

AGENDA

OF THE GREATER AVENUES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

www.slc-avenues.org

December 2022

Vol. XXVI

Issue 12

Representing the Avenues and
Federal Heights neighborhoods
of Salt Lake City, Utah

Chair's Message by Gwen Springmeyer

The Objectives of the GACC Council are to:

- Provide a forum to discuss issues of mutual concern.
- Establish working groups/committees to facilitate issue resolution.
- Promote activities that enhance and enrich the community, and make improvements to the community to protect the unique character of the Avenues.
- Provide and expand communication links with governmental, civic and community organizations.
- Provide benefit to the broader Avenues Community with the use of GACC funds.



At the January 2022 meeting, the board set the 2022 Priority Topics. These were the items of concern and issues we felt should be discussed during the year. We wanted to focus on climate change with attention to air quality, water, drought, conservation, and xeriscaping. The board wanted to learn more about Salt Lake City's Public Lands, focusing on parks, our urban forest, and what the City had planned for our trails and foothills. The board wanted to help the community prepare for emergencies, so we aimed to learn more about wildfire preparedness and CERT. Board members were concerned about transportation, including traffic, buses, pedestrian safety, and the City's Transportation Master Plan. We were worried about LDS Hospital's long-term plans. The board wanted to ensure we were reaching out to encourage broad community engagement and involvement in the election process. During 2022 we had newsletter articles and public meeting presentations on all these topics. In addition, we have reviewed numerous zoning issues and Public Utilities construction projects.

In addition to the public meetings and the newsletters, the GACC has 16 standing committees managed by both board members and non-board members.

1. Avenues Athletic League
2. Avenues Community Choir
3. Avenues Grants
4. Bylaws and Standard Operating Procedures
5. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
6. Finance
7. Land Use/Housing
8. Memory Grove Clean Up
9. Memory Grove Foundation
10. Nominating
11. Orange Crossing Flags
12. Popperton Plots Community Garden
13. Street Fair
14. Urban Forestry
15. Website Management
16. Wildfire Preparedness

GACC in Person and Virtual Meeting December 7th, 2022

6:00 to 6:10 **2023 Budget - Michael Hughes**

6:10 to 6:15 **CERT - Carleton DeTar**

6:15 to 7:00 **Community Reports: Fire,
Police, Legislature, City Council, SLC**

**School Board, Mayor's Office, Public Land,
Transportation, Library, LDS Hospital**

7:00 to 7:10 **Open Forum**

7:10 to 7:50 **Holiday Party!**

7:50 to 8:00 **Clean Up and Adjourn**

The GACC December 7th Community Meeting will be a hybrid. Meet in person at the Sweet Library, 455 F Street, or join with Zoom. We will post the Zoom Meeting Link and Password at <http://slc-avenues.org/> at 5:00 pm on December 7th

The GACC sends representatives to the City Creek Water Treatment Plant Advisory Board; the Friends of the Cemetery Board; the I Street Bike Park Stakeholder Working Group; Parks, Natural Lands, Urban Forest, and Trails Advisory Board; and the Transportation Advisory Board.

It is my assessment the GACC Board met its objectives in 2022. We provided a forum and discussed issues of concern. Our committees worked to resolve issues and create events to enhance and enrich the community. We worked closely with our local governments and other community organizations. And early in 2023, we will announce our new Avenues Grants program to use GACC funds to benefit the community.

The 2023 GACC Board has new leadership and 31 members. That is a large board, but there is a lot to do. Please review the committee list and consider joining us in our efforts to improve the community. We will welcome you as a contributing committee member. We also look forward to seeing you at our monthly community meetings and the 2023 Street Fair.

