

Mayor's Message - Brittney P. Bills

Hello Highland neighbors,

Over the past year, the City Council, staff, and community members have worked together on the 2025 General Plan Update. Each month, I'll highlight a portion of the plan and invite you to explore the full version online. This plan helps us protect what makes Highland special, while thoughtfully planning for the future.

Highland is known for its open spaces, large lots, and small-town feel. Our last major plan update was in 2008, and with steady growth since then, it's time to reflect on what's working and ensure our decisions align with community values.

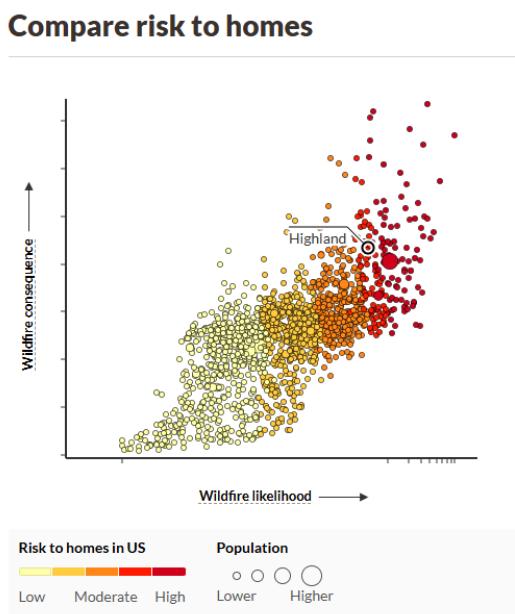
The General Plan guides City decisions on land use, housing, transportation, parks, and infrastructure. It doesn't create laws, but it shapes the policies that do—serving as a flexible, living document grounded in preservation and stewardship. Most importantly, this plan was built on community input gathered through surveys, workshops, open houses, and local events. You can see the full General Plan at bit.ly/HC-newgeneralplan.

Please feel free to reach out with questions or ideas any time!

Emergency Prep Corner

Did you know?

1. Highland's proximity to the mountains and natural washes means the City has a high risk of wildfire.
2. The Wildfire Risk to Communities site states that Highland's risk is higher than 95% of communities in the US.
3. See bit.ly/HC-wildfirerisk to learn more and learn how to mitigate your risk.
4. We recommend that residents check with their insurance companies about wildfire insurance.



If you would like get involved with Emergency Preparation with Highland City, please contact Councilwoman Liz Rice at lrice@highlandut.gov.



CALENDAR

February 3: City Council
6pm, City Hall

February 16: Presidents' Day
City Offices Closed

February 17: City Council
6pm, City Hall

February 24: Planning Commission
7pm, City Hall

PHONE NUMBERS

City Offices: 801-756-5751

Library: 801-772-4528

Justice Court: 801-772-4525

Police Department & Animal Control: 801-756-9800

Fire Department: 801-763-5365

After-Hours Public Works Emergency: 801-420-2553

Waste Management (pick-up & can repairs): 888-496-8824

ONLINE

Report a concern, pay a bill, reserve pavilions, request alerts, etc. at: highlandut.gov
Or you can text us with any questions or concerns at **385-421-9045**

Follow us on Social Media



City Council Meeting Brief

For full agendas, minutes, & audio, visit <http://bit.ly/HC-agendas>. For video, go to our YouTube channel @HighlandCityUtah or visit bit.ly/HC-citycouncil.

January 6 & 20 2026

- **Oath of Office:** Congratulations to Mayor Bills and Councilmembers Campbell, Rice, and Smith who were sworn in to start their new positions.
- **Canal Boulevard:** The Council has discussed traffic and speed on Canal Blvd at length over the past few years. Many traffic calming measures have been put in place and the Council has opted to leave the speed at 30 mph all along the road. The next roadway Council plans to focus on is 9600 North.
- **Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Building Codes:** Per state law, Council approved new building codes for homes in the City's WUI that require more safety precautions to prevent house-fires from moving into wildland. In February, Council will discuss where in Highland to apply these codes.
- **Mitchell Hollow Trail:** Council awarded the construction of the trail that will run from Mitchell Hollow Park to 9600 North. Highland received a grant from Utah County for this project and construction will begin shortly.

Apply to Serve on the Highland City Planning Commission

Highland City is accepting applications for open seats on the Planning Commission. Planning Commissioners review development proposals and provide recommendations that help guide the City's future. Responsibilities include:

- Upholding the vision and goals of the City's General Plan
- Promoting compatible, well-planned land use
- Ensuring opportunities for public input
- Supporting a fair, consistent, and transparent review process
- Making informed recommendations to the City Council

Residents with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives are encouraged to apply. Complete the Highland City Volunteer Application available on the City's website and indicate your interest in the Planning Commission at the bottom of the form: <https://bit.ly/HC-volunteerform>. Submit completed applications to Stephannie Cottle, Highland City Recorder, at scottle@highlandut.gov.

Highland City Cemetery Clean-up — Monday, March 2nd, 2026

Highland City seeks to offer families and friends that visit their loved ones in the cemetery a clean, beautiful, and peaceful environment. Please help us with this goal by keeping your site clean. On Monday, March 2nd, the cemetery will be cleared of ALL grave decorations, real or artificial, including trinkets, ornaments, lamps, shepherd hooks, etc. Please make every effort to remove decorations from your loved one's grave prior to the cleanup, as remaining decorations are typically discarded. Questions? Please call (801) 772-4505.

