baseball/softball fields with a scoring tower, concessions stand, restrooms, and lights for night play.

The park also has two playgrounds which one AF citizen described as "The perfect size for my 2-year-old."

Along with the baseball/softball fields, Art Dye Park features open grass space that can fit 11 soccer/football fields. It also has pickleball courts, pavilions, picnic areas with tables, and hiking trails. The park also hosts a newly designed disc golf course, which was described like this, "Art Dye



Mayor Brad Frost and members of the City Council at the official ribbon cutting ceremony at Art Dye Park. July 15th, 2020.

has one of the best disc golf courses in the state tucked away in its trees. The course is intense. Narrow throws, tons of trees to hit, just a really tough course. Only one of the holes is really, really long, but the rest have enough things in the way to make this a quite challenging course. Overall this is just a great course, that makes excellent use of

the back part of the park. Hopefully it will be here for many years to come!"

We invite everyone to visit Art Dye Park! Whether it's for competitive sports, personal fitness, picnics with friends and family, or connecting with nature, we're confident the park offers something for everyone!

How You Can Participate in City Council Meetings

As we continue to navigate our way through the COVID-19 pandemic, American Fork City is dedicated to ensuring city business continue to move forward and that citizens have a voice in the decisions being made that affect our community. We want to remind everyone that city council meetings are being held remotely on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

We invite citizens to join the council meetings which you can access on the city's YouTube by visiting <https://bit.ly/AFCouncil>. Interested citizens can still give public comment by emailing their comments to zoompubliccomment@afcity.net. All comments must include a name, be submitted three hours prior to the start of the scheduled



meeting, and should adhere to the two-minute allotted floor time given as if in a live meeting.

Agendas for City Council meetings will be posted at www.americanfork.gov/AgendaCenter, and at the administrative offices at least 24 hours in advance of each meeting.



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FITNESS & RECREATION

The American Fork City Fitness Center is offering Back to School programs including flag football and adult coed softball. The Fitness Center will also be offering youth basketball soon. To find out more information about our existing and upcoming programs as well as registration info, please visit:

www.americanfork.gov/229/Fitness-Center

American Fork City Water System Improvements

American Fork is seeking funds to construct water line upgrades and expansions, most of which will provide service to new residents. Most of the estimated \$21.9 million price tag would be borne by new residents through the impact fees they pay when they construct a home in the city. There is a portion of the project that would replace old and dilapidated pipes that currently suffer from breaks and leaks. This portion of costs would be covered with funds already set aside for the improvements.

“The project is viable without a rate or tax increase for this project based on coverage ratios,” said city finance director Anna Montoya in a presentation to the City Council.

After researching various options to finance the project, the city chose to apply for a loan from the Utah State Board of

Water Resources, to keep the financing costs as low as possible.

One of the requirements of obtaining the loan was to inform the residents of the potential project and its costs. This was done through a letter that was sent to residents in last month’s newsletter and utility bill. By state mandate there is specific wording that must be included in the letter. American Fork was limited to this language, without being able to make explanations or clarifications. As such, some residents may have mistakenly thought this water project would mean an increase to their water bill, which it will not.

In addition to upgrades and expansion of the piping in the northeast and southern sections of the community, there would be a new well drilled in the southwest quadrant, to provide additional water supply and fire protection for new housing

in that area. As new housing units are approved, the developers are required to provide water sufficient for the developments. The new well will provide the necessary water for future development.

Residents may notice a discrepancy between the bond amount of \$29.5 million listed in the letter and the estimated construction cost of \$21.9 million. The difference is that the letter requires the city to state the maximum possible loan amount for the project rather than the estimated construction cost. Seldom is the maximum loan amount used. With the loan amount set the city can move forward on getting bids from contractors to determine the actual construction costs.

The project is estimated to start in the fall of 2020. The project is expected to last about three years and include multiple phases.



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