

0:00:09.500,0:00:10.333

Welcome, everybody.

0:00:10.333,0:00:12.083

I'm Ogden City Mayor, Ben Nadolski

0:00:12.083,0:00:15.083

And welcome to the Ogden Way
podcast, the place where we talk about

0:00:15.250,0:00:18.958

the stories of Ogden by telling the stories
of Ogden's people - and today

0:00:18.958,0:00:21.958

we have a really special guest
with joined by Flor Lopez.

0:00:22.208,0:00:24.000

Thank you for inviting me. Yes. Thank you.

0:00:24.000,0:00:28.791

Thank you for coming in for special guest
because you have a really special past.

0:00:28.833,0:00:34.333

You have a special story
and you've always done special things in Ogden.

0:00:34.750,0:00:38.041

So I want to share some of that
with with Ogden today.

0:00:38.458,0:00:39.666

Thank you so much.

0:00:39.666,0:00:44.791

Well, I, I moved here around 19 years ago.

0:00:46.083,0:00:47.083

With nothing.

0:00:47.083,0:00:52.541

I just started working on OPA on that time,
and I.

0:00:52.541,0:00:54.166

And it's Ogden Preparatory Academy.

0:00:54.166,0:00:56.916

Yes. Ogden
Preparatory Academy

0:00:56.916,0:00:59.375

For people who didn't have kids
that went to OPA. I know right?

0:01:00.458,0:01:02.916

Yeah, I remember,

0:01:02.916,0:01:05.708

I started working on a kitchen
because I didn't know the language

0:01:05.708,0:01:08.708

or how to communicate with others.

0:01:09.375,0:01:12.875

They pulled me with people who speak Spanish,
which is great.

0:01:12.875,0:01:16.458

And I thought, well, that is great,
but I don't want to be comfortable.

0:01:16.458,0:01:18.125

I want, like, a challenge.

0:01:18.125,0:01:21.041

I want to move with people who speak English.

0:01:21.041,0:01:24.041

So that way I can learn the language

and I can grow.

0:01:24.958,0:01:28.208

Thanks to that opportunity,

I worked there about two months

0:01:28.208,0:01:31.500

and then I moved to doing marketing and tax

0:01:31.500,0:01:34.500

preparation, company here in

0:01:34.500,0:01:37.500

Ogden and,

0:01:38.416,0:01:40.958

then I was diagnosed with M.S..

0:01:40.958,0:01:44.541

I think, you know, that, 2019/20

0:01:46.208,0:01:48.791

when I was diagnosed and I was really scared,

0:01:48.791,0:01:53.875

I thought I was to die

because the doctor was very, very clear, like,

0:01:54.000,0:01:58.208

you're going to lose mobility, you're going to
do will still be shown and things like that.

0:01:59.333,0:02:00.666

I was very scared.

0:02:00.666,0:02:02.875

I was the in that way.

0:02:02.875,0:02:07.583

And then I thought,

I want to do something meaningful with my life.

0:02:08.041,0:02:10.875

I want to make a change.

0:02:10.875,0:02:13.625

I went into the nonprofit world,

0:02:13.625,0:02:17.166

so, that I found Ogden City and the community.

0:02:17.500,0:02:20.500

I found a need in the,

0:02:21.000,0:02:22.791

underserved communities.

0:02:22.791,0:02:25.791

Hispanic, another in need.

0:02:26.708,0:02:29.000

And, I start working

0:02:29.000,0:02:32.000

within the community I've been working with.

0:02:32.875,0:02:35.250

The community for seven years already

0:02:35.250,0:02:38.958

and be that voice advocating for those in need

0:02:39.333,0:02:42.333

and growing in small business.

0:02:42.541,0:02:45.041

Build a relationship between the small business

0:02:45.041,0:02:48.041

and also the residents.

0:02:48.250,0:02:50.166

The institution has worked with us.

0:02:50.166,0:02:54.583

So some of our members of our community,
the young, were okay.

0:02:54.583,0:02:58.791

I was scared to just show up
in the Ogden City building for a board meeting.

0:02:59.916,0:03:03.458

Saw people who was very helpful
and really great.

0:03:04.000,0:03:08.375

And we have a defined institution who support,

0:03:09.458,0:03:11.958

is a small business to growing.

0:03:11.958,0:03:14.083

And I tried to build that gap.

0:03:14.083,0:03:17.000

Been building that reputation since that's.

0:03:17.000,0:03:19.250

And that's the reputation I know you for

0:03:19.250,0:03:22.333

is for stepping in

and helping people to connect. Yes.

0:03:22.541,0:03:23.541

Connection is really important.

0:03:23.541,0:03:26.541

It's something that we often overlook

and take for granted.

0:03:26.541,0:03:29.541

But there's a ton of people

in our community who,

0:03:29.708,0:03:33.416

who have maybe not had the exact same life
circumstances that brought you here,

0:03:33.416,0:03:38.916

the Ogden, but, have had their own challenges
and that, you know, they find themselves here.

0:03:39.500,0:03:43.958

They have the, you know, one
third of our community is Hispanic, and we have

0:03:45.333,0:03:49.333

there is a a spirit of entrepreneurial, drive

0:03:50.041,0:03:53.041

that is really, really amazing.

0:03:53.250,0:03:56.291

And, I think we have a big opportunity
in our community

0:03:56.291,0:04:02.166

to tap into that entrepreneurial spirit
and to let that drive kind of flourish.

0:04:02.333,0:04:05.500

Right. We need connectors like you and others.

0:04:05.500,0:04:07.416

We need a lot of connectors

because institutions

0:04:07.416,0:04:10.416

and programs and opportunities

and just with lessons in the permitting

0:04:10.416,0:04:13.416

and stuff,

that stuff looks like enormous barriers.

0:04:13.416,0:04:16.708

But if we can help people

find those really not tremendous barriers,

0:04:17.500,0:04:20.000

they're ready to to put in the work to thrive.

0:04:20.000,0:04:20.416

Right?

0:04:20.416,0:04:20.791

Yeah.

0:04:20.791,0:04:24.458

And and those places mostly
with, like you mentioned before.

0:04:24.458,0:04:27.791

And for me to understand
the language, understand

0:04:27.791,0:04:31.750

the law and things like that,
I already went through all those process.

0:04:31.750,0:04:34.958

And it's it's pretty easy
when you know everything because

0:04:34.958,0:04:38.291

it's not the same in Mexico where I grew up.

0:04:38.291,0:04:41.583

But some here,
like I need insurance for almost everything.

0:04:41.583,0:04:44.625

So. And Mexico is optional very much. Right.

0:04:45.000,0:04:46.500

So yeah. Yeah.

0:04:46.500,0:04:48.375

So I've, I've been to Mexico a lot.

0:04:48.375,0:04:49.833

Not tourist Mexico at all.

0:04:49.833,0:04:52.833

Yeah I've been to non tourist Mexico.

0:04:52.875,0:04:54.583

6 or 7 times.

0:04:54.583,0:04:57.958

And the amount of economy I mean to create

0:04:57.958,0:05:01.666

economy on just it's postage
stamp of property. Yes.

0:05:01.708,0:05:05.375

It's incredible the ideas that come up
that the, that they create and they find a way.

0:05:05.916,0:05:08.250

And it's just
the amount of hustle is an incredible. Yeah.

0:05:09.208,0:05:09.750

And so if we

0:05:09.750,0:05:12.750

can tap into that and give structure to it,

0:05:13.000,0:05:15.416

and help, help

0:05:15.416,0:05:18.875

really use our resources
and our tools to help them succeed. Yes.

0:05:18.875,0:05:22.750

I mean, there's a lot more success that we can
facilitate in this community, right?

0:05:22.916,0:05:24.166

Yes. That is great.

0:05:24.166,0:05:26.708

So before we let let's talk more.

0:05:26.708,0:05:29.208

If you're okay with it,

0:05:29.208,0:05:30.125

Can we talk more about what

0:05:30.125,0:05:32.250

how you came to Ogden?

Yes

0:05:32.250,0:05:35.416

Because your life story

is actually really amazing and tragic as well.

0:05:35.666,0:05:36.250

Yeah.

0:05:36.250,0:05:39.250

But also it underscores the

0:05:39.416,0:05:43.583

the grit and determination

that it takes to to come in and succeed

0:05:43.583,0:05:46.583

and especially to succeed

at the level that you have.

0:05:46.958,0:05:50.708

I think it's a really amazing story and it's

inspirational for, it's influential for me.

0:05:50.708,0:05:53.083

And I think it'd be inspirational

for a lot of people listening.

0:05:53.083,0:05:54.250

Thank you. Yeah.

0:05:54.250,0:05:54.708

Yeah.

0:05:54.708,0:05:57.708

So basically the reason was for,

0:05:57.875,0:06:00.416

a better future for my kids and also,

0:06:01.916,0:06:04.916

for my family to be secure here

0:06:05.583,0:06:07.041

Back in Mexico.

0:06:07.041,0:06:10.041

My dad was kidnaped on 2006,

0:06:10.291,0:06:13.291

and, before my kid born,

0:06:13.375,0:06:18.250

he didn't know he had his first granddaughter.

0:06:18.250,0:06:19.833

And so

0:06:19.833,0:06:22.833

he didn't know about that.

0:06:23.541,0:06:24.791

He disappeared

0:06:24.791,0:06:26.250

We didn't find a body.

0:06:26.250,0:06:29.000

We didn't find any.

0:06:29.000,0:06:32.000

Not for rescue or for money, things like that.

0:06:32.000,0:06:34.750

So he just disappeared

0:06:34.750,0:06:36.125

on 2016.

0:06:36.125,0:06:38.875

That is a story that passed for my family.

0:06:38.875,0:06:40.875

Came back to my family.

0:06:40.875,0:06:44.000

I my ex-husband was doing a great,

0:06:44.041,0:06:47.583

great job, getting a good income.

0:06:47.583,0:06:50.583

I had one good income as well.

0:06:50.916,0:06:53.541

That was the reason

0:06:53.541,0:06:57.250

people believe I had to do something with my.

0:06:57.250,0:07:02.791

My dad or his work, and my kids were English,

0:07:02.791,0:07:07.375

and that for that reason,

I put all my life in in a suitcase.

0:07:07.375,0:07:08.916

I'm moving here to Utah.

0:07:10.500,0:07:12.791

We I'm very grateful because I thought

0:07:12.791,0:07:16.833

if something happened with my kids in Mexico,

we don't have an Amber alert.

0:07:17.458,0:07:19.416

They will disappear. Like, literally.

0:07:19.416,0:07:21.833

They will disappear. And I don't know what.

0:07:21.833,0:07:26.333

And when I moved here, I remember I was scared.

0:07:26.333,0:07:29.625

I was, and I start working at OPA like

0:07:29.666,0:07:32.750

Like, the lock simulation

0:07:33.166,0:07:36.458

and I remember when I, the first time I, I,

0:07:36.541,0:07:41.125

I was experience

that I thought they came for me like literally.

0:07:41.125,0:07:44.250

And I start crying

and I remember my mother around that time.

0:07:44.250,0:07:46.375

She's a is like a it's okay.

0:07:46.375,0:07:49.708

I was in a similar simulation

and oh my God, why.

0:07:49.708,0:07:50.916

Are you guys doing that?

0:07:50.916,0:07:53.500

I mean, really, why?

0:07:53.500,0:07:57.458

But that is the reason I came in for dad

and I.

0:07:58.083,0:07:59.458

I'm not ashamed.

0:07:59.458,0:08:02.458

I'm still in a school and as a kitchen assistant.

0:08:02.708,0:08:06.208

I do, I prepare myself, I learn a language

0:08:06.291,0:08:09.541

and literally was working
three jobs at the time.

0:08:10.291,0:08:12.083

No. Sleep in the morning.

0:08:12.083,0:08:13.333

In the night.

0:08:13.333,0:08:16.833

Be there for my kids
because I want to work here.

0:08:17.458,0:08:18.875

I want to be better.

0:08:18.875,0:08:20.625

And now I'm a business owner.

0:08:21.916,0:08:26.250

I'm sure the most of the time for people
who need it.

0:08:26.708,0:08:29.041

Because, like me,

0:08:29.041,0:08:32.041

I celebrate those success in the business

0:08:32.041,0:08:35.500

and the in the members of the community.

0:08:36.333,0:08:38.708

And also, I know

0:08:38.708,0:08:41.208

the feeling of have nothing.

0:08:41.208,0:08:43.500

So I know that feeling.

0:08:43.500,0:08:46.708

So you said something that you don't feel
ashamed for starting in the kitchen

0:08:46.708,0:08:48.000

like you shouldn't.

0:08:48.000,0:08:49.791

There's absolutely there's nothing.

0:08:49.791,0:08:51.541

No, there's no shame in work.

0:08:51.541,0:08:53.666

I think work is

0:08:53.666,0:08:54.791

a very prideful thing.

0:08:54.791,0:08:56.958

It's a it's an honorable thing.

0:08:56.958,0:08:58.750

Yeah. And what kind of work you're doing?

0:08:58.750,0:09:01.916

Just the ability

to have an opportunity to do work is,

0:09:03.125,0:09:06.125

to me, it's a very honorable thing.

0:09:06.291,0:09:07.250

Yeah, absolutely.

0:09:07.250,0:09:08.125

I'm agree.

0:09:08.125,0:09:10.583

But, you know,
sometimes in our culture is like that.

0:09:10.583,0:09:13.041

You have a degree where you are in a teacher

0:09:13.041,0:09:15.416

and what is like a well,
I don't know the language.

0:09:15.416,0:09:16.833

So that is. The main reason.

0:09:18.583,0:09:21.583

But yeah, basically,

0:09:22.041,0:09:24.208

I had amazing people there.

0:09:24.208,0:09:26.708

Also too, now,

0:09:26.708,0:09:30.458

life is full of full mentors.

0:09:30.458,0:09:32.375

I have amazing mentors.

0:09:32.375,0:09:36.666

And then I start doing Look Back them
and I met,

0:09:37.291,0:09:40.250

Luis Lopez and I,

0:09:40.250,0:09:44.041

I know he still is a friend
and I met, and locally family.

0:09:44.583,0:09:47.583

They are my mentors. Like, for life.

0:09:47.583,0:09:50.916

Luis is the person,
that kind of person who said,

0:09:51.333,0:09:54.333

yes, friend, you can do it no matter what.

0:09:54.333,0:09:56.083

You can do it.

0:09:56.083,0:09:57.625

Although he is the kind of person like.

0:09:57.625,0:10:00.583

Wait,

you need to see the perspective and everything.

0:10:00.583,0:10:04.625

And theses are do the way, by the way
and we fight about it.

0:10:04.625,0:10:05.833

But it's amazing.

0:10:05.833,0:10:08.833

Yeah. He's.

0:10:08.916,0:10:09.916

He's amazing.

0:10:09.916,0:10:11.500

They are like, Luis

0:10:11.500,0:10:13.750

I told the other that you are like
the father that you don't have.

0:10:13.750,0:10:15.833

So you are that kind of person.

0:10:15.833,0:10:17.041

So yeah. It's good man.

0:10:17.041,0:10:20.375

So the lawyer
and they say they have different perspectives.

0:10:20.375,0:10:23.375

They do the same things. Yeah. Truth is like.

0:10:23.708,0:10:25.750

Yes. Like I'm super close to Luis.

0:10:25.750,0:10:27.291

I don't know your well as well too, but,

0:10:28.541,0:10:29.125

and Luis

0:10:29.125,0:10:32.125

are good
friends, and he's actually taught me a ton.

0:10:32.166,0:10:33.166

He is taking me places.

0:10:33.166,0:10:36.166

I never would have gone without him.

0:10:36.208,0:10:38.791

Is, introduction to people.

0:10:38.791,0:10:42.750

Introduce me to their stories,
help me see their challenges.

0:10:42.750,0:10:46.916

We helped people overcome challenges,
bureaucratic challenges

0:10:46.916,0:10:51.125

and institutional system problems
that that they just didn't know where to turn.

0:10:51.458,0:10:54.083

It's a little bit of the ability.

They just don't know where to go.

0:10:54.083,0:10:57.083

And that again brings us
back to that connecting you know what I mean.

0:10:57.125,0:11:00.333

And so in one of the same ways for this
you know

0:11:01.333,0:11:03.333

Lewis has been a mentor for me too.

0:11:03.333,0:11:06.333

And I know what that goes head
if he watches this.

0:11:06.333,0:11:08.500

Don't let that go your head Lewis. No, not.

0:11:08.500,0:11:11.166

But he's a special man for for both of us. And,

0:11:12.833,0:11:15.458

our city needs more people like you
and like him

0:11:15.458,0:11:20.208

to help us understand the challenges
that are in one third of our city, right?

0:11:20.208,0:11:23.375

One third of our population
are having some of these challenges. And,

0:11:24.750,0:11:27.500

they're just two challenges that we,
I think we take for granted,

0:11:27.500,0:11:30.041

because we're so accustomed to them,
we're so used to we know where to go.

0:11:30.041,0:11:33.458

We know how to apply for a business license
or something that. Yes.

0:11:34.958,0:11:37.958

But anyway, I think that's
those are the kinds of barriers that,

0:11:38.125,0:11:40.958

I think that you have spent a lot of time
helping people with.

0:11:40.958,0:11:42.458

Right.

Yes, absolutely.

0:11:42.458,0:11:45.250

Yeah. And also,

0:11:45.250,0:11:47.833

not use the barriers like, I, I,

0:11:47.833,0:11:51.291

I like to empower
those members of the community.

0:11:51.291,0:11:53.333

I have a business owner right now.

0:11:53.333,0:11:57.166

When I met her,
she was a mess, honestly, noodling.

0:11:57.166,0:11:58.458

She was a mess.

0:11:58.458,0:12:01.416

And right now I can tell you she's going.

0:12:01.416,0:12:02.333

She's better.

0:12:02.333,0:12:08.083

She learned the language and she is sitting
an amazing board member serving food.

0:12:08.583,0:12:10.208

And I'm proud of her.

0:12:10.208,0:12:15.416

And I like to think I was part of that change
and that made me happy.

0:12:16.333,0:12:19.541

That made me happy because her grow is

0:12:19.750,0:12:23.166

they grow for Ogden
City is the same for others.

0:12:23.708,0:12:25.291

Her grow it means

0:12:25.291,0:12:27.291

an example for that

0:12:27.291,0:12:30.541

So I, I like to be part of that

0:12:30.875,0:12:36.083

because I important I always tell my kids,
you can stay at my mom while you do.

0:12:36.083,0:12:37.125

always busy work

0:12:37.125,0:12:38.166

you doing this

0:12:38.166,0:12:40.416

Why we going to do volunteer work?

0:12:40.416,0:12:42.458

Because I take them with me

0:12:42.458,0:12:45.416

And it's because we are putting seeds in

0:12:45.416,0:12:46.291

In Ogden City.

0:12:46.291,0:12:49.500

And that's it's going to turn in trees

0:12:49.833,0:12:53.708

and those trees will to give you shade in case I'm not there

0:12:54.250,0:12:59.166

Because again, I have immense and
and I in some point I'm not going to be there.

0:12:59.250,0:13:03.375

And I hope those members in the community
will cheer for my family.

0:13:03.750,0:13:06.250

Like the same way I show up for them. Yeah.

0:13:06.250,0:13:09.250

That's what
that's what makes this a community in the city.

0:13:09.291,0:13:10.750

And use the word growth.

0:13:11.916,0:13:12.541

That's one of the most

0:13:12.541,0:13:15.541

important elements of the Ogden way is

0:13:16.583,0:13:21.666

always having a mindset of personal,
professional and community growth. Yes.

0:13:21.666,0:13:23.125

And not necessarily growth.

0:13:23.125,0:13:24.333

Some people think that's a bad word

0:13:24.333,0:13:28.875

because it means more more people
more more density and busier roads.

0:13:28.875,0:13:31.708

And so I'm talking about personal growth.

Yes. Right.

0:13:31.708,0:13:35.791

Investing in yourself, investing in each other
to help each other be better.

0:13:36.083,0:13:37.125

Right.

Absolutely.

0:13:37.125,0:13:41.041

And I have found, especially in this job
where if I invest in others and they they grow,

0:13:41.250,0:13:44.250

they grow. Me too. Yes.

And that's how it works.

0:13:44.375,0:13:45.041

We help each other.

0:13:45.041,0:13:48.041

And that's what makes Ogden so special,
is that we

0:13:48.291,0:13:51.125

we we we thank you for ourselves.

0:13:51.125,0:13:51.958

Right.

0:13:51.958,0:13:55.833

And we have this notion that we want to be
great, but we don't want to do it by ourselves.

0:13:55.833,0:13:57.750

And we know what we can, nor should we.

0:13:57.750,0:13:59.958

We can always be better
if we help each other be great.

0:13:59.958,0:14:00.583

Absolutely.

0:14:00.583,0:14:03.583

It's like a having accountability buddy.

0:14:03.625,0:14:06.958

We always want to be there
because you want to be there for him.

0:14:06.958,0:14:08.416

So he's the same way.

0:14:08.416,0:14:10.125

I have a genuine wish for that.

0:14:10.125,0:14:12.666

If I could do that

for 90,000 people all at once,

0:14:13.750,0:14:15.875

all the time, every day, I would do it.

0:14:15.875,0:14:18.875

Yeah, I would love to. Like, yeah, right.

0:14:19.041,0:14:21.666

Because a lot of things I can do

0:14:21.666,0:14:24.375

and some of those things,

0:14:24.375,0:14:27.291

I think there's a lot of people

that don't know how I feel.

0:14:27.291,0:14:32.041

As the mayor, you don't know what

I want to do to help and where they even trust.

0:14:32.375,0:14:33.541

Right.

0:14:33.541,0:14:36.000

One because the job I'm in or two
because of who I am

0:14:36.000,0:14:39.000

or three because of their past etc..

0:14:39.083,0:14:41.916

And so I'm counting on people like you

0:14:41.916,0:14:44.916

to help be an extension of me,
an extension of us

0:14:45.083,0:14:48.458

to reach into the community and find those
people that have that drive and that grit.

0:14:49.000,0:14:50.291

Right.

0:14:50.291,0:14:50.583

Bring them to us

0:14:50.583,0:14:55.000

to them if you can, or help connect us
because we want to help them connect us

0:14:55.250,0:14:55.791

if you can

0:14:55.791,0:14:58.083

That's our. That's why we're here.

Yeah. That's right.

0:14:58.083,0:14:59.541

I want to see them build up community.

0:14:59.541,0:15:04.333

The economy doesn't just help them help,
it helps the family, but also helps all of us.

0:15:04.583,0:15:05.875

Yes. Right.

0:15:05.875,0:15:09.333

And I think that's what makes it special

is that we have all different types of people

0:15:09.333,0:15:11.541

and all different types
of opportunities in economy.

0:15:12.500,0:15:13.333

Right.

0:15:13.333,0:15:14.458

Ogden is amazing.

0:15:14.458,0:15:18.291

And I know you saw the economy
and the place is the people.

0:15:18.291,0:15:19.833

It's the people.

0:15:19.833,0:15:22.208

When I'm moving here,

0:15:22.208,0:15:25.291

when I started on the volunteer work

0:15:25.291,0:15:29.500

and when I started showing up on connect

0:15:29.500,0:15:32.500

with the, with other members,

0:15:32.666,0:15:34.958

personally, I can tell

0:15:34.958,0:15:38.166

the first gala I attended was licensing.

0:15:39.041,0:15:40.666

And right

0:15:40.666,0:15:43.666

after that, I was cleaning my car.

0:15:44.041,0:15:47.375

Now, because they took me by

is because I had that feeling.

0:15:47.375,0:15:51.750

They don't belong here,

but I, I file for that and I

0:15:52.875,0:15:56.000

like me is other member of the community
like that.

0:15:56.000,0:15:57.583

They feel they don't belong like that.

0:15:57.583,0:15:59.791

What I'm doing here

0:15:59.791,0:16:02.791

and the people made me feel is special.

0:16:03.250,0:16:07.500

When I have dots and people may show up for me

0:16:08.375,0:16:12.291

every time I have a breakdown
because everyone has a breakdown.

0:16:13.333,0:16:14.041

No way.

0:16:14.041,0:16:14.708

I'm not.

0:16:14.708,0:16:17.708

You're okay. You're perfect. Well, no.

0:16:17.916,0:16:20.583

The regular people, we have breakdowns.

0:16:20.583,0:16:23.583

I do do more often than anybody else. Yes.

0:16:23.583,0:16:26.750

I, I yeah, I always sit in my car on the subway

0:16:26.791,0:16:30.541

and and always, always someone show up for me.

0:16:31.208,0:16:32.375

Always.

0:16:32.375,0:16:36.791

So that is why I'm, I'm willing to fight
for the city.

0:16:37.208,0:16:41.500

I'm willing to stand up and say, fight
for the right answer,

0:16:41.500,0:16:46.000

for the right people, for the right things
because of the city.

0:16:46.000,0:16:48.750

No, just give me a second home of the city.

0:16:48.750,0:16:52.375

Give me a family, the members, a great family.

0:16:52.375,0:16:55.375

I have a great friends, a great,

0:16:56.416,0:16:58.958

support, what I can call love.

0:16:58.958,0:17:03.000

Like a little I can call someone that I know
and they will be there for me.

0:17:03.291,0:17:03.833

Yeah.

0:17:03.833,0:17:09.166

You know that I should clarify something when
I say to me, I am talking about our people.

0:17:10.458,0:17:12.541

That is our people, our autonomy.

0:17:12.541,0:17:13.958

Yes, I know on on me are a.

0:17:13.958,0:17:16.958

Result of our people

and a reflection of our people.

0:17:17.333,0:17:20.708

And so I don't know how everybody thinks
about the economy that way.

0:17:21.416,0:17:23.458

I think there's different viewpoints of it.

0:17:23.458,0:17:25.875

But to me, I feel like

0:17:25.875,0:17:29.458

the best way to help our people
is to help them have access to opportunity.

0:17:29.625,0:17:30.416

Absolutely.

0:17:30.416,0:17:33.916

And, the most important probably is

0:17:34.958,0:17:37.666

the, maybe just the more fundamental safety,

0:17:37.666,0:17:40.625

is access to economic opportunity.

0:17:40.625,0:17:41.375

Absolutely.

0:17:41.375,0:17:45.750

And for so many people,

it's access and opportunity to build

0:17:45.916,0:17:47.958

that up economy for themselves.

0:17:47.958,0:17:49.708

So what you have in your small business.

0:17:49.708,0:17:51.125

Yes. Right.

0:17:51.125,0:17:53.041

And you've done it

0:17:53.041,0:17:55.291

for yourself and with yourself,
but with others.

0:17:55.291,0:17:56.958

You've been super involved with the chamber.

0:17:56.958,0:17:59.666

Yes, you have commerce,
which is an incredible organization.

0:17:59.666,0:18:04.000

The networking, it's there, the camaraderie
and the support from community that's there.

0:18:04.750,0:18:05.916

That's unrivaled.

0:18:05.916,0:18:06.333

Right.

0:18:06.333,0:18:09.333

Absolutely.

And they are a great family as well.

0:18:09.666,0:18:14.000

They always look in on more opportunities
to small business to grow.

0:18:14.458,0:18:18.958

I'm part of I'm
sure from the small business community

0:18:19.458,0:18:24.375

I part of them woman in business
and I'm in by older members of the community.

0:18:24.416,0:18:27.291

That's always amazing
for the the job they are doing.

0:18:28.500,0:18:30.208

The people there is amazing.

0:18:30.208,0:18:30.666

Honestly.

0:18:30.666,0:18:33.666

I recently went to Mexico City for graduation,

0:18:33.750,0:18:36.750

and I have, personal issues over there,

0:18:36.875,0:18:40.291

and I, I share this issue
with one of the members.

0:18:40.291,0:18:42.750

And she was text me.

0:18:42.750,0:18:43.666

Are you okay?

0:18:43.666,0:18:44.916

Everything is okay.

0:18:44.916,0:18:46.750

She was literally worried for me.

0:18:46.750,0:18:49.666

And I really appreciate
I will say her name. Lisa.

0:18:49.666,0:18:51.666

Lisa is amazing.

0:18:51.666,0:18:54.083

She is amazing there and she was

0:18:54.083,0:18:57.083

worried for me and is like,

I'm okay, I'm still alive.

0:18:57.083,0:18:58.291

Everything is okay, I will.

0:18:58.291,0:19:00.458

But so

0:19:00.458,0:19:02.583

like I mentioned before,

0:19:02.583,0:19:05.958

all the community is not just, resident.

0:19:05.958,0:19:09.375

Living in the community is like,

are people really show up for you

0:19:09.375,0:19:13.416

if you need it to do an how?

0:19:13.416,0:19:14.791

No one discover all of them?

0:19:14.791,0:19:18.208

Because I love it too much for the,
a second Salt Lake City.

0:19:18.208,0:19:21.458

But yeah. All that is amazing is is great.

0:19:21.875,0:19:24.791

So yeah, I so I came from Arizona.

0:19:24.791,0:19:25.875

Yeah, yeah.

0:19:25.875,0:19:27.000

You came from the state of Sonora.

0:19:27.000,0:19:29.500

Yeah. Sonora cross
which border to. Yeah. Right.

0:19:29.500,0:19:31.375

So snow is the northern Mexico.

0:19:31.375,0:19:32.250

Yeah.

0:19:32.250,0:19:33.375

Border state in Mexico.

0:19:33.375,0:19:35.458

I live Arizona in the southern end.

0:19:35.458,0:19:38.458

In fact, my
my family's from the immediate border.

0:19:38.791,0:19:42.375

It's where my dad's family's from
and where we are, came from. But,

0:19:45.875,0:19:48.250

I think that your story is not.

0:19:48.250,0:19:51.958

It is unique in itself,
but it's a it's a unique story

0:19:51.958,0:19:54.750

within the whole of Oregon stories.

0:19:54.750,0:19:55.750

Yeah, absolutely.

0:19:55.750,0:19:57.208

We have amazing stories here.

0:19:57.208,0:19:59.166

We have amazing people as well.

0:19:59.166,0:20:03.041

No, no use me is, the difference is like,

0:20:03.958,0:20:06.833

I, I really feel, I really be there.

0:20:06.833,0:20:09.833

I, I really am bold.

0:20:09.875,0:20:12.833

And I'm that voice for the ones

0:20:12.833,0:20:15.375

who don't want to go out. Who?

0:20:15.375,0:20:19.125

If they are concerned, I will be there for them
and I will advocate for them.

0:20:19.125,0:20:24.333

And for that reason, hopefully in the future,
doing very, very good things.

0:20:24.333,0:20:26.000

So I know I want good things for you.

0:20:26.000,0:20:29.250

And I also hope that the people
that you're talking about see this video

0:20:29.250,0:20:32.791

and see you and I talking and that they see
that you can talk with the mayor.

0:20:32.916,0:20:35.583

Oh, yeah, absolutely. You can. Yeah. I

0:20:36.625,0:20:38.708

you said, well, two things.

0:20:38.708,0:20:40.750

One is,

0:20:40.750,0:20:42.833

you said you go into your car and you cry

0:20:42.833,0:20:45.333

or but people always show up for you.

0:20:45.333,0:20:46.916

You always have support.

0:20:46.916,0:20:49.916

Do you ever look back on the experiences you've
had, though, all the way up to this point?

0:20:49.916,0:20:52.916

And whatever
it is, it's making you cry in that moment,

0:20:53.458,0:20:57.041

surely you feel strong,
strengthened to get through whatever that is.

0:20:57.833,0:21:01.375

Knowing everything you've been through
to move your family here overnight

0:21:01.833,0:21:04.625

in one suitcase,
to do it in the threat of safety

0:21:04.625,0:21:08.333

because of the threats for kidnaping
and that you lost your father, etc.

0:21:08.541,0:21:11.083

that's a lot to go through. It is. Right.

0:21:11.083,0:21:12.750

It is a lot. Yeah.

0:21:12.750,0:21:15.833

So you have everything you need on board
inside you

0:21:16.500,0:21:18.875

to overcome those things on your own.

0:21:18.875,0:21:19.333

If you have to.

0:21:19.333,0:21:22.291

You, but you also have the support
of the community.

0:21:22.291,0:21:23.333

Yeah, absolutely.

0:21:23.333,0:21:26.333

Like like I mentioned before,
we have our eight.

0:21:26.583,0:21:29.333

Well, I have a great accountability buddies.

0:21:29.333,0:21:32.916

I have a friends, but I was raised well.

0:21:32.916,0:21:35.666

I don't know if you
know more people from Sonora.

0:21:36.750,0:21:38.166

We there.

0:21:38.166,0:21:39.541

We don't.

0:21:39.541,0:21:41.333

We are no ten person is like that.

0:21:41.333,0:21:44.583

We are very direct personal like, yes. No.

0:21:45.125,0:21:47.666

We forgot please and thank you.

0:21:47.666,0:21:49.958

But we are amazing people.

0:21:49.958,0:21:51.791

But we are strong enough.

0:21:51.791,0:21:55.000

So we are ashamed to to show our feelings.

0:21:55.000,0:21:59.041

Or if I need help,

I'm not going to ask you for help.

0:21:59.625,0:22:01.750

And now,

0:22:01.750,0:22:04.750

since eight years ago, I've been learning.

0:22:04.958,0:22:08.166

I ask for help,

and that is okay. Delegate work.

0:22:08.291,0:22:11.500

And that is okay

to bring more people to the table.

0:22:11.791,0:22:13.083

And that is okay.

0:22:13.083,0:22:16.083

Be that voice and that is okay too.

0:22:16.416,0:22:19.333

So it's better than okay. It's it's

recommended.

0:22:19.333,0:22:19.625

Yeah.

0:22:19.625,0:22:25.333

I yeah, actually we find that a lot

where we're where we need help, right? Yes.

0:22:25.333,0:22:28.291

And sometimes we just don't even know
that someone needs help.

0:22:28.291,0:22:30.750

But when they ask
for we're happy to help. Eager to help.

0:22:32.375,0:22:33.583

Was the word earlier for that

0:22:33.583,0:22:36.250

You want to stand up,
you want to fight for your people

0:22:36.250,0:22:39.208

I want to tell you
that I don't want to fight with you.

0:22:39.208,0:22:40.416

I want to fight with you.

0:22:40.416,0:22:42.875

Oh, yeah. I will fight alongside
you, is what I mean.

0:22:42.875,0:22:45.333

Right? Yeah. And let me rephrase that.

0:22:45.333,0:22:50.083

When I say fight, I'm not activist, so I'm.

0:22:50.083,0:22:52.166

I'm the person who used your words.

0:22:52.166,0:22:54.500

So let's have a coffee.

0:22:54.500,0:22:57.041

Normally

when I meet someone and invite lunch is

0:22:57.041,0:23:00.791

because I love to tell

with the food in my in my table.

0:23:00.791,0:23:03.458

So that is a cultural thing.

0:23:03.458,0:23:06.666

Yeah. It's like,

okay. Let's have a lounge under.

0:23:06.791,0:23:09.791

Let's discuss this

because I'm worried about this.

0:23:10.083,0:23:12.541

So let's look for solutions.

0:23:12.541,0:23:14.625

All that all of a sudden fighting each other.

0:23:14.625,0:23:17.083

So right by the way we can go.

0:23:17.083,0:23:17.875

Which is great.

0:23:17.875,0:23:23.041

But if we aren't willing to do the work
that's needed to overcome that challenge,

0:23:23.041,0:23:26.708

then yeah, we don't give you any other option
than to fight.

0:23:26.916,0:23:28.291

Yes. Right.

0:23:28.291,0:23:31.000

And that's where I think

I think activism has its place, but I think

0:23:31.000,0:23:36.333

it also can be destructive

if we are wanting the same thing.

0:23:36.791,0:23:37.458

Right? Yes.

0:23:37.458,0:23:39.750

We work on the same thing.

Sometimes we're going to have disagreements.

0:23:39.750,0:23:45.208

But if we were in this place to work on behalf
and help people facilitate their success.

0:23:45.250,0:23:45.750

Yeah.

0:23:46.458,0:23:49.458

We don't
have to be fighting, but we can be fighting it.

0:23:49.500,0:23:50.708

In the same direction. Right?

0:23:50.708,0:23:52.666

Absolutely. Completely.

0:23:52.666,0:23:56.708

So what are some of the things that we can do
to help more people in these ways?

0:23:56.708,0:24:01.500

How do we how do we open ourselves up for
more to be more helpful as a city?

0:24:02.083,0:24:07.208

Well, right now, is are a little concern
for all immigration laws and everything.

0:24:07.208,0:24:11.250

And honestly, I've been meeting
with a group of people every Saturday

0:24:11.791,0:24:14.791

and, see what way we can

0:24:15.333,0:24:17.958

give that information to our community
like that.

0:24:17.958,0:24:19.416

They are safe here.

0:24:19.416,0:24:22.083

If you have, detention

0:24:22.083,0:24:25.916

or you have a ticket,
you going to be safe here no matter what.

0:24:26.375,0:24:28.291

Unless you have a bus, right?

0:24:28.291,0:24:31.291

By I mean, that is a different story.

0:24:32.083,0:24:34.791

Or schools are safe or,

0:24:36.916,0:24:38.791

government buildings are a safe

0:24:38.791,0:24:42.583

place to go because right now,

the people who came with me,

0:24:42.583,0:24:45.958

when everything is start,

we want to pull out the kids from the school.

0:24:46.791,0:24:51.958

And like, no my kid used to be

a homeschooled for different reasons.

0:24:52.291,0:24:55.291

She's back going out to in-person school.

0:24:56.958,0:24:58.625

It's like if you are not there,

0:24:58.625,0:25:01.833

if you are working

all day, it's not going to work for your kids.

0:25:02.166,0:25:03.375

They need communication.

0:25:03.375,0:25:05.291

They need other kids. Right?

0:25:05.291,0:25:07.208

But if they are scared.

0:25:07.208,0:25:09.000

Then they need they need to be.

0:25:09.000,0:25:12.000

In the classroom

that they need to be in this classroom.

0:25:12.250,0:25:14.708

And I try to, explain that

0:25:14.708,0:25:18.250

or coming up to our community

about you going to be fine.

0:25:18.250,0:25:21.000

I mean, you have rights

no matter your legal status.

0:25:21.000,0:25:22.750

You have rights.

0:25:22.750,0:25:26.250

But it's still that lack of information

0:25:26.250,0:25:29.250

between the city and or community.

0:25:29.375,0:25:30.541

I will love to.

0:25:30.541,0:25:35.083

I don't know, maybe on the website
or give more information

0:25:35.083,0:25:40.000

or connect with those who needs
and see what we can do together.

0:25:40.208,0:25:40.833

Right?

0:25:40.833,0:25:44.166

Ana not used I have a couple business as well.

0:25:44.166,0:25:47.333

They are worried with the sell starts

0:25:47.333,0:25:50.333

on everything changes like okay,

0:25:50.375,0:25:52.541

information is a powerful tool,

0:25:52.541,0:25:55.708

so more information we have is better.

0:25:56.500,0:26:00.458

And over the years I've seen our website

0:26:00.458,0:26:04.333

Ogden, see the website growing,

which is congratulations is amazing.

0:26:04.333,0:26:06.000

Thank you, thank you. Mike.

0:26:06.000,0:26:06.500

Oh, Mike.

0:26:06.500,0:26:08.166

Thank you, thank you Mike.

0:26:08.166,0:26:10.416

And August 18th really appreciate.

0:26:10.416,0:26:11.458

Yeah. Yeah.

0:26:11.458,0:26:14.250

Because before was like, okay,

0:26:14.250,0:26:17.250

I went to a landmark commission for I doing,

0:26:17.333,0:26:20.750

two murals on the condition

when I used to have the candy shop,

0:26:22.000,0:26:23.916

I spent six months

0:26:23.916,0:26:26.916

in the process.

0:26:27.250,0:26:29.208

Is because that lack of information

0:26:29.208,0:26:32.250

right now, I going to the website
and information is very slick.

0:26:32.500,0:26:33.875

Thank you. Awesome.

0:26:33.875,0:26:36.041

Thank you.

0:26:36.041,0:26:37.541

You guys leave. That out there. Yeah.

0:26:37.541,0:26:39.375

And look it out.

0:26:39.375,0:26:41.791

If you. Have to wait a moment for this
all the. Time.

0:26:41.791,0:26:42.125

Yeah.

0:26:42.125,0:26:44.708

All the information is there, which is amazing.

0:26:44.708,0:26:46.791

Which I think when we brought up immigration.

0:26:46.791,0:26:48.500

I'm not afraid to talk about it. Nothing.

0:26:48.500,0:26:51.666

Because, if they don't hear me talk about it,
then they think it's.

0:26:52.291,0:26:53.833

I'm afraid that I'm trying to hide something.

0:26:53.833,0:26:58.333

Yeah, but what I always were, you know, there's
people think that the city has authorities

0:26:58.333,0:27:01.750

that we don't have,
we don't have immigration authority.

0:27:02.916,0:27:05.708

We're here to, but to, to protect our people,

0:27:06.666,0:27:08.458

to, to fight crime.

0:27:08.458,0:27:09.500

That's what we're here for.

0:27:09.500,0:27:10.416

They're not committing crimes.

0:27:10.416,0:27:12.833

It's like Impd

0:27:12.833,0:27:15.166

is going to is here to protect your rights.

0:27:15.166,0:27:16.041

Right.

0:27:16.041,0:27:18.083

And I think there's a lot of people
who don't recognize the difference.

0:27:18.083,0:27:22.875

Not city and county and state and federal
and different laws and authorities.

0:27:22.875,0:27:25.583

And so it becomes all mixed up.

0:27:25.583,0:27:27.625

Right.

0:27:27.625,0:27:29.916

But everybody has rights that same time.

0:27:29.916,0:27:33.583

Nobody has right, the right to commit crime
and to violate the rights of anybody else.

0:27:34.083,0:27:36.750

And that's what
our police department's there to protect.

0:27:36.750,0:27:40.416

So they enforce the law
and they protect rights.

0:27:40.833,0:27:41.833

Right?

0:27:41.833,0:27:42.166

Yeah.

0:27:42.166,0:27:47.666

I agree and and I, I think I'm glad
you mentioned that because, that is a confusion

0:27:47.666,0:27:51.958

is, is the the people is confused
because they believe Ogden city's immigration

0:27:52.333,0:27:57.375

the police, Ogden City police is immigration
and they are scared.

0:27:57.375,0:27:59.333

They don't want to show up to warrant they.

0:27:59.333,0:28:01.500

You don't want to take the kids to the school.

0:28:01.500,0:28:04.500

They don't want to show up
for our information meeting.

0:28:04.500,0:28:09.166

And we need to spread the word
like we are here for you.

0:28:09.166,0:28:10.500

These are your rights.

0:28:10.500,0:28:12.958

We are not immigration.

0:28:12.958,0:28:16.125

And if you need something approach to us,
we can help you.

0:28:16.833,0:28:19.833

You know don't are terminations
that I have a lot with people

0:28:20.333,0:28:22.791

Daniel Lopez and our police department
helps a lot.

0:28:22.791,0:28:24.458

And she's amazing. She's incredible.

0:28:24.458,0:28:26.958

Yeah. She's way
just been. In that job on this. Show.

0:28:26.958,0:28:28.041

Yeah, I saw her.

0:28:28.041,0:28:28.750

Yeah, yeah.

0:28:28.750,0:28:31.750

And so if there's anything
that we can do to help more, let us know.

0:28:32.375,0:28:35.375

We're unapologetic
about wanting to be a safe city.

0:28:36.166,0:28:40.291

We're unapologetic about enforcing the law
and protecting people from violence

0:28:40.541,0:28:42.000

and from crime.

0:28:42.000,0:28:46.958

And so but that doesn't mean
that we are out to create criminals. Yes.

0:28:47.000,0:28:48.208

Or to manufacture.

0:28:48.208,0:28:49.500

I don't know. Anybody.

0:28:49.500,0:28:50.000

Yeah.

0:28:50.000,0:28:53.000

It's you're here
and you're making our community a better place.

0:28:53.458,0:28:55.750

You're going to find a great community.

0:28:56.958,0:29:00.166

If you're here to hurt people,
you won't be welcome here whatsoever.

0:29:00.166,0:29:02.500

We have the best place from the state
that will. Yeah.

0:29:02.500,0:29:05.125

I completely agree. And,

0:29:05.125,0:29:09.041

and internet is a powerful tool.

0:29:09.416,0:29:13.958

So, when you see, because I saw a video,
someone was a teen,

0:29:13.958,0:29:17.000

and I sadly, I met with a person.

0:29:17.833,0:29:19.750

The wife.

0:29:19.750,0:29:20.208

Yeah.

0:29:20.208,0:29:25.500

He was detained because he could see, like,
he has a restriction or he has a lot issues.

0:29:25.541,0:29:29.916

Obviously he's going to be the teen,
and I'm agree with those.

0:29:29.916,0:29:31.833

But but I'm no agree.

0:29:31.833,0:29:34.750

So, Meola, for example,

0:29:34.750,0:29:38.541

as me for my legal status because that happened
like that three weeks ago.

0:29:39.041,0:29:41.083

And it's like,

You don't have the right to ask that.

0:29:41.083,0:29:42.166

Yeah, yeah. No.

0:29:42.166,0:29:42.583

Not here.

0:29:42.583,0:29:44.375

I know that wasn't there, but.

0:29:44.375,0:29:44.708

Okay.

0:29:44.708,0:29:46.833

I was coming from Sally. Okay.

0:29:46.833,0:29:47.500

Thank you.

0:29:47.500,0:29:49.000

Yeah, I want to clarify.

0:29:49.000,0:29:52.000

That wasn't in Ogden. Well,

I coming from Sally.

0:29:52.083,0:29:52.416

Yeah.

0:29:52.416,0:29:55.416

Because I don't think
we have the legal right to know.

0:29:55.458,0:29:57.166

He didn't have the right for asking me that.

0:29:57.166,0:29:58.291

And I went to court.

0:29:58.291,0:30:01.250

I pay my my ticket because I wasn't speeding.

0:30:01.250,0:30:02.708

Yeah, I messed up that.

0:30:02.708,0:30:03.125

Okay.

0:30:03.125,0:30:06.125

All right, so I was wrong, you know.

0:30:06.333,0:30:09.291

But I went to court

because I want to find out like that

0:30:09.291,0:30:12.458

he doesn't have the right to ask me
for my legal status.

0:30:13.083,0:30:16.208

And he got suspended.

0:30:19.083,0:30:20.916

I want to

0:30:20.916,0:30:23.000

say this publicly, like,

0:30:23.000,0:30:26.000

the law works because he got suspended.

0:30:27.458,0:30:28.750

Is you right

0:30:28.750,0:30:31.750

to raise your voice

and say you don't have the right?

0:30:32.333,0:30:34.333

No matter was an illegal.

0:30:34.333,0:30:37.333

I'm born here in United States.

0:30:38.541,0:30:40.166

But you have my global license.

0:30:40.166,0:30:41.375

I mean, what you ask me for

0:30:41.375,0:30:44.708

my legal is that it was for my hair

or for my rights or for my accent.

0:30:45.250,0:30:48.250

So what was the reason?

0:30:48.375,0:30:50.708

I wasn't here in Ogden again.

0:30:50.708,0:30:52.125

This came from Salt Lake

0:30:52.125,0:30:55.125

But those are the legal issues we have.

0:30:55.166,0:30:58.166

And we need to build that trust between

0:30:58.291,0:31:01.458

all city and the people in the West.

0:31:01.833,0:31:02.791

Everything like that.

0:31:02.791,0:31:04.500

Like you mentioned, Ogden City

0:31:04.500,0:31:08.166

is no immigration department,
but we are asking for help. You.

0:31:08.666,0:31:11.166

That's right. Now for doing worse. Right.

0:31:11.166,0:31:12.125

And you know,

0:31:13.208,0:31:13.625

what I tell

0:31:13.625,0:31:16.625

our officers is you go out

and you enforce the law.

0:31:17.166,0:31:19.750

We don't ask, you know,

I have to ask about citizenship.

0:31:19.750,0:31:21.291

You just

0:31:21.291,0:31:23.666

you enforce the law based on the law.

0:31:23.666,0:31:26.708

And the citizenship thing comes later.

0:31:27.041,0:31:28.500

Someone else has those authorities.

0:31:28.500,0:31:30.083

Yeah. We just do what we do.

0:31:30.083,0:31:34.208

So not all of the change that's in the country
really hasn't changed anything for us here.

0:31:34.291,0:31:35.291

Nope.

0:31:35.291,0:31:40.083

We're still really focused
on proactive crime reduction and making sure

0:31:40.083,0:31:43.666

that we're we're not just enforcing crime
or protecting rights.

0:31:44.250,0:31:45.541

Right. Yeah. That's good.

0:31:45.541,0:31:48.291

And I think I it's hard.

0:31:48.291,0:31:51.291

You're hard pressed to find anybody
that disagrees with that.

0:31:51.416,0:31:53.833

As long as we're doing it
within the bounds of the law and know

0:31:53.833,0:31:56.833

the Constitution is our compass,
that's what we're here to do.

0:31:56.916,0:31:57.541

Yeah.

0:31:57.541,0:31:59.708

And people need to know that now.

0:31:59.708,0:32:01.208

So we're unapologetic about that.

0:32:01.208,0:32:04.208

But we're also unapologetic about making sure
that the people that are here,

0:32:04.833,0:32:08.000

that are doing the work to, to thrive,
have opportunities to thrive,

0:32:08.000,0:32:11.000

have access to our economy,
and to make Ogden better,

0:32:11.250,0:32:13.500

to make our country better
and our community better, and.

0:32:13.500,0:32:17.708

We to make it well, Ogden City,
you have an amazing team.

0:32:18.125,0:32:22.250

I've been working on it, Diana Lopez
in the past with different cases.

0:32:22.458,0:32:24.541

It's amazing how you visualize.

0:32:24.541,0:32:27.541

If she don't know the answer

she going to with someone.

0:32:27.708,0:32:29.958

She has been helping in different cases

0:32:29.958,0:32:34.875

in the past and she's great at I mean, I
she and Ogden city department

0:32:35.208,0:32:38.416

business licensing has
well the same I do my like

0:32:39.250,0:32:43.541

we say in Mexico like I'm getting mad sometimes
but they are amazing.

0:32:43.541,0:32:44.708

They give me a way answer.

0:32:44.708,0:32:46.291

So I like, well, okay.

0:32:46.291,0:32:48.041

We'll. What about it? Yeah.

0:32:48.041,0:32:50.500

Let ever. Right. Cindy, I never get mad.

0:32:50.500,0:32:52.833

Oh, I don't know I. No, no.

0:32:52.833,0:32:54.166

It's normal. It's okay. But.

0:32:54.166,0:32:55.000

Yeah.

0:32:55.000,0:32:57.958

Well, I'm sorry you had that experience,
but I'm glad that you had that outcome.

0:32:57.958,0:33:00.041

Yeah, absolutely I do. Yeah.

0:33:00.041,0:33:02.583

So so that's an important thing
that we can do moving forward.

0:33:02.583,0:33:04.375

And we're having the conversation here.

0:33:04.375,0:33:05.750

It's going to be blasting out there
in the public.

0:33:05.750,0:33:07.333

I hope you share it. Share widely.

0:33:07.333,0:33:09.250

There's nothing for us to hide. Yeah.

0:33:09.250,0:33:11.416

And that is important. Yeah. That's important.

0:33:11.416,0:33:14.375

It's we talked a lot about accountability
to the law.

0:33:14.375,0:33:17.125

And it's not just for the
people that were out there,

0:33:18.875,0:33:19.916

that we're serving the community.

0:33:19.916,0:33:20.541

It's for us.

0:33:20.541,0:33:23.583

Most importantly,

we set the standard for our professionalism

0:33:24.000,0:33:26.791

and following the law,

as we go out to enforce the law.

0:33:26.791,0:33:27.541

Yeah, absolutely.

0:33:27.541,0:33:30.458

And that's just the standard that we will,

0:33:30.458,0:33:32.250

that we won't down.

0:33:32.250,0:33:34.750

What else can we do to help,

0:33:34.750,0:33:37.750

to help small business and help people,

0:33:37.958,0:33:40.500

connect with us and for us to be more open

0:33:40.500,0:33:43.500

and available for people to help them succeed.

0:33:43.958,0:33:46.083

Well,

0:33:46.083,0:33:49.791

like I mentioned before,

and the communication with the small business

0:33:50.125,0:33:53.125

is important in, information.

0:33:54.208,0:33:57.208

Like I mentioned before as well,

your website is amazing.

0:33:57.208,0:34:00.208

Has more information right now.

0:34:00.916,0:34:04.166

But communication

basically is a is a key right now.

0:34:04.875,0:34:07.416

I've been applying for different,

0:34:07.416,0:34:10.125

of the city business license.

0:34:10.125,0:34:11.375

Those take a while.

0:34:11.375,0:34:14.791

Like, I have one of my business.

0:34:15.625,0:34:17.166

Well, my client's business,

0:34:18.541,0:34:19.083

he has

0:34:19.083,0:34:22.416

been six months waiting for other than see the.

0:34:22.416,0:34:25.416

License

currently right now. And or legally. Now.

0:34:25.416,0:34:26.208

So when.

0:34:26.208,0:34:29.041

So that's actually something

I'm glad you bring up.

0:34:29.041,0:34:29.333

Yeah.

0:34:29.333,0:34:34.208

Because in the past, the, the the what we call
here internally, we call it the second floor.

0:34:34.291,0:34:34.833

Yeah.

0:34:34.833,0:34:38.375

When you walk into the second floor of the
building, the whole set up is intended to be,

0:34:38.750,0:34:40.125

like a concierge desk.

0:34:40.125,0:34:40.875

It's to be a one

0:34:40.875,0:34:44.708

stop shop for business and for permitting
and inspections and licensing and things.

0:34:45.541,0:34:49.458

And, and it's broken up
into a bunch of different groups

0:34:49.458,0:34:53.125

within our city,
intending to have everybody there all at once.

0:34:53.583,0:34:56.041

And we have things like this quite a bit.

0:34:56.041,0:34:57.458

And one of the things we heard most,

0:34:59.125,0:35:02.333

is that our business licenses are hard to
to get because they're only done.

0:35:02.333,0:35:04.000

On by paper. Yes.

0:35:04.000,0:35:08.250

And so just recently we launched,

digital business, like.

0:35:08.791,0:35:11.250

Right.

