

SALT LAKE COUNTY

2001 So. State Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
(385) 468-7500 TTY 711



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

1:30 PM

Council Chambers, Room N1-110

County Council

1. CALL TO ORDER

Invocation - Reading or Thought - Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Council Member Laurie Stringham
Council Member Natalie Pinkney
Council Member Jiro Johnson
Council Member Carlos Moreno
Council Member Aimee Winder Newton
Council Member Ross Romero
Council Member Sheldon Stewart
Council Member Dea Theodore

Excused: Council Member Suzanne Harrison

Invocation - Reading or Thought - Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Dena Long spoke in support of agenda item 7.3, Council Member Moreno's proposed internal policy on the Council's use of volunteers. She felt it would be a good way to get different perspectives without having to attend a Council meeting. It would also be a way for people to speak freely without worrying about their jobs.

Mr. Spencer Twitchell spoke in favor of the proposed internal policy on the Council's use of volunteers. He felt it would give constituents a little more say and give Council members an opportunity to speak without fear of losing their jobs.

3. REPORT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS:

3.1 County Council Members

Council Member Johnson stated he had the opportunity to visit Japantown. The Smith Entertainment Group (SEG) has purchased the western part of the convention center, and the Japantown community is worried about how this will affect things. After World War II, Japantown became a thriving part of downtown Salt Lake City. Over time, it has eroded. Residents are trying to hold on to what is left. Japantown's festivals bring in

thousands of people, and it is part of what makes Salt Lake City unique.

Council Member Pinkney stated Japantown is an important part of Salt Lake County's history and culture. The festivals are largely attended. She was excited to work with the community to attempt to restore that history.

Council Member Theodore stated she and other Council members have attended the events at Japantown multiple times and agreed that the community should be preserved.

Council Member Theodore attended a fashion show at the Eccles Theater that was hosted by The Blocks Arts District. She was impressed with the clothing that was featured and the artists who designed it. She had a great time. The Blocks Arts District will also be hosting a mariachi festival soon. She encouraged the public to attend these events.

3.2 County Mayor

Mayor Jennifer Wilson delivered her weekly update.

- The Salt Lake County Arts & Culture Division recently held its Westside CultureFest at the Mid-Valley Performing Arts Center. More than 2,000 people attended. It was a wonderful convening of culture and community.
- Wheeler Historic Farm recently concluded its summer camps.
- The Clark Planetarium recently launched its own summer programs. All 84 spots were filled quickly.
- The Parks & Recreation Division hosted several "try it" events to encourage residents to try new sports and activities. There will be a soccer clinic on August 23rd at the Northwest Recreation Center and a hockey event at the Acord Ice Center on September 13th.
- The Animal Services Division is partnering with the NHL's Utah Mammoth to celebrate Archie, the team's service puppy in training. The partnership has raised money for the Animal Services Division.
- The Aging & Adult Services Division will be hosting its third annual Senior Art Show on August 26th and 27th at the Government Center.
- The Aging & Adult Services Division will close the Tenth East Senior Center for

remodeling on September 5th.

- The Office of Regional Development recently hired Tanya Birks as the new Housing & Community Development Director. Ms. Birks has a broad understanding of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and how it operates.

3.3 Other Elected County Officials

4. CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

4.1 Acceptance of Cash Donations in the Amount of \$125,000 from Salt Lake County Foundation to Salt Lake County Parks and Rec for the Butterfield Canyon Trails Phase 1a and 1b 25-425

Attachments:

1. County Declaration of Donation form - Butterfield Canyon trails 2025

The vote on this consent item was approved.

4.2 Consideration of 2025 Pay Raises for Tax Admin Hearing Officers - Effective August 24, 2025 25-422

Attachments: None

The vote on this consent item was approved.

