



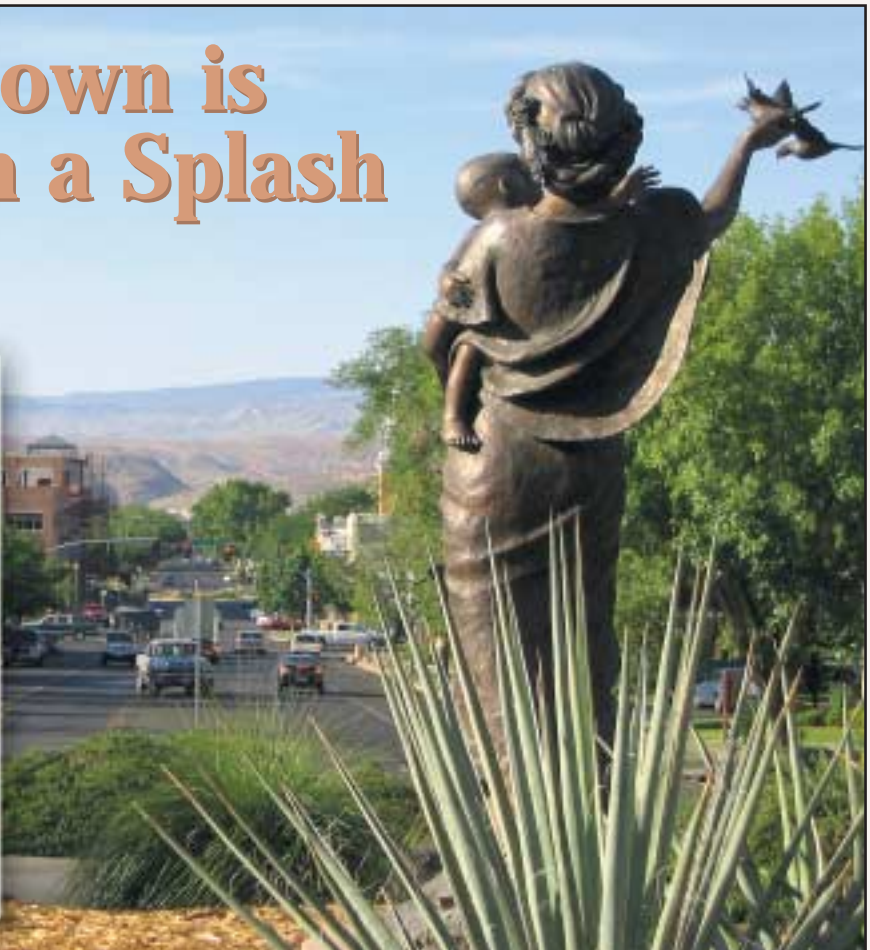
Volume 2, January - March 2005

# CITYSCAPES

St. George City Newsletter

[www.sgcity.org](http://www.sgcity.org)

## Downtown is Back with a Splash



As St. George City Manager Gary Esplin visits different cities throughout the country, the two things that always leave an impression on him are the cleanliness of streets and public spaces and the condition of downtowns. He says, "Since the downtown is the heart of a city, its condition is often reflected throughout the rest of the community." This same philosophy, which is shared by the mayor and city council, has translated into millions of dollars of capital investment into downtown St. George in an attempt to reinvigorate our community's core and make it an attractive lure for residents and visitors.

In June of 2004, the city held a two-day planning session where input from area businesses, government agencies, and local residents was gathered with respect to the amenities that

should be included in the downtown. City leaders took that information and created a vision for the area based on traditional planning principles. *In late October, St. George City Mayor Dan McArthur and Washington County officials announced the "Historic Water Walk on Main" project complete with a new nature park at the top of Main Street, a six-block water feature, an impressive bronze sculpture exhibit, a large town square, and a new county library that is being designed to blend with the historical buildings in the area.*

