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October 2023



Message from Director Laura Briefer

The term "water supplier" seems awfully simplistic when referring to an organization like Salt Lake City's Department of Public Utilities. That's really just one part of what we do. Just recently, SLCDPU has worked to revise our mission statement to more accurately reflect what we do within our community. "It is our mission to serve and safeguard our community and environment by equitably, sustainably, and efficiently providing top-quality water, wastewater, stormwater, and street lighting services." When I look at our mission statement, I'm reminded of the many complexities involved in acting as our community's water supplier.

Much of a water supplier's workload falls into two categories. The first is to ensure that the water supply can meet the needs of the community today and for generations to come. Here in Salt Lake City, that obligation is magnified when we consider our namesake, the Great Salt Lake, in our water supply plans. The impact the Lake has on our City and our neighbors is of no little significance. I'm pleased that, as a community, we've come to recognize the critical role the Lake plays in our overall wellbeing. Raising our collective awareness about the Lake's needs is just the first step toward resolving this critical water supply issue.

Conservation is the most impactful way that you, your family, your neighbors, and possibly even your business or other organization, can save the Lake. Residents throughout the SLCDPU service area have taken this message to heart. Since the year 2000, the population within our service area increased by 15% but our corresponding overall water use decreased by 31%. The fact that as a community, we've been able to reduce our dependency on water, in spite of booming growth, really speaks to our commitment to water conservation! As we move into the cooler months, I want to encourage you to continue those conservation-minded habits. Take this opportunity to check your home for areas in which you can save water. For example, leaks are a significant and wholly unnecessary contributor to excessive indoor water consumption. Quickly identifying and fixing leaks benefits you, but it also helps to extend the water supply for us all.

Another major responsibility of water suppliers is to ensure that our infrastructure can support existing and future. Here in Salt Lake City, taking care of our aging water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure is a priority. We are in the midst of replacing our Water Reclamation Facility, a project that will enable us to meet changing water quality standards and continue to serve our community for the next generations. You can learn more about that project here. On November 1, 2023, we will also officially begin construction to rebuild our City Creek Water Treatment Plant (CCWTP).

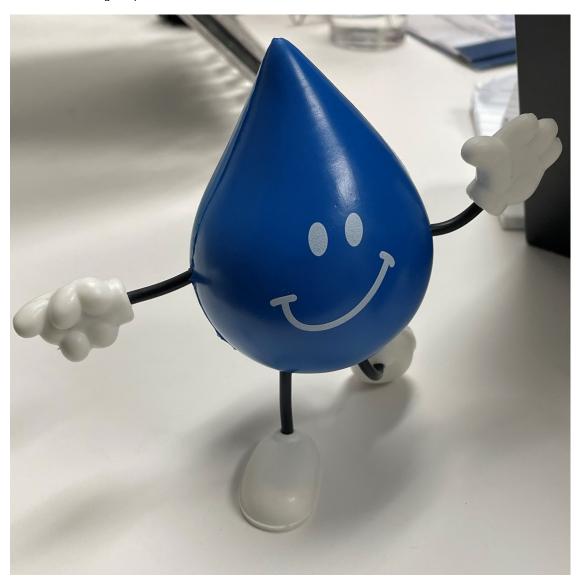
Originally constructed in 1955, City Creek's Water Treatment Plant was the first municipal water treatment plant built in the State of Utah. The CCWTP is an integral component of SLCDPU's drinking water supply. The rebuild project will enable us to better address the structural and mechanical deficiencies inherent to an aging structure. Furthermore, this new and improved facility will help us become more resilient as a community and to increase the reliability of this critical water supply.

In November, we will be closing City Creek Canyon to the public Monday through Friday. I know this closure may potentially impact many of our neighbors. However, closing the canyon is necessary to allow construction to progress safely and efficiently. As someone who frequently visits City Creek Canyon for biking and running myself, I am happy to report that the Canyon will be open Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays through the life of the project. We hope that this continued weekend and holiday access to the Canyon will balance safety with our community's love of City Creek Canyon.

Learn more about the City Creek Water Treatment Plant project online. For timely information and news about the project and its impacts to our community, text "CCWTP" to 833-271-7589 to subscribe to text alerts about the project.

Droplet's Phrase of the Month

Hey Droplet - what is "pipe bursting"?



The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines pipe bursting as "a method by which existing pipe is opened and forced outward by a bursting tool." Pipe bursting is a method that allows us to replace pipes underground, without having to dig trenches in the road. When compared to open-trench projects, trenchless technology tends to be less disturbing to the community, minimalizes economic consequences, and reduces the potential for environmental degradation.

SLCDPU is utilizing pipe bursting to upgrade the sewer line capacity in the Sugar House area. The sewer line along 2100 South is nearing or over 100 years old, depending on the section, and too small to serve the existing demand. This part of the Salt Lake City sewer system provides service to more than 4,000 properties. The project will improve sewer service in the area with a larger pipe made of new materials.

2100 South Sewer Upgrades

Do you live in Salt Lake City's District Four?

Join us on Thursday, October 12, at the McGillis School (668 South 1300 East) for a double-header, as we host two debates, back-to-back! D4 is as unique as its residents, and the problems we face require thoughtful solutions tailored to our neighborhood. So let's sit down with mayoral candidates and city council candidates to ask them about the issues WE face. This is likely your ONE CHANCE to get an up-close-and-personal impression of the candidates as we count down to election day, in November!

Schedule:

6:00–6:30: Candidates will be hosting tables ahead of the debates. 6:30–7:30: D4 City Council Debate

7:30–8:30: Mayoral Debate

Hosted by Downtown Community Council, Central City Community Council, East Central Community Council, and the Midtown Business District.



Image above includes details about the upcoming Gear Up for City Creek event, a fun walk/run/ride scheduled for Saturday, October 21, 2023 at 10am in City Creek Canyon.

Project Updates

Salt Lake City's Department of Public Utilities manages a number of construction projects to maintain and improve our system. Many of these projects are smaller in scale but we've highlighted a few of our larger projects below. If you're interested in learning more about other SLCDPU projects, please visit our website.

- **1800 North Sewer Realignment:** the second of three phases to install a large sewer trunk line along 1800 North is scheduled to begin the first week of October. The project will make much-needed repairs and improvements to the area's sanitary sewer system. This project will impact Rosewood Park and visitors to the area should check **online** for current status information.
- Marcus to Artesian Water Line: This project is being conducted to rehabilitate an
 aging water line that serves the Marcus Reservoir (near 300 East & Gordon Lane)
 to the area near the Van Winkle Expressway & 900 East. Crews will begin work near
 the Ascent at Cottonwood Creek Apartments and move east toward Creekview
 Drive. Work will include excavation pits, equipment to line the pipe, and
 restoration of the impacted work areas.







Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities | Salt Lake City

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