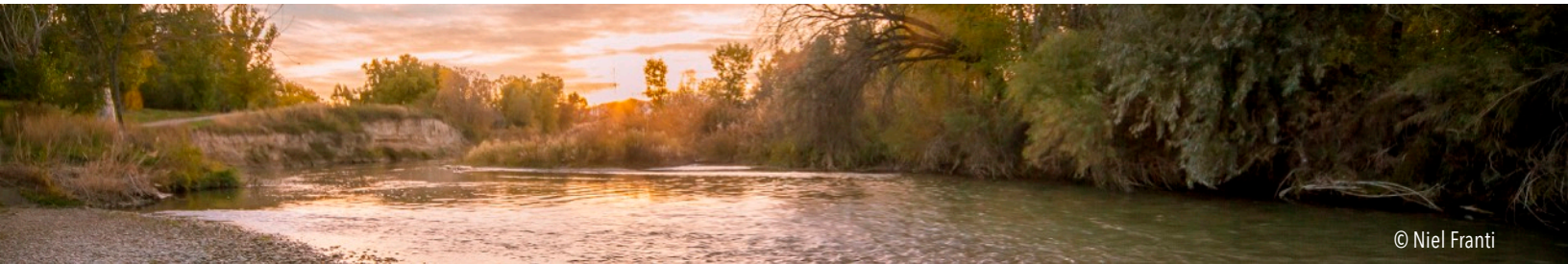




JORDAN RIVER COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

2019

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Director's Note

Almost ten years ago, in the summer of 2010, the Jordan River Commission was launched. As we conclude 2019, we reflect on a decade of impact. The many projects, programs and partnerships that have been transforming and improving the Jordan River Parkway mile by mile, and step by step are impressive. Most of the visionary leaders who helped launch the Commission have retired or moved on to new roles and responsibilities. We deeply thank those who remain with us, and warmly welcome those to whom the torch has been passed and who are bringing new energy, ideas and enthusiasm. We gratefully acknowledge all who have helped shape the Commission and guide our work implementing the Blueprint Jordan River in big ways and small.

As we enter a new decade, while celebrating all we have accomplished, we also look forward to the future. There is still so much to do as we preserve, restore and improve the Jordan River and its environment.

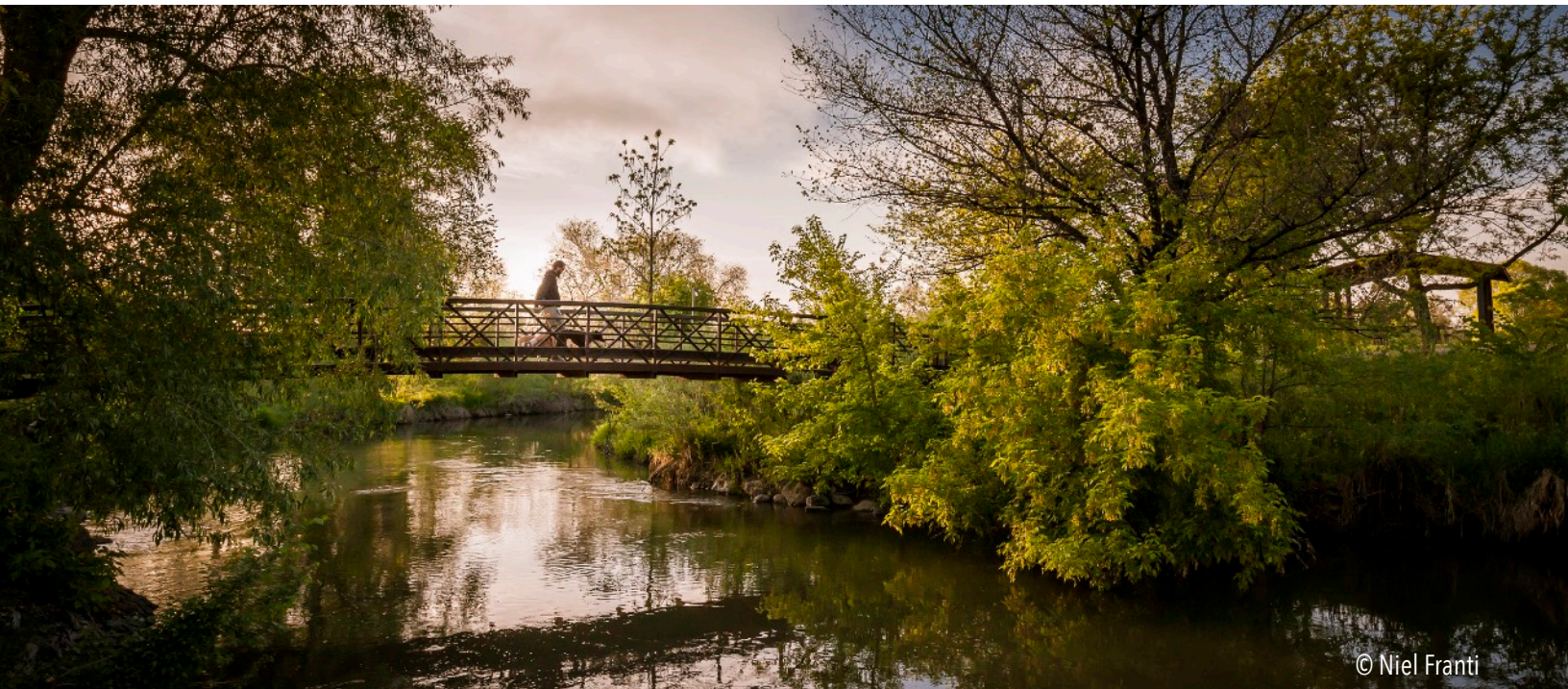
In the coming months, you will be hearing more about the launch of a really important project that will take us back to our roots – a strategic update of the Blueprint Jordan River. Work is already underway, and we will announce a big, public launch in the spring of 2020. Watch for more information for a myriad of ways to support this initiative over the coming year.

This report highlights some of the many ways we have worked together to recreate, celebrate, conserve and restore the Jordan River Parkway this past year.

2019 has been a great year! Let's see what we can do together in 2020.



Soren Simonsen
Executive Director



The Commission

2019 Governing Board

Chair: Mayor Ron Bigelow, West Valley City

Vice Chair: Councilmember Tish Buroker, Riverton

Past Chair: Councilmember Stan Porter, North Salt Lake

Treasurer: Ken Leetham, City Manager, North Salt Lake

Cities

Councilmember Wendy Aston, Bluffdale
 Councilmember Christine Mikell, Cottonwood Heights
 Councilmember Mike Green, Draper
 Councilmember Paul Hancock, Lehi
 Councilmember Dustin Gettel, Midvale
 Councilmember Silvia Catten, Millcreek
 Mayor Blair Camp, Murray
 Mayor Jackie Biskupski, Salt Lake City
 Councilmember Brooke Christensen, Sandy
 Councilmember Stephen Willden, Saratoga Springs
 Mayor Dawn Ramsay, South Jordan
 Councilmember Ray DeWolfe, South Salt Lake
 Mayor Kristie Overson, Taylorsville
 Councilmember Dirk Burton, West Jordan

Special districts

Phil Heck, General Manager, Central Valley Water
 Reclamation Facility
 John Hays, Facility Manager, Jordan Basin Water
 Reclamation Facility
 Richard Bay, General Manager, Jordan Valley Water
 Conservancy District
 Dal Wayment, South Davis Sewer District
 Lee Rawlings, South Valley Water Reclamation
 Laura Hanson, Planning Director, Utah Transit Authority

Counties

Commissioner Randy Elliott, Davis County
 Mayor Jenny Wilson, Salt Lake County
 Councilmember Aimee Winder Newton, Salt Lake County

State

Erica Gaddis, Director, Division of Water Quality
 Jamie Phillips-Barnes, Sovereign Lands Manager,
 Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands
 Evan Curtis, Governor's Office
 Representative Cheryl Acton, Utah Legislature

Ex-officio

Denise Winslow, At-Large Community Member
 Scott Peters, Jordan River Foundation
 Lucky Morse, Rocky Mountain Power
 Larry Mullenax, Executive Director, State Fairpark
 Tim Brown, CEO, Tracy Aviary
 Eric Ellis, Executive Director, Utah Lake Commission
 Steve Burns, CEO, Utah's Hogle Zoo
 Michael Horrocks, Wasatch Rowing Foundation
 Jill Christensen, WCF Insurance
 Steven Earley, VP, Zions Bank

Staff

Soren Simonsen, Executive Director
 Aimee Horman, Outreach & Education Manager
 Moriah Jackson, Project & Program Manager
 Brian Tonetti, (former) Project & Program Manager
 Kory Sheen, Intern

2019 Technical Advisory Committee Officers

Chair: Dennis Pay, Public Works Director, South Salt Lake
Vice Chair: Eric McCulley, Watershed Scientist, River
 Restoration

Volunteer Impact



Trail Clean-ups

- 1085 volunteers
- 3255 hours
- 29840 pounds of trash & weeds removed



Canoe Clean-ups

- 392 volunteers
- 22 Events
- 155 full canoes of trash removed



Revegetation

- 456 Volunteers
- 1638 hours planting
- 4450 trees & shrubs planted
 - 16 sites
- 80% success rate



Project & Program Highlights

Tree Planting Project

Generous donations from the Harman Family, Dominion Energy Foundation, and Ivory Homes resulted in the planting of over 4,000 trees across the Jordan River Parkway from Saratoga Springs to the Legacy Nature Preserve in North Salt Lake.

Weed Mitigation

Under the direction of the Governing Board, and with guidance by the Technical Advisory Committee and a small Steering Committee of weed experts, the Commission launched a Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA). A legislative appropriation funded large scale pilot projects in West Valley City and Murray, and the development of a "puncturevine bounty" program across the Jordan River Parkway Trail.

Jordan River Extra Patrol Shifts (JREPS)

A legislative appropriation funded additional patrolling across 13 law enforcement jurisdictions. The presence of additional officers helped mitigate the environmental impacts of homeless encampments, connected individuals with social services, enforced non-motorized vehicle rules, and increased safety and security.

Urban Ranger Program

The Urban Ranger program developed in partnership with the University of Utah entered its fourth year. This program gives student volunteers from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to support conservation and education service activities, and engage with trail users.

Vehicles & Equipment

The Commission purchased two additional canoes and two kayaks for in-river cleanups and water quality education programs. It also added a pickup truck and water trailer to expand capability for volunteer supported conservation and restoration activities.

Project & Program Highlights (continued)

Trail Construction & Maintenance

Over 8 miles of the Jordan River Parkway trail were completed on both sides of the river, thanks to significant cooperative work between local governments and developers. An additional mile of trail was extended north to Center Street in North Salt Lake. And several major trail maintenance and restoration projects were completed legislative funding and a variety of other funding sources.

Tracy Aviary Jordan River Nature Center

With seed funding from a legislative appropriation directed by the Commission and several small grants by the Commission, Tracy Aviary has expanded education and citizen science program across the entire Jordan River Parkway. They also completed construction of a transitional campus for the Tracy Aviary Jordan River Nature Center at James Madison Park in South Salt Lake, through a partnership with Salt Lake County. The facility will open in early 2020, complete with a bicycle rental program, education and event center, and expanded education programming.

Signature Events



City Nature Challenge

In April, the Jordan River Commission hosted five bio-blitz events to help participants make observations of plants and animals found along the the Jordan River Parkway.



Golden Spoke

In May, the Jordan River Commission partnered with UDOT's Move Utah to host the second annual Golden Spoke bike month event. This family-friendly event is a free group bike ride with multiple starting points that spans from Provo to Ogden, following a network over a 100 miles of trails.

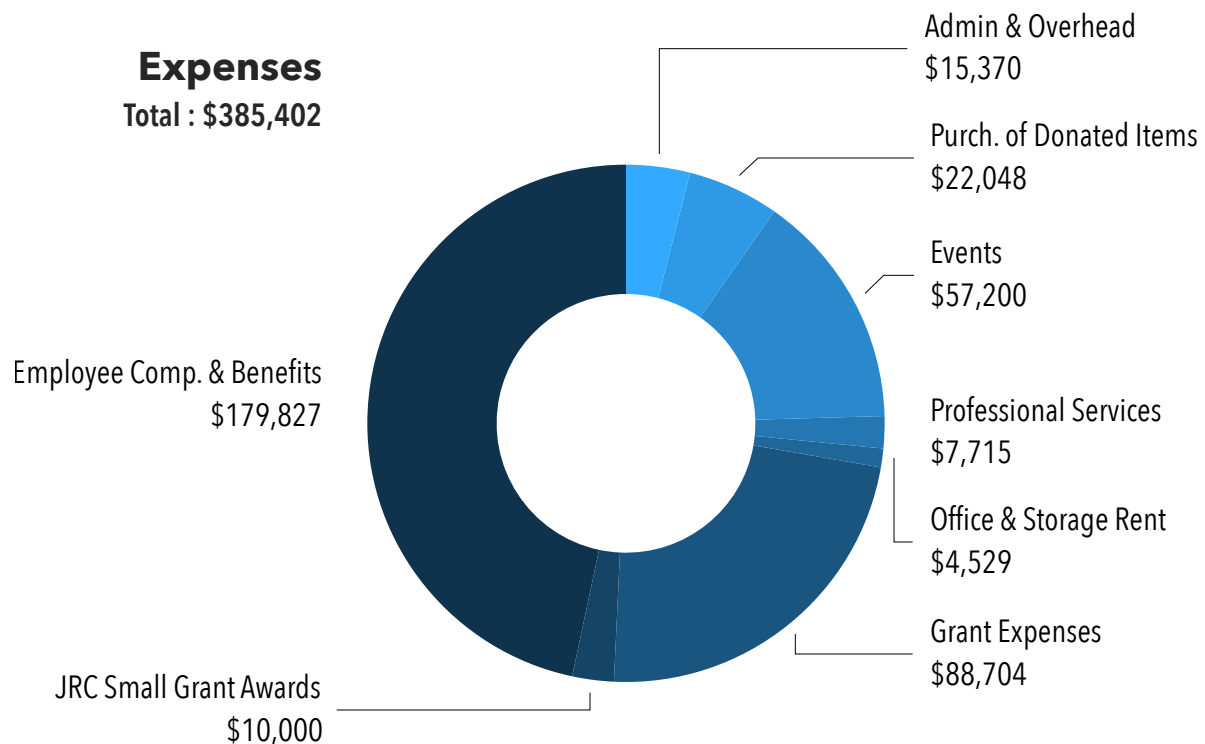
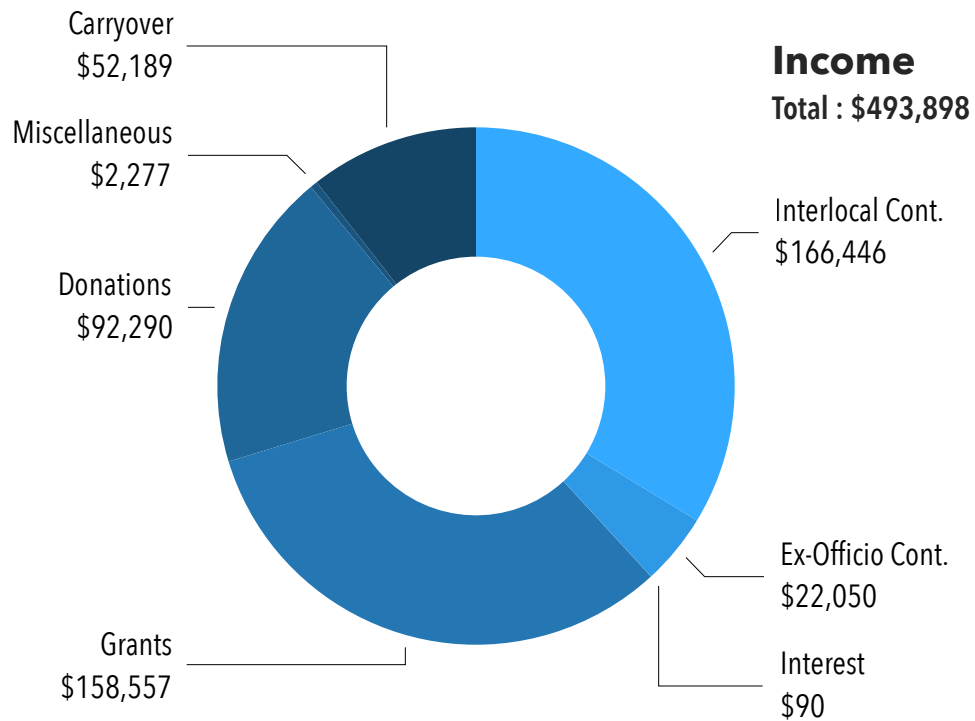


Get to the River Festival

The September 2019 Get to the River Festival included 30 days of river-focused celebrations and conservation activities hosted by the counties and cities along the river. Activities included nature walks, neighborhood dinners, paddles and river floats, trash removal and revegetation projects, a patriotic bike parade, a children's *Beatles* tribute concert, and free fishing.



2019 Fiscal Year Financial Summary



Special Thanks to Partners for Financial Support:

ZIONS BANK



Hogle Zoo

Tracy Aviary

Jordan River Foundation

Wasatch Rowing Foundation

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