5. APPROVAL OF TAX LETTERS

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that the Tax Letters be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

5.1 Tax Administration's Letter for Recording of Liens on Delinquent Properties 25-421

Attachments:

1. Recording of Liens on Delinquent Properties Deferred from Sale

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

5.2 DMV Registration Refunds 25-427

Attachments:

1. 25-427 MV 0014 Personal Property Tax Refund DMV \$83
2. 25-427 MV 0015 Personal Property Tax Refund DMV VET \$6503

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

6. WORK SESSION

6.1 Informational Update on the Proposed Hire Report, Incentive Plans - \$3,000 and Under, and the Weekly Reclassification Report 25-429

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst
(Approx. 1:45 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Informational

Attachments:

1. Weekly Reclassification Report 8-13-2025
2. Incentive Plans - \$3,000 and Under 8-13-2025
3. Proposed Hire Report 8-13- 2025

Ms. Hoa Nguyen, Budget and Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the new hires and reclassifications. There were no incentive plans.

6.2 Budget Adjustment: The Sheriff's Office Requests to Recognize an Additional \$48,000 in One-Time Funding for the 2025/2026 Grant Term from the State of Utah for the State Task Force Grant (STFG) to Support Additional Training of Task Force Members as Prescribed by the State 25-430

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst
(Approx. 1:45 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 37029 - SHF_State Gang Grant Expansion

Ms. Hoa Nguyen, Budget and Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the budget adjustment.

A motion was made by Council Member Stewart, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

6.3 Budget Adjustment: The Health Department Requests an Appropriation Unit Shift of \$132,950 from Operations to Capital Purchases: \$100,000 for Upgrading the Immunizations Program's Refrigerators and Freezers to Maintain and Store Its Vaccines; \$32,950 for Purchasing Supply Racking and Shelving to Furnish the Emergency Preparedness Program's Warehouse 25-431

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst
(Approx. 1:45 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 36737 - HLT_Appropriation Unit Shift for Capital Purchases

Ms. Hoa Nguyen, Budget and Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the budget adjustment.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Stringham, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

6.4 Budget Adjustment: The Landfill Requests \$49,747 from Its Restricted Cash Account to Purchase a Pump for Moving Groundwater from Module 8 25-432

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst
(Approx. 1:50 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 37007 - SWM_4 Pump

Ms. Hoa Nguyen, Budget and Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the budget adjustment.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

6.5 Budget Adjustment: The Landfill Requests a Technical Adjustment to Increase Depreciation Expense by \$460,000 Primarily from the Module 8 Land Improvement and Additional Equipment 25-444

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst
(Approx. 1:50 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 36978 - SWM_Depreciation Expense

Ms. Hoa Nguyen, Budget and Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the budget adjustment.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

6.6 Consideration of Approval of Salt Lake County Constable Jeremey T. Reitz's Appointment of Robert M. Rigby as a Deputy Constable for a Six-Year Term, Beginning on July 1, 2025, and Ending on June 30, 2031, Unless Otherwise Amended by Utah Code 25-433

Presenter: Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 1:50 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Constable Appointments Letter, J. Reitz, August 13, 2025

Council Member Theodore stated she would like to approve Agenda Items 6.6 through 6.15 with one vote.

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, stated for the record that there was an administrative error and the agenda had to be amended to add Alan John Richardson for approval as a Deputy Constable at the last minute.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay."

**6.7 Consideration of Approval of Salt Lake County Constable
Jeremey T. Reitz's Appointment of Jeffery D. Rowley as a
Deputy Constable for a Six-Year Term, Beginning on July
1, 2025, and Ending on June 30, 2031, Unless Otherwise
Amended by Utah Code** 25-434

Presenter: Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 1:55 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Constable Appointments Letter, J. Reitz, August 13, 2025

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay."

**6.8 Consideration of Approval of Salt Lake County Constable
Travis J. Reitz's Appointment of Ingrid Tamara
Alvarado as a Deputy Constable for a Six-Year Term,
Beginning on July 1, 2025, and Ending on June 30, 2031,
Unless Otherwise Amended by Utah Code** 25-435

Presenter: Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 1:55 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Constable Appointments Letter, T. Reitz, August 13, 2025

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay."

