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## JANUARY 2026 WOODLAND HILLS

OUT WITH THE OLD:  
A HUGE THANK YOU TO MAYOR BRENT WINDER  
AND DOREL KYNASTON FOR YOUR YEARS OF DEDICATED  
SERVICE  
YOU WILL BE MISSED!



IN WITH THE NEW:  
CURRENT MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS  
L TO R: DAN RODEN, STEVE JOHNS, KARI MALKOVICH, BRIAN HUTCHINGS  
JANET LUNT AND MAYOR BEN HILLYARD



I am truly honored and humbled by the trust you have placed in me to serve as your Mayor of Woodland Hills for the next four years.

One of the things that makes Woodland Hills so special is our size—it gives us a unique opportunity to build an even closer, more connected community. As we move forward together, let's continue to look out for one another, find meaningful ways to serve, stay engaged, and share your thoughts and suggestions on how we can make our city even better. Your input is invaluable, and I'm committed to listening.

In the coming months, we'll be introducing several new programs. I encourage you to explore them and consider how you might participate. One of my key priorities is fostering greater connection across our community—creating opportunities for neighbors to know one another beyond ward lines and build lasting relationships.

My door is always open. If you'd like to speak with me or any member of our staff, please don't hesitate to stop by. I plan to be in my office at the city building for a good part of each day, ready to hear from you.

Thank you again for your support and confidence. I look forward to working alongside you to achieve many good things in the years ahead.

Ben Hillard - Mayor for Woodland Hills

Hello Friends,

I'm excited for the new year and the new opportunities and challenges it will bring. I'm thrilled for the opportunity to serve each of you and the wonderful city we live in. Thank you for the confidence and support you all provide. As we look forward to what we want to achieve in 2026, I look to each of you to share those things that are most important to you within the city. While I may not be able to push every interest of every individual, I want to do what I can to preserve our quality of life we all enjoy, in whole. So far the feedback I've received related to what is most important is: 1-controlling property taxes, 2-night sky protection, and 3-managing new developments within the city.

We all may not agree on every avenue, or conclusion for each of those initiatives, but I will listen to every angle with an open mind, and hope to do what will keep the city in a good and sustainable position for a strong present and future. It is so important for us to be a united community, and even if we don't agree with each other on everything, we all deserve to be listened to, respected and have those differences of opinion and perspectives.

To a wonderful New Year!

Steve Johns, City Council member  
801-783-7012  
[Stevejohns80@gmail.com](mailto:Stevejohns80@gmail.com)

I am truly honored to serve on our City Council. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the community that means so much to me and I am eager to play a role in nurturing and strengthening it. I want to extend my sincere thanks to my fellow Council members for placing their trust in me. Their confidence in my abilities and commitment to our town's well-being is both humbling and motivating. I am committed to approach this responsibility with integrity, openness, and a genuine dedication. As I step into this role, I look forward to executing my duties diligently—working collaboratively on issues that matter to us all, from local infrastructure and services to preserving the quality of life we cherish. Together, we can continue building a brighter future for our community. Thank you for this privilege.

Dan Roden, City Council member

## LONG-TERM PLANNING AND MAILBOX RELOCATION

Utah County is currently planning and designing the reconstruction of the roundabout at the city's entrance, which is scheduled for completion in 2026. The roundabout will be constructed for the current conditions. However, the required space for future expansion is being planned and acquired by the County. This expansion will be necessary to accommodate future growth in the surrounding communities and the expansion of both 11200 South and Woodland Hills Drive (going north from the roundabout) roadways.

Multiple cities are working, in conjunction with Utah County, on these ongoing long-term planning efforts. To facilitate this future expansion, which limits the current mailbox space, Woodland Hills City is evaluating the potential relocation of the community's mailboxes to the City Center. This concept is being discussed to improve safety, accessibility, and long-term functionality.

Under this long-range vision, the current mailbox location is being considered for potential repurposing as a future trailhead to support expanded trail connectivity, recreational access, and the preservation of open space for residents and visitors.

### Please note:

- This is in the planning process.
- No final decisions have been made.
- Resident input will be an important part of the process.

The City Council and staff are committed to careful planning that balances practicality, community needs, and preservation of the character of Woodland Hills. Additional information and opportunities for public input will be shared as discussions continue. We appreciate the community's engagement as we plan responsibly for the future of our city.

We will be discussing this possible plan in our January 27<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting. We encourage you to attend.

Ted Mickelsen & Jody Stones

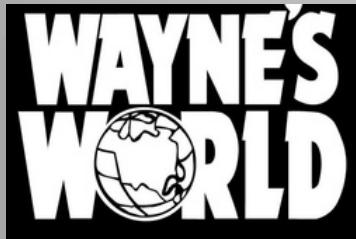
I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve our community for another four years. It has been such an honor to be a part of this community and to get to know so many of you through your willingness to serve and participate in community events and service projects.

Going forward we will be looking at how we can expand community events, the city newsletter and methods we can use to continue to improve our city communications. You spoke and we listened.. The goal is to foster a real hometown, tight knit community where neighbors take care of each other and we gather together to celebrate.

We will continue to work on preserving the quality of life for all residents in Woodland Hills and we look forward to working with each of you to come up with ideas and to work hard to make them happen.

Thank you!

