

SALT LAKE COUNTY

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



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

10:00 AM

Council Chambers, Room N1-110

County Council

Minute Book, County Council, Salt Lake County

County Council

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Invocation - Reading or Thought - Pledge of Allegiance

Present:

Council Member Laurie Stringham
Council Member Suzanne Harrison
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 Chair Dea Theodore

Ms. Lisa Ashman, Administrative Assistant, District Attorney's Office, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment will be limited to one hour

Council Member Winder Newton reviewed the decision of the Council to cut the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. While the program is going to end, she would be making a motion later today to extend the program until the end of May, with the 20 percent increase in tuition, effective January 1, 2026.

Ms. Tana Winkler spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. As a licensed massage therapist and single parent, it was hard to live in Utah. She thought the County was her village and that she could rely on it. Now, she was being told to seek help from friends and family. She did not have other daycare options. Her friends and family were dealing with their own challenges. Due to this closure, she would not be able to afford food, celebrate Christmas, or buy a house, but at least the County would have a mini golf course. She asked the Council to reconsider closing the daycare centers; they were a lifeline for many people.

Mr. Dale Frost spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. He has two children, one of whom attends the Northwest Recreation Center Child Care program. He is a webmaster for the University of Utah David Eccles School of Business, and his wife was an engineer at Hill Air Force Base, currently furloughed. They waited almost two years to get into a daycare program at Hill Air Force Base, but that was closed due to Federal layoffs. Then, he found the Northwest

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Recreation Center Child Care program, but now, the Council is closing that. The Council did not notify parents nor give them an opportunity to comment before voting on it. He did not understand why the Council could not work out an alternative solution instead of shuttering the program. Because of the Council's decision, many parents will have to quit their jobs to take care of their children, and the dedicated staff will no longer have jobs. He asked the Council to reconsider its decision.

Ms. Stefanie Wright spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She introduced her daughter Lulu, who was eight years old and attended the Millcreek Activity Center afterschool program. The center is a lifeline that makes her family's days possible. Her children receive quality supervision, build friendships, gain confidence, and learn responsibility, and they are transported safely to and from school. If the center is closed, safe transportation for children will be uncertain, and reliable, affordable care will be nearly impossible to find. Parents will have to choose between jobs and their children's safety. This center fills a vital gap before and after school so parents can stay employed and their children can thrive. She asked the Council to keep it open.

Lulu Wright stated what she liked about the activity center was how nice the teachers were. If the Council closes it, there might not be another place to rely on.

Ms. Cristina Llamas spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated her seven-year-old son attends the Kearns Recreation Center Child Care program. The Child Care program provides a safe place for him to stay and transportation to and from his school. The Council voted to close the program based on a report that said there were many daycare providers parents could use, but that is not true. Most daycare providers do not bus children to school. The one daycare provider who was consulted in the report is the CEO of the largest daycare industry in Utah, and he is going to profit from this closure. Parents who utilize the Child Care program were not consulted about this closure. If parents were allowed to be involved, they could help identify solutions. She asked the Council to reconsider closing the Child Care program.

Ms. Allison Sabo spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated the role of public service is government of the people, by the people, for the people. She asked how closing a program that improved family-strengthening social services assisted the people. The Pathway Group's analysis of the County's Child Care program recommended two courses of action to improve family-strengthening social services – outsourcing to strengthen and streamline County-operated childcare, and industry diligence or hard work. The analysis did not recommend closing the County's Child Care program. She did not have children, but the community needed this valuable resource. Out of every nine children whose family applied for

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private daycare, eight children were wait-listed. She asked the Council to keep these daycare centers operational. According to a KSL news story, posted on October 21, 2025, Mayor Jennifer Wilson's proposed tax increase would cost each county household \$7.28 a month. If the County were to increase that to add family strengthening social services, the cost would be an additional 65 cents per month, totaling \$7.93 per month.

Mr. Mackenzie Miller spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. He stated his two daughters attend the Manga Recreation Center Child Care program, which is his only affordable option. Last year, he went through a divorce and could now barely afford to live. The Pathway Group compared the County's Child Care program with for-profit daycare providers. The County is not here to make profit; it is here to serve people. If the Council focused on making this program cost-effective, the program could break even. Studies have shown that high quality childcare leads to a better education and higher-salaried job later in life, and it lowers the risk of substance use disorder. A study done in Chicago found that for every dollar invested in early childcare programs, the community received nearly \$11 in return. The Council is missing the big picture. He hoped the Council would reconsider its decision.

Ms. Silvia Catten, Council Member, Millcreek, stated the Millcreek Activity Center is in her district, and neighbors and friends use this service. The closure of the Millcreek Activity Center will affect some lower income families, but mostly middle-class families. It would have been nice if the County had consulted with Millcreek about this closure. Millcreek has a Promise Program that serves to uplift families, and it might have been a resource to help keep this open. In the future, she hoped the County would ask Millcreek for creative solutions to issues.

Ms. Pat Jones spoke in opposition to the Mayor's proposed tax increase. She and her husband are retired. According to Microsoft Copilot, 11.9 percent of the County's population is retired and 65-years of age or older. That rate is 1.3 times higher than the United States' rate. Most aging adults in Salt Lake County desire to stay in their home and community as they grow older. Residents of the County face many obstacles, including inflation, financial struggles, housing costs, and increasing taxes. Salt Lake County is among the top three taxing entities on her property tax bill. She lived in Sandy City, but she paid higher taxes to the County than to Sandy City. The County Mayor's proposed budget is 600 pages long. A budget packet of that size is the reflection of inflated government. She asked the Council to maintain the existing tax liability, or at least exercise sound and righteous judgment to keep taxes as low as possible.