6.9 Consideration of Approval of Salt Lake County Constable Travis J. Reitz's Appointment of Casey Claude Fisher as a Deputy Constable for a Six-Year Term, Beginning on July 1, 2025, and Ending on June 30, 2031, Unless Otherwise Amended by Utah Code 25-436

Presenter: Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 1:55 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Constable Appointments Letter, T. Reitz, August 13, 2025

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay."

6.1 Consideration of Approval of Salt Lake County Constable Travis J. Reitz's Appointment of Jacob Stephen Nieuwsma as a Deputy Constable for a Six-Year Term, Beginning on July 1, 2025, and Ending on June 30, 2031, Unless Otherwise Amended by Utah Code 25-437

Presenter: Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 2:00 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Constable Appointments Letter, T. Reitz, August 13, 2025

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay."

6.1 Consideration of Approval of Salt Lake County 25-438**1 Constable Travis J. Reitz's Appointment of Kelly T. Owen as a Deputy Constable for a Six-Year Term, Beginning on July 1, 2025, and Ending on June 30, 2031, Unless Otherwise Amended by Utah Code**

Presenter: Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 2:00 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Constable Appointments Letter, T. Reitz, August 13, 2025

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay."

6.1 Consideration of Approval of Salt Lake County 25-439**2 Constable Travis J. Reitz's Appointment of Nicholas J. Roberts as a Deputy Constable for a Six-Year Term, Beginning on July 1, 2025, and Ending on June 30, 2031, Unless Otherwise Amended by Utah Code**

Presenter: Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 2:00 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Constable Appointments Letter, T. Reitz, August 13, 2025

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay."

6.1 Consideration of Approval of Salt Lake County 25-440**3 Constable Travis J. Reitz's Appointment of John P. Strong III as a Deputy Constable for a Six-Year Term, Beginning on July 1, 2025, and Ending on June 30, 2031, Unless Otherwise Amended by Utah Code**

Presenter: Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 2:05 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Constable Appointments Letter, T. Reitz, August 13, 2025

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay."

6.1 Consideration of Approval of Salt Lake County 25-458

4 Constable Travis J. Reitz's Appointment of Alan John Richardson as a Deputy Constable for a Six-Year Term, Beginning on July 1, 2025, and Ending on June 30, 2031, Unless Otherwise Amended by Utah Code

Presenter: Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 2:05 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Constable Appointments Letter, T. Reitz, August 13, 2025

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay."

6.1 Consideration of Approval of Salt Lake County 25-441

5 Constable Allen Robins's Appointment of Charles Wendell Bryant as a Deputy Constable for a Six-Year Term, Beginning on July 1, 2025, and Ending on June 30, 2031, Unless Otherwise Amended by Utah Code

Presenter: Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 2:05 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Constable Appointments Letter, Robins, August 13, 2025

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a 7 to 1 vote with Council Member Johnson voting "Nay."

6.1 Consideration of Approval of the Discovery Gateway 25-426
6 Children's Museum Annual Plan and Budget

Presenter: Kathleen Bodenlos, Discovery Gateway Children's Museum
Executive Director
(Approx. 2:10 PM, 20 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 1. FINAL 2025 DGCM County Presentation
2. FY26 Annual Plan (1) (1)

Ms. Kathlen Bodenlos, Executive Director, Discovery Gateway Children's Museum, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Council Meeting August 2025. She reviewed the agenda; highlights from 2025; the Stillson Railroad exhibit; the Associated Food Stores Semi-Truck exhibit; public relations highlights for 2025; the renovation that would be completed by 2026; a museum attendance overview; end-of-year financial facts for fiscal year 2025; and the fiscal year 2026 budget and annual plan.

Council Member Theodore asked Ms. Bodenlos to explain to the new members of the Council, the relationship between the museum and the County.

