XX. CITY FACILITIES & ESSENTIAL SERVICES

One of our guiding principles is to provide reliable essential services to the residents of Ivins. Public Safety (Police, Fire/EMS) is a primary responsibility of the City. (see Chapter __). Others include water, sewer, storm drains, road maintenance, and communications. Together, they form the backbone of the city's infrastructure.



Water, sewer and storm drains are operated through the Enterprise Fund portion of the city budget and road maintenance is managed through the city's General Fund.

Ivins City Hall, a beautiful building located at 85N Main Street, was completed in 2012 and designed to accommodate expansion as we grow. It has won several awards and accolades for its unique design. The building design mirrors its exquisite surroundings, including a mountain-colored rammed earth wall, which was created in part from soil provided by the residents. Additionally, the design incorporated efficiencies in specific areas, including Net Zero solar power and xeriscaping. The prior city hall was repurposed for law enforcement.

The Ivins City Council consists of five members plus the mayor. The city employs a dedicated team of full-time and part-time employees in various departments such as administration, public works, parks, and recreation, planning, and zoning to serve the residents of Ivins. The city manager leads these departments. In addition to these city employees, numerous residents volunteer on various commissions and advisory boards.

Ivins partners with other public service providers for additional services, including:

- Republic Services is the provider for the collection of all solid waste and recyclable materials (except glass). Bins for recyclables, including glass, are located on Red Mountain Blvd. The City also provides a monthly dumping location at 450 North 100 West for green waste and overfill of non-construction debris for standard-size waste cans. This excludes appliances and home furnishings.
- Rocky Mountain Power provides electric utility service.
- Dominion Energy provides natural gas.
- Internet/Communications are provided by several companies.
- Water is provided through the Washington County Water Conservancy District and the Ivins/Santa Clara Irrigation District with only minimal water rights owned by the city. (See Chapter __ on Water.)

- Schools include Red Mountain Elementary School, operated by the Washington County School District, where most Ivins children attend. Additionally, the City is home to the Vista School. Vista is an acclaimed State Charter School serving grade K-9 students from around the county. They focus on science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) for grades K-5.

The City is committed to using low-cost, environmentally friendly water and energy solutions in public buildings. City-owned buildings generate approximately sixty percent of their power needs from solar panels on the Public Works maintenance facility, the Center Street Fire Station, the parking shade structure at City Hall, and the recreation building at Unity Park.

Ivins was the first location in Utah to begin operating a “No Kill” animal shelter. This service is operated by our public safety department and works in conjunction with local volunteer organizations and shelters in the area.

Community Preferences

According to households responding to the General Plan Resident Survey, two-thirds wanted better high-speed broadband and internet, 64% wanted better cellular coverage, and 58% wanted more internet service provider options. The City has chosen to leave service provision to the private market.

Goal

Ivins will reliably distribute water, maintain streets, manage storm water, and provide parks and recreation services. The City will ensure excellence in other utility services such as power, trash, recycling, and telecommunication. The city will promote excellence in general government services such as fiscal management and budgeting, administration, development services, and customer service for new and updated infrastructure needs.

Obstacles

- Ivins owns only 15% of its own water.
- We are reliant on the Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCWD) for the balance of water for growth.

Action Steps

- The City will work closely with the Washington County Water Conservancy District to ensure an adequate and reliable water supply to its current and future residents and directly.
- Responsibly plan and budget for infrastructure maintenance and long-term replacement.
- Develop maintenance schedules and procedures that will maximize the useful life of public facilities and infrastructure.
- Carefully plan, systematically budget for and develop the regional park property acquired from the BLM under the R&PP Grant process.

- Analyze the feasibility of providing a community recreation center, possibly acquiring the church-owned property between the Fire station and the Police station for that use.
- Search for opportunities to use facilities jointly with other communities, schools and organizations to minimize costs to all users.

City Facilities & Essential Services Policies

- Review impact fees regularly to ensure that new developments pay their proportionate share of costs for new infrastructure.
- Ensure the City continues to encourage water conservation for both its residents and municipal facilities.
- Assess rates sufficient to cover costs of services based on periodic rate studies.
- Analyze and budget for future city service levels and infrastructure replacement.
- Properly maintain City facilities and infrastructure to optimize its useful life.
- Practice Water Wise principles in the design, construction and operation of City facilities.
- Promote an energy-wise community, including renewable energy improvement in existing and new developments.
- Apply for grants to provide additional solar generating capacity on municipal facilities.
- Provide for expansion of the public works yard and the cemetery.
- Support the District's objective to reduce the amount of solid waste disposed in the landfill by maintaining a mandatory curbside recycling program with a hardship provision that exempts households falling below a specified annual income from participating.
- Encourage Washington County to locate a public library in Ivins.
- Support quality public/charter schools, private schools, and higher education and ensure appropriate land resources for future school needs through long-range planning.
- Encourage specialized schools and/or institutions of higher education to be located in Ivins.