



# CITY OF KUNA CITY NEWSLETTER

February 2006

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To the Citizens of Kuna,



## **Town Hall Meeting, February 23<sup>rd</sup> Regarding Potential City Boundaries :**

Approximately 130 Kuna residents attended the Town Hall meeting to hear presentations by the City Engineer, the Kuna Rural Fire District and the Kuna Library District regarding the much-talked-about contiguous annexation issues and Meridian's and Boise's approach on those annexations toward Kuna's borders. Of major concern is the FACT that Meridian is looking at a corridor annexation along Columbia Road out to Kuna-Mora Road which could result in serious permanent impacts on our city. Anne Hankins, Director of the Kuna Library and Joe Stear, Kuna Fire District Board Member, made presentations regarding the negative impacts on both districts if Boise or Meridian continued annexation within their boundaries including the potential loss of tax revenue.

Keven Shreeve, City Engineer, pointed out that the city is currently in the design process for a new sewer treatment plant to be located near Lake Hazel Road. He explained that Kuna is looking closely at following the Kuna School District boundaries as a natural line for its city limits. Annexation is the only way to determine a solid boundary between cities if a mutual agreement cannot be reached, since a city may legally annex inside their own impact area and into another city's impact area. Kuna is currently working with Meridian to develop a cohesive plan that will accommodate all of the citizens in both cities. Kuna is also continuing to work to improve property values by controlled development.

In addition to strong support shown by Kuna citizens residing outside city limits to remain within Kuna's impact area, strong support was also shown by individuals outside Kuna's area of impact wishing to remain within Kuna boundaries and the impact area. Those in attendance further expressed concern that Kuna keep its identity and not be overtaken by other impacting cities.

## **Property Owner Meeting on February 22<sup>nd</sup> Relating to Funding for the Sewer Treatment Facility:**

Presentations regarding funding mechanisms for the new sewer facility were made by the City Engineer with a recommendation that Kuna pursue formation of a Local Improvement District (LID). An LID would provide funds from tax assessments on the raw land within that district and annexation into the city would be required. We are currently in the process of awaiting property owners/developers who may be interested in joining the LID. We are optimistic that an LID will be formed.

**Public Hearing – Proposed Sewer and Water Rate Increases:** On Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, the city will be holding a public hearing on proposed sewer and water fee increases. The current fees have been in place for over 20 years. Through a recent evaluation of both the sewer and water funds, it was concluded that the city's expenses are more than its income. As such, to keep the city financially in good standing, the city must consider increasing the user rates to provide for the services that our citizens expect. Please feel free to attend this hearing.



Together, we can keep Kuna a quality place to live for our families.

O. Dean Obray, Mayor