Ms. Bodenlos stated the County provides the building and the museum pays fees to Investar Real Estate Services, which is the property management company for The Gateway where the museum is located. The museum also takes care of maintenance for the building.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

6.1 Informational Presentation on the Salt Lake County 25-363
7 Sheriff's Office Narcotics Diversion Unit

Presenter: Rosie Rivera, Salt Lake County Sheriff; Dustin Fowler, Captain
(Approx. 2:25 PM, 20 Minutes)

Informational

Attachments:

1. 2025 SO LEB Presentation - Narcotics Diversion Unit (5)

Council Member Winder Newton asked for a point of privilege to thank the officers in the audience for their service, considering the recent killing of two officers in the Tremonton-Garland community. She asked the Sheriff to let the members of her team know how much they are appreciated for accepting these dangerous jobs.

Sheriff Rosie Rivera delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Bureau Narcotics Diversion Unit August 19, 2025. She reviewed Salt Lake County Specialty Courts; the Narcotics Diversion Unit; unit personnel and caseloads; detective responsibilities pertaining to overseeing compliance, providing supervision, and enforcing court requirements; and program graduate statistics.

6.1 Overview Presentation of Community Services and Office 25-402
8 of Homelessness and Criminal Justice Services

Presenter: Suzanne Harrison, Salt Lake County Council Member; Dea Theodore, Salt Lake County Council Chair

Erin Litvack, Deputy Mayor of County Services & Chief Administrative Officer

(Approx. 2:45 PM, 60 Minutes)

Informational

Attachments:

1. OHCJR Council Presentation-8.19.2025
2. Community Service 2025 Presentation

The Office of Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform

Ms. Anndrea Wild, Senior Policy Advisor and Director of the Criminal Justice Advisory Council (CJAC), delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform 2025 County Council Update. She reviewed the partnership between the Salt Lake Valley Coalition to End Homelessness and the Criminal Justice Advisory Council; funding and personnel; the Salt Lake Valley Coalition to end Homelessness (SLVCEH); program concerns; and the cost of affording a 2-bedroom rental home for the average Utah resident.

Ms. Tarra McFadden, Program and Grants Manager, Continuum of Care, Mayor's Office, continued the presentation, reviewing the "point in time" count; homelessness funding; first-time homelessness; the coordinated entry program; the Most Vulnerable Populations AmeriCorps Program; youth homelessness; and successes.

Ms. Wild continued the presentation, reviewing the Criminal Justice Advisory Council CJAC; and concerns over the use of jails, the overloaded judicial system, and funding.

Ms. Alexandra Allen, Associate Director, Mayor's Office, continued the presentation, reviewing crisis response; case coordination; peer support in Familiar Faces Court; youth violence prevention; and CJAC successes;

Council Member Moreno stated he would like to collaborate more in the future to solve problems in his district.

Council Member Theodore stated that many people who look normal have serious issues that keep them from being able to obtain employment. She was glad that resources and services were being provided for these individuals.

Council Member Stringham stated there are many people who have family members living on the streets and cannot take them in for safety reasons. She asked if there was a place to send people with mental health or substance abuse issues.

Ms. Wild stated she would send a resource list to the Council.

Community Services Department

Ms. Robin Chalhoub, Director, Community Services Department, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Community Services Department Improving the Quality of Life for Salt Lake County Residents. Ms. Chalhoub discussed community engagement and partnership management; upstream prevention with education, recreation, and entertainment; how the services are valued by residents; challenges; the department operational budget; budget key funding sources; the department capital budget; and issues with capital maintenance. Ms. Chalhoub then discussed the Arts & Culture Division, the Clark Planetarium, the County Library, and the Parks & Recreation Division. For each of these, she gave an agency overview, reviewed the key programs offered, shared program successes, discussed the operational and budgetary challenges, and covered the focus for the future.