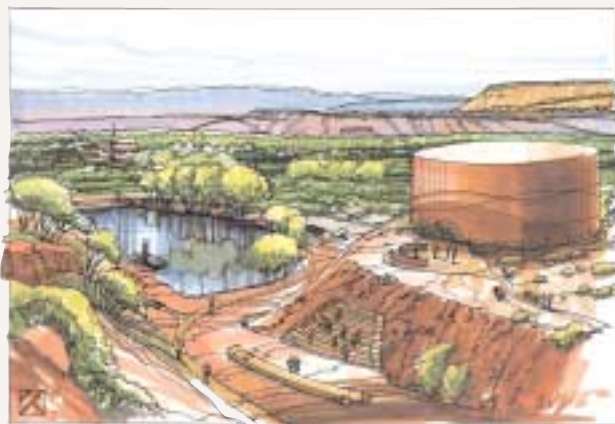
For as long as any resident can remember, there has always been a pond at the top of Main Street. For those who grew up in St. George during the 1950s and 1960s, it was a place where kids fished, swam, and spent hours catching bullfrogs and playing games. Given the natural beauty of the area, city leaders feel



Artist's rendition of St. George City Town Square.

it is the perfect backdrop for a nature park. The pond, commonly referred to as "Brooks Pond," is fed by a natural spring and will serve as the headwaters for the new water walk feature along Main Street all the way to 100 South.

The premise behind the "Historic Water Walk on Main" is to celebrate the importance of water and its historical significance to the early settlers. A shallow ditch will transport water to a number of water features along Main Street including a new



Brooks Pond – Headwaters for Historic Water Walk on Main .

waterfall adjacent to the Main Street Plaza building that is currently under construction. After diving under roads and surfacing at various landmarks along Main Street, the water walk will end at an interactive water feature for kids at a new town square that is under design (south of the recently renovated Woodward School).

As part of the concept to create a town square, the city and county entered into a partnership to better serve public interest. Given the space constraints of the existing library on Main Street, the county agreed to build

a new facility on the corner of 100 South and 100 West. This will free up the property where the existing library sits and enable the city to construct a town square lined by trees, shrubs, and other special treatments through the middle of the block. The city expects the town square to be a gathering spot for events and a location for life-size bronze sculptures of historical St. George figures.

In addition to the town square, the city hopes to have bronze sculptures along the water walk throughout the six-block project. "The goal is to locate historic figures from Dixie in their proper context along Main," said Mayor Dan McArthur. For example, sculptures of prominent pioneer educators would be located near the Woodward School while those who contributed to the arts could be found closer to the historic opera house or museum. Families with historical ties to early Dixie pioneers and others who want to contribute to the bronze sculpture exhibit are encouraged to call Gary Sanders with the St. George Community Arts Division at 634-5942.

The City of St. George thanks Washington County and the Washington County School District for their willingness to form a partnership essential to the success of this exciting project. With work already underway in certain areas, the city expects the "Historic Water Walk on Main" (with the exception of the bronze sculpture exhibit) to be completed by 2007.

St. George Musical Theater

37 South 100 West • St. George, UT 84770  
435-628-8755 • www.sgmt.org

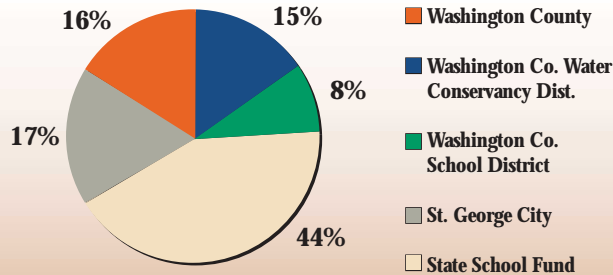
Amahl & the Night Visitors, December 2-20, 2004 • South Pacific, January 13 - February 7, 2005

Mousetrap, February 24 - March 14, 2005 • Scarlet Pimpernel, March 31 - April 25, 2005