It is time to celebrate our 2022 achievements. Our December 7 Community Meeting will have a few reports from our board and the community representatives, and then we will enjoy a Holiday Party. Our meeting is hybrid, but please consider joining us at the Library. How joyful it will be to chat directly with our neighbors!

the AVENUES

GACC Community Meeting - Hybrid

GACC in Person and Virtual Meeting **December 7th, 2022**, Sweet Library, all are welcome. Go to <https://slc-avenues.org/> at 5:00 pm on December 7th for the Zoom meeting ID and password. For special accommodations, contact GACC Chair Gwen Springmeyer at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org.

GACC Board Meeting - Hybrid

December 14th at 6:00 pm, Sweet Library. All are welcome. If you wish to participate or for special accommodations, contact GACC Chair Gwen Springmeyer. at gaccchair@slc-avenues.org.



Community Resources

Sweet Library www.slcl.org/ 801-594-8651

All locations: Sat, Dec. 24th close at 1:00 pm.

Sun, Dec 25th Closed for Christmas

Monday, Dec 26th, closed for Christmas

Kids Calendar

Book Baby storytime. Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am

Preschool Storytime. Thursday mornings at 10:30 am

Playtime. Friday mornings at 10 am - noon

Countdown to Noon Sat. Dec 31 at 11:30 am. Kids and families can ring in the new year and still get a good night's sleep! We'll be counting down to 2023 at Noon during this one-of-a-kind New Year's Eve celebration.

Teen Calendar

Dungeons & Dragons for Beginners (10 years old and up) A friendly introduction to Dungeons & Dragons for first-timers, led by an experienced player. Held on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 6:00pm - 8:00pm.

Adult Calendar

Art Exhibit: Stop by the Sweet Branch for a new art exhibit titled **Story-filled Landscapes, Scenes and Figures**. Artwork by Bernard Simbari. This exhibit runs through January 7, 2023.

Neighborhood Avenues Exercise Class.

Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 9:40 a.m. FREE!

Everyone Welcome! Contact Jan Root for our current location and for any questions at 801-455-2082, janroot@xmission.com.

The Agenda

December 2022, Volume XXVI, Issue 12

Publisher's Statement

This Greater Avenues Community Council newsletter "The Agenda" is mailed free each month to all residences in the Avenues. This publication is to conduct the business of the Greater Avenues Community Council.

Mail correspondence to P.O. Box 1679, Salt Lake City, UT 84110.

GACC 2022 Officers and Publisher Contacts:

Chair: Gwen Springmeyer, gaccchair@slc-avenues.org

Chair-Elect: Merrilee Morgan, gaccchairelect@slc-avenues.org

Secretary: Merrilee Morgan, gaccsecretary@slc-avenues.org

Treasurer: Michael Hughes, gacctreasurer@slc-avenues.org

Newsletter Editor: Martina Nesi, newsletter@slc-avenues.org

The GACC web page is www.slc-avenues.org

Valuable Contact Information

Law Enforcement/Crisis Lines:

Crime in Progress 9-1-1

Police Non-Emergency 801-799-3000

Detective Marie Stewart 801-799-3012

Domestic Violence Hotline 801-799-3756

Suicide and Crisis Lifeline 9-8-8

Drug Hotline 801-799-3784

Gang Hotline 801-799-GANG

Traffic Complaint Hotline 801-799-3311

Fire Department:

Fire or Health Emergency 9-1-1

Non-Emergency 801-799-3473

City:

Bulk Waste Removal 801-535-6953

City Council 801-535-7600

Garbage Cans 801-535-6999

Graffiti Removal 801-972-7885

Homeless Outreach Services 801-799-3035

Housing/Zoning Enforcement 801-535-7225

Mayor Office 801-535-7704

Noise Complaints 801-799-3000

Parking Enforcement 801-535-6628

Snow Removal Complaints 801-535-2345

Street Lighting 801-483-6738

Urban Forestry 801-972-7818

Water Conservation 801-483-6860

County:

Animal Services 385-468-7387

Health Department 385-468-4100

Household Hazardous Waste 385-468-3862

Transient Camp Clean-up 385-468-4100

Community:

Adult Protection Services 801-538-3567

Child Protection Services 801-488-2620

Community Resource 2-1-1

Legal Aid 801-328-8849

Urban Wildlife Assistance 385-419-3405

UTA rideuta.com or 801-743-3882

GACC

Website www.slc-avenues.org

Orange Crossing Flags 801-201-3415

Street Fair avenuesstreetfair.org

Urban Forestry goldenpeach36@gmail.com

Wildfire Info AvenuesWildfireLiaison@comcast.net

The Salt Lake City Trails Alliance stands for Trails For Everyone and believes an improved and well-planned network of foothills trails that accommodates the needs of all users improves the quality of life and helps make Salt Lake City a unique and attractive 'world-class city'. Contact: Ashley Patterson slctrailsalliance@gmail.com, or visit these web pages <https://slctrailsalliance.org/>, <https://www.facebook.com/slctrailsalliance>, or <https://www.instagram.com/slctrailsalliance/>.

Save Our Foothills Save Our Foothills is a conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of the Foothills natural lands adjacent to Salt Lake City. We are committed to saving the environmental integrity of these fragile public lands for future generations. Balancing Environmental Protection with Respectful Use—working together for conservation. [@save our foothills](http://www.slcfoothills.org).

Tenth East Senior Center at 237 S 1000 E is the closest Senior Center to GACC. Hours are M-F, 7 am-4 pm with lunch 11:30-12:15 (closed 12/26). Call 385 468-3140 with questions or to make reservations. Plenty of parking in the rear; enter on the north side. Special events for December and January; please make reservations: Holiday Meal and Dancing 12/16. New card game 1/18, and starting 1/11/23: Reader's Digest Book Club with the book included. More fun at slco.org/tenth-east-senior-center Call 385-468-3140

Free Yoga Class Open to All. Tuesday and Thursday 8:30-9:30 AM, LDS Chapel 135 A Street. Bring your own mat and a strap if you have one. Questions, Barbara Cramer 801-355-1856.

Marvelous City Creek Canyon

By Maria Goller

Mere steps from downtown Salt Lake City lies City Creek Canyon, a seemingly small, unassuming canyon that I have visited more than 1,000 times. Why do I keep returning there when there are so many other options? The answer is simple. City Creek happens to be a marvelous place brimming with incredible wildlife and landscapes.



One day, at noon, by mile marker 1.5, on that small hill, bold as the heat in a Thai curry, a bobcat stared at me with a grouse hanging from his mouth. Another time, summer, afternoon sun barely peeking out between remnants of a storm front, I watched a mink fishing in the creek like a glossy black eel moving through the shallows. I met a cougar there, once, a powerful, elegant creature whose silent strength will always remain solid in a wave of translucent memories. Large and long-legged tarantulas traipse across the trail and road in the fall, hunting for mates, and I carry them out of danger, knowing they will be as gentle and relaxed as I am with them. Two baby raccoons once scrambled up a tree in front of me, hissing and squeaking in a frightened attempt to intimidate me, making me hurry on my way. For a while I recorded the songs of dippers along City Creek. Gray-brown and plump, dippers are one of the few songbirds that dive underwater. While most dippers have disappeared from the area, you can still sometimes find their bubbling, endless song riding the sound of the creek to your ears.

I have always found beauty and tranquility in City Creek Canyon. Quite obviously, the gambel oak and maple hillsides pop with color in the fall and the creek becomes dotted with yellow, orange, and red. In the winter, especially after a fresh snowfall, the canyon transforms into something else entirely. Ethereal and sparkly, the white reflecting thousands of tiny stars. Or, when the trees drip with melting snow, and the entire world is bursting with the scent of SPRING, a smell both universal and indescribable. So go, as soon as you can, and experience the wonder. Drink it in and forget your "real world" stress and worry. This canyon can heal us all.

Greater Avenues Community Council 2023 Officers

Chair 2023: Merrilee Morgan



I have lived in the Avenues with my husband, Kevin nearly 30 years. You may frequently see us walking our dogs along 11th Avenue, riding bikes in City Creek, and hiking in the foothills. One of my favorite things about living in the Avenues is the history, the diverse community, and the views of the Salt Lake Valley. I have been involved with the GACC going on 4 years now. My first year I was a silent participant. The second year I was the Urban Forestry Chair, and this year I served as the Secretary and Chair-Elect. I look forward to getting to know more of the Avenues residents.

Chair-Elect: Joseph (Jurphy) Murphy



I got involved with the GACC by volunteering at the Street Fair in 2021. I enjoyed the sense of community and serving with civic-minded individuals so much that I joined the board in 2022. I serve on the Street Fair, Avenues Grants, Website Management, and Bylaws Committees. I am now looking forward to this new leadership role. Outside the GACC, I work at an engineering firm and am involved in LGBTQ community outreach. I recently purchased my first house on the Avenues, and I consider this home.

Treasurer: Michael Hughes



Jennifer and I married and moved into our 1880s Avenues historic home in 1999. We both joined the GACC board the same year, and I have been actively involved since then. I served as GACC Chair in 2007 and Treasurer since 2010. I help with the

GACC Webpage, Community Garden, Street Fair, Avenues Grants and Housing Committee. I enjoy working with the First Presbyterian Church Scout Troop and Friends of the Salt Lake City Cemetery. I work professionally with Phil Carroll as CFO of Community Housing Services Inc.

Secretary: Jim Jenkin



My wife, Yvonne, and I bought our first Avenues home in 1991 when we moved here to support the UUHC Bone Marrow Transplant Program. In 2011, the program and my family moved to Kansas City, Missouri, where we stayed until my retirement in 2021. We returned to SLC and are now in our second Avenues home. I have been active in GACC for years, primarily in land use and transportation, serving 2 terms on the City's Transportation Advisory Committee, I was GACC Chair in 2011. I attended the Citizen's Police Academy, where I was the only participant to help in police dog training. I am also proud to be a founding parent of the Salt Lake Arts Academy.

Past Chair: Gwen Springmeyer



I first attended a GACC meeting in the mid-1970s when I moved to the Avenues. I joined the board in 2008 when I recognized how central the organization could be to the quality of life on the Avenues. I love working on the Street Fair Committee each year, and I am currently excited about our new Avenues Grants program. I served as the GACC chair during 2013 and again in 2022. I look forward to supporting the new board in 2023. I live with my husband Bob on 4th Avenue and spend my time with my 18 month old grandson.

Air Quality – Shared Air by Jill Van Langeveld

In the Summer 2022 issue of *University of Utah Magazine* an article caught my eye: “Shared Air” with a photo of West High School. Hmm - air and schools - interesting topics.

It was about a study, conducted in 2018 by the Salt Lake County Health Department and the University of Utah, which was finally approved and published in March 2022 in the journal *Pollutants*. Daniel Mendozze, the lead study author and an adjunct assistant professor in the pulmonary division, School of Medicine, said that this study is a part of a series of studies to “better understand the factors impacting indoor air quality and how protective indoor environments are from poor outdoor air quality.”

The team installed two research-grade air quality sensors, one outdoors and one indoors, at both West and East High Schools. The sensors reported hourly readings between February 8 and April 30, 2018, which included a two-day temperature inversion as well as a dust storm. The sensors specifically looked for particulate matter in the air.

Changes in outdoor air quality showed up indoors, but with a lag time of 35 to 70 minutes, depending on the type of air pollution event.

