

Daniel Zappala *for* Cedar Hills City Council



I have been married to my wife Tracy for 20 years, and we have three children, all teenagers. We moved to Cedar Hills in 2005 when I got a job as a professor at BYU in the Computer Science department. I enjoy hiking, fishing, photography, and helping people with genealogy.

I was appointed to the City Council in 2012 to fill the vacancy created when Gary Gygi was appointed mayor. Prior to that I was a member of the Planning Commission for 2 years and volunteered for the Family Festival and the Blue Ribbon Recreation Committee.

I am a practical, results-oriented person. I study issues thoroughly and pay attention to details. I am a peacemaker and always strive to create civil, respectful dialogue.

My Goals

Smart Fiscal Management

We have done a lot to help save the city money this year. I think being completely transparent in our budget will help us find additional ways to be efficient. I will continue working to improve the budget.cedarhills.org site I created to add additional help viewing our city finances.

Communication

I want to use technology to improve the city's communication and customer service. I would like to deploy a customer service portal, where residents can submit concerns and track the progress of their request. I would also like to get resident feedback on issues the council is considering each week, so we know how residents feel before voting. I am creating a new blog at <http://zappala.org> to start a conversation about these issues.

Planning

A developer is working on bringing a senior living facility and commercial center to Cedar Hills. I have been working to ensure that resident concerns are met, while also providing a vibrant retail area that will help increase our sales tax base. I want our retail area to have walkable, green spaces and a splash pad or fountain so families can enjoy the area. Another goal for me is to work with the city to update our parks and trails plan, with plenty of resident input on what our parks will contain.

Family-oriented Recreation

Let's keep our great sports and activities going and so we can provide opportunities for all our residents to enjoy the wonderful outdoor environment we have. Some ideas I've had include mountain bike and relay races along the foothills. I am also interested in joining the North Utah County Library Cooperative, so that our residents can have access to a library system. One possibility is creating an all digital library for ebooks – this could be a smart way to provide library access within our small-town budget.

Early Voting: October 22nd – November 1st, City Office Building

Election: November 5th at Cedar Ridge and Deerfield Elementary

Polling Locations: <http://www.cedarhills.org/mayor-city-council/elections>

Contact: daniel.zappala@gmail.com, vote.zappala.org

More



Good News

Here are some good things the city has done the past year. If you like this, help us keep it going!

- We refinanced several bonds and paid off one bond early. This saved the city \$750,000.
- We leased the grill at the Community Recreation Center to Sammy's. This turned the grill from a money-losing operating into a source of steady income (and great food!).
- Revenue has been up at the golf course, with our manager Wade Doyl and his staff bringing in over \$100,000 in revenue every month this summer.
- We have continued to increase communication and transparency, so residents can be better informed. This includes publishing the State of the City newsletter, creating a new budget transparency site, posting regularly on Facebook, starting a new video series.
- The city put on an awesome Family Festival, with a superb volunteer committee organizing the activities. Thank you to all who made this a great event!
- We hosted family-oriented events, such as the Easter egg hunt, pumpkin walk, pictures with Santa, and our first annual pancake breakfast. These events are a great chance to help bring our city together and provide a fun time for families. The Youth City Council deserves a big thanks for their work organizing activities and raising funds for charity.
- The city provided a great set of outdoor and indoor recreation activities, coordinated by Greg Gordon and his staff. Soccer, football, geocaching, skiing, lacrosse, basketball, golf, zumba, karate, ballet, fitness, lego league ... there is a nice variety of classes run on a slim budget.
- The mayor and council appointed David Bunker as city manager. One of the most important things a council can do is to hire a strong manager to run the day-to-day operations of a city. David and his staff have done a fantastic job of running the city efficiently.

Taxes

I support keeping our property taxes as low as possible. The best way to do this is to continue increasing our sales tax base through commercial development. The chart below shows how the city has been successful at doing this the past several years. The increased sales tax revenue has helped us to pay for improved fire service at our new station, maintaining our parks and streets, and increasing our recreation programs.

