

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL  
Tuesday, January 10, 2023

**PENDING MINUTES – NOT APPROVED**

The City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, met in Work Session on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

**The following Council Members were present:**

Ana Valdemoros, Victoria Petro, Daniel Dugan, Amy Fowler, Alejandro Puy, Darin Mano

**The following Council Members were absent:**

Chris Wharton

**Present Legislative leadership:**

Cindy Gust-Jenson – Executive Director, Jennifer Bruno – Deputy Director, Lehua Weaver – Associate Deputy Director

**Present Administrative leadership:**

Mayor Erin Mendenhall, Rachel Otto – Chief of Staff, Lisa Shaffer – Chief Administrative Officer

**Present City Staff:**

Katherine Lewis – City Attorney, Cindy Lou Trishman – City Recorder, DeeDee Robinson – Minutes & Records Clerk, Thais Stewart – Deputy City Recorder, Taylor Hill – Constituent Liaison/Policy Analyst, Scott Corpany – Staff Assistant, Andrew Johnston – Director of Homelessness Policy and Outreach, Ben Luedtke – Senior Public Policy Analyst, Sam Owen – Public Policy Analyst, Olivia Hoge – Elections Management Coordinator, Laura Briefer – Public Utilities Director, Jonathan Larsen – Transportation Director, Richard Boden – Fire Battalion Chief, Chief Karl Lieb – Fire Chief, Teresa Gray – Public Utilities Water Quality & Treatment Administrator, Dustin White – Public Utilities Regulatory Program Manager, Lindsey Nikola – Deputy Chief of Staff, Joshua Rebollo – Community Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 3:47 pm.

## **Work Session Items**

**1. Informational: Updates from the Administration** ~ 4:00 p.m.  
30 min.

The Council will receive information from the Administration on major items or projects in progress. Topics may relate to major events or emergencies (if needed), services and resources related to people experiencing homelessness, active public engagement efforts, and projects or staffing updates from City Departments, or other items as appropriate.

**Project Timeline:** (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)

Briefing - Recurring Briefing

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

**Lindsey Nikola** provided information regarding:

**COVID-19 Updates**

- Cases in the US up 2% and down 23% in Utah in the last two weeks
- Vaccination/booster information and locations

**Josh Rebollo** provided information regarding:

**Community Engagement Highlights**

- Ways to engage with the City found at [www.slc.gov/feedback/](http://www.slc.gov/feedback/)
- Transportation projects/events: Comment period now closed for West Temple and Virginia Street reconstruction projects, UDOT I-15 environmental impact statement (EIS) alternatives comment period ending January 13, 2022
- Mayor's Office: Community Office Hour locations and details

**Andrew Johnston** provided information regarding:

**Homelessness Update**

- Homeless Resource Center occupancy/bed availability
- Encampment Impact Mitigation (EIM) efforts focusing around I-80 1300 East and 200 South Redwood Road
- Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) locations: 18 recurring cleanings, five new locations cleaned, and seven encampments reached through VOA engagement
- Resource Fair to be held January 13, 2022, in the Rio Grande Area from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

**2. Informational: SLC Emergency Management Update 2023** ~ 4:30 p.m.  
30 min.

The Council will receive an annual report of the City's emergency procedures, the Council's role in an emergency, and an overview of Emergency Management's current programs and efforts.

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Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

**Karl Lieb** (Fire Chief) and **Richard Boden** (Emergency Management Division Chief) provided information regarding:

- Department accomplishments, goals and projects in progress
- Emergency Management staffing update
- Activation levels and notifications
- 2022 examples of Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activations (incidents, levels and actions taken)
- EOC provided materials for Council Members (helmet, grey vest with name and district – identification for EOC sites)

**3. Informational: UTA Westside On-Demand Pilot Program Update** ~ 5:00 p.m.  
30 min.

The Council will receive an update about the Utah Transit Authority's or UTA's Westside On-Demand Pilot Program. Salt Lake City, in collaboration with UTA, launched the new service in December 2021 to improve connections to other transit services and the downtown for residential areas of Council Districts 1 and 2.

