

4.6 COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Within the Town of Elwood there are a number of different community facilities and services that are provided to the citizens. These services come from different sources like the Town, service districts, and private utility companies. As the Town of Elwood grows and develops it is necessary to provide sufficient community facilities and services to the public. The supplying of community facilities and services is a primary function of local government.

Many of these community facilities and services are directly funded and operated through tax dollars such as government, police, fire, and schools. Others are funded through direct payment for services and generated by private or quasi-public entities, such as water/sewer services and public and private utilities. Some community facilities and services are required by law and others are provided in response to a public referendum or to a perceived need in a particular area. Police and fire departments represent the former, libraries, parks and hospitals represent the latter. Community facilities and services have a direct and sometimes great impact on the lives and quality of life of the citizens of the community.

The capacity of the Town to accommodate expected growth, is best assessed by consideration of the community facilities and services that are essential for the population and their limitations. Over the years the use of the Town's community facilities and services has increased and the available capacity in each area is diminishing. As these trends continue, as capacities are reached, additional service capability will be required. How the capability is best developed and provided are just a few of the critical questions that must be addressed in the areas of delivery of community facilities and services.

4.6.1 PUBLIC SAFETY

One of the basic services that are provided within a community is that of public safety. This category of community facilities and services include police and fire services. Most residents would consider as one of the most important community service provide within the community. Currently, the Town of Elwood is not large enough to justify providing these services through the Town. The Town contracts for these services. Below is a brief description of the public safety services and contracts that are provide within the community

- **Police** – The Town of Elwood relies on the Box Elder Sheriff's Department to provide police protection within the Town. Because there are two major state highways (Interstate 15 and State Route 13) which runs through the Town, the Utah Highway patrol also provides some limited traffic control on these roadways
- **Fire** - Fire protection services are provided by Tremonton City through a response agreement.

At this time the need for more public safety services may not be necessary. However, as the Town continues to grow the demand for these services will continue to increase and the Town will need to develop a more formal method of providing public safety services.

4.6.2 CULINARY WATER

The Town of Elwood has a developed culinary water system to provide potable water to homes and business. In 2004 the City had Capital Facilities Improvement Plan done due to increasing residential growth and anticipated commercial development within the Town. This study determined that there were about 38 ERC's (Equivalent Residential Connection) based on the reserve capacity of the water system based on the existing water sources.

The existing pipe transmission and distribution system was found to be adequate to handle peak demand

from existing users. However, when adding the required minimal standard for fire flow the existing system lacks the capacity to provide minimal fire suppression to many areas of the City. Expected growth will place serious demands on the existing system.

Culinary Water Sources

The Town of Elwood has two primary sources of culinary water these are located in two deep underground wells and a spring located in the foothills east of Honeyville and Deweyville. The table below lists the existing sources of culinary water for the Town.

Water Source	Quantity	Reliable Quantity	Actual Daily Supply
Upper & Lower Well	0.891 CFS*	576,000 gpd*	528,000 gpd
Cold Water Spring	0.555 CFS	358,560 gpd	18,720 gpd
Total	1.446 CFS	934,560 gpd	546,720 gpd

Source: Elwood Culinary Water System CIP, Feb 2004 CFS – cubic feet per second gpd – gallons per day

The Town has an application for additional 2.0 CFS of water that they are working with the State for approval. This additional water will be developed from the two existing wells.

Currently, the Town has two 200,000 gallons concrete storage tanks for a total capacity 400,000 gallons. These tanks are located in the same general location as the of the City’s wells and spring. The City is working with the State of Utah to development a third 500,000 gallon storage tank. This is part of the upgrade to the Town’s water system and would give the City a total storage of 900,000 gallons

Elwood will continue to see growth and with this growth the Town will need to improve the transmission and distribution system, as well as development more capacity for culinary water to meet the needs to the Town. The Town has been working with the State Division of Drinking Water in acquiring a low interest loan to make the necessary improvements to provide for the growth and the fire protection needs of the community.

In addition to making the needed improvement the Town is also considering the development of the secondary water system. This would help in not having to use valuable culinary water for none culinary uses. The Town is also working to start to collect excess irrigation water rights from developed land.

4.6.3 WASTEWATER

Wastewater in Elwood is handled by the use of individual on-site septic systems. These systems are efficient for small systems. However, they are somewhat limiting. They may support individual residential homes and small commercial uses. Potential of any significant commercial and industrial development will very limited.

Some areas of the Town, due to high water tables, has experienced some problems with some septic systems failing. This problem is becoming more of problem as new development is taking place. Because of the increasing problems with on-site septic systems, the Town has been working with the State of Utah to study the potential of developing a citywide sewer system. The study indicated the individual cost to the residential homes for a sewer system would be prohibitive at this time.

