



New Stadium at the Utah State Fair Park

Last week we held a special session and brought resolution to a problem that the legislature has been trying to resolve for many years now--What to do about the Utah State Fair Park?



The problem is that the State Fair, and the State Fair Park, are supposed to be self-sufficient, but every year now for many years, the facility brings in less money than it costs, so every year they come back to the legislature asking for additional money to carry on. The various buildings that are part of the facility keep getting a little older and more run down, and for years various proposals have been floated and then shot down and the legislature chips in one more year worth of money to just get through the year.

So at the special session last week, a plan was brought forward which easily passed the legislature and was signed into law by the Governor.

The plan is to spend \$10 Million of state money together with an additional \$7 Million that has been promised from private donors to build a 10,000 seat stadium on the Fair Park Site. The biggest of the private donors is the LDS Church which would be able to use the stadium for their Days of '47 festival to celebrate Pioneer Day. Unlike some previous scenarios in which a private donor was willing to put in some of their money but wanted to be the owner of the proposed building, with this plan the state of Utah retains ownership of the facility. The larger stadium will allow the State Fair itself to host some larger events, and it is planned that the stadium will be able to be used for other events such as rodeos,

concerts or any other large public gatherings. It is hoped that having some other larger events will give an economic boost to a part of town that has struggled.

I voted to support the plan.

Tour of Utah Coming Back to Town!

Friday August 5th, the Tour of Utah will be back in town.

I bring this up because:

If you like great community events you should come down to the finish line to enjoy seeing your neighbors, seeing what the vendors have for sale, and seeing the short sprint bicycle races for the kids.



Also, if you like great sporting events, you should also come down to the finish line to watch the great show on the large screen televisions that they have set up and to cheer the riders on as they pound their way up Fourth North and come blazing back down.

But.

If what you like is peacefully running errands around town on a Friday afternoon, then I would really, really recommend that you run your errands on Thursday and not set yourself up for bitter frustration.

Many of the roads around town will be blocked off intermittently over the afternoon, and predicting when you will be able to get through is not easy. The race is expected to be over around 3:45 P.M. but the road blockages will be off and on over the couple of hours before that time.

If you would like to see the route map, you can see it [here](#).

As was the case last year, the race organizers could use help from volunteers. Most of the volunteers are needed to staff the racecourse around town (and stop people from running their errands when the racers are close by). If you are able and willing to help out, [please click here to go to the volunteer sign up form](#).

Handcart Days are this week!



Come celebrate Bountiful's heritage this Friday and Saturday.

The city has set up a bunch of great events including:

- * Park activities at Bountiful City Park Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.
- * Fireworks 10:00 P.M Friday night from Mueller Park Jr. High.
- * Handcart Days races Saturday morning (1K, 5K, and Half Marathon). Not too late to [sign up](#).
- * Instead of historic tours around town this year, the Bountiful Historic Society has organized tours of Stoker School. 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M on Saturday. If you (or your parent or grandparent or great grandparent) went to Stoker, you should come take a tour, as the building may sadly not be standing much longer.
- * Chuckwagon Breakfast at the Bountiful City Park 7:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. hosted by the Bountiful Exchange Club and the Bountiful City Youth Council.
- * And (best of all) the Handcart Days Parade along Main Street starting at 6:00 P.M. Friday evening. I have over 200 pounds of my favorite flavors of taffy sitting in my kitchen that I am hoping to throw out to you along the parade route. If you are on the fence about coming, I will try to persuade you by disclosing that the taffy flavors we have available to throw are Pear, Watermelon, Blue Raspberry, Huckleberry, OrangeCream, Peppermint, Raspberry/Peach and S'mores.

Hope to see you there!

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