For more information on this item visit [www.tinyurl.com/transportationslc](http://www.tinyurl.com/transportationslc)

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Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

**Benjamin Luedtke** provided a brief introduction.

**Carlton Christensen** (Chair of UTA Board of Trustees), **Jay Fox** (UTA Executive Director), and **Jon Larsen** provided information regarding:

**Utah Transit Authority (UTA) Update**

- Update to On Demand for Westside of Salt Lake City:
  - Service updates year-to-date; 2,648 unique riders, average monthly growth at 28%, average cost per rider \$18.00
  - Vehicle updates: up-fitted wheelchair accessible vehicles to side-loading vans, bike racks installed on all vehicles, increased accessible fleet to 50%

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- Monthly ridership growth: 52,438 total ridership, 1,350% total growth, 28% average monthly growth
- On Demand added to South Davis County, Tooele County, south end of Salt Lake County (Riverton, Bluffdale, Draper, etc.)
- Ridership metrics and most common destinations
- 2023 ridership projections
- Identifying other areas in Salt Lake City where On Demand service was planned for, how the locations were determined, and when the service might begin

## 4. **Informational: Zero Fare Transit Study** ~ 5:30 p.m. 30 min.

The Council will receive a briefing about a study by Wasatch Front Regional Council, Utah Transit Authority (UTA), Utah Department of Transportation and the Mountainland Association of Governments. It evaluates potential impacts of expanding reduced fare or zero fare policies to different modes of public transit. This could be done in certain areas or the entire UTA service system. Salt Lake City participated in a zero fare pilot program February 2022.

**Project Timeline:** (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)

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Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

**Julie Bjornstad** (Wasatch Front Regional Council Senior Transportation Planner), **Alex Beim** (UTA Acting Manager of Long-Range and Strategic Planning), **Jay Fox** (UTA Executive Director), and **Jon Larsen** provided information regarding:

### **Regional Zero Fare Presentation**

- Study context: 2022 Free Fare February resulting in positive outcomes, regional interest in longer-term impacts of Zero Fare, examine other fare-based incentives to increase ridership, lower or zero-fares causing existing riders to ride more/attracts new riders, data-informed process on impacts of options
- Fares representing a small part of UTA's revenue
- Salt Lake City having actively supported UTA with fare policy and service (financial support and leadership, funding more frequent and later services, etc.)
- Information on eligible fare discounts (about 44% of UTA's riders system-wide pay full fare)
- Study goals: evaluate the operational, financial, and community effects of Zero Fare transit, gauge transit values of stakeholders across the service area, provide guidance around replacement funding for lost fare revenue, objectively inform decision-making processes around the future of Zero Fare transit
- Study alternatives: full system-wide Zero Fare, Zero Fare on the bus only, Zero Fare for low-income riders, lower fares on all services (reduce base fare to \$1.00)

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- Zero-fare effects: operation efficiency, financial health, community benefits
- Understanding impacts of alternatives: projected ridership increases on bus/TRAX/Front Runner and paratransit, projected savings to UTA, projected cost increases (including a scenario impacts summary)
- Possible paths forward: keep existing fare structure, partial implementations (bus-only zero-fare, low-income zero-fare, or \$1.00 base fare), system-wide zero-fare (permanent or one-year pilot)

**5. Informational: Utah Transit Authority Long-range Transit Planning** ~ 6:00 p.m.  
30 min.

The Council will receive a briefing about the Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) long range transit plans. UTA has a five year service plan identifying needs and priorities over 2023 – 2028. UTA is also developing a 30-year transit plan with a comprehensive vision, assessing system wide needs, and strategies to improve transit. Salt Lake City partners with UTA on frequent west-east bus routes (service every 15 minutes), bus stop amenities, mobility hubs, transit passes for K-12 public school students, grant applications to fund capital projects, and the Sugar House S-Line Streetcar among many others.

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Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

**Alex Beim** (UTA Acting Manager of Long-Range and Strategic Planning), **Jay Fox** (UTA Executive Director), **Eric Callison** (UTA Service Planning Manager), and **Jon Larsen** provided information regarding

**UTA 30-year Long-range Planning Presentation**

- Planning process: strategic planning, service planning, operations planning, implementation
- How long-range transportation plan (LRTP) and regional transportation plan (RTO) were complementary and different
- Goals of the LRTP process: strengthen partnerships with communities served, assess long-term transit needs, develop a system wide vision for the future, establish strategies for implementation
- Timeline:
  - 2021 – preliminary data collection and analysis
  - 2022 – consultant selection, phase I of community engagement, needs assessment
  - 2023 – draft plan, phase II of community engagement, plan revisions, finalize 2023-2050 LRTP, UTA Board Approval of LRTP

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**Salt Lake City Bus Service Updates**

- Fixed route service map (displaying SLC-sponsored and UTA baseline services)
- Fixed route ridership information (route, frequency, average weekday ridership, percentage of growth)

**2023-2037 Final Draft Five-Year Service Plan**

- April (possibly August) 2023 – discontinuing routes 901 and 902 (routes to Park City)
- August 2023 – Open full OGX line in Ogden, TRAX 15-minute Saturday service, contingency service (restoring service on some routes and extending UVX to Provo Airport)
- December 2023 – contingency service (restoring ski service on routes 953, 972, 994)
- August 2024 – improvements to Ogden Local and South Utah County services, improved frequency on route 205
- August 2025 – improved service on 200 South in Salt Lake City
- August 2026 – Midvalley Connector (affecting Murray, Taylorsville, and West Valley), improvements to Ogden/Salt Lake regional service
- August 2027 – 5600 West service, new Saratoga Spring/Eagle Mountain service
- Timeline for adoption of the plan

**6. Dinner Break** ~ 6:30 p.m.  
30 min.

**Project Timeline:** (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)

Briefing - n/a

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

**7. Informational: Safe Drinking Water Act Lead and Copper Rule Changes** ~ 7:00 p.m.  
20 min.

The Council will receive an update about upcoming changes to the Salt Lake City Lead and Copper Program for drinking water. The goal of this update is to provide information and receive feedback regarding the future implementation of changes to the Federal and State Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Lead & Copper Rule, associated regulatory requirements, and the resulting changes to Salt Lake City's Lead and Copper Program.

**Project Timeline:** (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)

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Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

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Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a  
TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

**Sam Owen** provided a brief introduction to the update.

**Laura Briefer, Teresa Gray and Dustin White** provided information regarding:  
**Lead and Copper Program and the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR)**

- Includes all of Salt Lake City Dept of Public Utilities (SLCDPU) culinary water system
- Public Utility's Staff leading the Lead and Copper Program
- How lead and copper gets into drinking water
- Health effects of lead
- Historical key dates for lead in drinking water
- Contents of the Lead and Copper Rule
- New requirements of the LCRR; lead service line inventory, lead service line replacement, enhanced lead and copper sampling sites and plans, monitoring in schools and childcare facilities, corrosion control treatment, public communication and outreach
- Timeline of the rollout
- SLCDPU's historical efforts to reduce lead in drinking water
- SLCDPU's current status for risks for lead
- Sampling and inspection pilot study details
- Details of what a service line was
- Current status for inventory (customer and SLCDPU owned)
- Lead service line identification
- Public engagement and education for Salt Lake City residents
- Program priorities: children, environmental justice, older homes
- Funding availability for lead service line identification and replacement
- Cost estimates for enacting the Lead and Copper Program
- Lead reduction examples from other cities in the U.S.
- Funding for this program was not yet detailed – options were currently being reviewed

Council Member Puy suggested offering information about SLCDPU's Lead and Copper Program via Council Member newsletters to help further distribute information to residents.

**8. Informational: Ranked Choice Voting Overview** ~ 7:20 p.m.  
30 min.

The Council will have an internal discussion about an option for the 2023 municipal election to participate in the State-authorized Municipal Alternative Voting Method Pilot Program project, otherwise known as ranked choice voting or instant runoff voting.

Under ranked choice voting, voters rank the candidates in order of preference. Election equipment counts the preference numbers for each ballot. If none of the candidates



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receive more than 50% of the overall vote after the first round, the candidate with the least number of votes is eliminated. The voters who had selected the eliminated candidate as their first choice would then have their votes counted for their second-choice candidate. This process of elimination continues until a candidate crosses the 50% threshold and is declared the winner.

For more information on this item visit [www.tinyurl.com/councilRCV](http://www.tinyurl.com/councilRCV)

**Project Timeline:** (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)

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Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

**Benjamin Luedtke** provided a brief introduction and indicated the deadline for a decision for Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) was May 2023.

**Olivia Hoge** and **Cindy Trishman** provided information regarding:

- RCV would continue to be an option offered by Salt Lake County for this upcoming election
- Cost estimates for RCV were not yet available from Salt Lake County
- State Legislation could impact the City's opportunity to participate in RCV

Council Members Puy and Petro expressed support for using RCV without a primary election.

**Straw Poll:** Support for using Ranked Choice Voting for the 2023 municipal election with no primary election (tentatively based on Legislative direction). All Council Members present were in favor; Council Members Wharton and Valdemoros were absent for the poll.

## **Standing Items**

### **9. Report of the Chair and Vice Chair**

Report of Chair and Vice Chair.

Council Member Mano mentioned the Council's Retreat event was to be held on January 31, 2023 and directed Council Members to start thinking of their goals/priorities.

### **10. Report and Announcements from the Executive Director**

Report of the Executive Director, including a review of Council information items and announcements. The Council may give feedback or staff direction on any item related to



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City Council business, including but not limited to scheduling items.

Information Needed by Staff

- National League of Cities (NLC) Congressional City Conference 2023
  - NLC Congressional City Conference 2023 will take place from Sunday, March 26th to Tuesday, March 28th in Washington, D.C. at the Marriott Marquis, with pre-conference activities from Friday, March 24-25.
  - Some Council Members have expressed interest in a tour of the White House.
    - White House tour requests must be submitted a minimum of 21 days in advance and no more than 90 days in advance of the requested tour date(s). Reservations cannot be accepted for tour dates outside this 21 – 90-day window.
    - Public tours are typically available from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, excluding Federal holidays or unless otherwise noted.

Please let staff know as soon as possible if you would like to tour the White House and or the names of all guests who may be attending with you.

***There was no discussion regarding the NLC-sponsored White House tours.***

***Cindy Gust-Jenson mentioned Council Staff was recently notified of an upcoming event – National Day of Racial Healing event to be held on January 17 & 18 in Washington, DC (sponsored by the NLC) and inquired if Council Members would be interested in attending. Council Member Mano noted the short notice for the event and the importance of recognizing the day for next year.***

**11. Tentative Closed Session**

The Council will consider a motion to enter into Closed Session. A closed meeting described under Section 52-4-205 may be held for specific purposes including, but not limited to:

- a. discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual;
- b. strategy sessions to discuss collective bargaining;
- c. strategy sessions to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation;
- d. strategy sessions to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares, if public discussion of the transaction would:
  - (i) disclose the appraisal or estimated value of the property under consideration; or
  - (ii) prevent the public body from completing the transaction on the best possible terms;
- e. strategy sessions to discuss the sale of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares, if:
  - (i) public discussion of the transaction would:
    - (A) disclose the appraisal or estimated value of the property under consideration; or

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- (B) prevent the public body from completing the transaction on the best possible terms;
  - (ii) the public body previously gave public notice that the property would be offered for sale; and
  - (iii) the terms of the sale are publicly disclosed before the public body approves the sale;
  - f. discussion regarding deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems; and
  - g. investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct.
- A closed meeting may also be held for attorney-client matters that are privileged pursuant to Utah Code § 78B-1-137, and for other lawful purposes that satisfy the pertinent requirements of the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act.

Closed Session A Started at 4:53 pm

Held via Webex and in the Work Session Room (location)

Council Members in Attendance: Council Members Dugan, Fowler, Petro, Puy, Mano, and Valdemoros (online)

City Staff in Attendance: Mayor Mendenhall, Katherine Lewis, Rachel Otto, Lisa Shaffer, Andrew Johnston, Lorena Rizzo-Jenson, Lindsey Nikola, Cindy Gust-Jenson, Jennifer Bruno, Lehua Weaver, Allison Rowland, Ben Luedtke, Taylor Hill, Scott Corpany, Sam Owen, Tracey Fletcher, Nick Tarbet, and Cindy Lou Trishman.

Closed Session ended at 5:03 pm

**Motion:**

**Moved by Council Member Fowler, seconded by Council Member Valdemoros to enter into Closed Session A for the purposes of strategy sessions to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property and attorney-client matters.**

**AYE:** Ana Valdemoros, Victoria Petro, Daniel Dugan, Amy Fowler, Alejandro Puy, Darin Mano

**ABSENT:** Chris Wharton

**Final Result:** 6 – 0 Pass

**Motion:**

**Moved by Council Member Fowler, seconded by Council Member Dugan to exit Closed Session A**

**AYE:** Victoria Petro, Daniel Dugan, Amy Fowler, Alejandro Puy, Darin Mano

**ABSTAIN:** Ana Valdemoros

**ABSENT:** Chris Wharton

**Final Result:** 5 – 0 Pass

**Motion:**

**Moved by Council Member Puy, seconded by Council Member Petro to enter into Closed Session B for the purposes of discussion regarding deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems.**

**AYE:** Victoria Petro, Daniel Dugan, Amy Fowler, Alejandro Puy, Darin Mano

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**ABSENT:** Ana Valdemoros, Chris Wharton

**Final Result:** 5 – 0 Pass

**Motion:**

**Moved by Council Member Fowler, seconded by Council Member Dugan to exit Closed Session B**

**AYE:** Ana Valdemoros, Victoria Petro, Daniel Dugan, Amy Fowler, Alejandro Puy, Darin Mano

**ABSENT:** Chris Wharton

**Final Result:** 6 – 0 Pass

Closed Session B Started at 7:33 pm, ending at 8:27 pm. Minutes and Recording not created pursuant to *UCA 52-4-206(6)(b)*

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Meeting adjourned at: 8:27 pm.

Minutes Approved:

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City Council Chair

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City Recorder

Please refer to Meeting Materials (available at [www.data.slc.gov](http://www.data.slc.gov) by selecting Public Body Minutes) for supportive content including electronic recordings and comments submitted prior to or during the meeting. Websites listed within the body of the Minutes may not remain active indefinitely.

This document along with the digital recording constitutes the official minutes of the City Council Work Session meeting held Tuesday, January 10, 2023 and is not intended to serve as a full transcript. Please refer to the electronic recording for entire content pursuant to Utah Code §52-4-203.