7. PENDING LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

7.1 Final Adoption of an Ordinance of the Legislative Body of Salt Lake County, Utah, Enacting Section 2.97.100 of the Salt Lake County Code of Ordinances, 2001, Entitled "Criteria and Procedures for the County's Public Approval of Certain Bond Issuances as Required by 26 U.S. Code § 147(f); Fees," in Order to Establish Criteria and Procedures and to Assess Fees Related to the County's Public Approval of Certain Bonds Issued by Non-County Entities 25-334

Presenter: Dea Theodore, Salt Lake County Council Chair; Mitchell F. Park, Salt Lake County Council Legal Counsel
(Approx. 3:45 PM, Less than 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. TEFRA Hearing Ordinance 8.8.25

ORDINANCE NO. 1944

DEBT REVIEW COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

AN ORDINANCE OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF SALT LAKE COUNTY, UTAH, ENACTING SECTION 2.97.100 OF THE SALT LAKE COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, 2001, ENTITLED "CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR THE COUNTY'S PUBLIC APPROVAL OF CERTAIN BOND ISSUANCES AS REQUIRED BY 26 U.S. CODE § 147(f); FEES," IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES AND TO ASSESS FEES RELATED TO THE COUNTY'S PUBLIC APPROVAL OF CERTAIN BONDS ISSUED BY NON-COUNTY ENTITIES

The County Legislative Body of Salt Lake County ordains as follows:

SECTION I. Section 2.97.100 of the Salt Lake County Code of Ordinances, 2001 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

2.97.100 – Criteria and procedures for the county's public approval of certain bond issuances as required by 26 U.S. Code § 147(f); Fees.

A. The county may, at its discretion, conduct a public hearing and provide related public approval as required by 26 U.S. Code § 147(f), as amended, for the issuance of qualified bonds as defined by 26 U.S. Code Subpart A - Private Activity Bonds, as amended, consistent with the requirements of this Section.

B. A non-county issuer of qualified bonds may request the county's public approval as required by 26 U.S. Code § 147(f) by applying to the county on forms and in a format specified by the debt review committee. Application forms shall be obtained from the chair of the debt review committee. No application shall be considered unless and until all information specified in the application or requested by the debt review committee is provided and the application fee has been paid. The debt review committee, the county council, or county mayor may request such additional information as deemed necessary to evaluate the proposed bond issuance.

C. The debt review committee shall review an application made under this Section and shall make a recommendation to the council and mayor concerning the eligibility of the proposed bond issuance for public approval. The debt review committee shall only recommend the county's public approval of the bond issuance if no other governmental units having jurisdiction over the area in which any facility with respect to which financing is to be provided from the net proceeds of such bonds is located is willing or capable of providing public approval of the bond issuance.

D. The county's ultimate determination to conduct a public hearing and to provide related public approval of a bond issuance proposed under this section resides with the council and mayor, respectively. The county's public approval of a bond issuance shall in all material respects comply with the substantive legal requirements of the Internal Revenue Code.

E. The county shall impose and collect a non-refundable application fee in the amount of five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars whenever the county conducts a public hearing and provides related public approval required to satisfy the public approval requirement of Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, for a non-county issuer of qualified bonds for the purpose of compensating the county for costs incurred in reviewing the proposed issue, and the costs of conducting a public hearing and providing related public approval, including reimbursement of the county for time devoted by county officers and employees and resources provided by the county.

SECTION II. This ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its passage and upon at least one publication in a newspaper published and having general circulation in Salt Lake County.

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

ATTEST (SEAL)

By /s/ DEA THEODORE
Chair

By /s/ LANNIE CHAPMAN
Salt Lake County Clerk

A motion was made by Council Member Stewart, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

7.2 Consideration of a Resolution in Support of Securing National Supply Chains Through the *Combating Organized Retail Crime Act (CORCA)* 25-445

Presenter: Laurie Stringham, Salt Lake County Council Member; Ross Romero, Salt Lake County Council Member
(Approx. 3:45 PM, 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Resolution Supporting the Combating Organized Retail Crime Act (CORCA).bkrRAFL

Council Member Stringham stated the County does not normally get involved in this area, but the local representative for the railroads asked if the County would pass this resolution. The County has an inland port that brings in a lot of technology. It is vital that the security and safety of all the items being imported is considered. The railroad is currently experiencing a lot of theft and loss, and the cost is being passed on to consumers. There has been a 93 percent increase in organized retail and supply chain theft since 2019. This has culminated in a loss of \$121.6 billion in 2023 alone. Real theft has increased by 40 percent in 2024 alone.