The building’s filtration offered some protection. While outdoor particulate matter soared to nearly 50 micrograms per cubic meter (unhealthy for sensitive groups), indoor levels peaked at around 20 micrograms per cubic meter (moderate air quality). In 2018, the schools were using MERV8 filters, which capture about 85% of particles. Since then, the schools have upgraded to MERV13 and MERV14 filters, which is roughly comparable to upgrading from a surgical mask to an N95. The good news from this study is that schools were fairly protective overall. It is interesting, because of the variability in ventilation and filtration in homes, schools may have the safer air. To see the full study:

<https://www.mdpi.com/2673-4672/2/1/9/htm>

Do you know what a MERV rating is? The Minimum Efficiency Reporting Values shows a filter’s ability to capture larger particles between .3 and 10 microns. This value is helpful in comparing the performance of different filters. The higher the MERV rating the better the filter is at trapping specific types of particles. The HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate Air) filter can theoretically remove at least 99.97% of dust, pollen, mold, bacteria, and any airborne particles with a size of 0.3 microns. I don’t have room here so to learn more about filters check out this website: <https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/what-merv-rating>.

What kind of filters do you have with your HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air-Conditioning) system? I used to think that “a filter was a filter” so I looked for the cheapest one. The filters would get very dusty because I would only change them every six months. It is important to change our filters at least once every 3 months. Those with asthma and/or allergies are more sensitive to airborne particles so change your filters more often. Remember *Temperature Inversion Season* is coming soon and it will be seeping inside your house 35 to 70 minutes after it reaches the outside of your house. We need to do whatever we can to make breathing easier both inside and outside.

GACC CERT Committee by Carleton DeTar

“CERT” stands for Community Emergency Response Team. CERT is a national program that trains volunteer neighborhood teams to serve as first responders in the event of a disaster, such as a major earthquake or severe storm, that overwhelms professional first responders. Training for CERT in Salt Lake City is arranged by the Office of Emergency Management and provided by the SLC Fire Department. The seven three-hour classes cover family emergency preparedness, disaster triage, emergency medical treatment, small fire suppression, light search and rescue, and team organization and psychology. There is a strong hands-on component.

Learn more at <https://www.slc.gov/em/cert/>

The GACC has a standing CERT Committee, which is reviving after a pandemic pause. Its purpose is to educate our Avenues neighbors about emergency preparedness, to encourage residents to train with CERT and form neighborhood teams, and to organize occasional CERT drills. Public education activities include occasional emergency preparedness fairs and an informational booth at the annual Avenues Street Fair. We are looking to add a few committee members. If you are interested, please contact Carleton DeTar (detar@physics.utah.edu).

Don’t Miss Avenues Community Choir Concert on December 22nd



After a two year hiatus, the Salt Lake Avenues Community Choir (SLACC) eagerly returns to Libby Gardner Concert Hall at the University of Utah on December 22, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. for its 7th Annual Holiday Concert. Peggy de Azevedo, Artistic Director, has designed a joyful

and unifying performance appropriate for all ages that will include both choral and instrumental music and a visit from Santa Claus. In particular, the 100-singer choir will perform 11 pieces of seasonal choral music covering both secular and sacred themes.

Admission is free and all are welcome, but seating is limited — the previous six concerts attracted standing-room-only audiences. The doors will open at 7:00 p.m. and the concert will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m.

SLACC is a non-denominational, volunteer organization operating as an official committee of the Greater Avenues Community Council (GACC). Our mission is to increase unity in the Greater Avenues community, celebrate the rich diversity in our neighborhoods, and bridge cultural and political divides through the unifying power of music. We are funded entirely through individual charitable donations and institutional support including the Salt Lake County Zoo, Arts & Parks (ZAP) Program.

Visit us at www.avenueschoir.org.

Draft Concept for Virginia Street Reconstruction by Kyle Irvin

Salt Lake City will be reconstructing Virginia Street from South Temple to 11th Avenue in 2024, and the Transportation Division has prepared a draft design concept. We encourage you to visit the webpage at www.slc.gov/mystreet/virginia to review the draft concept and leave your comments. The comment period will close in a few weeks, so please plan to get us your comments before Santa arrives.

Earlier in the year you provided us your comments and ideas regarding the existing state of Virginia Street. We used your comments and ideas in our planning process to develop design solutions that are feasible within the context of the road. Key components of the draft concept include continuous sidewalks on the west side, uphill bike lanes, traffic calming elements, improved bus stops, and intersection improvements.

