

## Guide to handling Panhandlers

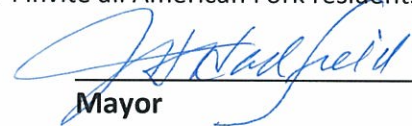
It does not surprise anyone that panhandlers love American Fork and our retail areas. Prosperous cities such as American Fork and surrounding areas with generous residents often find themselves targets of people seeking money; it is a sign American Fork is doing well.

Some see panhandlers as an annoyance while others see them as a worthy charity. What's the right thing to do? Only you can answer that, but here are some things to keep in mind:

- There are many resources in our community for those in need of food, shelter, and other basic needs. Families in need are best served by Jesus Feeds Food Bank, and Community Action Services and Food Bank; adults without children are best served by Food & Care Coalition. You can donate to these charities to help those in need. You may also contribute to any Local LDS WARD BISHOP.
- When you see a panhandler, often a police officer has already directed him or her to those resources, which may indicate the individual is not really interested in basic needs.
- A better way to help is to donate to: ***impactfulchange.org***. All donations go to local resources like those above. \$1 can provide five meals. \$35 can shelter a family for one night, and \$35 can provide an entire winter outfit for one person.
- You can also direct panhandlers to community resources yourself (see contact information below).

The City cannot prohibit panhandling because people have the inherent right to make "solicitations." The City does, however, have an ordinance prohibiting "aggressive solicitation" (physical contact, following, repeat solicitations, impending fee passage, with obscene or abusive language, etc.).

As a center for retail services and a generous population, American Fork will always grapple with issues such as this. A large part of the solution, however, rests with you. I invite all American Fork residents to carefully evaluate how they can best make a difference.

  
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**Mayor**

### Community Assist Groups

<p><b>Jesus Feeds Food Bank</b> (affiliate of the Utah Food Bank)</p> <p>801.492.9179 Adventure Church 55 East 400 North</p> <p>American Fork</p>	<p><b>Food &amp; Care Coalition</b></p> <p>801.373.1285</p> <p>299 East 900 South</p> <p>Provo</p> <p>foodandcare.org</p>	<p><b>Community Action Services and Food Bank</b></p> <p>801.373.8200</p> <p>815 S. Freedom Blvd., Ste. 100</p> <p>Provo</p> <p>communityactionprovo.org</p>
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