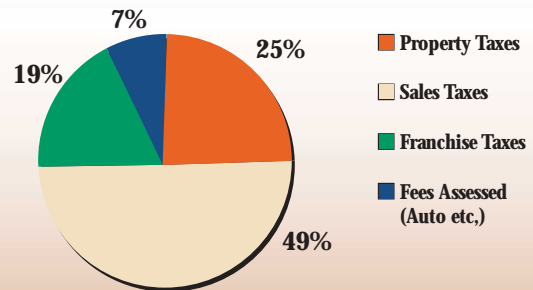
# Getting Your Money's Worth

**Residential Property Tax Allocation 2004**



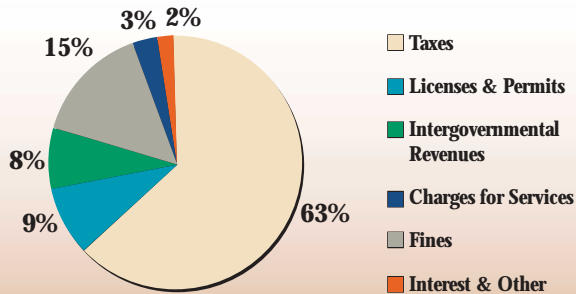
**D**o you know where your tax dollars go? For instance, when local residents pay property tax, how are the dollars allocated between Washington County, Washington County School District, Washington County Water Conservancy District, State School Fund and the City of St. George? St. George City received just 17% of the total property tax bill from a resident during the 2004 fiscal year.

**City of St. George Taxes by Source**



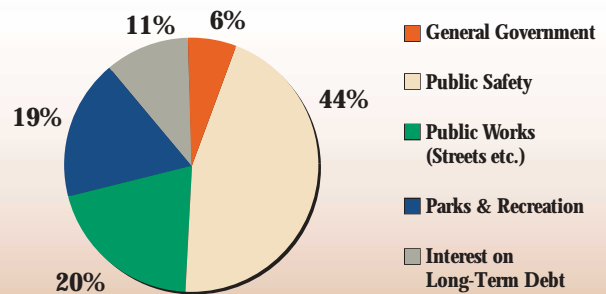
Property taxes represented 25% of all tax revenues received by the City of St. George in 2004. By far the largest source of tax revenue (as well as total revenue) was and continues to be sales tax.

**City of St. George General Fund Revenues 2004**



Taxes made up 63% of total general fund revenues for the City of St. George. Of this 63%, property taxes represented 16% of total general fund revenues and sales taxes represented 31% of total general fund revenues. Franchise taxes & fees assessed made up 16%. The remaining 37% consisted of charges for services, fines, licenses and permits, intergovernmental revenues and interest earned on interest bearing accounts.

**City of St. George Tax Revenue Utilization**



Once taxes (general governmental revenues) are received by the city, how are they spent? In fiscal year 2004, 44% of the annual tax revenues were spent on public safety followed by public works and parks and recreation. For a more detailed look at the city's financial status go to [www.sgcity.org/finance/](http://www.sgcity.org/finance/) and click on the 2004 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

St. George Area  
**Parade of Homes**  
 February 18-27, 2005  
 Tickets go on sale February 17th.  
 CELEBRATING OUR 15th ANNIVERSARY  
 Tickets can be purchased at Lins Marketplace and the Red Cliffs Mall. **COME EXPERIENCE THE TRADITION**



# Police/Citizen Partnerships Critical to Crime Prevention



**O**ur Mission: To work with the citizens of St. George to preserve life, maintain human rights, protect property, and promote individual responsibility and community commitment.

**Our Philosophy:** Because crime and public safety are community problems, the community and the police must work together to solve them. Citizens, the police department, other agencies, and city government are equally responsible for reshaping this new mission. Each entity must be willing to work together, to become involved, to take initiative, and to cooperate with each other to make the city more enjoyable and safer for all.

Community policing is the heart of this new direction and plan. This new direction will involve the ideas and concerns of both citizens and police personnel. *Each member of the St. George Police Department is responsible for helping the department achieve its mission. Likewise, the community shares in the*

*responsibility for making the city both safer and enjoyable.*

Our bike patrol squad has been very successful in addressing “quality of life” issues. The primary responsibility of the bike patrol squad is to patrol the neighborhoods, interact with the citizens and children, monitor the bike paths and city parks, patrol the multi-unit housing projects, and take proactive enforcement action on “quality of life” violations. It is our philosophy that if you take care of the little things, then you prevent crime in our community.