For your information, the cemetery will hold clean-ups on the following dates:

Monday, March 2, 2026
Monday, June 8, 2026
Monday, October 5, 2026
Monday, December 7, 2026

How to Prevent Backflow

Backflow is the unwanted reversal of water flow in a plumbing system. It can allow contaminants into the culinary/drinking water system and can be a serious health hazard. Places where backflow is most commonly found are:

- **Hose bibs** (the outdoor hose connection usually found on the exterior of your residence)
- **Frost-free taps** (also known as a freeze-proof faucet, commonly used to fill water troughs, water gardens, etc.)

Some low-cost solutions to prevent backflow is the installation of a hose bib vacuum breaker (HBVB). This can be easily performed by homeowners for between \$5-\$40. HBVB's are a great way to protect against contamination happening through your various hoses.



For additional information or questions please email our PW team at public-works@highlandut.gov.



Contact

Visit our website!
highlandcityarts.info



Shauna Larson, President
801-891-7183

 @highlandcityarts  Highland City Arts Council

All of the following events are held at the Highland City Community Center unless otherwise stated.

Starting Here Starting Now is a perfect Valentines weekend musical revue from the 70's celebrating love, the complexity of relationships, and the joy of marriage and family. Singles welcome! There are songs especially for you. February 13th, 7:30 p.m., February 14th, 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. \$25/couple and \$15/single. Tickets available by Venmo [@HighlandCity-ArtsCouncil](#).

Visual Art Institute Art classes for children, teens, and adults. See visualartinstitute.org for more information.

Sew 'n Sews will meet Friday, February 20th from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We will be working on our Buggy Barn quilt top. Also bring a sew and tell to show off. We will have a light lunch at 12:30 p.m. Feel free to invite others. Contact Carol at cwhad-lock@gmail.com or 801-400-8727.

Join Highland Choral Arts for a special evening of music and patriotism on May 16th at 7 p.m. at Timberline Middle School. This inspiring concert celebrates our country's 250th anniversary and proudly honors the men and women of the Armed Forces, past and present. Be sure to bring family and friends who have served in our Armed Forces since we will recognize and honor their service during this meaningful night of music and tribute.

The Highland Children's Choir is opening just a few spots for Spring semester! Come sing with us! Spots are reserved in the order registrations are submitted. Multiple choirs for ages 5-23. Register at highlandchildrenschoir.com.

The Timpanogos Ringers are excited to welcome some new members this season. We are looking forward to some fun music and spring performances. Contact us if you would like to have bells at your next event. 801-830-0827.

Friends of the Library Start saving your money! You'll want to spend it at The Friends of the Library Giant Book Sale on Friday, February 20th, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 21st, from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. If you would like to help, call 661-607-6592.

The Friends are grateful that the members of the Library Board and their families came to help with the cleanup after the recent library fire. The Friends also joined in. Fortunately, there was minimal damage.

Youth Council Update Highland City Youth Council had an enriching day at the State Capitol for Local Officials Day, featuring breakfast and networking with other youth councils, and elected officials at the state and local levels.

The Youth Council attended a session featuring a mock committee debate and a seminar on conflict competence, which allowed members to gain insights on how to navigate disagreements in public discourse. These workshops were followed by a lunch with Council Member Kim Rodella, Council Member Doug Cortney, and City Administrator Erin Wells. They were joined by members of the Alpine and Cedar Hills Councils as well.

The event included inspiring speakers, and a message from Governor Cox, making it a fantastic day for the Youth Council at the State Capitol.

Stay Connected Did you know about Highland City's communication tool? Signing up is simple. Just visit highlandut.gov and follow these steps:

- **Click the Bubble:** Look for the small blue bubble in the bottom right corner of the screen.
- **Select "Notices":** Click on the "Notices" option in the menu.
- **Subscribe for Updates:** Navigate to the page titled "Subscribe for the Latest Information."

From there, you can customize your channels and preferences by choosing what kind of information you'd like to receive. If you need assistance or have any questions, please call or text us at 385-421-9045.

Report a Concern

See a problem in the City? Let us know about it! Whether it's a pothole, broken sprinkler, street light out, park needing work, etc. you can report the problem on the Highland City website.

Visit highlandut.gov and click on the large "Report a Concern" button on the home page. You can also always call us at 801-756-5751.

Celebrate National Library Lover's Month!

February is National Library Lover's Month, and there has never been a better time to fall in love with our library. Whether you are looking for that perfect book, something on Libby, or one of our themed kits, we truly have something for everyone. From our Storytimes to various programs like Fairytale Ball, Summer Reading, Senior Social Hub and more, there is so much to love within these walls. And the staff's pretty lovable, too.

A New Year's Hero

We are especially grateful to be celebrating with you following a frightening incident on New Year's Day. As library patron Cassidy H. and her children were returning books to the drop box, she noticed smoke and flames on the library's roof. Thanks to her quick thinking and a 911 call, the Lone Peak Fire Department arrived on the scene immediately. We were incredibly fortunate: the heat cracked one of our windows but didn't break. Had it shattered, embers would have triggered the sprinkler system, likely destroying our entire collection. While we did sustain water damage in our programming closet, which destroyed supplies and our collection of prize books, we are relieved that our library is still standing. (Pictured is Mayor Ostler, Cassidy, and Karen).



We want to extend a huge thank you to:

- Cassidy and her three children: our official "Library Superheroes" for their fast action!
- Friends of the Library and our Library Board: our incredible "volunteer army" who stepped in to help with clean-up and recovery.
- Our Donors: we received a few donations and we appreciate your support.

Come in this month, say hello, and help us celebrate the heart of our community!

Karen Liu, MLIS

Highland City Library Director

New Upcoming Events

2/5 – Tween Club: Anti-Valentine's Party

2/12 – Teen Advisory Board (Calling all teens! Become a volunteer and help plan activities.)

2/13 – HSH Plant Love: Seniors and Older Adults, come learn about plant care

2/27 – HSH Movement: Tai Chi with Master Joe Perry