

Failure of City Manager and Assistant city manager to follow council directives

A. Sidewalks from 7180 So. 2700 W. to Westland Elementary were funded 10/06/98 by council vote 7-0 in favor (see minutes below) of the sidewalks. Also, 10/27/98 minutes (Also below) "The Council indicated that they would like the sidewalks built as soon as possible". As of 10/08/99 (over a year later) that work has not been done. This side walk was supposed to be the priority one sidewalk over a year ago.

If you refer to the staff that was present, the City Manager, and his assistant were there at the meetings. The council and staff were reminded continually throughout the year that it was a top priority project, in council meetings as well as out.

I would like to add, the one person that did follow council directive regarding this sidewalk problem, seemed to get in trouble for following the directive. I felt Greg Walkenhorse (Director of public works) removed the bushes as directed, and as soon as diplomatically possible. After listening to Greg in the council meetings, my opinion is Greg took great care with the citizen that owned the bushes to help them understand that it was a safety issue.

After attending most of the council meetings in the last year, my opinion is Greg follows Council directive as much as can be expected, and appears resented by management for it. (My personal opinion is, if you are not part of the "click", you may be in trouble in West Jordan, regardless of your performance.)

From 10/06/98 minutes

STAFF: Dan Dahlgren, City Manager; Penny Atkinson, Assistant City Manager; Rori Andreason, City Recorder; Wayne Harper, Director of Community and Economic Development; Greg Curtis, City Attorney; Greg Walkenhorst, Director of Public Works; Ken McGuire, Director of Public Safety; Clarke MacFarlane, City Engineer; and Craig Thaxton, Parks Maintenance Supervisor.

MOTION: Councilmember Plouzek moved to postpone Project No. 4 on the Sidewalk Priority List, Exhibit 2, and in its place build the sidewalk on 7180 South between Westland Elementary School and 2700 West, as described. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Grochocki and passed 7-0 in favor.

From 10/27/98 minutes.

STAFF: Penny Atkinson, Assistant City Manager; Rori Andreason, City Recorder; Wayne Harper, Director of Community and Economic Development; Greg Curtis, City Attorney; Greg Walkenhorst, Director of Public Works; Ken McGuire, Director of Public Safety; Bob Davis, Director of Development Services; David Sanderson, Director of Finance; and Karl

UPDATE ON WESTLAND ELEMENTARY SIDEWALK

Bob Davis updated the Council on the construction of the sidewalk at Westland Elementary. He said he didn't think it would be possible to have a contractor at the site before Christmas. His estimation of the projected time for completion of the project was that it could be bid out in mid-winter, with the contractor on-site by Spring. It would take about 60 days to complete the construction, unless there were concerns about doing the construction when the students were in school. In that instance, it would have to wait until Summer. The Council indicated that they would like the sidewalks built as soon as possible. Greg Walkenhorst said his department would work with the homeowner to cut back neighboring bushes, to allow the children more room to walk.

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B. A letter to Mayor Evans (attached) from Boudreaux Construction, could indicate Dan Dahlgren (City Manager) disregarded Council directives. Referring to the below motion which instructs staff of a new policy of 300-400 feet density testing.

From MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED PLANNING MEETING OF THE WEST JORDAN CITY COUNCIL HELD ON FEBRUARY 23, 1999 IN WEST JORDAN CITY HALL

PRESENT: Mayor Donna Evans and Councilmembers, David Plouzek, David Newton, Gordon Haight, Brian Pitts, Margaret E. Grochocki was absent.

STAFF: Dan Dahlgren, City Manager; Penny Atkinson, Assistant City Manager, Rori Andreason, City Recorder, Bob Davis, Director of Development Services, Greg Walkenhorst, Director of Public Works, Ryan Carter, Assistant City Attorney, Ken McGuire, Director of Public Safety, Carl Hanover, Water Resource Manager, Brian Maxwell, Senior Planer , Roger Payne, Water Manager.

MOTION: Mayor Evans moved to adopt nuclear density testing as the prevailing test on road base as well as under sidewalks, parameters to be established within the Engineering Department as to the frequency at this point we are in discussions of it being 300 - 400 feet as being reasonable, that would be the parameters that we think they would probably work within. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Newton and passed 6-0 in favor. Councilmembers Grochocki was absent.

BOUDREAUX

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CONSTRUCTION

March 22, 1999

Mayor Donna Evans
West Jordan City
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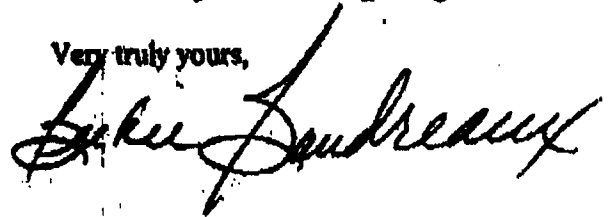
Dear Mayor Evans:

As a follow up to the letters and discussions regarding the warranty program (specifically relating to curb and gutter) that was being implemented by the City, we would like to acknowledge your support and the Council's support in resolving some of these issues. However, we appear to be facing other issues raised by the West Jordan City Engineering Department.

After the City Council meeting held on February 23, 1999, it was our impression that the City Council approved some requirements for new construction, specifically concrete, wherein they wanted density tests conducted every 300 to 400 feet. These new policies were to become effective March 15, 1999. We were later advised by the Inspectors that these same tests were required every 200 feet. Upon further checking, Councilman Jay Bowcut advised that he had not yet received copies of the minutes of the above meeting and couldn't comment. City Manager Dan Dahlgren advised that the only item that the City Council approved was the bonding criteria for subdivisions and that the new constructions requirements were not approved by the Council but were to be left up the Engineering Department's discretion. Mr. Dahlgren also advise that due to a shortage of manpower in the Engineering Department that the new ordinances were not available as promised, but should be ready in approximately two weeks. Until that time, he indicated that the Inspectors had no specific direction and could do whatever they wanted regardless of the Council's wishes

We have been working with West Jordan City for years and have complied with their requirements and will continue to comply; however, under the current environment, we feel that they are a "ship without a captain" and we don't know what they are requiring. We would be happy to meet to further discuss these concerns. We do thank you in advance for your efforts regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,



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