0:35:11.250,0:35:14.125

That we should share
because it's a, it's a growth.

0:35:14.125,0:35:16.375

It's a remember we. Talked about growth. Yes.

0:35:16.375,0:35:17.583

We have the same thing.

0:35:17.583,0:35:19.750

Yeah. It's things
we have to do to improve, to grow.

0:35:19.750,0:35:23.041

And we base that on
input from people from users.

0:35:23.708,0:35:26.333

So the six month experience can't be anymore.

0:35:26.333,0:35:27.541

Right.

0:35:27.541,0:35:30.750

But certainly there are real things
that are a whole held up for real reasons to,

0:35:31.500,0:35:34.208

what we found is,

0:35:34.208,0:35:37.208

so it has to do with going in and,

0:35:37.250,0:35:39.000

looking at the entire operation,

0:35:39.000,0:35:42.958

and it's it's a complicated operation,
really difficult. And,

0:35:43.958,0:35:48.458

there's a lot of expertise in building
inspection and expertise with an engineering.

0:35:48.708,0:35:49.666

Right.

0:35:49.666,0:35:52.833

And so it's hard

for any one of us to look at the whole thing,

0:35:53.333,0:35:56.333

and breakdown where anybody could get held up.

0:35:56.583,0:35:59.750

But what we found is that we overwhelmingly,

0:36:00.541,0:36:04.000

of the overwhelming majority of cases,

go through smooth without any problem.

0:36:04.666,0:36:06.125

And there's a small percentage that don't,

0:36:07.166,0:36:08.250

why are those small percentage

0:36:08.250,0:36:12.000

being held up in our team digs into those,

and sometimes they are

0:36:12.416,0:36:15.416

for reasons that are really legitimate,
they should be held up.

0:36:15.833,0:36:19.208

The things that are not good and not right
there would hurt the city

0:36:19.208,0:36:20.958

or hurt the community, right?

0:36:20.958,0:36:21.750

Yeah, absolutely.

0:36:21.750,0:36:24.958

I mean, it's different
and the process is different

0:36:24.958,0:36:27.958

for every business
because every business is different.

0:36:28.333,0:36:31.500

But what I see
and for example, in other counties,

0:36:31.833,0:36:35.041

they have like a spreadsheet, like a business

0:36:35.041,0:36:38.041

registration take you one week,

0:36:38.291,0:36:40.333

the health department may take you two weeks.

0:36:40.333,0:36:46.125

So that way the anticipation of time
is important because they will know

0:36:46.166,0:36:49.958

they need to pay maybe six months on rent
before they start the business.

0:36:50.083,0:36:51.875

That's a good that's a good advice actually.

0:36:51.875,0:36:53.291

The just the timetable.

0:36:53.291,0:36:53.666

Yeah.

0:36:53.666,0:36:56.916

Is like the timeline of, of the process
and the whole process.

0:36:56.916,0:36:57.750

Because right now

0:36:57.750,0:37:02.500

my client actually keeps a business license
and she's with a health department.

0:37:03.541,0:37:06.250

And again, so that way.

0:37:06.250,0:37:09.125

So it's a. Oh that's a. Firm step. Yeah.

0:37:09.125,0:37:11.416

And I don't know if that's a sticker.

0:37:11.416,0:37:14.166

Yeah that's a hard one. Yeah.

0:37:14.166,0:37:16.500

And so for a restaurant it's probably something

0:37:16.500,0:37:19.625

in the construction side that having the things
to make sure that's safe and doesn't.

0:37:20.083,0:37:20.666

Yeah.

0:37:20.666,0:37:23.666

She has the restaurant already and she,

0:37:23.916,0:37:26.916

received the fire department and everything,

0:37:27.875,0:37:30.375

but still waiting for health department.

0:37:30.375,0:37:36.666

And I think health department again is all one,
two, three weeks from which is county.

0:37:37.083,0:37:38.458

Yeah. But again.

0:37:38.458,0:37:40.250

Getting back to the point
that they don't recognize the difference

0:37:40.250,0:37:42.250

within city county state. Yeah.

0:37:42.250,0:37:43.625

Right. Yeah. Right.

0:37:43.625,0:37:44.791

But that will be nice.

0:37:44.791,0:37:46.125

If for example, I thought.

0:37:46.125,0:37:49.208

Her. Your permit is going to be between six

0:37:49.208,0:37:52.208

eight months

because everything was in the scratch.

0:37:52.250,0:37:57.125

She start the business,
she build the the kitchen.

0:37:57.125,0:37:59.916

So it's basically all new.

0:37:59.916,0:38:02.916

So that is why it's taking that whole time.

0:38:03.250,0:38:06.875

But we we nice have a
like a spreadsheet, like a timeline in nature.

0:38:07.458,0:38:08.625

it's the only way I can be prepared

0:38:08.625,0:38:09.000

Okay.

0:38:09.000,0:38:12.000

Well economically the [...] mostly.

0:38:12.416,0:38:14.333

You know, the pass it along to them.

0:38:14.333,0:38:16.166

This is the team is gathering
this kind of feedback

0:38:16.166,0:38:18.208

and putting that into action as it goes.

0:38:18.208,0:38:20.708

But we've made a lot of improvements on,

0:38:21.958,0:38:23.458

on the process, the flow,

0:38:23.458,0:38:27.833

the timeline, having transparency

on where you're at in our timeline.

0:38:27.833,0:38:31.666

Now, make sure that you can check in online

and see where you are in the queue

0:38:31.666,0:38:32.791

and see what the status is.

0:38:32.791,0:38:35.916

And that like there's a whole like

you could go all the way

0:38:35.916,0:38:39.458

from some, some handyman, you know, like a

0:38:39.958,0:38:43.833

just a guy like me that wants to build a fence

once you get it to have a permit, right?

0:38:43.916,0:38:44.333

Yeah.

0:38:44.333,0:38:47.083

So then the water heater,
that's like some of the lowest hanging fruit.

0:38:47.083,0:38:49.958

Easiest permits to get versus.

0:38:49.958,0:38:52.333

Something pretty sweet.

We have a big developer.

0:38:52.333,0:38:54.291

Yeah. Builder building out of the entire block.

0:38:54.291,0:38:54.791

City block.

0:38:54.791,0:38:57.458

That's a whole nother level of complexity.

0:38:57.458,0:38:58.833

But you can see on,

0:39:00.333,0:39:03.333

each of those extreme and everything in between

0:39:03.333,0:39:06.916

to make sure that our system shows

where you are in the system and in the queue,

0:39:06.916,0:39:10.833

and that when one little individual

part is done, you can see that it's done.

0:39:10.833,0:39:13.833

Or if it gets reviewed

and there's something that's missing,

0:39:14.708,0:39:17.500

we've moved on to the next step

and you can see where you're what was missing.

0:39:17.500,0:39:19.500

And you can provide that

while you're in your window.

0:39:19.500,0:39:20.708

Yes, but you don't reset.

0:39:20.708,0:39:24.875

So those are the kinds of process
improvements we're working on.

0:39:26.291,0:39:29.083

And it's really a,
it's been a, a work in progress,

0:39:29.083,0:39:32.458

but it's also something that I'm really proud
of our staff for digging into. And,

0:39:34.083,0:39:37.708

looking for opportunities for improvement
and having that growth mindset again,

0:39:37.708,0:39:39.000

that we talked about earlier. Yeah.

0:39:39.000,0:39:40.833

And also, I use

0:39:42.000,0:39:45.208

the, the, application for alcohol permit.

0:39:45.458,0:39:47.291

That took me. Oh, that's a tough one.

0:39:47.291,0:39:49.375

Yeah, that took me four months.

0:39:49.375,0:39:54.250

But at like a you mention in on the website,
I was like, oh, you're missing this paper.

0:39:54.875,0:39:59.375

And right now it's
serving to take you for evaluation.

0:39:59.375,0:40:01.833

And you need to improve these

0:40:01.833,0:40:06.333

so that was on the website,
and I was fine with that because I just.

0:40:06.375,0:40:09.500

Knew what was moving. What is what I'm missing.

0:40:09.708,0:40:13.750

So is behind for my fall because I don't have
an insurance thing like that.

0:40:14.250,0:40:16.291

So that that was amazing.

0:40:16.291,0:40:18.000

And that and alcohol is a hard one

0:40:18.000,0:40:21.000

because that that involves the state
and there's state requirements, right?

0:40:21.000,0:40:23.208

City is and you don't have idea.

0:40:23.208,0:40:28.291

You know, so the state law wants to defer
to the local first, you know, which is great.

0:40:29.125,0:40:32.791

But sometimes when there's something missing
from the applicant, right.

0:40:33.458,0:40:35.458

They have to go back to the state to find it

and get it.

0:40:35.458,0:40:38.041

Yeah. A lot of people will blame the city.

Yeah.

0:40:38.041,0:40:40.708

We're just waiting on the state's
requirement. Of us to.

0:40:40.708,0:40:43.125

Require of you,
right? Yeah. And those are, again,

0:40:44.125,0:40:47.125

challenging, structural things

0:40:47.625,0:40:51.000

to understand, and navigate for people.

0:40:51.000,0:40:52.208

And so our staff are really,

0:40:52.208,0:40:55.833

really trying hard to help people navigate
through those sticking points.