The bike patrol has been very effective in our community. Recently, they conducted training on Multi-Unit Crime Free Housing to apartment managers in our community. The objective of the Crime Free Housing Program is to teach apartment managers how to manage their complexes and promote a crime-free environment. To do so, the managers learn how to screen their tenants, install adequate lighting, install deadbolts on apartment doors, keep the shrubs and yards trimmed to



## Service that Shines.

Now offering service Saturdays from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.

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remove opportunity for criminals to hide, remove abandoned cars from the parking areas, and recognize and report possible drug and gang activity to the police.

With increased traffic in our city, our police motor squad (officers with motorcycles) has been very successful in reducing accidents. The primary responsibility of the motor squad is to enforce traffic laws in our community with a focus on school zones and high-congestion areas where patrol cars cannot effectively work such as St. George Boulevard, Bluff Street, Sunset Boulevard, Red Cliffs Drive, and River Road. Our three highest accident areas in St. George are East St. George Boulevard, North Bluff Street, and River Road

We average ten accidents in St. George every day. However, with increased traffic enforcement, we are continually working to promote voluntary compliance with the traffic laws and reduce accidents in our city.

We believe that our citizens want to live in "crime free" neighborhoods. We can accomplish this only with citizens and the police department working together. When citizens and the police work together, criminals will stay away. Our V.I.P.S. (Volunteers in Public Safety) also assist by teaching "Safe Neighborhoods" to our citizens. This program has been well received by our community and unites our community and police officers in fighting crime and promoting crime-free neighborhoods.

We appreciate the help of volunteers in our community who are willing to donate time to assist the police department. Our V.I.P.S. also assist the police department by patrolling neighborhoods and reporting problems to the police department.



Volunteers drive retired police cars with graphics that clearly identify them as volunteers. The overhead lights have amber lenses to use as a warning device while assisting with traffic control.

We currently have ten V.I.P.S. and two cars designated to the program. The volunteers go through an application process, an oral interview, a background investigation, and a drug screen before being allowed to participate. They then go through a training program and are given a training/policy manual.

I am proud of the men and women of the St. George Police Department who work hard to keep our neighborhoods safe and maintain the quality of life we enjoy in St. George. We appreciate the work that you, our citizens, do to make our community better. Together, we will maintain the quality of life that we enjoy and St. George will continue to be a great place to live!

**DISCOUNTED AFTERNOON GOLF RATES AVAILABLE**

Sun.-Thur. after 1 p.m.

- St. George Golf Club and Southgate \$30<sup>00</sup>
- Sunbrook \$40<sup>00</sup>

**PRICE INCLUDES  
18 HOLES AND  
GOLF CART RENTAL**

SUNBROOK 634-5866 SOUTHGATE 628-0000 RED HILLS 634-5852 ST. GEORGE GOLF CLUB 634-5854



# Dino Days in Dixie

**C**ompletion of St. George City's 16,000-square-foot interpretative center, the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm, is anticipated in early 2005, just in time for the 2nd Annual "Dino Days in Dixie".



## Monday, February 14

"HUG A DINO DAY"—Come into the Little Professor Bookstore and purchase a dinosaur book to donate to the Washington County Library. While there, you will have the chance to hug a dinosaur.

## Tuesday, February 15

By invitation, 5<sup>th</sup> graders will enjoy St. George City paleontologist Andrew Milner's presentation at the St. George Social Hall, and follow up with a visit to the Invitational Professional Paleo Art Exhibit sponsored by St. George Leisure Services.

At 5:00 p.m., the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm Volunteer Thank You Dinner will be hosted by St. George City at the Social Hall.

## Wednesday, February 16

Dixie State College paleontologist Dr. Jerry Harris will present programs on paleontology at local schools.

At 7:00 p.m., Dr. Harris will present, "Jurassic Park—Fact and Fiction" free to the public. This lecture will be held at the Dunford Auditorium at Dixie State College.

## Thursday, February 17

Dixie State College will host Evans and Sutherland's new Digistar 3 state-of-the-art video system with two amazing shows depicting science and imagination. Shows will be held at several sites and times Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

At 4:00 p.m., Washington County School District Superintendent, Max Rose, will present "Dinosaur Book Look" at the County Library. Children must pre-register at their school or library to participate. Prizes will be given to all children who give an oral review of a favorite dinosaur book.

A Children's Paleo Art Exhibit will be on display at the Washington County Library.

## Friday, February 18

Dr. James Kirkland, Utah's state paleontologist, will invite student participation in his fascinating workshops at local schools.

At 5:00 p.m., Dr. Jerry Harris and Dr. James Kirkland will chair, "Bringing Them Back Alive", a presentation of Dino Days computer graphics competition winners. Original 3-D images and paleo animation images will be projected on a big screen.

## Saturday, February 19

At 10:00 a.m. at the St. George Opera House, Dr. Kirkland and Dr. Harris will host "Dino Facts Attack" for area students.

At 2:00 p.m., the grand opening for the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm will be held. This event will be held at the newly constructed facility located at 2180 Riverside Drive.

After the St. George Dinosaur Discovery Site at Johnson Farm is completed, admission prices will be as follows: \$2.00 for adults, \$1.00 for children ages 3 to 12, and children under 3 and local school groups will be admitted free of charge. Groups of 10 or more will receive a discount.

For more information on the Dinosaur Discovery Site or Dino Days in Dixie, please call 435-574-DINO.



## ST. GEORGE HERITAGE DAYS

Make plans now to join us for the exciting Heritage Days activities.

January 14-15, 2005

A Traditions Fair, Root Beer Floats with the Mayor, Free Family Swim at Sand Hollow Aquatic Center, and a Performance by The Southern Utah Heritage Choir.



# St. George, Utah, Tree City U.S.A.

have the best community for all those who live here and for the many generations to come.

Five years ago, the Shade Tree Board recognized the need for an affordable, quality green conference to promote the efficient use of water and plants in landscape design and management. At this year's green conference, speakers will cover subjects on turf, plant species, tree, and plant care and design. The conference will also feature displays of the latest equipment and supplies. Arborists and pesticide continuing education units are available for the professional.

**T**he City of St. George was recently recognized for its outstanding forestry program by the Utah Community Forestry Council, and received the International Society of Arboriculture Community of the Year Award for its comprehensive forestry program.

The city has worked hard to insure that we are keeping the community liveable, shaded, and aesthetically pleasing. Many things have contributed to St. George being selected as the community of the year. Our community has been planting trees for more than 100 years. The pioneers understood that shade in Utah's Dixie was a must if the community was to survive the hot summer months. Some of the earliest photos show commitment to planting and caring for trees. This tradition has been carried on and is still in place today. The city planted a tree farm at the St. George City Wastewater Treatment Plant ten years ago, and has been growing trees for use in our parks and right of ways. More than 400 trees are planted and harvested each year, saving the city thousands of dollars. The Tree City USA award from the National Arbor Day Foundation has been awarded to the City of St. George for 13 consecutive years. This award shows the commitment the city has to its urban forest.

The City of St. George, in cooperation with its Shade Tree Board, recently published the second edition of the Southern Utah Guide to Trees for public use. These full-color booklets are available at various St. George City offices, the chamber of commerce, and businesses around town. The Shade Tree Board consists of volunteers from a cross section of the community with a commitment to educate the public and to protect and plant trees within the city limits.

The Shade Tree Board also recognizes businesses and developments each year with the beatification awards for those who have done an outstanding job on the landscaping and beatification of their property. The City of St. George's goal is to insure that we

## 2005 The Southern Utah Green Conference "Efficient Use of Water & Land by Design" January 10-12, 2005

### Pre-Conference Tours—Landscapes of Southern Utah

Monday, January 10th. Meet at the St. George Holiday Inn at 8:00 a.m. \$40.00 (Includes Lunch)

### Pre-Conference Golf Tournament

Monday, January 10th, St. George Golf Club,  
Tee Times 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
Call 435/634-5854 to Reserve Tee Times  
\$40.00 Per Player (Includes Lunch)

### Green Conference

Tuesday, January 11th and Wednesday, January 12th  
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day  
St. George Holiday Inn, 850 South Bluff Street  
\$60.00 Per Person (Includes Lunch on Wednesday)

Make checks payable to City of St. George and send to the following address:

City of St. George  
Attn: Parks Division  
390 North 3050 East  
St. George, Utah 84790

For more information, contact Doug Wulfenstein, City Forester, at 435-634-5869.



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Photography, Printmaking, Sculptures, Wearable Art, Wood*

**March 25-26, 2005**





# Message from Mayor Dan McArthur



This time of year causes me to reflect on the accomplishments of the past and to look to the possibilities of the future. In retrospect, I am amazed at the way those who have been involved in the planning processes and implementation of those plans were so forward thinking. Planning for tomorrow goes back to Brigham Young and those first settlers who came into this valley and set up a city that would in time become as author and poet Charles Walker put it, "a place that

everyone admires".

We stand on the shoulders of giants and thank them for the vision they had in making St. George a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

On January 17th, we will once again celebrate St George's Birthday. It will have been 143 years since the territorial legislature granted us our charter. We invite everyone in the community to celebrate with us on Saturday the 15th of January at noon at the Social Hall on Pioneer Square. The city council, city manager, and I will dish up free root beer floats and cookies to celebrate the occasion.

It was tough then, in the 1860s, when this was a forbidden place and people didn't want to come here. While we have it easy in comparison, it is tough now as we are experiencing just the opposite with the challenges associated with unprecedented growth in the St. George area. Like those who paved the way for us, we, as mayor and city council, want to contribute to the betterment of this great city.

The many transportation projects either completed, underway, or in the planning stages will improve our situation. Continued work on water and power projects are top priorities and are moving forward. We are trying harder to communicate with the citizens of St. George through visual, verbal, and printed matter. The reconstruction of St. George Boulevard, emphasis on our downtown redevelopment, construction of a central city plaza coupled with the new state-of-the-art county library, and the Historic Water Walk on Main all make this an exciting time.

I see a bright future for the City of St. George. With each of us being positive and energetic in our deliberations with one another concerning our future, we will continue on the path set by our pioneer ancestors. Enthusiasm is contagious, catch it.

Mayor Dan McArthur

## Contact Information

### Mayor and City Council

Daniel D. McArthur	mcarthur@infowest.com
Rod Orton	rodorton@infowest.com
Suzanne B. Allen	sallen@infowest.com
Larry H. Gardner	jmilarry@infowest.com
Gail Bunker	gbunker@dixie.edu
Robert Whatcott	whatcott@infowest.com

### City Manager

Gary S. Esplin	gesplin@infowest.com
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### City Services

Administration	634-5800
Airport	634-5822
Animal Shelter	634-5829
Building/Planning	674-4206
Business Licenses	674-4240
Community Arts	634-5942
Economic Development	674-4418
Engineering	674-4287
Fire	634-5844
Leisure Services	634-5850
Parks	634-5869
Police	634-5001
Public Information	674-4267
Public Works	674-4287
Recorder	674-4203
Recreation Center/Programs	634-5860
Sand Hollow Aquatic Center	634-5938
Streets	634-5825
Suntran	673-8726
Utilities	634-5800
Water/Energy Emergencies	634-5835
Water/Energy Conservation	674-4213

**For emergencies please call 911**

### City Meetings

#### City Council

Regularly scheduled city council meetings are held on the first and third Thursdays each month starting at 4:00 pm at the City Office Building (175 East 200 North) unless otherwise noticed. Work meeting sessions are held on the second, fourth, and fifth Thursdays at the same location.

#### Planning Commission

Regularly scheduled planning commission meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month starting at 5:00 pm at the St. George City Office Building unless otherwise noticed.

For more information on city services, contact information, and events please visit the city website at

**[www.stgeorgecity.org](http://www.stgeorgecity.org)**