Council Member Stringham read the resolution aloud.

RESOLUTION NO. 6324

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE
COMBATting ORGANIZED RETAIL CRIME ACT (CORCA)**

WHEREAS, organized retail and supply chain crime has escalated in both scale and sophistication, threatening the integrity of the national supply chain by targeting freight systems, including rail, leading to costly delays and heightened safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, the State of Utah is served by seven individual freight railroads hosting 1,375 miles of track moving on average 29 million tons of cargo annually; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County is the crossroads and transportation hub for Utah's railroads; and

WHEREAS, the Combating Organized Retail Crime Act (CORCA) is a bipartisan effort in Congress seeking to strengthen the federal response to organized cargo theft through improved coordination, data-sharing, and enforcement; and

WHEREAS, a healthy and resilient logistics network, powered by freight rail, is vital to U.S. economic competitiveness, job growth, industrial productivity, and ensuring affordable goods for consumers; and

WHEREAS, America's extensive freight system, anchored by 600 privately owned railroads spanning nearly 140,000 miles, delivers 59 tons of goods for every American annually, underscoring the importance of affordable and efficient transportation; and

WHEREAS, freight rail is a powerful economic engine, moving 40% of U.S. long-distance freight and supporting a diverse workforce while generating activity in every sector of the economy, from mines to small farms to large-scale manufacturing facilities, and contributing over \$230 billion annually to the U.S. economy; and

WHEREAS, trains are essential to international trade and cross-border goods movement, with nearly 40% of rail traffic attributable to trade, without which supply chains would be strained and the cost of goods would rise; and

WHEREAS, freight railroads fund their own infrastructure, spending nationally \$23 billion annually on average to maintain and upgrade tracks, equipment, and safety systems, and this private investment provides public benefits like reduced traffic, emissions, and damage to taxpayer-funded highways; and

WHEREAS, organized retail and supply chain crime incidents have surged nationwide, with a 93% increase since 2019 and estimated losses reaching \$121.6 billion in 2023. Intermodal rail containers—carrying high-value goods like electronics, toys, and clothing—have become prime targets, with rail thefts rising 40% in 2024 alone, resulting in over 65,000 incidents and \$100 million in losses; and

WHEREAS, this is not isolated or petty theft but a systemic, coordinated, effort by tech-savvy, often transnational criminal networks targeting every link in the supply chain—from rail yards and trucks to warehouses and retail centers; and

WHEREAS, the Combating Organized Retail Crime Act (CORCA) directly addresses these challenges by improving cross-agency coordination, establishing a centralized

coordination center, expanding data-sharing, and strengthening legal authority across jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, CORCA would create an Organized Retail and Supply Chain Coordination Center to bring together federal law enforcement agencies with state and local partners as well as railroad police to counter and dismantle domestic and transnational organized theft operations; and

WHEREAS, that with strong bipartisan support and endorsement from law enforcement, the retail industry, and freight carriers, CORCA will strengthen the resilience of our state's logistics and transportation systems and protect the economic lifelines of the communities we represent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Salt Lake County recognizes this bipartisan bill would modernize the federal response to international organized cargo and retail theft – and urges Congress to pass the Combating Organized Retail Crime Act (CORCA), H.R. 2853 and S.1404.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 19th day of August, 2025.

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

ATTEST (SEAL)

By /s/ DEA THEODORE
Chair

By /s/ LANNIE CHAPMAN
Salt Lake County Clerk

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Member Winder Newton was absent for the vote.

7.3 Consideration of a Salt Lake County Council Internal Policy on Council Use of Volunteers

25-446

Presenter: Carlos Moreno, Salt Lake County Council Member; Sheldon Stewart, Salt Lake County Council Member
(Approx. 3:50 PM, 5 Minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Salt Lake County Council Staff Volunteer Internal Policy

Council Member Moreno stated that a few months ago, he had a conversation with a student from Kearns High School who asked how he could become involved and give back to the community. That inspired him to find a way to create more opportunities. Many County residents carry expertise in areas where policy-makers lack answers. Too often, his constituents feel their voices do not matter. This policy would help in creating leaders.

