

## **Executive Director Dialogue**

July 24, 2013 will mark 166 years since the early pioneer settlers of Utah entered the Salt Lake City valley in 1847. Upon arrival; most of us are familiar with Brigham Young's words, the first Territorial Governor of Utah, "This is the place" etched in stone at the state monument located in Emigration Canyon. Shortly thereafter an organizational development happened that continued to spread through Utah.

Some examples from southern Utah are the early settlements of Parowan (City) on January 13, 1851 and later followed by the "Dixie Cotton Mission" with 309 families tasked to settle the area in 1861. I often reflect on the words, "This is the place" and add my own followup rhetorical question, and --what have you done behind Brigham Young's words, and I can't help but reflect throughout the Five County area and answer; there are transportation roads, rail lines, airports, that allow all us to travel year around. Moreover, there are reservoirs that have developed water that sustain life and irrigate fields and gardens, not to forget allowing for recreation. In the Five County area; there are multiple recreational opportunities and organized events, from skiing to hiking, etc. The National Parks attract international, national, and statewide visitors each year. Of course commerce in the Five County area contributes to our standard of living.

There are counties, cities and towns that are diligent in maximizing public resources to improve the quality of life in the area, in addition to each county school district that works to improve the quality of education in southern Utah. Higher education is present with Southern Utah University and Dixie State University that allow students to advance in their learning.

The last 2010 census apportioned Utah with another congressional representative to add another voice in Congress to ensure further representation at the nation's Capitol. Moreover, reapportionment also added another State House Representative in southern Utah as well.

Finally, I can't help but acknowledge the 100 year anniversary of Intermountain Health Care and the medical services that reach into Beaver, Garfield, Kane, Iron and Washington Counties. This newsletter will give you a flavor of the small role that we have in this area we call Utah. (Bryan Thiriot)

### Google Transit App Launched for SunTran

The Five County AOG Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) has partnered with SunTran and Google to launch a transit application on Google Maps. The app functions similar to the Google Maps directions application for driving and is accessed from the same website. Google transit gives riders clear directions, with distance to stops, amount of time on each bus, number of stops and transfers. Riders may also customize their route by simply inputting the beginning and ending point of trip (see illustration below). This application, which is accessible from any internet-connected device, eliminates the need to sort through timetables or attempt to interpret the route map.



The TPO took on this project as part of the Mobility Management Program, which aims to increase the service and efficiency of existing transportation systems. Scott Leavitt, CFO and former Mobility Manager and Levi Roberts, Community Planner and Mobility Manager, both worked to implement the project. This included obtaining appropriate SunTran geographic and schedule information and preparing and maintaining the appropriate data for Google. Five County Staff will maintain a continual line of communication with Google and SunTran to assure that the information presented is accurate.

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The app will be very helpful to new residents, visitors of St George, or anyone that is unfamiliar with the bus system and schedule. To use this application, simply visit <u>maps.google.com</u>, enter your beginning and ending location, then click on the small bus logo. For any questions about the application, please contact Levi Roberts at <u>lroberts@fivecounty.utah.gov</u> or 435-673-3548. (Levi Roberts)

# Five County Area Agency on Aging News

Washington County's Gayle M. & Mary Aldred Senior Citizens Center Manager Shanna Bland informed us that the center has broken ground for the construction of a longanticipated pergola patio cover. This patio extension onto the building will allow the center to host barbeques, Tai Chi, Yoga and even square dancing outdoors. The covered patio will also provide additional floor space for many special events held at the center, like the annual "Celebrating Wellness Expo" in March. Completion of the project is expected in the fall when a grand unveiling will take place. The Senior Citizens Center is located at 245 North 200 West in St. George and is open Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The center can be reached by phone at (435) 634-5743.

This past May, local elected officials participated in an activity to become more familiar with an important program in the Five County region. In honor of May's "Older Americans Month", Connie Lloyd, coordinator for the Iron County Council on Aging, which administers the Meals on Wheels program in Iron County, invited several elected officials to help deliver the meals throughout the week.

On May 20, State Representative John Westwood assisted Bonnie Adams, who has been delivering meals twice each week for 10 years. With the regular drivers, State Senator Evan Vickers delivered meals on May 21st. In Parowan, County Commissioners Alma Adams and Dave Miller as well as Parowan City Council member Dennis Gaede delivered meals. The elected officials gained a better understanding of the Meals on Wheels program.

Meals on Wheels in Iron County delivers three days a week in Cedar City and Parowan to people 60 years and older who are homebound and unable to prepare a meal for themselves. Connie Lloyd says that the program does more than deliver a balanced meals to those in need. She says that the driver may be the only face that the elderly person being served sees all day or sometimes all week. In addition to delivering the meals, they also check on the seniors and make sure they are okay and are in good health which helps insure they are getting the support they need. Connie says Meals on Wheels allows seniors to sustain their health so they can remain in their own home for as long as possible.

The Five County Association of Governments facilitated the initial procurement of a fleet of purpose built meals delivery trucks, with taxpayer funding from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development administered by the Utah Housing & Community Development Division.



These trucks have modernized the delivery of meals in a safe and efficient manner to our homebound senior citizens. Each individual county in the five county region owns and maintains its own vehicles.

## Community Impact Board Applications Recently Funded



The Utah Permanent Community Impact Fund Board (CIB) is a program of the state of Utah which provides loans and/or grants to state agencies and subdivisions of the state which are now, or may be socially or economically impacted, directly or indirectly, by mineral resource development on federal lands. The source of the CIB's

funding are the mineral lease royalties returned to the state by the federal government. The CIB considers applications submitted by eligible entities for eligible projects.

To be eligible to be considered for funding, unless a bonafide emergency exists, a project must be included on this region's prioritized CIB capital improvements list for that entity's respective county. Staff at the Five County AOG coordinates the collection, compilation and the process in each county to prioritize each county's list.