The Bear River Health Department has identified, in Elwood, locations where septic systems have failed or marginal operate. The map on the following page identifies those locations within the Town. The Health Department has designated Elwood as an area of high risk and will now require all new subdivisions to have a detailed soils study to be done to deal with problems with septic systems within the community.

Front of Septic Map

Back of Septic Map

Based on the study that the potential of developing a citywide sewer system may not be cost effective at this time, the Town should continue to work with the Bear River Health Department to develop standards which would limit the potential problems with on-site septic system. In some of the high problem areas the Town may want to consider the creation of a smaller sewer service area to deal with the problem. This may allow development to continue within these areas if the property owners are willing to pay for the costs.

4.6.4 STORM DRAINAGE

The Utah Administrative Code (UAC) R317-8-3.9 requires construction projects that disturb 1 acre or more must be covered under the general construction permit. Coverage under this permit must be



obtained and erosion and sediment controls must be installed according to a storm water pollution prevention plan prior to any grading activities at a site which will disturb 1 acre or more per common plan.

This storm water construction permit is obtained through the Division of Water Quality under the Utah Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (UPDES) General Permit for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity.

As the Town grows the issue will continue to grow and will demand a more formal commitment on the part the City to control and manage the storm water with the Town.

Elwood Drainage District

Due to the high water table within Elwood Town, a drainage district was formed to develop a collection system to remove water off of the properties within the Town so the land could be use for agriculture. The Map on the following pages shows the drainage collection system that has been developed over the years to deal with the high water table.

As urban development within the community takes place it is important to recognize the Drainage District collection system. This system should be maintained so it can continue to remove water off of these lands within the Town. If this collection system is ignored or damaged through development, problems with a high water table will affect this new development. Steps should be taken to protect this system.

4.6.5 SOLID WASTE

Solid Waste is sent to the West Mountain Landfill which is operated by Box Elder County.

Front of Drainage Map

Back of Drainage Map

4.6.6 SCHOOLS

In Elwood, all public education is administered by the Box Elder School District. The district is governed by the Board of Education which set policy and make decisions affecting all aspects of education including the building of school facilities, staffing, bussing, and creating school boundaries. Local jurisdictions play little or no role in these functions, even though all the public schools are located within municipal boundaries.

There are no schools located within the town of Elwood. Students are bused to Tremonton or Garland depending age and grade of the students. The following list is of the different public schools and grade

- McKinley Elementary School (K thru 5th grade) - Tremonton
- Alice C Harris Intermediate School (6th and 7th grade) – Tremonton
- Bear River Middle School (8th and 9th grade) – Garland
- Bear River High School (10th thru 12th grade) - Garland

Bridgerland Applied Technology Center - In addition to the local school district the Bridgerland Applied Technology Center (BATC) provides a technical training facility. This center provides technical training to high school and adult students of Box Elder, Cache, and Rich Counties. Currently, the BATC has an annual enrollment for 6,500 students who are enrolled in 35 occupational courses in such diverse fields as automotive service, dairy herd management, welding, electronics, diesel mechanics, office occupations, and building construction. The Bridgerland Applied Technology Center is fully accredited by the Utah State Board of Education and offers competency and completion certificates for students successfully completing course requirements.

Utah State University - Utah State University is one of four accredited State universities and the second largest in the State of Utah. Utah State University was founded in 1888 as Utah’s Land-grant College. The university has an international reputation for research and teaching. Utah State’s current enrollment exceeds 20,000 students at its main campus and educational centers in Brigham City, Southeastern and Uintah Basin of Utah. Utah State University also provides Cooperative Extension Service. Cooperative Extension has 30 offices located throughout the state and specialists in 20 departments on Campus.

4.6.7 UTILITIES

Both private and public entities provide utilities such as electricity, natural gas, and telephone services. Most private and public entities anticipate that they can handle any growth within their current systems. As the County and communities develop consideration for the placement of these improvements should be incorporated into the development process.

Electricity - is provided by Utah Power

Natural Gas - is provided and available by Questar Gas Company

Telephone - Local service is provided through Qwest. Qwest provides digital switching and T1 service to the area. Long distance service is available by a number of long distance providers.

The Town expects the subdivider to arrange for gas, electrical, and telephone service. It is now common to require the under grounding of local gas, electricity, and telephone cables, at least where soil, water tables and terrain permits, and where lots are less than one acre in size.

The accepted practice for locating underground lines varies. Developers can save money by locating

telephone, electricity, and cable lines under the pavement in common trenches with sewer, water, and gas lines, if the utilities are willing to cooperate. Efforts on the part of communities should continue to work closely with the utility companies when and where new development takes place.

4.6.8 Public Opinion Survey – Community Facilities and Services

The USU public opinion survey identified the different community facilities and services as being Excellent or Good. The following figure shows how individual responded to the survey:

