

0:00:09.875,0:00:12.333  
Hi. I'm Ogden City Mayor Ben Nadolski

0:00:12.333,0:00:14.833  
And thanks for joining us here  
on the Ogden Way Podcast.

0:00:14.833,0:00:17.791  
A place where we talk  
about the stories of resilience,

0:00:17.791,0:00:20.791  
the place  
where grit, determination, unity.

0:00:21.791,0:00:23.541  
That's the Ogden way.

0:00:23.541,0:00:26.125  
The Ogden way is an ethos. It's a spirit.

0:00:26.125,0:00:27.958  
It's a spirit that embodies us.

0:00:27.958,0:00:28.916  
We live it.

0:00:28.916,0:00:30.500  
We breathe it.

0:00:30.500,0:00:32.458  
It's everything to us here in the city.

0:00:32.458,0:00:34.916  
So we're here today  
to talk to two individuals, two leaders

0:00:34.916,0:00:36.291  
in this community.

0:00:36.291,0:00:38.750  
Two names  
that everybody knows the last name

0:00:38.750,0:00:41.916  
And now they get to know the faces,  
get to know some of the stories behind it.

0:00:42.458,0:00:45.833  
Steve Peterson, John Watson, thanks for  
joining us today on The Ogden Podcast.

0:00:45.833,0:00:47.375  
It's a blessing to have you.

0:00:47.375,0:00:48.666  
Our pleasure, our pleasure.

0:00:48.666,0:00:50.333  
Thank you for the invitation.

0:00:50.333,0:00:53.916  
So if you've been an item for a long time,  
you know the name Watson.

0:00:54.416,0:00:55.708  
Maybe you bought a car there.

0:00:55.708,0:00:57.500  
You know the name Peterson.

0:00:57.500,0:00:58.083  
Peterson, Inc.

0:00:58.083,0:01:00.166  
is an enormous anchor in our city.

0:01:00.166,0:01:01.083

Let's start with you, Steve.

0:01:01.083,0:01:04.916

Tell us just a little bit about  
who you are and what brings you to today.

0:01:04.958,0:01:05.916

Okay.

0:01:05.916,0:01:09.416

Grew up in a little town  
called Far West, just outside of Ogden.

0:01:10.541,0:01:11.458

Started working in

0:01:11.458,0:01:15.250

Ogden when I was probably 15,  
16 years old.

0:01:15.291,0:01:18.958

I worked at the Bamboo  
Noodle and Safeway bagging groceries

0:01:18.958,0:01:24.708

and so I've grown up in Ogden  
and, a little bit about our business.

0:01:24.750,0:01:27.625

I was a certified welder  
when I was 14 years old.

0:01:27.625,0:01:29.833

I had a father that was very gifted,

0:01:29.833,0:01:32.875

and we built a business  
around that, around welding.

0:01:33.333,0:01:34.791

We expanded into machining

0:01:34.791,0:01:38.000

and other things,  
and today they have about 600 employees.

0:01:38.875,0:01:39.041

Here.

0:01:39.041,0:01:42.750

Ten years ago,  
I sold my business to my employees.

0:01:42.791,0:01:45.500

So it's an employee owned business.

0:01:45.500,0:01:46.708

But we love Ogden.

0:01:46.708,0:01:50.125

And, it's all about, making it better.

0:01:50.875,0:01:52.041

It is about making it better.

0:01:52.041,0:01:55.833

And funny fact is, my first job  
was at Safeway bagging groceries.

0:01:57.500,0:01:58.125

How about you, John?

0:01:59.125,0:01:59.750

Likewise.

0:01:59.750,0:02:02.541

I, come from a little community  
called Far West.

0:02:02.541,0:02:05.541  
Isn't that ironic  
that we both grew up out there?

0:02:05.583,0:02:07.916  
I've been in the automobile business

0:02:07.916,0:02:10.583  
for the last 50 years.

0:02:10.583,0:02:11.666  
And I've loved it.

0:02:11.666,0:02:13.750  
It's, been great for my family.

0:02:13.750,0:02:18.083  
I've, left Ogden  
at times to buy different dealerships.

0:02:18.083,0:02:21.833  
And I've had dealerships over in Wyoming  
and throughout Utah.

0:02:22.500,0:02:25.500  
And, there's been no place  
quite like home.

0:02:26.000,0:02:28.791  
Ogden has been my home always.

0:02:28.791,0:02:30.833  
I've raised my family here.

0:02:30.833,0:02:35.583  
As a young man, I worked around all of the  
automobile dealers detailing their cars.

0:02:36.625,0:02:38.666  
For a fella  
that lived out in our community.

0:02:38.666,0:02:42.000  
And it's been, it's  
been a great way of life for me, and I.

0:02:42.000,0:02:43.333  
I love our employees.

0:02:43.333,0:02:44.833  
I love the city.

0:02:44.833,0:02:47.125  
And it's done so many good things for me.

0:02:47.125,0:02:49.708  
I look forward to hearing the stories  
about you both growing up in far West,

0:02:49.708,0:02:51.958  
and you guys fighting each other  
as your kids.

0:02:51.958,0:02:54.958  
But John was always bigger than me, so I.

0:02:55.166,0:02:56.791  
I never picked a fight with him.

0:02:56.791,0:02:58.291  
You just said home.

0:02:58.291,0:02:59.875  
It's always about home, right?

0:02:59.875,0:03:01.458  
Ogden is home for you.

0:03:01.458,0:03:03.416  
You guys have. We've talked a lot.

0:03:04.958,0:03:06.416  
Outside of the podcast setting

0:03:06.416,0:03:09.833  
And you told me stories  
about what brings you to home.

0:03:10.708,0:03:14.083  
What made you feel like  
Ogden was home and.

0:03:14.375,0:03:18.000  
And then you share with me your wanting  
to give back to be to home, right?

0:03:18.041,0:03:21.041  
What is it about Ogden  
that makes it feel like home for you guys?

0:03:21.791,0:03:26.833  
Well look around, there's no place on  
earth that's any more beautiful.

0:03:26.833,0:03:29.333  
Than what this little community is in this valley.

0:03:29.333,0:03:31.083  
We have mountains on top of us.

0:03:31.083,0:03:33.583  
We can do anything in this community.

0:03:33.583,0:03:37.583  
And we're 15, 30 minutes from some of  
the most beautiful country in the world.

0:03:38.750,0:03:41.291  
The people are good.

0:03:41.291,0:03:44.291  
There's been great entrepreneurs  
in this community.

0:03:44.541,0:03:47.666  
It's been a place for great education.

0:03:48.416,0:03:51.583  
There's government installations  
that were always a help.

0:03:52.208,0:03:57.166  
And so, Ogden, although sometimes people  
used to think that it was the second city

0:03:57.166,0:04:01.750  
in this, in this state, Ogden  
truly has been one of the leaders.

0:04:02.041,0:04:04.375  
And, I believe that's what's made it

0:04:04.375,0:04:07.625  
home for me and such an enticing place  
to raise my family.

0:04:07.916,0:04:11.625  
Yeah, you touched on something  
that is embodies the the Ogden way.

0:04:12.416,0:04:15.375  
We've got kind of a chip on our shoulder  
because people get

0:04:15.375,0:04:17.458

they second guesses, they doubt us, right?

0:04:17.458,0:04:19.166  
And we never doubt ourselves.

0:04:19.166,0:04:20.458  
And we have a chip on your shoulder.

0:04:20.458,0:04:24.125  
And we are committed  
to proving them wrong.

0:04:24.541,0:04:27.208  
But more importantly,  
we prove ourselves right.

0:04:27.208,0:04:29.250  
Right.  
That's a perfect way to say it is.

0:04:29.250,0:04:33.416  
It is absolutely in our soul in this town.

0:04:33.666,0:04:35.708  
We are not the second city of the state.

0:04:35.708,0:04:37.875  
We are Ogden, right?

0:04:37.875,0:04:39.833  
I love that.  
I know I do too.

0:04:39.833,0:04:42.666  
Steve, what is it about Ogden  
that makes you feel like home?

0:04:42.666,0:04:45.666  
Well, I think my roots were here.