0:40:56.916,0:40:59.791

And it always helps
to have someone in the community that's helping

0:40:59.791,0:41:01.291

on the applicant side to.

0:41:01.291,0:41:03.083

Yeah, to. Help navigate those sticking points.

0:41:03.083,0:41:03.750

Because if

0:41:03.750,0:41:07.583

we don't have these kinds of conversations,
you never know where someone's getting held up.

0:41:07.583,0:41:09.208

Or one restriction is.

0:41:09.208,0:41:12.208

And then what's really frustrating is
when someone doesn't tell us

0:41:12.291,0:41:15.291

and then they take to social media
or something, you're like, oh.

0:41:15.333,0:41:17.041

I don't know. Right? Yeah.

0:41:17.041,0:41:18.625

And so we need to it's a relationship.

0:41:18.625,0:41:20.166

It's a partnership, really.

0:41:20.166,0:41:23.166

We're trying to uphold the law.

0:41:23.500,0:41:26.875

We're also trying to uphold the standard
that's set before us, right.

0:41:27.750,0:41:30.291

And we're also trying to help you
succeed. Yeah.

0:41:30.291,0:41:33.833

And so it means it's a partnership is what
we're after, like, what I want for our people.

0:41:33.833,0:41:34.833

Not what I want for our,

0:41:36.375,0:41:37.208

residents.

0:41:37.208,0:41:38.333

Right.

0:41:38.333,0:41:39.833

And I

think that that's the kind of relationship

0:41:39.833,0:41:41.916

we need moving through these things is.

0:41:41.916,0:41:44.000

And sometimes we really. Need a floor.

0:41:44.000,0:41:45.583

Yeah. You're gonna.

0:41:45.583,0:41:47.500

Help us,

0:41:47.500,0:41:48.125

Help them?

0:41:48.125,0:41:50.875

Oh, yeah. Absolutely.

0:41:50.875,0:41:52.750

Well, I think, is there anything

0:41:52.750,0:41:55.291

we haven't talked about

you want to share before we wrap up.

0:41:55.291,0:41:56.625

Before wrap up? News

0:41:56.625,0:41:58.916

News, let's do the news here.

0:41:58.916,0:42:00.958

I am planning to run for city council.

0:42:00.958,0:42:03.583

Oh, yeah, I want to do that.

0:42:03.583,0:42:06.750

I think is my next step for be that voice.

0:42:06.833,0:42:07.291

Okay.

0:42:07.291,0:42:11.708

I been doing little on the community
and I think I'm great.

0:42:11.916,0:42:14.583

I wasn't expecting.

You listening?

0:42:14.583,0:42:15.125

Right.

0:42:15.125,0:42:18.000

So as you said before, you folks know.

0:42:18.000,0:42:19.458

Yeah. You're direct people. Yeah.

0:42:19.458,0:42:22.458

So you just say, yeah, okay,
I respect it. Yeah.

0:42:22.666,0:42:24.250

So, yeah.

0:42:24.250,0:42:25.041

Good luck on the news.

0:42:25.041,0:42:27.041

Good luck on the journey in the adventure.

0:42:28.250,0:42:29.041

It's hard.

0:42:29.041,0:42:31.833

It is. I know you don't have idea, but.

0:42:31.833,0:42:32.833

Yeah, how you do.

0:42:32.833,0:42:36.166

I'm sorry I do it,
but you've been doing things.

0:42:36.375,0:42:38.708

Yeah. That's the point.

0:42:38.708,0:42:41.958

You have something inside you
that is to carry you through this,

0:42:42.250,0:42:44.875

but you also have people around you
in the community.

0:42:44.875,0:42:47.166

They're gonna help you through it,
too, right? Yeah, absolutely.

0:42:47.166,0:42:50.791

And and I also those people,
like I mentioned before, without Luis

0:42:50.833,0:42:53.833

would law here and,

0:42:54.166,0:42:56.791

Priscilla, different people who show up,

0:42:56.791,0:43:01.416

I think they can
I think, I mean, they will be there for time.

0:43:01.458,0:43:02.541

Yes. For you can do.

0:43:02.541,0:43:04.291

No, no, wait.

0:43:04.291,0:43:06.208

Let's check it out.

0:43:06.208,0:43:08.583

Yes, you can do it. And this. You should do it.

0:43:08.583,0:43:09.041

You should.

0:43:09.041,0:43:09.875

Do it. Yeah.

0:43:09.875,0:43:10.875

So does you.

0:43:10.875,0:43:12.333

Second guess your life choices?

0:43:12.333,0:43:13.958

Yeah. When we do things like this. But,

0:43:15.458,0:43:18.458

I love people that do hard things.

0:43:18.750,0:43:20.333

You know, that's why I do that.

0:43:20.333,0:43:23.333

It's gonna be uncomfortable
and sometimes even miserable.

0:43:23.500,0:43:23.833

Oh, yeah.

0:43:23.833,0:43:24.875

Absolutely. Right.

0:43:24.875,0:43:27.833

The the the scrutiny is hard.

0:43:27.833,0:43:32.291

Yeah, but, it takes a certain someone,
and I know that you're that kind of a person.

0:43:32.500,0:43:35.000

Yeah, I'm in some place I.

0:43:35.000,0:43:39.250

I read like a if you are uncomfortable
means you are in the right way.

0:43:39.250,0:43:41.916

So most of the time I'm not comfortable.

0:43:41.916,0:43:44.750

Like, like right now.

0:43:44.750,0:43:46.958

I know for you it's for the situation.

0:43:46.958,0:43:48.875

But, like, I'm in the right place.

0:43:48.875,0:43:51.875

So this person is a sign of growth. Yeah.

0:43:52.083,0:43:53.250

Absolutely. I'm. I'm.

0:43:53.250,0:43:54.666

You are you.

0:43:54.666,0:43:56.500

I'm impressed.

0:43:56.500,0:43:58.500

And I know you do great things regardless.

0:43:58.500,0:44:00.750

No matter how that goes, no matter what you do,

0:44:00.750,0:44:02.875

you have the kind of mindset

it takes to succeed.

0:44:02.875,0:44:03.333

Thank you.

0:44:03.333,0:44:05.791

Yeah, you've proven that time and time
and time again.

0:44:05.791,0:44:07.208

And frankly, you're just getting started.

0:44:07.208,0:44:09.291

Whether you're moving the family here.

0:44:10.333,0:44:10.916

The fact the

0:44:10.916,0:44:14.375

circumstances you have with your family, John,
with the health challenges that you had,

0:44:14.958,0:44:17.958

learning
how to build a life here, starting with,

0:44:18.166,0:44:22.458

you know, helping kids at school
all the way to helping people through business.

0:44:22.708,0:44:25.708

Yes. Building your own business is what you do now, right?

0:44:25.750,0:44:26.208

You know?

0:44:26.208,0:44:29.208

No, just helping them is empower them.

0:44:29.583,0:44:32.125

Being better, learn the language.

0:44:32.125,0:44:36.250

And because that opens a lot doors
like to learn the language,

0:44:36.250,0:44:41.916

be communicate with others and know the rules,
the law and the difference between counting

0:44:42.166,0:44:45.791

things like you mention
is, is just empower them.

0:44:46.125,0:44:51.166

Well, I hope will more moving forward than
we end every episode with the call to action.

0:44:51.458,0:44:52.375

Okay.

0:44:52.375,0:44:56.666

So I just want to say that
if you've enjoyed the episode and,

0:44:57.541,0:45:00.333

and if you know anybody that you can empower,

0:45:00.333,0:45:04.833

if you know anybody that's trying to figure out
how to succeed in Ogden, if you know

0:45:04.833,0:45:07.833

somebody that wants to start a business
but they don't know where to begin.

0:45:08.083,0:45:10.500

Or if they're trying to start a business,
then we're going to talk to you.

0:45:10.500,0:45:12.125

You don't know where to go for a resource.

0:45:12.125,0:45:15.958

They don't know how to get to the next step
or how to talk to you or whatever.

0:45:16.958,0:45:18.416

Step up.

0:45:18.416,0:45:20.500

Empower them by connecting them.

0:45:20.500,0:45:23.166

Yes, with the answers and the solutions.

0:45:23.166,0:45:26.166

99.9% of the time in this town,

0:45:26.583,0:45:29.875

we have the resources, we have the program,
we have the people.

0:45:30.333,0:45:32.916

We have the support in the city.

0:45:32.916,0:45:35.666

But it's not always aligned and connected.

0:45:35.666,0:45:36.750

So be that person.

0:45:36.750,0:45:41.000

Empower others, help to connect
and help empower them to have success.

0:45:41.000,0:45:45.750

And then

and to become a part of our thriving community.

0:45:46.125,0:45:47.666

Absolutely. I'm agreed

0:45:47.666,0:45:49.291

I, I completely agree, actually.

0:45:49.291,0:45:52.208

For those people, for joining us today,
for you, for sharing your life story.

0:45:52.208,0:45:53.625

And thanks for sharing your journey there.

0:45:53.625,0:45:57.375

Yeah, and thanks for everything that you are
and everything that you give to Ogden.

0:45:57.458,0:45:59.083

Thank you so much. I appreciate it.

0:45:59.083,0:46:00.541

Until next time.

0:46:00.541,0:46:04.125

This is the Ogden Way podcast
and thanks for everything you do for Ogden.