

# What's Happening in Toquerville?

## **General Plan Survey**

The Toquerville General Plan was due for some overhaul, so in 2016, the City contracted with Jones and DeMille Engineering to review the current plan and rewrite it, looking forward to the future as outlined by State Statute. Several volunteer residents met with the engineering firm's representatives, and drove the city, looking at the many wonderful things the area has to offer, and taking note of things that could be better. Results of the survey and further meetings and information for the General Plan will be coming in the near future. Thank you to all the residents who took part in the survey regarding the General Plan.

## **Tree City Grant/Shangri-La Beautification**

The City received a Tree City Grant for a beautification project along Shangri-La in the Toquer Heights. A sidewalk and a wall had previously been installed to provide a safe place for walking along the hillside. Thanks to Tree City for providing an \$8,000 grant so that the City could plant trees and make the walkway even more pleasant. The wall was engineered and reinstalled, planted with 43 trees with the necessary infrastructure to ensure the trees would be watered and maintained. Not only is this a nice place to walk, but as the trees grow, it will make a nice visual for the southern entrance to the City. Thanks to Councilmember Langston and the tree board for the grant application, and to Lance Gubler and his crew for their hard work!

## **Trees on Toquerville Blvd**

The City intends to apply another Tree City Grant to overgrown trees along Toquerville Blvd in the historic town area. There are several trees that cause concerns over their structural integrity. Toquerville has always been known for its beautiful trees along the Blvd, but there comes a time to remove and replace those that have served their time so well for so long. This project is expected to start April of 2017 and will take a few months to complete. Again, thanks to Councilmember Langston and the tree board for the grant application, and Lance Gubler and crew for their work!

## **TRE Restroom**

The Trail Ridge Subdivision has a park, but there are few amenities at the park. The City Council has been putting plans together this year to install a restroom to

improve the use of this area, where so much new growth has happened. The restrooms will be expected to be installed by the end of July this year. Thanks to Councilmembers Bringhurst and Fahrenkamp for this wonderful, necessary improvement. This project will be funded by RAP tax funds and impact fees. Thank you for your support for park projects.

## **TRE Phase 2**

Applications and approvals for the second phase of Trail Ridge Estates (Mesa Views) have been completed. This new housing tract is currently moving toward construction and will be located to the east of Phase 1.

## **Pickleball**

The Center Street Park has a new pickleball court. Standards and nets were installed in January and have been enjoyed by many who use the park regularly. This project used funds from the new RAP tax. Thank you for your support for park projects.

## **Cotton Gin/Hillside project**

This project was initiated by former Councilmember Daren Cottam. Cotton Gin and Hillside Drive finally received the go-ahead to become improved streets in 2016. The streets were completely torn out with new water and storm drain infrastructure installed. Storm waters in this area had flooded yards regularly for a long time. The infrastructure was old and rights-of-way needed to be amended. The culinary water pipes were replaced, storm water appurtenances were fitted, curb and gutter was installed, and asphalt put down. Not only has the project corrected the flooding from the past, but the roads are a nice improvement in this older area of town. The City didn't acquire any debt for this project; it was completed 100% with B&C Road funds, storm drain fees and impact fees that the city has collected over the past several years.

## **Almond Heights Park**

The City contracted with planner Bill Jackson to complete a Master Park Plan in 2016. Included in the plan were updates to the Center Street Park, the Trail Ridge Park and a design for the Almond Heights Pocket Park. As the final phase of the Almond Heights subdivision finishes construction, the City hopes to start working toward some amenities, using RAP funds and impact fees as they are collected over the next several years.

## **Miss Toquerville Pageant**

The 2017 Princess pageant will be held April 29, @ 7:00 pm at the old white church in LaVerkin. Eight lovely Toquerville young ladies will be vying for the title of Miss Toquerville. There is a requested \$2.00 donation at the door. The outgoing 2016 royalty is: Princess- Abbie Elison, 1<sup>st</sup> Attendant - Alyssa Hale, 2<sup>nd</sup> Attendant - Natasha Meehleib, and Miss Congeniality - Audrey Campbell. The City appreciates the service the royalty does every year and expresses gratitude to Robbie Elison who has done a wonderful job as the 2016 princess coordinator.

## **Bypass Information**

We hear the question, “What is the bypass?” in the City office frequently. As the City grows, the current Toquerville Blvd is limited to the amount of traffic it will be able to handle. There is a lot of sentiment regarding this quaint, historic section of the City, and widening the Blvd is just not part of the answer. The bypass is a proposed road that will divert traffic from State Road 17 at the south end of town at what has been termed the “Hog’s Back”, out through the undeveloped area to the west, and reconnect to 17 at the north. The age-old question is, “When will they build the bypass?” The answer has always been, “That is up to UDOT, and is probably out 20-30 years.” The City contracted with Jones and DeMille Engineering in 2016 to do a study and plan using State CIB funds, hoping to move the project to a closer time frame. That project is still in the works, but it is hoped that the study will move the project up into the 10-year plan for UDOT. The City has coordinated the route with property owners; and with the development of the Toquer Reservoir, would like to see the implementation of this route sooner rather than later. But at this time, we look forward to a time when this improvement can take place.

## **Reservoir**

The Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCD) has announced that the Toquer Reservoir is moving forward after completion of years of Federal and environmental studies and reports. This reservoir is to be located south of the Interstate 15 and Anderson Junction intersection. According to the WCWCD publication *Water Line*, “The project will increase water availability while promoting conservation and the beneficial use of water. The project will store water for irrigation use that is currently lost through seepage and preserve the high quality Toquerville Springs water for culinary purposes. The estimated \$34 million project consists

of a 17-mile pipeline and a 115-acre, 3,640-acre-foot reservoir. Construction is expected to start in 2017.” The project will not only preserve water, but includes plans for recreational uses like fishing and camping. Maps showing the location and plans for the reservoir are available in the City Office. Water source from the reservoir comes from Pine Valley drainage and the New Harmony reservoir near Black Ridge.

## **Dumpster Days**

The next City Clean-up dumpster days will be April 28-30. Historically the dumpsters have been at the Center Street City Park, the City office parking lot, Toquerville Heights subdivision, Cholla Park, and the intersection of Sunset Road and Westfield Road. Because of safety issues at the Cholla Park location, that dumpster will not be there with this clean up, but will be placed at the Trail Ridge Estates Park. It will be in place there until it is full and ready to pick up. The other locations will not change at this time. Please do not dispose any hazardous materials including motor oil, tires, or batteries.

## **LED Lighting**

Studies regarding LED lighting have shown benefits including health, insect detraction and lower cost. For the last couple of years, the City has been doing research and working to be able to install LED street lighting throughout the City. Beginning in the new fiscal year that starts in July, there is a hope that this improvement will finally become part of the City’s fabric. Street lights that use LED can be adjustable in their focus, as well as the amount and color of light they emit. The expected savings to the City from LED could be as high as 90%.

## **City Website**

Our new website has been up and running for a year now. If you haven’t been there, check it out and while there, sign up to get city news and community activity updates. [www.treasurer@toquerville.org](mailto:www.treasurer@toquerville.org)