0:04:46.000,0:04:49.000  
My great great grandfather,  
Robert Anderson.

0:04:49.416,0:04:52.541  
Right after the transcontinental railway  
came to Ogden,

0:04:53.000,0:04:56.583  
he got off the train here in the 1870s,  
and it was called

0:04:56.583,0:04:59.875  
Junction City then.

0:04:59.875,0:05:02.375  
And, so my roots go back to

0:05:02.375,0:05:06.666  
the early pioneer days when they came here  
and they built up businesses.

0:05:06.666,0:05:09.916  
And, we've elected to stay here  
all of our lives

0:05:09.916,0:05:13.250  
And like John, I've had other ventures  
where I've lived

0:05:13.250,0:05:15.083  
in Arkansas and Tennessee.

0:05:15.083,0:05:16.250  
I've lived up in Wyoming.

0:05:16.250,0:05:21.250  
But I always come home

because it's a place where my family,

0:05:22.291,0:05:26.416

loves

my family eats and breathes and drinks.

0:05:26.416,0:05:27.666

Ogden.

0:05:27.666,0:05:30.958

Just this last year,

we had the opportunity to work on the choo

0:05:31.000,0:05:35.250

choo train at the Christmas Village

and have all my grandkids down there,

0:05:35.541,0:05:38.666

the giving machines

and just everything about it has just

0:05:39.416,0:05:42.958

focused us on

how do we make Ogden a better place

0:05:42.958,0:05:46.916

for all the citizens,

not just a select few, but everyone

0:05:48.083,0:05:50.958

You, it's like we had a script

and I promise

0:05:50.958,0:05:53.958

to the to the listeners of yours,

I promise we don't have a script.

0:05:54.083,0:05:57.083

You just said exactly the right thing  
because

0:05:58.333,0:06:00.541

we are a community of opportunity, right?

0:06:00.541,0:06:02.416

And we are a city of service.

0:06:02.416,0:06:06.791

And that is the embodiment of of  
our mission and our vision moving forward.

0:06:07.333,0:06:10.916

The vision that that I have heard from  
the people, and I ran for this position

0:06:11.416,0:06:14.333

in the vision that I set for this,  
the city for 90,000 people,

0:06:14.333,0:06:16.416

is that we want to be  
a community of opportunity,

0:06:16.416,0:06:17.208

which means we need to create

0:06:17.208,0:06:20.958

an environment that people can see succeed  
in, that they have access

0:06:20.958,0:06:23.958

to the fundamental things  
they need to be successful in life,

0:06:24.083,0:06:27.083

and that we've got to have a workforce  
that's rooted in service

0:06:27.291,0:06:29.083  
and that this serves,

0:06:29.083,0:06:33.416  
they have a mission that dovetails  
and delivers for 90,000 residents

0:06:33.875,0:06:37.500  
in their journey  
to success in a community of opportunity.

0:06:38.125,0:06:41.375  
So that's what when we talk about  
the Ogden way, it embodies

0:06:41.958,0:06:47.166  
our mission, our vision, our core values,  
the fundamentals for human success.

0:06:47.791,0:06:50.791  
And we talk about it through this  
ethos of having way.

0:06:50.916,0:06:53.208  
You two are both a story of the Ogden Way.

0:06:54.583,0:06:55.583  
You grew up in Far West.

0:06:55.583,0:06:57.291  
You did business. You grew up in Ogden.

0:06:57.291,0:07:00.791  
You always come back to Ogden and Ogden's  
more than just Ogden City proper.

0:07:01.375,0:07:03.833  
It's a greater Ogden community, right?

0:07:03.833,0:07:06.750  
And so these values have to expand  
beyond our borders.

0:07:06.750,0:07:09.750  
We can't afford to  
just be a mayor of Ogden and nowhere else.

0:07:10.541,0:07:13.541  
We're all collective, right?

0:07:13.666,0:07:15.916  
As you guys have lived your lives,

0:07:15.916,0:07:17.791  
you've returned back  
and you're in a position

0:07:17.791,0:07:20.750  
now where you're serving in the LDS  
church mission.

0:07:20.750,0:07:22.583  
Right. And the calling -

0:07:22.583,0:07:23.666  
and as part of that calling,

0:07:23.666,0:07:27.083  
This is where I really have gotten to know  
the two of you is through service,

0:07:28.041,0:07:31.041  
and it's through the my hometown  
initiative.

0:07:31.166,0:07:33.416  
Can you tell us a little  
bit about that, John?

Sure.

0:07:35.333,0:07:36.958

And maybe I could just

0:07:36.958,0:07:40.791

give you a little highlight  
of why we believe, like we believe.

0:07:42.833,0:07:46.708

My first job was down on 29th  
and Washington at a place called

0:07:46.708,0:07:48.000

the Wash-mobile.

0:07:48.000,0:07:51.000

It was a detail shop  
and had a service station there.

0:07:51.083,0:07:55.208

And my next door neighbor  
and a, the father of a young man

0:07:55.208,0:07:58.208

that was my best friend  
growing up as a kid.

0:07:59.750,0:08:01.791

He taught integrity.

0:08:01.791,0:08:04.333

He taught hard work and,

0:08:04.333,0:08:07.750

I hate to say it, I, I wanted to go  
to the mountain and ski sometimes,

0:08:08.250,0:08:11.833

and there was no way that was going  
to ever happen on Saturdays.

0:08:11.833,0:08:15.166

I worked, and on Sunday,  
he made sure that I went to church.

0:08:16.291,0:08:19.291

I served an LDS mission in Mexico.

0:08:20.250,0:08:21.666

Came home and married my,

0:08:23.458,0:08:24.333

my girlfriend that

0:08:24.333,0:08:27.333

I'd had through high school.

0:08:27.416,0:08:30.291

And so Ogden became

0:08:30.291,0:08:33.291

really the nucleus  
of everything we wanted to do.

0:08:33.541,0:08:37.333

I came home thinking that I wanted to be  
a lawyer, and I went to Weber State

0:08:38.125,0:08:40.500

and found that

0:08:40.500,0:08:43.166

maybe that didn't move fast enough for me.

0:08:43.166,0:08:46.166

And so I jumped  
into the automobile business.

0:08:46.458,0:08:48.958

But in the process,

0:08:48.958,0:08:51.666

we learned some commitment

0:08:51.666,0:08:54.666

and how to have progress in our lives

0:08:54.958,0:08:58.750

and how to meet people

and how to reach goals.

0:08:59.666,0:09:02.666

From this old guy

that gave me my first job.

0:09:02.666,0:09:07.333

And in doing so, it gave us, opportunity

to have some assignments

0:09:07.333,0:09:11.541

that The Church of Jesus

Christ of Latter day Saints offered us.

0:09:12.041,0:09:16.166

Today, I'm privileged

to serve as the chair of my hometown

0:09:16.708,0:09:20.958

in Ogden, Utah,

and we have three separate communities

0:09:21.833,0:09:24.583

that, are in the south,

0:09:24.583,0:09:27.416

the west and the north of this city.

0:09:27.416,0:09:28.458

And we're having,

0:09:30.625,0:09:31.875

as many as

0:09:31.875,0:09:37.041

13 to 15,000 people

from what you just said are valley.

0:09:37.208,0:09:40.583

It's not just all Ogden,

but from our valley coming to help us

0:09:41.166,0:09:43.583

do work on inner city Ogden.

0:09:43.583,0:09:46.583

And we found

how much we love the people in inner city.

0:09:47.458,0:09:52.208

Some of them need help and we're here to

to try to do that very thing.

0:09:52.833,0:09:54.000

So you've, you've -

0:09:54.000,0:09:55.500

first of all, I'm

glad you didn't become a lawyer

0:09:55.500,0:09:58.583

because you ended up building the business

and anchor business and you ended up

0:09:58.583,0:10:02.875

building opportunities for other people

to have access to economic opportunity.

0:10:03.416,0:10:04.291

Right?

0:10:04.291,0:10:06.833

You built people by building a business,

0:10:06.833,0:10:09.958

and those people helped build  
you into who you are.

