Recently we have had some significant weather induced traffic delays.

While weather was a factor in the delays, the fact remains that growth within the Eagle Mountain and Saratoga Springs communities has resulted in an increasing population (approximately 60,000 residents between us), and thus an increasing number of cars on the road. These delays are understandably frustrating to our residents. In light of your concerns, I thought now would be a great time to take a deep dive into our transportation infrastructure and to look at what work has already been done, what work will be done (and on what timeline), and what work needs to be done in the future.

The strain placed on our transportation infrastructure has by no means caught us by surprise. In fact, planned transportation projects have been presented to various agencies, and funding requested as much as three years ago. These solutions have been planned and funded in partnership with Mountainland Association of Governments, UDOT, Saratoga Springs and Eagle Mountain.

We understand that more cars without new roads (additional capacity) results in traffic congestion. Having said that, capacity on roads is only part of the solution. Choke points may develop as daily trips increase on the roads. Like a straight pipe flowing water, a straight street flows a tremendous amount of cars quite efficiently. When valves, sharp curves, and new connections are made to a pipe, flow may be restricted. The same holds true for transportation infrastructure when signals, curves, and connections are made to existing straight roads such as Redwood Rd. and other transportation facilities. For this reason there are two approaches to optimizing the infrastructure of our transportation corridors. Increasing capacity and optimizing flow through choke points.

Clearly there are multiple projects needed to solve for the increased traffic we are experiencing in the neighboring communities of Eagle Mountain and Saratoga Springs. First, I want to look at the facts.

- Both Eagle Mountain and Saratoga Springs commuters interact with Redwood Rd. in the morning and evening. (Those who are heading south into Utah County may only cross Redwood Rd., while most others travel North/South on Redwood Rd. for some distance)

- With the exception of Harvest Hills Residents, most commuters from both communities converge on Redwood Rd. at Pony Express, Pioneer Crossing, or Crossroads Blvd. These points of convergence are all located within approximately 1.5 miles of each other.
• The vast majority of peak traffic of Eagle Mountain and Saratoga Springs commuters is traveling north/south along Redwood Rd. at some point.

• Significant congestion on the north/south travel of Redwood Rd. is causing compound congestion on east/west corridors (Pony Express, Cory Wride Highway, Crossroads Blvd, and to a lesser degree, Pioneer Crossing).

In the simplest form, there are four solutions to the challenges identified above.

1. Increase capacity for north/south travel.
2. Reduce interruptions and delays to flow of north/south travel.
3. Increase capacity for east/west travel.
4. Reduce interruptions and delays to flow of east/west travel.

Detailed information about specific transportation projects that impact Eagle Mountain City, their description, which need they will address, their timeline, and cost is available on my blog. These projects include Mountain View Corridor, Pony Express Pkwy Expansion, Redwood Road Expansion & Continuous Flow Intersection, Cory Wride Memorial Highway Right of Way Preservation, Cory Wride Memorial Highway Planning and Environmental Study, and the Foothill Blvd./Mt. View Corridor Planning Study.

This information is intended to be a comprehensive look at our “regionally significant” transportation infrastructure and does not include other local transportation infrastructure concerns which residents have voiced surrounding the new high school. I will address those concerns and provide additional information in a forthcoming post.

The projects listed in my blog post are funded projects which will be occurring in 2017 or 2018. A tremendous amount of teamwork and planning has gone on between Mountainland Association of Governments, UDOT Region 3, Eagle Mountain City, the City of Saratoga Springs, and land owners. The resulting funded projects will add capacity and alleviate some, but not all of our congestion over the next two to three years.

As we continue to work through these projects, the City Council and I will continue collaborating with stakeholders and legislators to advocate for the needs of our area and our residents.

I hope that this gives our residents the confidence that work has been done and will continue to be done to improve our regional transportation infrastructure.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Mayor Chris Pengra
Blog: www.mayorsvoice.com
Twitter: @emcitymayor
Email: mayor@emcity.org

**News Briefs**

Seniors Activities

All are held at City Hall unless stated otherwise. Details and updates are posted on the [website calendar](#). Seniors activities are open to those who are ages 55+.

- **February 16** Game Day, 1 p.m.
- **February 17** Bar J Wranglers Concert Thanksgiving Point Barn Tickets $20 Contact Sandy
- **February 20** Bingo, 5 p.m., Pot Luck
- **February 23** Canasta, 1 p.m.
- **February 27** Dance Performance & Dinner, details TBA

Questions? Call or text Sandy Ring, 801-372-4659 or email sskkovanda@gmail.com or Joye Roberts, 801-995-0520 or robertsdeannaj@gmail.com.

Woman of the Year Nominations

Residents have an opportunity to nominate a woman who has made significant contributions to the Eagle Mountain community through leadership and service for the annual Woman of the Year award. The award will be presented at the Miss Eagle Mountain Pageant on April 22. Nominations will be accepted [online](#) through March 31.

Pony Express Days Grand Marshal Nominations

Eagle Mountain City and Pony Express Special Events extend the opportunity to the community to nominate a deserving individual to be the Grand Marshal for this year’s Pony Express Days. The Grand Marshal will be recognized in the Grand Parade, at the Rodeo, Demolition Derby, and the EnduroCross in July. Nominations will be accepted [online](#) through May 5.

Selection Criteria:

- Nominee must reside in EM City and be at least 18 years of age.
- Nominee should display outstanding service, pride and commitment to the community, county, state, and/or country.
- Nominee should be able and willing to carry out the function of Grand Marshal.

City Offices Closure

The City Offices and Library will be closed Monday, February 20 in observance of the President’s Day holiday.
The Eagle Mountain City 2017 Municipal General Election will be held on November 7, 2017 with the following positions to be voted on:

- Mayoral 4-year term
- Councilmember 4-year term
- Councilmember 4-year term

The candidate filing period begins June 1, 2017 and ends on June 7, 2017 at 5:00 p.m., excluding Saturday and Sunday. A declaration of candidacy must be filed in person at the Eagle Mountain City Recorder’s Office located at 1650 East Stagecoach Run.

If necessary, a primary election will be held on August 15, 2017.

Please contact the City Recorder’s Office at 801-789-6610, 6611 or 6634 if you have questions.

PONY EXPRESS DAYS 2017

MAY 29-JUNE 3

We are now accepting registrations for Pony Express Days 2017.

Vendor Booth and Food Vendor Information:
http://www.emcity.org/vendors
June 1, 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; June 2, and 3; Noon to 11:00 p.m.
Vendors are required to attend all three days.
Vendors are required to stay until at least 6:00 p.m. all three days.

Grand Parade Information:
http://www.emcity.org/parade
June 3rd, Grand Parade starts at 10:00 a.m.
We are accepting parade entries through May 19, 2017.
Specialty acts also wanted (jugglers, unicycle riders, magicians, etc.).

For more information please contact the events department.
Dawn Hancock 801-789-6635 or dahanco@emcity.org - Ashley Allen 801-789-6629 or aallen@emcity.org

PONY EXPRESS DAYS 2017

MAY 29-JUNE 3

May 29-June 3

Miss Eagle Mountain Presents
The Princess Academy
Saturday February 18, 2017
From 10:00am-12:30pm
At Eagle Mountain City Hall

The day will be filled with many magical events: crafts, nail painting, a picture with Miss Eagle Mountain, a luncheon, and much more!
Tickets are $10
Ages 4 and up

Registration: www.emcity.org/princess
Eagle Mountain City's Youth Council participated in the annual Elected Officials Day at the State Capitol and paused for a photo-op with Derreck Kayongo, founder of Global Soap Project, an organization that helps provide soap to countries who lack access to it in an effort to prevent the spread of disease.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is a way for people to learn valuable basic skills used during disaster response. Skills such as fire safety, light search & rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations are included. By using the training learned through CERT, members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT training classes will be held in Saratoga Springs March 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. A CPR class will also be offered on February 23. Contact Bill Lindsay at bd_lindsay_sr@yahoo.com or 925-726-9743 to register.