The CIB fiscal year runs from July 1 of a given year through June 30 of the following year. The CIB has three application "trimesters" each fiscal year. Applications are due for the first trimester on June 1 with a review meeting for the applicant to appear in front of the Board in July, August or September. Projects that the board selects to fund are funded at a special meeting in October. The second trimester begins with applications due October 1 with review meetings in November, December and January. That trimester is funded at a February funding meeting. The final trimester of the CIB fiscal year starts with applications due February 1 and review meetings in March, April and May. Those are funded at a June funding meeting.

So far in 2013 the CIB has funded the following projects in the Five County Region:

- Henrieville received a grant in the amount of \$75,000 to make an urgent improvement to their culinary water treatment system.
- The Town of Orderville was funded with \$260,000 in loan and grant funding to utilize along with town funds in renovating the old Mt. Carmel Rock Church/Schoolhouse into a fully functional town community center.

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- Beaver City received supplemental loan and grant funding in the amount of \$1,345,000 for additional culinary water system improvements in the City.
- The town of Virgin received \$270,000 in loan and grant funding to renovate and expand the historic meeting house on the town square as a much needed community center.
- The Long Valley Sewer Improvement District received \$2,300,000 in loan and grant funding for sewer system upgrades.
- LaVerkin City received \$547,000 in loan and grant funding to replace deteriorated public underground infrastructure in a lower-income area of the City.
- Panguitch City received \$137,000 in supplemental grant funding towards the completion of a visitor welcome center and park improvements along US 89 at the north entrance into town.
- The Ticaboo Utility Improvement District received a \$600,000 loan for the purchase of electric power generating equipment. The District, which serves the unincorporated Garfield County town of Ticaboo, has the highest electric utility rate in the continental U.S.
- The Southwest Special Service District in Washington County received a loan in the amount of \$568,000 towards the construction of a fire station in the unincorporated community of Winchester Hills which is located on SR 18 about 10 miles north of downtown St. George.

Gary Zabriskie, Community & Economic Development Director at the Five County Association of Governments, is the CIB Regional Planning Program Planner. If you have questions about the Community Impact Board and how it may assist your entity, please contact me at gzabriskie@fivecounty.utah.gov

Information on the CIB program in the five county region, including the current Capital Improvement Lists can be found at this link: www.fivecounty.utah.gov/programs/community/capital.php

That page will also provide a direct link to the state of Utah CIB web site. (Gary Zabriskie)

# Staff Spotlights



Kristen Clark will now be working in two departments... She will still be with Care About Child Care, but will now have the opportunity to work with The Volunteer Center as the Senior Medical Patrol Coordinator, the Senior Health Information Program Coordinator and the Youth Volunteer Corps for Five Counties.

She likes to sing and dance- who knew! She brings laughter and humor to our program! She has been in St. George for three years and is trying to adapt to the heat.

Kristen is excited to be working with the senior generation in the Five County area and bring awareness to Medicare fraud. She is also looking forward to the challenge of increasing the youth volunteer base throughout southern Utah.



Volunteer Center Staff Posing with Macaroni and Cheese Packaged as a Service Project for Needy Families at Volunteer Conference in Washington, D.C. Who Would Have Guessed, Their Team Won by Packaging 100,000 bags in Two Hours!! (Left to right: Carol Hollowell, Janna Roberts, Lynnsi Hayes and Julie Duckett)

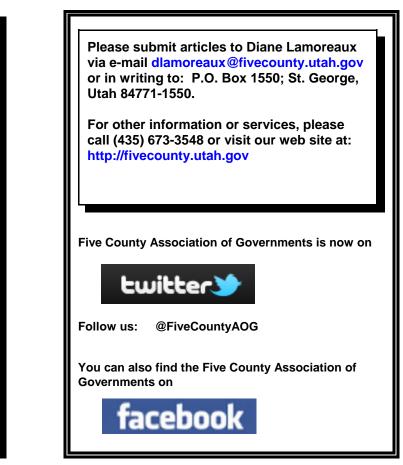
Janna Roberts is a wonderful addition to our Foster Grandparent program. She is the coordinator for the Tooele County program which Five County absorbed in September of 2012. Janna loves being a grandma, teaches yoga, is an avid cycler and loves giving back to hercommunity. Being a Foster Grandparent Coordinator has allowed her to help more in the elementary schools and partner low income seniors with underachieving students. Recently, Janna Roberts, Lynnsi Hayes, Julie Duckett and Carol Hollowell attended the National Senior Corps Volunteer Conference in Washington D.C. for additional training. Welcome Janna Roberts!

Lynnsi Hayes is the new Foster Grandparent Coordinator for Carbon, Emery, Grand and San Juan counties. Lynnsi is a local to Price and loves the area and people. She jumped in immediately to bring Foster Grandparents into all of the rural elementary schools in her counties and has doubled the number of seniors serving. Lynnsi is dedicated in making a difference with students! Lynnsi is a perfectionist in everything she touches. She enjoys the outdoors, loves to travel, will try anything once, and has a great sense of humor. She volunteers in her community and loves being a mom! Welcome Lynnsi. (Carol Hollowell) FY 2014-19 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization Available for 30-Day Review and Public Comment

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and the Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization (DMPO) are seeking public review and comment on the proposed Dixie 2014-19 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The Tip is a six-year program of highway, transit, and other transportation projects for urbanized and metropolitan transportation planning boundary of Washington County. The STIP is a six-year program of statewide projects.

The Dixie TIP and statewide STIP are available Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1070 W. 1600 S., Building B, St. George, UT. The TIP and STIP are also available at the following website: www.dixiempo.org

Comments will be accepted through August 3, 2013.



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