0:10:10.750,0:10:13.750

That's I'm sure you would have done  
amazing things as a lawyer.

0:10:13.833,0:10:14.875

Right.

0:10:14.875,0:10:17.750

But I'm really, really thankful  
for the pathway you chose.

0:10:17.750,0:10:20.875

And I get up every morning and say, I'm

0:10:20.875,0:10:23.333

the luckiest man on earth  
because I do what I love.

0:10:23.333,0:10:24.208

That's what I say.

0:10:24.208,0:10:26.333

So you can't be the luckiest on earth, I am.

0:10:26.333,0:10:28.291

We're a couple of lucky guys that, yeah.

0:10:28.291,0:10:30.500

I bet Steve  
says the same thing too, right?

0:10:30.500,0:10:30.958

I've been blessed.

0:10:30.958,0:10:32.125

We've been blessed.

0:10:32.125,0:10:34.250

So the the my hometown initiative,

0:10:35.541,0:10:36.875

you know, we're talking about

0:10:36.875,0:10:41.208

a a program within, The Church of Jesus  
Christ of Latter day Saints.

0:10:41.708,0:10:44.666

I want to be really clear to  
to the viewers and listeners,

0:10:44.666,0:10:46.416

this is not a program  
that's only available.

0:10:46.416,0:10:48.958

And it does not only serve LDS members.

0:10:48.958,0:10:51.750

This is a program that includes everybody.

0:10:51.750,0:10:54.250

Everyone participates, everyone is served.

0:10:54.250,0:10:57.250

And no matter your faith or non faith

beliefs.

0:10:57.541,0:10:58.375

Right.

0:10:58.375,0:11:01.041

So you've kind of outlined,

0:11:01.041,0:11:02.333

how that program came to be.

0:11:02.333,0:11:05.250

Steve, can you tell us about what  
the program does?

0:11:05.250,0:11:06.833

How does it serve Ogden.

0:11:06.833,0:11:09.458

Well, I think it goes really back  
to the very origins.

0:11:09.458,0:11:12.458

Three and a half years ago,  
I came in to Mark Johnson

0:11:12.791,0:11:16.333

and said, Mark,  
here's the parameters for my hometown.

0:11:17.208,0:11:20.250

And as we explained what it was, I said,

0:11:20.250,0:11:23.250

and it can't be a church program.

0:11:23.291,0:11:26.458

You need to own the program  
and we're going to assist you.

0:11:27.000,0:11:31.416

We're going to get the interfaith groups,  
the service groups, all the other people

0:11:31.416,0:11:34.416

that love Ogden to come and participate

0:11:34.500,0:11:37.500

and really revitalize the inner city area

0:11:38.000,0:11:40.791

where people have opportunity  
to learn languages.

0:11:40.791,0:11:42.000

We work on immigration.

0:11:42.000,0:11:45.500

Just had 19 get citizenship  
going through our program.

0:11:46.041,0:11:49.333

A little girl named Zalufa  
I met on a day of service

0:11:49.333,0:11:51.833

and she need a little help  
just getting over the top.

0:11:51.833,0:11:54.000

She was a refugee from Africa.

0:11:54.000,0:11:58.875

She just got citizenship here two weeks ago, and for me, it's all about the people.

0:12:00.083,0:12:00.750

So my

0:12:00.750,0:12:04.875  
hometown, what we do today,  
we have days of service, and many people

0:12:04.875,0:12:07.875  
that are watching this have probably come  
to one of those days of service.

0:12:08.250,0:12:10.666  
Our trademark,  
after we've gone out and rebuilt

0:12:10.666,0:12:14.666  
an Oregon, an area,  
and it could be a church of another faith.

0:12:14.666,0:12:17.958  
It could be botanical gardens,  
it could be the river walk.

0:12:17.958,0:12:20.958  
It could be just someone, a widow  
that needs a handicap ramp.

0:12:21.500,0:12:26.500  
We come together collectively  
and do those projects and our trademark.

0:12:26.500,0:12:28.166  
After we've done  
that, we've worked together.

0:12:28.166,0:12:30.125  
We feed them street tacos

0:12:30.125,0:12:33.666  
And John, how many street tacos we fed  
over the last three and a half years?

0:12:33.666,0:12:35.458  
I can't count that high.

0:12:35.458,0:12:37.916  
It's probably like 50,000 tacos.

0:12:37.916,0:12:38.541  
You can count that high.

0:12:38.541,0:12:43.875  
Yeah, but yeah, but we so we love that  
piece of it, of this just revitalizing.

0:12:43.875,0:12:48.083  
Probably one of my favorite stories is  
we had four homes in a row

0:12:48.083,0:12:51.291  
and, you know, it takes like six weeks  
to plan one of these events.

0:12:52.000,0:12:55.541  
And about a week before they came to us  
and said, you don't need to come.

0:12:56.500,0:12:57.583  
And we had outline.

0:12:57.583,0:13:01.500  
We had people coming in from the west  
and east and the north and the south.

0:13:01.500,0:13:02.666  
to help

0:13:02.666,0:13:05.875  
And I said, well, our Gene Stevens  
actually was on the met with them.

0:13:05.875,0:13:08.875  
And they said to  
Gene, we've done it ourselves.

0:13:09.625,0:13:12.500  
We came together,  
we saw what you've been doing.

0:13:12.500,0:13:16.541  
And the four families gathered  
other families, and we did it ourselves.

0:13:16.708,0:13:18.958  
That's powerful.

0:13:18.958,0:13:22.750  
And so really, what my hometown.  
It's like a spark that ignites a wildfire.

0:13:23.500,0:13:28.250  
And we want to just keep feeding that fire  
within because the people are good.

0:13:28.250,0:13:30.000  
Sometimes they don't know,

0:13:30.000,0:13:33.041  
they don't have the resources  
or don't know how to get from A to B,

0:13:33.541,0:13:35.166  
and we're here to to work.

0:13:35.166,0:13:36.791  
It's not a handout.

0:13:36.791,0:13:39.041  
It's a hand up. So you mentioned

0:13:40.125,0:13:41.000  
Mark Johnson.

0:13:41.000,0:13:41.250  
Yeah.

0:13:41.250,0:13:43.500  
And I want to  
I want to lift that up and call him out,

0:13:43.500,0:13:45.625  
because I remember the time  
that you guys came

0:13:45.625,0:13:48.250  
in first presented to us at the City  
Council work session.

0:13:48.250,0:13:51.666  
And Mark Johnson's the former CAO  
here at the city.

0:13:52.000,0:13:53.666  
He served here a lot of years.

0:13:53.666,0:13:56.000  
And he made a lot of difference  
and impact,

0:13:56.000,0:13:58.166  
and he'll have a lot of long legacy.

0:13:58.166,0:13:59.708  
But I've, I've long thought

0:13:59.708,0:14:03.625  
since taking this job that I think  
this will be his biggest legacy.

0:14:04.250,0:14:06.916  
And it's important  
as we stand on the shoulders of leaders

0:14:06.916,0:14:10.166  
before us, that we recognize the progress  
that's been made as a community.

0:14:10.166,0:14:11.208  
And you don't.

0:14:11.208,0:14:14.208  
We don't halt or stop things  
for political purpose or political gain.

0:14:14.666,0:14:18.041  
We pick up where it left off and we carry  
it further, and we carry it higher.

0:14:18.708,0:14:21.208  
And I feel a tremendous sense  
of responsibility

0:14:21.208,0:14:24.958  
to turn that spark into a fire  
and into a raging inferno

0:14:26.125,0:14:29.291  
and for me, when we talk about the Ogden Way,  
when we talk about the vision

0:14:29.291,0:14:32.333  
and being a city of service in it  
and a community of opportunity,

0:14:33.416,0:14:36.416  
service is at the heart of everything.

0:14:36.541,0:14:39.833  
I was raised to believe that, and  
I've been raised by Ogden to believe it.

0:14:40.458,0:14:42.166  
I know it in my core.

0:14:42.166,0:14:46.375  
And in my experience in my first year  
as mayor, starting my second,

0:14:47.000,0:14:50.041  
there is no better example of service

0:14:50.041,0:14:53.291  
and selfless service others than the  
my Hometown program.

0:14:53.291,0:14:55.041  
Not in this city anyway.

0:14:55.041,0:14:56.875  
I'm sure there's other examples out there.

0:14:56.875,0:14:59.000  
I challenge them to find it.

0:14:59.000,0:15:02.125  
My hometown is  
is the example of service to others.

0:15:03.041,0:15:05.250  
Thank you, Mayor.

0:15:05.250,0:15:06.750  
I'd like to add something

0:15:06.750,0:15:10.583  
that Steve said there because it is the  
foundation of this community.

0:15:11.583,0:15:14.708  
We've  
watched so many, people come together

0:15:15.500,0:15:18.291  
and for the first time  
know their neighbors

0:15:18.291,0:15:21.291  
take pride in their home,

0:15:21.291,0:15:22.791  
love each other.

0:15:22.791,0:15:25.500  
And one of the things  
we could not have done

0:15:25.500,0:15:28.375  
is any of that  
without the help of Ogden City.

0:15:28.375,0:15:28.916  
And it -

0:15:28.916,0:15:31.041  
I know we have the mayor on our side.

0:15:31.041,0:15:33.291  
I know Mark Johnson was wonderful.

0:15:33.291,0:15:36.750  
Mara Brown is right  
in the same step as he was.

0:15:37.250,0:15:42.083  
But so many of the employees of this city  
have stepped up and done things

0:15:42.083,0:15:46.916  
well beyond what they're asked to do  
to make My Hometown what it is.

0:15:46.916,0:15:49.333  
Mara Brown is an absolute angel.

0:15:49.333,0:15:52.166  
She's, Mara Brown, current Ogden City CAO.

0:15:52.166,0:15:54.958  
Working with me in  
my administration is an angel,

0:15:54.958,0:15:56.541  
and we've got a lot of angels  
in our ranks.

0:15:56.541,0:16:01.750  
The employees of Ogden City from code  
enforcement to volunteer services

0:16:01.750,0:16:05.333  
to our PD, to public works, you name it,

0:16:05.750,0:16:08.750  
this city is involved in this program.

0:16:08.875,0:16:09.708  
They've become

0:16:09.708,0:16:13.583  
some of our dearest friends,  
and we consider them our dearest friends.

0:16:14.000,0:16:18.000  
They speak in the same terms  
in these halls of this building about -

0:16:19.208,0:16:21.166  
that is the

0:16:21.166,0:16:24.958  
that's to me, that's what makes service  
so powerful,

0:16:25.916,0:16:29.083  
is the sense  
that if you serve others selflessly,

0:16:29.625,0:16:33.750  
you get this almost selfless return  
back, right, called the servant cycle.

0:16:34.375,0:16:35.583  
But the

0:16:35.583,0:16:38.541  
I mean,  
I sent this message over the holidays

0:16:38.541,0:16:41.583  
that I thanked our staff  
for all the service that they do

0:16:41.583,0:16:45.083  
for people and that we're impacting  
other people's lives.

0:16:45.083,0:16:47.833  
But but it's  
we pay really careful attention.

0:16:47.833,0:16:50.833  
We are impacting our own as well  
when we serve others.

0:16:50.833,0:16:51.958  
Right?  
Absolutely.

0:16:51.958,0:16:55.375  
And I know, I know the two of you  
that services in the center of your heart.

0:16:56.291,0:16:59.291  
Steve Lee,  
tell us what a service mean to you.

0:16:59.666,0:17:02.500  
Services losing yourself in the work.

0:17:02.500,0:17:06.083  
It's forgetting who you are  
and what your wants are

0:17:06.625,0:17:09.416  
and focus on the needs of others.

0:17:09.416,0:17:11.541  
And service  
can come in all shapes and form.

0:17:11.541,0:17:14.333  
Sometimes it's a handshake, it's a smile.

0:17:14.333,0:17:19.166  
But it's really that visualization  
of helping someone come up, helping them.

0:17:19.166,0:17:22.916  
And you can only you can only help someone  
come up if you're on higher ground.

0:17:23.625,0:17:26.333  
And that's what I've noticed as we've gone

0:17:26.333,0:17:30.000  
inside Ogden City, inner city area

0:17:30.458,0:17:34.750  
that used to be very vibrant and  
and then it got ran down.

0:17:34.750,0:17:38.000  
We want to return it to what it was  
when it started.

0:17:38.583,0:17:40.416  
And I think it starts with people.

0:17:40.416,0:17:45.000  
You know, we use the excuse of fixing up  
driveways and sidewalks and parks,

0:17:45.416,0:17:49.833  
but it's really people that we're focused  
on our community resource centers.

0:17:49.833,0:17:53.208  
We have three in Ogden, and  
we're just looking to open up a fourth.

0:17:53.666,0:17:54.750  
That's what we do there.

0:17:54.750,0:17:57.791  
That's where the people come in  
to learn English or Spanish,

0:17:57.791,0:18:01.666  
or learn how to sew or do  
electrical work or plumbing work.

0:18:02.125,0:18:03.291  
There's probably about 17-

0:18:03.291,0:18:07.583  
18 courses we teach, and we'll teach  
whatever that people what that they need.

0:18:08.000,0:18:11.791  
- Immigration became a top priority  
- Self-reliance.

0:18:11.791,0:18:13.625  
Self-Reliance.

0:18:13.625,0:18:17.250  
And and there's already hundreds  
of great NGOs

0:18:17.250,0:18:20.458  
in Ogden, and we don't want to duplicate  
anything that they're doing.

0:18:20.458,0:18:23.208  
We want to get people to them.

0:18:23.208,0:18:28.250  
We want to be that connector that if if they need to get an education at the Ogden,

0:18:29.208,0:18:31.791  
applied technology  
college, they can get the training.

0:18:31.791,0:18:33.500  
They need professional training.

0:18:33.500,0:18:37.041  
But it's getting over that little hump  
of getting them over

0:18:37.041,0:18:40.416

to where they can see,  
I can do that.

0:18:40.416,0:18:43.333  
Connector. That was the word.

0:18:43.333,0:18:45.458  
Yeah, I use it all the time.

0:18:45.458,0:18:48.458  
I'm begging people for help in the bit  
to be a connector.

0:18:50.125,0:18:51.458  
And we're gonna talk more about that.

0:18:51.458,0:18:55.208  
But what does it mean to be a connector?

0:18:55.541,0:18:58.541  
And how does this program help  
to connect people?

0:19:00.791,0:19:01.916  
Well,

0:19:01.916,0:19:05.291  
I would take a stab at that,  
because we've watched it,

0:19:05.750,0:19:08.375  
for the last three and a half years

0:19:08.375,0:19:11.375  
as we go to people's homes.

0:19:12.000,0:19:15.000  
Mayor,  
sometimes the door only opens two inches,

0:19:15.625,0:19:18.708  
and once they see who we are and they,

0:19:19.833,0:19:22.166  
start to understand what our desires are.

0:19:22.166,0:19:25.166  
And this isn't about us. It's about them.

0:19:25.583,0:19:28.333  
And, yes, we're going to change  
some things, maybe in their property.

0:19:28.333,0:19:31.833  
But what we really are going to do  
is going to change their hearts,

0:19:33.125,0:19:35.458  
and we connect with these people

0:19:35.458,0:19:38.458  
and recognize that they

0:19:38.708,0:19:40.708  
they have so much to offer.

0:19:40.708,0:19:45.291  
And Steve mentioned that, you know, this  
community has been a vibrant community.

0:19:45.666,0:19:49.208  
It's had some beautiful blocks in it  
and beautiful homes,

0:19:49.875,0:19:52.875  
and some of those maybe are in, in,

0:19:53.333,0:19:54.833

need of repair.

0:19:54.833,0:19:57.833

But we connect with these people in a way

0:19:57.958,0:20:00.958

that all of a sudden  
they've taken pride in this community.

0:20:01.333,0:20:05.416

But they say, just like we said as we sit  
down here today, we love Ogden City.

0:20:06.166,0:20:08.250

And it's our home.

0:20:08.250,0:20:11.875

And that connection is starting  
to reach across the street.

