

From: Eric Duthie, Hildale City Manager
To: Hildale City Council; Hildale City Mayor
Date: February 8, 2023
Subject: Second annual city event

As a goal set by City Council in 2022, a second annual city event is desired. The first annual event was the Community Christmas Tree Lighting in 2021, improved in 2022. However, after much discussion, brainstorming, consideration, and thought, we still have not formally established a second event.

During the recent “What’s Up Down South Economic Summit” in St. George last week, Mayor Jessop presented a brief overview of Hildales status and future opportunities. The following is an excerpt from that presentation which will, hopefully, spur our decision for a second annual event.

“We take pride in the slogan “Welcome Home”, and we show it by hosting many events in our city, such as:

- 1. The annual Public/Private Regional Partnership luncheon attended by more than 60 decision makers in the region.*
- 2. The Hildale Day of Hope of community support and encouragement.*
- 3. Several cultural arts event with nationally and internationally recognized performers.*
- 4. A Mother’s Day Flag raising and community breakfast.*
- 5. Independence Day activities with Colorado City.*
- 6. A Veteran’ Day Flag Raising.*
- 7. An annual Christmas Tree Lighting with a new location and community donations of the new mechanical tree.”*

The full text of the presentation, and Mayor Jessop’s personal introduction of Governor Cox is on page two.

Mayor Jessop presentation and Governor introduction
February 1, 2023

Hildale has undergone a seismic shift in community, politics, private property ownership, inclusivity, outreach, and cooperation over the last several years. 2022 was no exception and 2023 appears brighter than ever. We take pride in the slogan “Welcome Home”, and we show it by hosting many events in our city, such as the annual Public/Private Regional Partnership luncheon attended by more than 60 decision makers in the region; the Hildale Day of Hope of community support and encouragement; Several cultural arts event with nationally and internationally recognized performers; A Mother’s Day Flag raising and community breakfast; Independence Day activities with Colorado City; A Veteran’ Day Flag Raising; a Renaissance Fair in the fall; and an annual Christmas Tree Lighting with a new location and community donations of the new mechanical tree.

Hildale businesses are strong and growing. Some of these businesses are more than just locally recognized, such as Finney Farms, Water Canyon Winery. Camping, Glamping, Hiking, Leisure Resorts, and outdoor recreation areas are excellent.

Balance of Nature warehousing production facility came to town a few years ago and Plus One Companies have broken ground on a new multi-million-dollar facility. Entrepreneurship is a common quality amongst our residents, and we have recently been awarded a Grant from the Utah Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity to establish an Innovation Center and entrepreneurial incubator with fully prepared, state of the art, Plug and Play office rentals; A prototype creation area with a 3D printer and fabricating equipment; a training and business education center, as well as tourist information.

Free market land is now available within the city, as our boundaries were extended to the west by almost 2 miles. This provides greater opportunity for housing and commercial development.

We are especially grateful for the strong support from our educational partners Washington County School District’s investment of millions into Water Canyon Schools; Mohave Community College satellite campus as a steadfast presence in our communities for secondary education and skills development; Utah Tech for opening a dual enrollment center at Water Canyon High School; and Dixie Tech and Southern Utah University for becoming regional partners.

Our message of hope for 2023 is simple:

We’ve learned from where we’ve been, Love where we are, and look forward to where we’re going.
We all will do great things together!

With that.... It is my sincere honor to introduce to you the man who 5 years ago as Lieutenant Governor assisted in Hildale’s first democratic election through education, mentorship, and support. As Governor he has been first at the table to help our community whether it be attending our first high school graduation or supporting our most recent economic development vision. He has continued reaching out and supporting us all in the State of Utah to be a place we are all proud to call “home” my friend, Gov Spencer Cox.