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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Cache County Announces Annual RAPZ / Restaurant Tax Grants**

**LOGAN, UTAH** - The Cache County Council has approved the recommendation of the RAPZ Committee to award RAPZ & Restaurant Tax funds of more than \$2.8 million to 58 public and private organizations in Cache County.

“Cache Valley is a better place today thanks to the many community organizations who have used these funds for great programs, events and facilities,” said Cache County Executive David Zook who serves as Chairman of the RAPZ Committee. “We have trails, parks, performing arts programs, great events, and so many amenities in our county today that have been supported by these funds. I’m thankful for the voters and taxpayers who have supported the RAPZ program and who have made these community improvements possible.”

From 2002 through 2022, organizations in Cache County have been awarded more than \$26 million for projects that support recreation, arts, parks and the zoo. Three cities, North Logan, Hyde Park and Nibley, have utilized \$2 million in RAPZ funds to develop brand new parks as part of an exchange program developed to use RAPZ money to build new parks for Cache County residents. Most other cities in the county have used the grant funds to expand parks in their communities.

In November 2002, Cache County voters approved a 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% sales tax, known as the RAPZ Tax. Those funds can be used to support capital projects and operating expenses for publicly owned or operated recreation or park facilities and Zootah. They can also be used to fund the operating expenses of private nonprofit organizations to operate as botanical or cultural organizations.

Since 1992, the County has also collected and distributed \$28 million generated by a 1% Restaurant sales tax. Those funds can be used for either capital projects or maintenance expenses by publicly-owned or operated facilities for tourism promotion, recreation, cultural arts, convention centers, and airports. Private nonprofit organizations can receive Restaurant Tax funds only for tourism promotion.

Barbara Tidwell, Chair of the Cache County Council and member of the RAPZ Committee, expressed great appreciation to the members of the committee which consists of citizens of the community representing all areas of the county, “Allocation decisions are not arbitrary. They are based on a lot of time, research, and thoughtful consideration of each application by every member of the committee. They then come together to discuss each application individually and finally reach a consensus for each application.”

**More information regarding the RAPZ & Restaurant Tax Programs including the 2022 Awards list can be found on the Cache County website at: <https://www.cachecounty.org/rapz/>**

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