0:20:12.208,0:20:16.500

That connection is going around the block  
and it's changing people's lives.

0:20:16.500,0:20:18.833

It really is, including our own.

0:20:18.833,0:20:20.666

As we do that work.

0:20:20.666,0:20:23.916

I have experience  
when I participate in the program.

0:20:25.583,0:20:26.500

You might drive by a

0:20:26.500,0:20:29.500

home and you might you might judge.

0:20:29.500,0:20:31.583

You might think one thing or another  
about somebody

0:20:31.583,0:20:34.500

based on the appearance of their home  
and the outside.

0:20:34.500,0:20:36.625

What I've learned is that

0:20:36.625,0:20:39.416

the person on the inside of that home

0:20:39.416,0:20:43.416

almost always cares  
just as much about Ogden as I do.

0:20:43.750,0:20:46.750

Yeah, and they're just  
in a different place in their life.

0:20:47.000,0:20:50.000

And what we see on the outside and often,

0:20:50.625,0:20:53.375

unfortunately, judge them for

0:20:53.375,0:20:55.958

is just a reflection  
of where they're at right now,

0:20:55.958,0:20:58.958

and that that thing is a weight on them

0:20:59.125,0:21:01.833

that they are struggling to to carry.

0:21:01.833,0:21:03.333  
It's a burden that the struggle  
they carry.

0:21:03.333,0:21:04.708  
Right.

0:21:04.708,0:21:08.000  
And it just sort of manifests in the,  
in the appearance of a home.

0:21:08.000,0:21:08.541  
And so

0:21:09.666,0:21:11.666  
kind of all gets back to their spirit,  
you know,

0:21:11.666,0:21:14.666  
they might be struggling with their spirit  
and with their energy and their

0:21:14.750,0:21:17.333  
and their will to drive  
and to lift, lift themselves.

0:21:17.333,0:21:20.166  
But when you guys show up,

0:21:20.166,0:21:22.375  
you change that, you change that energy.

0:21:22.375,0:21:25.208  
And I've been, our staff,

0:21:25.208,0:21:28.500  
we are transforming our code enforcement  
staff from being a,

0:21:29.333,0:21:31.875  
a, quote, policing group.

0:21:31.875,0:21:33.083  
Instead of being a policing group.

0:21:33.083,0:21:36.083  
They drive around town  
and they look for need, right?

0:21:36.208,0:21:39.625  
They find need  
and they connect needs with resource.

0:21:40.375,0:21:42.750  
And so the code enforcement  
has become a really good avenue for

0:21:42.750,0:21:46.041  
identifying people who need your help.

0:21:46.375,0:21:49.375  
- Right?  
- They've been fabulous.

0:21:49.666,0:21:50.791  
They really have.

0:21:50.791,0:21:54.416  
You know, one of the things that I thought  
that came to me as you were talking

0:21:54.416,0:21:57.416  
was there's a German  
philosopher named Gerta,

0:21:57.500,0:22:01.208  
and he said this, if you treat a man  
as he is, he'll remain as he is.

0:22:01.708,0:22:04.125  
But if he treat a man as he should be,  
and not to be,

0:22:04.125,0:22:06.958  
he will become what he should be  
and ought to be.

0:22:06.958,0:22:10.583  
And sometimes we have to see in them  
that which they cannot see in themselves.

0:22:11.333,0:22:15.833  
And probably the the biggest part of what  
we do, John and I have done in our lives

0:22:16.250,0:22:19.291  
is we take employees  
or we take volunteer groups

0:22:19.291,0:22:22.458  
that we're over  
and we help paint a vision for them.

0:22:22.458,0:22:24.625  
This is what you can have.

0:22:24.625,0:22:27.875  
And, I'll just just share  
a quick experience with John.

0:22:28.375,0:22:29.750  
John. Was that for me?

0:22:30.750,0:22:32.000  
He was 18.

0:22:32.000,0:22:33.000  
Well, you were 21.

0:22:33.000,0:22:35.583  
You're 22 years old.  
He came home from a mission.

0:22:35.583,0:22:38.791  
I was 17, and our group of kids

0:22:38.791,0:22:41.791  
who were little struggling  
and having our issues,

0:22:42.083,0:22:45.750  
and he just came in to the rescue  
and really saved my life.

0:22:46.208,0:22:47.750  
And he did it through a car.

0:22:47.750,0:22:50.750  
I had a 69 Cougar, and he helped me

0:22:51.208,0:22:54.166  
paint it and made it into a show car.

0:22:54.166,0:22:58.583  
And we have been best friends for 50  
plus years.

0:22:59.625,0:23:01.291  
I've done business together.

0:23:01.291,0:23:03.958  
We've owned things  
together, companies together.

0:23:03.958,0:23:06.666  
And it all started

because he showed some interest

0:23:06.666,0:23:09.666  
in a 17 year old boy that was struggling.

0:23:09.750,0:23:11.125  
We all need a John Watson

0:23:11.125,0:23:12.208  
- in our lives.  
- We do.

0:23:12.208,0:23:14.250  
In fact, when we talked to you  
guys, had a coach in your life

0:23:14.250,0:23:15.583  
that made an impact like that, right?

0:23:15.583,0:23:18.583  
And I shared the story of Ron  
Vick in my life.

0:23:18.583,0:23:21.375  
We did. And may I say that,

0:23:22.666,0:23:24.875  
he changed my life

0:23:24.875,0:23:27.416  
because when we serve someone,

0:23:27.416,0:23:28.041  
it affects us.

0:23:28.041,0:23:29.541  
You've mentioned that already.

0:23:29.541,0:23:32.333  
Selfless service to others  
is the most selfish thing you can do.

0:23:32.333,0:23:33.333  
Absolutely.

0:23:33.333,0:23:37.791  
The coach in our life was an old farm  
guy, and, he brought us together.

0:23:38.000,0:23:40.291  
Ex-Green Beret.  
Yep.

0:23:40.291,0:23:41.333  
Tough as nails.

0:23:41.333,0:23:45.750  
Not a big guy, but none of us wanted  
to try to compete against him.

0:23:45.833,0:23:47.208  
Sure, he taught us to box.

0:23:47.208,0:23:48.500  
He taught us to climb a rope

0:23:48.500,0:23:52.000  
in a gym without our feet  
and just our hands and pure strength.

0:23:52.791,0:23:55.041  
He taught us how to be gentleman.

0:23:55.041,0:23:56.833  
He taught us etiquette.

0:23:56.833,0:23:58.708  
He taught us integrity.

0:23:58.708,0:24:00.250  
He taught us goodness.

0:24:00.250,0:24:03.250  
He taught us honesty and,

0:24:03.500,0:24:07.291  
And what Steve said is so important  
that he gave us a vision.

0:24:08.458,0:24:08.833  
There's a

0:24:08.833,0:24:12.166  
saying in Proverbs,  
it says people without vision perish.

0:24:12.750,0:24:16.000  
He gave us a vision  
of wanting to be somebody and something

0:24:16.916,0:24:19.083  
and contribute to a community.

0:24:19.083,0:24:21.625  
And that old coach,

0:24:21.625,0:24:24.625  
I can't tell you  
how many men he's affected

0:24:24.625,0:24:27.375  
because of what he did for men.

0:24:27.375,0:24:29.500  
And if we don't take part of that and

0:24:29.500,0:24:32.666  
and recognize it and try to do the same  
for others, shame on us.

0:24:33.125,0:24:35.500  
Yeah, I think we all have an obligation.

0:24:35.500,0:24:38.291  
His his name is Elton Griffin

0:24:38.291,0:24:41.333  
and Elton was an amazing man and his son

0:24:41.333,0:24:45.500  
now is an executive director  
in My Hometown on the Ogden South Side.

0:24:45.500,0:24:46.458  
Oh no kidding.

0:24:46.458,0:24:49.583  
And so we all, we all owe, Elton a lot.

0:24:50.041,0:24:54.083  
We have got to be America's  
biggest small town, right?

0:24:54.750,0:24:57.041  
There's a lot of connections.  
We're like a big city.

0:24:57.041,0:24:58.500  
Yeah, we're so small because there's.

0:24:58.500,0:25:00.458  
We're so connected. Right.

0:25:00.458,0:25:02.333  
And getting back to connector. And -

0:25:02.333,0:25:03.875  
But you said vision to.

0:25:03.875,0:25:08.083  
And I take a lot of responsibility  
around vision for the city as the mayor.

0:25:09.166,0:25:12.500  
But it's more than just me saying what  
the vision is.

0:25:12.500,0:25:17.166  
And then trying to push or cajole people  
into following that vision.

0:25:17.833,0:25:20.541  
My the vision that we've come up  
with, this vision that we've heard

0:25:20.541,0:25:21.666  
from the people

0:25:21.666,0:25:24.083  
I heard through the campaign trail,  
we hear it in our daily service,

0:25:24.083,0:25:26.375  
and we've heard it  
through formal mechanisms, through me,

0:25:26.375,0:25:29.458  
through general plan, amendments  
and so on.

0:25:29.791,0:25:35.000  
We've gotten feedback and people want to  
to have a vision that is about creating

0:25:35.000,0:25:38.458  
an environment that supports opportunities  
and success for people.

0:25:39.083,0:25:41.208  
We want to be connected to each other.

0:25:41.208,0:25:42.416  
Right?  
Absolutely.

0:25:42.416,0:25:46.166  
And and we all owe it to each other to  
have a vision as a city and a community,

0:25:46.833,0:25:50.666  
but to give one another vision through  
our service with and for one another.

0:25:51.125,0:25:55.458  
And and I really appreciate and want to  
thank the two of you, but also the church,

0:25:56.750,0:25:58.791  
for for being that

0:25:58.791,0:26:02.166  
that model and that example for so many  
and for it

0:26:02.708,0:26:06.958  
as a, as a nonmember raised Catholic,  
the church has wrapped

0:26:06.958,0:26:09.208  
their arms around me  
as well as a leader in our community.

0:26:09.208,0:26:14.416  
And I've been amazed at how inclusive

the church has been for for me and for us.

0:26:15.041,0:26:18.500

I've seen more acts of service  
and kindness out of the church than anyone

0:26:18.666,0:26:21.125

would ever know exists. Because you don't.

0:26:21.125,0:26:22.583

I'm not after accolades.

0:26:22.583,0:26:24.166

You're after impact, right?

0:26:24.166,0:26:27.291

Impacting lives,  
and I just can't think of a better

0:26:27.291,0:26:30.750

example of service than the two of you  
in the My Hometown program.

0:26:31.125,0:26:31.958

And the lessons of

0:26:31.958,0:26:35.416

his teaching are people in our city,  
but also the employees of the city.

0:26:36.875,0:26:39.291

So I really appreciate you guys  
recognizing that.

0:26:39.291,0:26:40.291

Thank you.

Thank you.

0:26:41.250,0:26:43.708

So when you guys do a

0:26:43.708,0:26:46.708

project like that,

0:26:46.958,0:26:49.166

tell us,

0:26:49.166,0:26:51.416

tell us what it takes to prepare for it

0:26:51.416,0:26:54.291

and, and some specifics  
of what those projects

0:26:54.291,0:26:57.291

are like on the ground.

0:26:58.166,0:26:59.458

It's a big job,

0:26:59.458,0:27:02.458

and it takes a lot of hands to do it.

0:27:03.166,0:27:05.083

We would have,

0:27:05.083,0:27:08.083

been specific, about,

0:27:08.625,0:27:11.583

230 missionaries

0:27:11.583,0:27:14.583

that are called to be helpers  
in this process

0:27:15.666,0:27:17.083

of those missionaries.

0:27:17.083,0:27:18.625

There's a few of them that are executive

0:27:18.625,0:27:21.833

directors and associate directors  
that all come together.

0:27:22.166,0:27:25.166

And we start to make a plan on, location

0:27:25.166,0:27:28.500

and number of projects, what they need.

0:27:29.083,0:27:32.750

And before we ever start  
one of these and Steve

0:27:32.750,0:27:35.750

said, six weeks, sometimes we're out

0:27:37.041,0:27:39.791

easily a couple of months to try to pull

0:27:39.791,0:27:42.958

everything together with equipment  
and the things that we need to do.

0:27:44.416,0:27:45.625

And then we invite

0:27:45.625,0:27:50.083

volunteers because even that size of group  
cannot get done

0:27:50.083,0:27:53.708

what has to be done on a given Saturday  
when we start the day of service.

0:27:54.500,0:27:57.500

And so we bring,

0:27:58.375,0:28:00.625

200, 250

0:28:00.625,0:28:04.166

volunteers  
from a different stakes around the valley,

0:28:04.458,0:28:08.958

and we'd have probably six stakes  
participating now on a given Saturday.

0:28:09.833,0:28:12.333

And with that,

0:28:12.333,0:28:14.208

they go out, they register people,

0:28:14.208,0:28:18.000

they get waivers for homeowners  
that we can do the work.

0:28:18.500,0:28:19.375

Safety training.

0:28:19.375,0:28:22.375

Safety training is done on on site.

0:28:23.125,0:28:27.750

We sign up and, know the people  
who are there, and then we go to work.

0:28:28.083,0:28:32.083

And when you when you see that,  
it is almost mind boggling

0:28:32.416,0:28:36.083

that families come together  
and you have a family, a father,

0:28:36.083,0:28:38.916  
a mother or five kids with them,

0:28:38.916,0:28:43.791  
down to the age of 8 or 9 years  
old, up to the age of 17,

0:28:43.791,0:28:45.000  
18 years old.

0:28:45.000,0:28:48.833  
And they all put their shoulder to the  
wheel and they work and make a difference.

0:28:50.000,0:28:51.375  
The night before that,

0:28:51.375,0:28:54.583  
I can tell you inside my stomach  
stumbling over,

0:28:54.833,0:28:58.416  
I sort of have sleepless nights  
the night before that day of service,

0:28:58.833,0:29:02.333  
because you want it to come off  
and you want the weather to be good.

0:29:02.708,0:29:05.125  
And I can tell you in three  
and a half years

0:29:05.125,0:29:07.583  
I've looked at those mountains  
and thought, it is threatening

0:29:07.583,0:29:10.583  
today, we will not be able to pull this off,

0:29:10.583,0:29:13.583  
and there's never been  
a delay in this city

0:29:13.791,0:29:17.375  
on doing a day of service because of  
weather or things of that nature.

0:29:17.375,0:29:21.416  
I can tell you that when, when or  
if that ever comes, it will still happen.

0:29:21.625,0:29:22.500  
We will be there, I promise you.

0:29:22.500,0:29:24.541  
and Ogden people

0:29:24.541,0:29:25.791  
will make it happen

0:29:25.791,0:29:28.166  
because that's what we do,  
that it is the Ogden Way.

0:29:28.166,0:29:31.875  
And, you know is the Ogden Way - you talked about all that coordination,

0:29:32.083,0:29:33.625  
Do you know what else is happening  
while you're

0:29:33.625,0:29:36.708  
getting all the materials and the supplies  
and the and the planning of logistics

0:29:37.375,0:29:38.958  
is much before that

0:29:38.958,0:29:41.750  
And like I said, we have code  
enforcement out and employees and we have,

0:29:43.041,0:29:44.750  
volunteer coordinators

0:29:44.750,0:29:48.083  
and right identifying the need instead of

0:29:48.708,0:29:51.291  
putting a ticket on someone's door  
and saying, mow your lawn

0:29:51.291,0:29:54.333  
Well, what if it's an elderly woman  
that doesn't have the ability

0:29:54.333,0:29:56.666  
and is not surrounded by family  
and loved ones?

0:29:56.666,0:29:58.166  
That's where we step in.

0:29:58.166,0:30:00.625  
Code enforcement  
knows on the individual level

0:30:00.625,0:30:04.791  
when there's a need connects  
that need with the resource, right?

0:30:05.166,0:30:08.250  
And then on the back end,  
you guys are developing site plans.