Council Member Stewart stated he felt this was a good idea and supported it.

Council Member Stringham stated the County already had a volunteer policy, and she asked why this Council policy was necessary.

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, stated multiple policies regarding volunteerism were enacted about twenty years ago. Many of them reference a county volunteer board that is no longer operational. Another item referenced repeatedly is the idea of developing a plan for each volunteer and having the organization approve that. Council Member Moreno's plan would state that each volunteer would have a plan for their duties, responsibilities, term of service, and other deliverables they would be asked to accomplish. If the Council were to open its doors to volunteers, it made sense to adopt procedures prior to that happening.

Council Member Stringham stated she would prefer to hold on this agenda item until things were functioning the way they should be.

Council Member Pinkney asked what the Council procedure would have been up until now.

Mr. Park stated it is very difficult in the abstract to define what a volunteer is and what the relationship is. The Council needs to be cognizant of a number of legal issues, such as making certain that substantive labor laws are not being violated and that background checks are conducted. There are components of the current countywide policy that are not being observed, and the policy is not operational in the way it was once intended to be. However, county agencies do have the ability to develop internal policies, provided they are not inconsistent with County code. The goal would not be to supersede countywide policy, but to provide more specific direction for the Council.

Mayor Jennifer Wilson stated a lot of things shifted during COVID-19 when many County volunteers were pulled in other directions. Many of the volunteers in the database are inactive until there is an emergency. County volunteer programs have been quite decentralized and the guidelines for volunteers depend on the agency because the

needs and security issues are different. For this reason, she did not recommend creating a new board. Every time the County brings on a volunteer, the cost versus the benefit of granting access needs to be weighed. The County has many volunteer opportunities, as well as some positions that offer a wage. The countywide policy should probably be revisited, and she would love to include the Council in that process.

Council Member Stewart stated this specific policy would allow the Council to utilize the expertise of members of the community. For example, it would have been useful in overcoming some of the difficulties faced last year with the issue of equestrian E.coli contamination in Rose Creek. Additionally, there are students who want to learn specifically about the political side of public policy so they can decide whether to pursue a career in government. This policy would formalize the ability to work with the Council.

Council Member Romero stated he had concerns over this. Specifically, he was concerned about volunteers having a County email address. He still did not understand why this could not be done in a campaign fashion. If he had a volunteer on his campaign, that person could help with various duties as assigned. He did not want people who needed to be supervised to be allowed in private quarters. He had asked Council Member Moreno to limit the number of volunteers to two, but it seemed that he had a broader vision.

Council Member Winder Newton stated she had not had an opportunity to talk to Council Member Moreno and flush through her concerns. Subsequently, she was not ready to vote to approve this policy.

Council Member Pinkney said she was a big fan of volunteerism, but if there was an opportunity to centralize the County policy, she would rather do that. There were already multiple opportunities to volunteer.

A motion was made by Council Member Stewart, seconded by Council Member Moreno, to approve the policy.

Council Member Theodore stated before she ran for office, she attended city council meetings and participated on committees and boards. There are also youth councils and other ways for people to get involved.

Council Member Johnson stated his concern was with the organizational structure, because the volunteers might create legal issues for the Council. A better alternative might be to have someone more neutral in the office supervise as a volunteer coordinator. The volunteer would then serve the office.

Council Member Pinkney stated she had concerns about how a volunteer would be removed.

Council Member Stewart asked to call the question.

A motion was made by Council Member Stewart, seconded by Council Member Moreno, that this agenda item be approved. The motion failed by a 6 to 2 vote with Council Members Stewart and Moreno voting “Aye.”

8. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL

9. OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 4:09 PM until Tuesday, August 26, 2025.

LANNIE CHAPMAN, COUNTY CLERK

By _____
DEPUTY CLERK

By _____
CHAIR, SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL