



# Utah Transit Authority

## Local Advisory Council

### MEETING MINUTES - Draft

669 West 200 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

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**Wednesday, August 28, 2024**

**1:00 PM**

**FrontLines Headquarters**

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**Present:** Chair Troy Walker  
Vice Chair Bob Stevenson  
2nd Vice-Chair Natalie Hall  
Council Member Neal Berube  
Council Member Dirk Burton  
Council Member Karen Cronin  
Council Member Mark Johnson  
Alternate Council Member Dan Dugan  
Alternate Council Member Brandon Gordon  
Alternate Council Member Jon Larsen

**Excused:** Council Member Erin Mendenhall

**Absent:** Council Member Julie Fullmer

Also attending were UTA staff and interested community members. Alternate Council Members Brandon Gordon and Dan Dugan attended as part of the audience, but not as voting members for this meeting.

#### **1. Call to Order & Opening Remarks**

Chair Troy Walker welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. He noted Alternate Council Member Jon Larson is filling in for Council Member Erin Mendenhall who is excused.

#### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **3. Safety First Minute**

David Hancock, Chief Capital Services Officer, gave a brief safety message.

#### **4. Public Comment**

##### **In Person/Virtual Comment**

No in-person or virtual comments were received.

##### **Online comment**

One online public comment was received and distributed to the council prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Council Member Burton to include the online public comment in the

minutes as part of the official record. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cronin. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**5. Consent**

- a. **Approval of May 22, 2024 Local Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**
- b. **Board Policy Revision**
  - **Board Policy 3.2 Service Planning Implementation**

A motion was made by Council Member Burton, and seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**6. Transit Oriented Development**

- a. **AR2024-08-01 - Resolution Approving the Murray North Station Area Plan and Recommending Adoption by the Authority's Board of Trustees**

Paul Drake, UTA Director of Real Estate & Transit-Oriented Development, was joined by Kayla Kinhead, UTA Transit-Oriented Communities Predevelopment Supervisor; and Megan Townsend, Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) Director of Community and Economic Development.

Drake turned the time over to Kinhead who highlighted the Murray North Station Area Plan including vision, goals, and plan elements. She also spoke to existing and proposed uses for the 8.4 acres of UTA-owned property at the site.-

Drake referenced the state statute which requires UTA to seek plan approval by the council with a recommendation for adoption by the authority's Board of Trustees.

Discussion ensued. A question relating to community support for the plan was posed by the Vice Chair Stevenson and answered by staff.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Stevenson, and seconded by Council Member Cronin, that this resolution be approved. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- b. **AR2024-08-02 - Resolution Approving the Clearfield Station Area Plan and Recommending Adoption by the Authority's Board of Trustees**

Paul Drake, Kayla Kinhead, and Megan Townsend were joined by Brad McIlrath, Clearfield City Senior Planner, to present the Clearfield Station Area Plan for approval by the council to recommend for adoption by the agency's Board of Trustees.

McIlrath outlined Updates to the Clearfield Station Area Plan which has been a work in progress for the past six years. He talked about various versions of the plan, site development, the evaluation of additional areas to be incorporated into the plan, and resolving access issues in relation to the Freeport Center which is located in the same area.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Stevenson, and seconded by Council Member Cronin, that this resolution be approved. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

## **7. Service Planning**

### **a. 2025-2029 UTA Five-Year Service Plan Draft Update**

Nichol Bourdeaux, UTA Chief Planning and Engagement Officer, was joined by Eric Callison, UTA Service Planning Manager, to present an overview of the 2025-2029 UTA Five-Year Service Plan.

Callison provided a high level overview of the plan including purpose, timeline, April 2025 change day plans, and draft concepts for 2026-2029.

He addressed each service area and the associated changes including:

- New routes
- Changes to existing routes including frequency, connections, and coverage
- New services or additions to current services
- End of Line (EOL) improvements

UTA Board Chair, Carlton Christensen pointed out August change day is being moved to April in 2025.

Discussion ensued. Questions relating to implementation timelines, the OGX bus service, discontinuation of the Layton Trolley service, On Demand services in Brigham City, and the Redwood Road bus service, were posed by the council and answered by staff.

## **8. Capital Projects**

### **a. Capital Projects Update - S-Line Extension and Davis-SLC Connector**

David Hancock, UTA Chief Capital Services Officer, was joined by Marcus Bennett, UTA Project Manager, and Patti Garver, UTA Environmental Compliance & Sustainability Manager, to present an update on the S-Line Extension and Davis-SLC Connector projects.

#### **S-Line Extension**

Bennett provided an overview of the S-Line extension project including design, funding and cost estimates, recent progress, project timelines, and public information.

#### **Davis-SLC Connector**

Garver provided an update of the Davis-SLC Connector project including a design overview, funding updates including funding awards, and timelines.

A question relating to the S-Line project costs was posed by Chair Walker and answered by staff.

**9. Discussion****a. 2024 UTA Public Image Survey Report**

Heather Barnum, UTA Chief Communications Officer, provided a high level overview of UTA's 2024 Public Image Survey which was conducted by a third party agency.

Barnum pointed out key highlights and metrics including survey responses to:

- Familiarity with UTA
- Favorable views
- Perceived benefits of public transit
- Reasons for using transit
- Barriers for non-transit riders
- The value of transit
- Noted improvements

Barnum discussed story-telling and social media engagement and urged council members to share their transit stories.

Discussion ensued. Questions relating to WiFi service on bus and TRAX and responses to service reliability were posed by the council and answered by staff.

**b. Open Dialogue with the Board of Trustees**

The floor was opened for comments and questions from the council and the Board of Trustees.

Discussion topics included the groundbreaking for the MVX service at Murray station, the agency's Bond refinancing proposal, and changes to the UVX service which recently moved from zero fare to fare and the implications of the change.

**10. Reports****a. Executive Director Report**

- **International Olympic Committee (IOC) Announcement**
- **Supplemental Services**
- **August Change Day**

Jay Fox, UTA Executive Director, provided a report to the council which included the recent announcement of Utah's winning bid to host the 2034 Winter Olympics, vendor procurement for supplementary services to support operational service demands, and the adjustment of August change day to April in 2025. Fox also introduced Patrick Preusser, UTA's new Chief Operating Officer, to the council.

**b. Audit Committee Report**

Vice Chair Stevenson provided a brief summary of the UTA Audit Committee meetings

held on June 24, 2024, and July 11, 2024.

Reports were received on the status of the 2023 and 2024 internal audit plans and progress on findings for past audits. Presentations were received on various audit projects including findings and recommendations.

The agency's 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and the National Transit Database Agreed Upon Procedure Report were presented by the agency's external auditors. A "clean" opinion was awarded although six minor deficiencies were noted and one significant deficiency identified. The auditors noted the deficiencies are being addressed and corrective processes are in place.

**11. Other Business**

- a. Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

**12. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, and seconded by Council Member Cronin, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

Transcribed by Hayley Mitchell  
Executive Assistant to the Board  
Utah Transit Authority

This document is not intended to serve as a full transcript as additional discussion may have taken place. Please refer to the meeting materials or audio located at:  
<https://www.utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/notice/935273.html> for entire content. Meeting video is accessible at: <https://rideuta.granicus.com/player/clip/316?redirect=true>

This document along with the digital recording constitute the official minutes of this meeting.

Approved Date:

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Troy Walker  
Chair, UTA Local Advisory Council

**Appendix A**  
**Online Public Comment**

**(Note: Online public comment was received via email and the text is copied as submitted).**

**From Nathan Pyper:**

I appreciate you taking the time to read my comment and consider what the citizens of Salt Lake City have to say about the plans for our public transit systems.

Salt Lake City punches well above its weight when it comes to public transit compared to similar cities in the USA. Our UTA leaders have done a great job with what they have been given and are allowed to do. I believe that SLC is setting the standard for transit in small to mid-size cities nationwide.

The Rio Grande Plan will help SLC and the state of Utah take the next step toward a comprehensive and impressive public transit system. It will also help create an awe-inspiring entrance to our city for future and current residents and guests. Burying the rail yard downtown will help resolve issues between the east-west divide and will open up prime downtown land for development. This land can be used to help remedy our housing crisis and generate tax revenue for the city and state.

People all over the Salt Lake Valley and Utah have spoken up about their support for this citizen-led plan. We hope that UTA and our elected officials listen.