0:30:08.625,0:30:11.958  
Our staff are facilitating serving success

0:30:12.500,0:30:15.625  
for others by reviewing,  
approving the site plans, making sure

0:30:15.625,0:30:18.041  
that they are going to beautify our city,  
right?

0:30:18.583,0:30:23.083  
Mayor, we have starting in April,

0:30:23.625,0:30:27.083  
we have a meeting with this city  
every other week.

0:30:28.375,0:30:30.416  
And those executive directors come help.

0:30:30.416,0:30:35.458  
Your employee force comes, and it is  
a meeting that we really talked about.

0:30:35.458,0:30:38.875  
All of those things  
and the city comes together and works

0:30:38.875,0:30:42.583  
as hard about getting this project done  
as our people work.

0:30:43.125,0:30:46.583  
And it's an effort  
that is that is connected

0:30:47.333,0:30:50.000  
in a way  
that I've never seen it done before.

0:30:50.000,0:30:51.750  
I don't think it can be done anywhere else

0:30:51.750,0:30:53.541  
like it is here,  
because there's only one Ogden.

0:30:53.541,0:30:55.916  
And can I pay you that compliment?  
Oh thank you.

0:30:55.916,0:31:00.166  
You are the envy of all the other  
My Hometowns in the Utah area.

0:31:00.375,0:31:03.291  
They say, don't compare us with Ogden.

0:31:03.291,0:31:07.750  
But you've done something very special  
with us that has made this work well.

0:31:07.750,0:31:11.291  
And getting back to the legacy of those  
that come before us too, we all pick it up

0:31:11.291,0:31:14.291  
and we move it forward  
and build it up and lift it up right.

0:31:14.375,0:31:17.833  
So the Ogden Way  
it's it's it's so powerful

0:31:17.875,0:31:21.833  
because you guys have shared  
stories of investing in people.

0:31:21.833,0:31:23.375  
You build community by building people.

0:31:23.375,0:31:26.375  
That was my my mantra, my campaign  
I meant it.

0:31:26.666,0:31:28.458  
This is what I meant.

0:31:28.458,0:31:32.291  
And and you  
you found need you lift others.

0:31:33.041,0:31:37.333  
They are doing the lifting for themselves  
to the best ability that they can, right?

0:31:37.416,0:31:40.416  
And we are surrounding them and wrapping  
our arms around and helping them lift.

0:31:40.833,0:31:43.791  
And in so doing,  
we're lifting ourselves, right?

0:31:43.791,0:31:47.250  
And it manifests itself outwardly.

0:31:47.250,0:31:50.250  
We are lifting and rising as a city  
and a community together.

0:31:50.625,0:31:55.541  
This program is so powerful,  
so many ways, right?

0:31:56.000,0:32:01.250  
Remember the tagline for City of Service,  
The Community of Opportunity, right?

0:32:01.500,0:32:02.750  
It's all comes down to service.

0:32:02.750,0:32:04.541  
It comes down to collaboration.

0:32:04.541,0:32:09.208  
We as a city, as a employees,  
are on a mission to always be

0:32:10.125,0:32:13.125  
service oriented in facilitating success.

0:32:13.166,0:32:14.875  
That's  
what we're do for you and your program.

0:32:14.875,0:32:17.333  
We're trying to replicate that everywhere,

0:32:17.333,0:32:20.458  
always going to have misssteps  
because we're human.

0:32:21.083,0:32:23.750  
But that's why it's  
hard to build communities.

0:32:24.791,0:32:26.666  
It's never easy, but that's what  
we're doing.

0:32:26.666,0:32:29.250  
We're doing it with you guys, right?

0:32:29.250,0:32:32.666  
I want to get back to the notion  
of connect connector and connecting.

0:32:33.708,0:32:36.708  
I want to connect some dots  
that leads to today and leads you to

0:32:37.833,0:32:39.083  
Is in prior episodes,

0:32:39.083,0:32:40.791  
we had guests

0:32:40.791,0:32:43.791  
one of those guests was Delores  
Banks Green.

0:32:43.791,0:32:47.083  
She connected me with the Black Student  
Union

0:32:47.416,0:32:50.458  
at Ben Lomond High School,  
now named the Urban Student Alliance.

0:32:51.708,0:32:53.916  
They connected me with the reality  
that their students

0:32:53.916,0:32:56.916  
are feeling a sense of hopelessness.

0:32:57.250,0:33:00.500  
Because they shared that message with me,  
I was able to share it with you.

0:33:01.208,0:33:04.208

Connectors in our city, connectors to resources.

0:33:04.541,0:33:07.500  
Let's talk a little bit  
about what we've worked on together

0:33:07.500,0:33:08.583  
since the time that I shared

0:33:08.583,0:33:11.583  
that message of hopelessness  
with them on the north side of town

0:33:11.875,0:33:14.833  
and and the opportunities you guys  
have been able to bring to the table

0:33:14.833,0:33:17.416  
and what we're going to build  
moving forward. Okay.

0:33:17.416,0:33:19.333  
Does anybody want to jump on that?

0:33:19.333,0:33:23.333  
You know, our vision statement  
for My Hometown

0:33:23.583,0:33:26.583  
is listen, love and lift.

0:33:26.875,0:33:31.375  
And we want you to know and we have met,  
we've been listening what these needs are.

0:33:31.375,0:33:34.916  
And I think in one area  
we've come up short.

0:33:35.375,0:33:38.375  
We focused on days of pride,  
their days of service,

0:33:38.375,0:33:41.875  
our community resource centers  
that are more on the adult side.

0:33:42.541,0:33:47.083  
And now I think we're going to expand  
our vision to really focus on the youth.

0:33:47.500,0:33:52.875  
And we've named it  
youth, impact, or youth, what they call it

0:33:54.083,0:33:55.125  
anyway, youth.

0:33:55.125,0:33:56.541  
It'll impact the youth.

0:33:56.541,0:33:58.125  
We got like Youth Impact here.

0:33:58.125,0:34:01.375  
We've got Boys and Girls Club  
and they can only do so much.

0:34:01.375,0:34:03.541  
They're limited on how many students.

0:34:03.541,0:34:08.375  
What our focus wants to be is how can we  
take those kids at Ben Lomond High School,

0:34:08.666,0:34:13.375  
they're feeling hopelessness

and do what John did for me or what

0:34:13.375,0:34:15.708

Alton Griffin did for John.

0:34:15.708,0:34:17.875

And we need a location.

0:34:17.875,0:34:22.208

And we found a location  
and we're right in the we have an LOI

0:34:22.250,0:34:24.833

We're real close to getting this facility

0:34:24.833,0:34:28.041

and it will be a true partnership,  
just like My Hometown is with Ogden.

0:34:28.333,0:34:31.333

It'll be a partnership  
between Ogden and My Hometown

0:34:31.583,0:34:34.583

How we bring those kids  
and help with their homework,

0:34:34.791,0:34:38.666

how we can help them  
see the vision of what they can become.

0:34:39.750,0:34:42.750

I kind of compare  
it to how my dad taught me how to weld.

0:34:43.000,0:34:46.541

He taught me those very difficult  
type of welding when I was 12 years

0:34:46.541,0:34:49.541

old, and it's called Heliarc Welding or Tig welding.

0:34:50.916,0:34:53.583

And he didn't just give me a book and say,  
okay, here's the book.

0:34:53.583,0:34:56.583

You read it,  
you know, he put his arms around me.

0:34:56.916,0:34:59.916

He put his hand in my right  
hand on my left hand.

0:35:01.041,0:35:01.791

We struck an arc.

0:35:01.791,0:35:04.458

We dropped the hood, and he said,  
do you see it?

0:35:04.458,0:35:06.875

And I said, what? He said, the puddle.

0:35:06.875,0:35:08.250

I said,  
I know what you're talking about, dad.

0:35:08.250,0:35:09.666

Well, this goes on for 3 or 4 times.

0:35:09.666,0:35:12.625

And finally one day I saw it, a shiny  
little puddle,

0:35:12.625,0:35:16.041

and I started adding the filler  
material, and I was welding.

0:35:17.125,0:35:17.958

And that's

0:35:17.958,0:35:21.750

almost 60 years ago,  
and I'm hooked on it today,

0:35:21.750,0:35:25.625

because he took the time  
to put his arms around me and show me.

0:35:25.791,0:35:29.333

Not just tell me, but show me how  
I could have a better life.

0:35:30.083,0:35:31.916

And there's an interesting thing  
about welding.

0:35:31.916,0:35:34.916

When you take two pieces of metal  
and you put them together

0:35:34.958,0:35:38.708

and if done properly, that weld  
is stronger than the metal itself.

0:35:39.541,0:35:43.541

And that's how we can do this with these  
youth, these kids at Ben High School

0:35:43.541,0:35:46.916

that are struggling with hopelessness,  
bring them into a facility.

0:35:46.916,0:35:48.416

We might even feed them.

0:35:48.416,0:35:49.916

We might help with their homework.

0:35:49.916,0:35:53.666

And then we'll give them a vision  
of what they can become

0:35:54.541,0:35:57.708

and let them catch that vision  
and take control of their own lives.

0:35:57.708,0:36:00.708

And then we step back and assist them.

0:36:00.875,0:36:05.541

But it's giving them that vision  
of what they can do.

0:36:05.833,0:36:09.208

Vision. Connector. Service.

0:36:09.958,0:36:11.875

Collaboration. Lift,

0:36:11.875,0:36:13.291

love, listen.

0:36:13.291,0:36:16.291

These are all the things  
that we always do.

0:36:16.333,0:36:19.250

They're all the things that embody  
the ethos and the spirit of the Ogden way.

0:36:20.250,0:36:21.000

You know,

0:36:21.000,0:36:23.708

we are building this building

0:36:23.708,0:36:26.625  
and this opportunity right now, right?

0:36:26.625,0:36:28.333  
Great things are going to come.

0:36:28.333,0:36:29.750  
I know it.

0:36:29.750,0:36:31.166  
We're going to have a great name for it.

0:36:31.166,0:36:33.000  
We're going to have a great,

0:36:33.000,0:36:35.541  
you know, set of services within it.

0:36:35.541,0:36:38.541  
But the important thing to remember  
is that

0:36:39.208,0:36:41.458  
as the mayor, I'm a connector,

0:36:41.458,0:36:41.916  
right.

0:36:41.916,0:36:44.458  
As John Watson, you're a connector  
as Steve Peterson, you're connector

0:36:44.458,0:36:48.000  
We're all connectors  
and we can't afford to not be.

0:36:48.250,0:36:52.000  
And as connectors, we've got to connect  
with one another and lift each other

0:36:52.000,0:36:55.541  
and help them find  
what they're looking for to succeed.

0:36:55.541,0:36:58.541  
The opportunities are abundant  
in this city.

0:36:59.541,0:37:00.291  
They're out there.

0:37:00.291,0:37:04.333  
There are impediments for people  
where at every level,

0:37:04.333,0:37:09.500  
from the the highest peak of success  
to the lowest lows of human,

0:37:11.250,0:37:14.250  
survival and everything in between.

0:37:14.625,0:37:18.958  
And we've got to be an army  
of people, of servants that reaches

0:37:19.416,0:37:22.750  
up, down and all around in order  
to find those people that need that.

0:37:23.625,0:37:26.000  
And they've got to have  
that sense of urgency

0:37:26.000,0:37:29.000  
for themselves

to do the work and invest in themselves.

0:37:29.125,0:37:31.916  
It helps so much to return  
that spirit to them when they know

0:37:31.916,0:37:33.541  
that they're not alone.

0:37:33.541,0:37:36.541  
So I want to thank you guys  
for being those kinds of men.

0:37:36.583,0:37:39.583  
I think the church in that  
kind of a church and that kind of faith,

0:37:40.125,0:37:43.291  
and for being a faith that invited  
all the other faiths to the table.

0:37:43.791,0:37:46.916  
Remember, this is not just about  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day

0:37:46.916,0:37:48.000  
Saints.

0:37:48.000,0:37:51.750  
You mentioned to the Interfaith Council,  
we have an Interfaith council of

0:37:52.041,0:37:56.208  
so many rich and diverse  
spiritual practices in the city, right?

0:37:56.666,0:37:59.541  
We all come together to lift one another.

0:37:59.541,0:38:01.541  
This is the Ogden Way.

0:38:01.541,0:38:03.166  
This is a beautiful town.

0:38:04.458,0:38:07.500  
And as  
we wrap up, I want to make sure that we

0:38:07.833,0:38:11.833  
that we highlight the fact  
one, you're wearing the Ogden Way gear

0:38:12.750,0:38:13.833  
Thank you for repping the brand.

0:38:13.833,0:38:15.833  
You guys look amazing.

0:38:15.833,0:38:17.625  
Thank you for being here.

0:38:17.625,0:38:20.541  
Thank you for being connectors,  
being in service, for being selfless,

0:38:20.541,0:38:23.541  
for having such loving and kind  
and caring hearts.

0:38:24.958,0:38:26.791  
To anybody that's listening,

0:38:26.791,0:38:30.583  
please go out and like, subscribe, share,  
visit the links that are on the page.

0:38:31.083,0:38:32.833

Learn more about the Ogden Way.

0:38:32.833,0:38:35.500

Learn more about the  
My Hometown initiative.

0:38:35.500,0:38:37.000

Learn more about what you can do

0:38:37.000,0:38:40.000

to get involved and get connected  
and be a connector.

0:38:40.375,0:38:41.916

That's how we build a community.

0:38:41.916,0:38:43.583

We we can build buildings

0:38:43.583,0:38:45.541

and build infrastructure,  
but that's just building a city.

0:38:46.791,0:38:47.958

We are here to build community.

0:38:47.958,0:38:50.166

You build community by building people

0:38:50.166,0:38:52.958

that use that infrastructure  
and populate those buildings.

0:38:52.958,0:38:55.958

That is the Ogden Way.

0:38:56.125,0:38:59.250

Mayor, we owe you a great deal of  
thanks for this.

0:38:59.250,0:39:01.916

Thank you for the opportunity  
of letting us be here.

0:39:01.916,0:39:04.625

And thanks for the support  
that you give us.

0:39:04.625,0:39:07.791

I love what you've said this evening  
and this is fantastic.

0:39:08.041,0:39:10.708

Well, thank you  
and thank you, Steve, for being here.

0:39:10.708,0:39:14.125

Let's finish for our,  
call to action for the day.

0:39:14.541,0:39:17.541

It's always to go out  
and to get out and be a connector.

0:39:18.416,0:39:21.208

The connection was Delores

0:39:21.208,0:39:22.916

Banks Green,

0:39:22.916,0:39:25.375

Black Student  
Union, sense of hopelessness.

0:39:25.375,0:39:28.458

My Hometown initiative  
through John Watson and Steve Peterson,

0:39:29.541,0:39:31.916  
a community facility that's provided

0:39:31.916,0:39:34.916  
and, supported by the church

0:39:35.291,0:39:38.375  
that we're going to fill with kids  
from every faith in every nation,

0:39:38.666,0:39:41.416  
from every neighborhood of the city,  
with a focus on the North.

0:39:41.416,0:39:43.333  
Because that's what we heard. We listened

0:39:44.458,0:39:45.291  
Right?

0:39:45.291,0:39:48.333  
We loved them, but  
we are going to do the work to lift them.

0:39:48.625,0:39:50.750  
That is the Ogden Way.

0:39:50.750,0:39:53.000  
Thank you so much, gentlemen.  
Thank you.  
Thank you.

0:39:53.000,0:39:55.791  
Appreciate you coming.  
We're in it for the long haul.

0:39:55.791,0:39:57.291  
We have to be.

0:39:57.291,0:39:58.875  
We're never done.

0:39:58.875,0:40:00.416  
Building community never ends.

0:40:00.416,0:40:03.958  
So until next time, thank you for  
joining us here on The Ogden Way Podcast.

0:40:04.375,0:40:07.250  
Get out there, get involved, be a connector.

0:40:07.250,0:40:09.458  
Lift yourself, lift others.

0:40:09.458,0:40:11.041  
Thank you so much, Ogden.  
Until next time.