The next step of the project will be to review your comments and use them as we finalize the concept in the beginning of 2023. We will then work with our colleagues in the Engineering Division to develop construction plans. Construction is expected in 2024. Please feel free to email us at VirginiaStreet@slcgov.com if you have questions. Kyle Irvin - Transportation Planner, Salt Lake City Transportation Division - Email: kyle.irvin@slcgov.com

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GACC Hybrid Meeting! **December 7th** **Sweet Library - 6:00 pm**

Go to <https://slc-avenues.org/>
at 5:00 pm on December 7th

This publication, **The Agenda** is the monthly newsletter of the Greater Avenues Community Council, and is mailed free to all residents.
December 2022, Volume XXVI, Issue 12.

Important dated material. Please deliver
in-home by November 30th.

Ask Shannon Battery Recycling Tip

Used batteries made from lithium are considered hazardous waste. Do not put them in the trash. Home Depot and Lowe's accept used lithium batteries. Alkaline batteries, designed to be used once, aren't quite as dangerous but should still be recycled. You can store used batteries until collection events in a secure container, such as a clear plastic upcycled bottle that keeps them lined up side-by-side, so the contact points can't touch each other or brush up against anything metallic or conductive to create a spark and potential fire. Alternatively, tape over the ends to prevent contact with other battery ends. The Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHaRM) has periodic collection events <https://utahrecyclingalliance.org/charms/>.

For questions on recycling, ways to reduce household waste, or clarification on this topic, please contact shannonbmacmillan@gmail.com.

Wildfire Tip by Shane Carlson

Now is the time of year when we usually welcome the end of "wildfire season." Unfortunately, due to the ongoing "megadrought," the 84103 zip code was rated as experiencing an extreme drought for the week of 11/8/22 (<https://www.drought.gov/states/utah>). High wind events and dry fuels are now a year-round reason for caution.

Although we must be aware of fire risk all year, the relatively low-risk period from December through March is a great time to plan and prepare. Whenever you modify the exterior of your home, think about how to improve the structure's resistance to fire. If you're replacing a roof and/or vented soffits, installing eave and attic vent mesh or screens (with no openings larger than 0.25 inches) protects against one of the most common causes of structural damage - windblown embers.

GACC Member Spotlight: Robyn Christensen



Robyn Christensen is a member of the GACC Board and also serves on the Avenues Street Fair, Housing & Land Use, and Nominating Committees. She represents the Eastern Avenues and is always happy to hear from you. Robyn loves living in the Avenues and hopes to be here forever. She loves the gorgeous tree-lined streets, the character of the neighborhood, and all the wonderful people. Robyn works as a full-time realtor

and enjoys the arts, good conversation, learning new things, and being in our beautiful outdoors.

Environmental Tip by Tom Brooks

Setback/Smart Thermostats! Winter is here, and "Baby, It's cold outside!" Renters, landlords, and homeowners can save a lot of money by implementing Smart Thermostats. The ROI, Return On Investment, can start in as little as one month. And most people can DIY, Do It Yourself.

New models use 'Presence/Habit Sensing Tech.' It automatically switches your system off and on as needed. Most people sleep better with cooler temps and then wake up to a perfect environment. Wearing warm clothes and a hat can also keep heating dollars in your pocket in the winter. Save Money while Saving Our Planet. Everyone Wins!

Feedback or ideas? Email Tom Brooks: cooper.brooks@gmail.com

Urban Forestry by Elyse Goldstein

The Urban Forestry Subcommittee spent this summer talking with our neighbors about watering techniques for the drought in Utah and the importance of a green canopy. Since our future climate is expected to warm, the importance of watering our trees cannot be overstated. The green canopy created by trees can decrease urban area temperatures by up to 20 degrees. We distributed flyers with information about watering and details about how to obtain a tree from the City for a parking strip.

<https://www.slc.gov/parks/urban-forestry/urban-forestry-services/>