Janet Lunt - City Council member



Many of you likely do not know that Wayne's World also encompasses Planning Commission activities, as I, along with others, serve on the city's planning commission. The city's planning commission is a state mandated commission that often functions behind the scenes in the way it serves a community. Some of its responsibilities include reviewing and recommending lands use ordinances to the city council and holding public hearings on them. Recently, by State mandate, it has taken over the responsibility of approving new subdivisions in the city, formally the responsibility of the city council. Another State mandated charge is to update and recommend changes to the city council for the city's General Plan. A few words to those who may not be familiar with a city's General Plan. Simply, it is a public document updated every five years or so, which is approved by the city council, that gives direction to all parts of the city government, establishing goals and objectives, programs, legislative initiatives, etc., and identifying ways forward for the city to accomplish what it needs or wants to do. It is a "where do we want to go, and how do we get there", as a city. The State government requires each governmental entity in the State to go through this process every five years or so. Last year our city formed a committee to assist in this process and they have now provided a draft to the planning commission for review before going to the city council. This draft will be on the city's web page for any who care to read it. Following any changes which the planning commission may make to it, we will have a public hearing on the document before it goes to the city council for their review and approval. Similarly, the city council may make changes to it also before it is approved by them for the city to use. I welcome any thoughts that you may have about it or any of the topics it covers. They can be sent to my city email of [waynef@woodlandhill-ut.gov](mailto:waynef@woodlandhill-ut.gov). Hope everyone enjoys a prosperous and happy new year.

# TED TALKS

## 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW

Happy New Year! At the beginning of this new year, I would like to take a few minutes and provide an update on the major accomplishments of the Public Works and Fire and EMS Department through 2025 and mention a few of the plans for 2026.

### PUBLIC WORKS

The major public works projects completed this past year in the community include:

**Broadhollow Well Upgrade.** The first is the completion of our well upgrade project. The most notable of the well improvements include adding 3-phase power, a backup generator, upgrading the well pump to produce an additional 300 gallons per minute, and better access to the well. These improvements help us to meet our growing demands and be better prepared in the event of an emergency.

**Pavement Management.** The second most notable improvement, and perhaps the more visible one, is the road improvement projects. In 2024, we completed a pavement management plan that helped us determine the condition of the roads, the best treatment for each road based on its condition, and the phasing to repair them. This past year, we were able to complete phases 1 and 2 of the three planned projects. These two phases completed approximately 11 miles, or 65% of our roads.

**Stormwater.** In 2024, a stormwater management plan was also completed to evaluate our city's stormwater drainage and potential flood areas. With this plan, projects were identified to help us better control and manage our stormwater runoff as growth continues. In 2025, we completed the first of these projects.

### FIRE AND EMS DEPARTMENT

**Volunteer EMS Insurance.** In the 2025 legislative session, the State amended HB 298, expanding the opportunity for volunteer EMS personnel to qualify for the state health insurance program. This amendment allowed our city to qualify. We have historically operated under Salem's EMS license, but now we are getting close to obtaining our own license to qualify for the insurance program. **Certifications.** In 2025, we had two personnel receive their structural firefighter certifications, and two more completed the certification schooling and are just waiting for the official certifications.

We also had three personnel receive their EMT certification. This brings our total fire and EMS volunteers to 22 people who contributed over 5,000 hours on calls, attending training, and receiving certifications.

**Wildland Fire Program.** Our seasonal wildland crew of 4 people was assigned to eight national fires this past year around the United States, generating a significant amount of revenue for the city.

While not on fires, they also completed over 500 hours of mitigation in our city.

## 2026 PLANS

Public Works. In 2026, some of the major plans include completing phase 3 of the roadway improvements project, planning and possibly starting construction of a new water tank to facilitate growth, preparing a plan and identifying funding options to replace approximately 5 miles of aged waterlines and roads on the northeast side of the city, complete another one or two stormwater management projects, and coordinate with the County to expand and reconstruct the roundabout.

Fire & EMS Department. Complete our EMS licensing, replace expired Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), update our Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG's), enhance our volunteer recruiting efforts, and continue and possibly expand our seasonal wildland firefighter program and equipment.

I'd like to personally thank our active and involved city council and our outgoing Mayor, Brent Winder, for their insights, support, and dedication to making this a better and safer community for all of us. If you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to email me at [works@woodlandhills-ut.gov](mailto:works@woodlandhills-ut.gov).

Ted Mickelsen, P.E.  
Community Development Director/Fire Chief



EVENTS IN UTAH VALLEY  
EXPLORE UTAH VALLEY  
CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW

[HTTPS://WWW.UTAHVALLEY.COM/EVENTS/?GAD\\_SOURCE=1](https://www.utahvalley.com/events/?GAD_SOURCE=1)

HAVE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE DISCUSSED OR ADDED  
TO THE WH NEWSLETTER?  
PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL  
[JANET@WOODLANDHILLS-UT.GOV](mailto:JANET@WOODLANDHILLS-UT.GOV)  
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!



### CALLS FOR SERVICE FOR WOODLAND HILLS DECEMBER 2025

ACCIDENT WITH INJURIES	1
ANIMAL PROBLEMS	3
HARASSMENT	1
FRAUD	2
PAPER SERVICE	2
SUSPICIOUS	1
<b>TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE</b>	<b>32</b>

Miss the most recent City meeting?  
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