Ms. Stephanie Gardner spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. Her two children are enrolled in the Kearns Recreation Center Child Care program. Only three daycare providers transport to and from her son's

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school, and she had tried all three of those in the past, but they did not work out. She had many issues with ABC Great Beginnings, from paperwork issues to the quality of care. That daycare provider is also \$1,200 more per family than what she pays now. She did not want to take her children to a daycare center where they would regress when they were currently thriving. She asked the Council to reconsider its decision and keep the Child Care program open.

Ms. Maria Teresa Mata spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated her child attended the Kearns Recreation Center Child Care program, where he learned how to make bracelets, line dance, play fair and share, and make friends. The Council's decision to close the Child Care program was due to budget. She asked how it was possible to fund golf and not children. While golf may bring in revenue now, investing in children will be a return on investment in the future. These daycare centers are spaces where families connect, parents find balance, and children find friendship and learn trust. She asked the Council to find a solution to keep these daycare centers open through partnerships or other ways.

Ms. Michele Archibeque spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated she is a single grandma to two grandchildren whose mother is an addict, despite going through rehabilitation four times. People who are drug addicts and homeless choose that life. One of Ms. Archibeque's grandchildren, who is autistic and has ADHD, attends the Kearns Recreation Center Child Care program. She lived on \$2,200 a month, \$990 of which went toward housing. She did not have enough money to pay for private daycare. She had tried residential daycare providers, but they were unreliable. It was not feasible for the County to keep increasing wages. Multiple different things could be cut from the County's budget to make this Child Care program work.

Ms. Karolina Abuzyarova spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated her three-year-old daughter had been on a wait list for a private daycare for a couple of years before a spot opened, but when that spot opened, her family could not afford the cost. This summer, she was able to enroll her daughter in the County's Child Care program. With the closure of that program, there will be a gap for a lot of middle-income families. She has been a contributor all her life, working in Ukraine to help develop democracy and working in the United States' courts to prevent and stop elder abuse and neglect. Now that she wanted a family, she needed government to step up and help her. She asked the Council to reconsider its decision to close the Child Care program.

Ms. Jessica Garrett spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. When she learned that the Council's unexpected announcement to close the four daycare centers was partisan, she discovered that all

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those who voted in favor of the closure identified with the party that claimed to be pro-life. It is commendable to fight for the lives of children before they are born, but she wondered why some civic leaders did not fight for them after they were born. As a professional educator, she worked with at-risk kids. One mitigating factor to at-risk behavior is putting multiple caring and responsible adults into a child's life. Another mitigating factor is engagement in organized activities with peers outside the home. A rich environment of socialization and learning are necessary to support a life worth living. She proposed that keeping these daycare centers open would accomplish both. These daycare centers were not freebies as they have been characterized to be; the parents pay. These daycare centers make family life possible, and a healthy life is the basis for a healthy and thriving community. She asked the Council to fight for these families and their kids.

Ms. Jessica Earl spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated her two-year old son attends the Millcreek Activity Center. Prior to attending the Millcreek Activity Center, her son had brain surgery. Since attending the center, he has made impactful steps because of his teachers' willingness to work with him. She urged the Council to protect the programs that allowed families like hers to succeed. The Child Care program may register as the lowest rating of the Utah Child Care Quality System (CCQS), but the Utah Childcare Solutions and Workplace Productivity Plan in 2023 noted that parents defined quality by a caring, loving person or place where caregivers had training and where they knew their children would be safe. The County's Child Care centers have achieved that. The Millcreek Activity Center achieved a Top Star endorsement from the Salt Lake County Health Department. In 2023, Governor Cox said in his State address, "In Utah, we haven't forgotten the simple truth that when families win, we all win — economically as well as socially."

Elsie Jackson stated she is eight years old, in the third grade, and has attended the Millcreek Activity Center for the past three years.

Ms. Sabbath Jackson spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated the statement that there are a lot of options for families is not true. The price of private daycare and afterschool programs are significant, and many families cannot afford them. When she looked for alternatives, she found one daycare provider that transported to and from her child's school, and the cost for that daycare was double what she paid now and outside her family's budget. The County's Child Care program is a vital service for the community. Having infrastructure that supports families is important to help families thrive.

Ms. Jessica Golden spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated her daughter attends the Millcreek Activity

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Center. Ms. Golden is a single income household and does not have family nearby to help. Before her daughter attended the Millcreek Activity Center, it was a daily struggle to find someone to pick her up from school. The Millcreek Activity Center has been a saving grace. It has brought her daughter stability and safety, and the staff truly cares for her. There are few options for school pickup and the ones that exist are double the cost. There must be other options that the Council could consider rather than sweeping this program under the rug. Ms. Golden read a note that her daughter wrote asking the Council not to close the Millcreek Activity Center because she would not have anyone to pick her up from school, and she would not have her friends to cheer her up after a bad day at school.

Mr. Andrew Earl Ross Bowser spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. He stated he lived in the Magna and his child attended the Day Care program there. This program has been in place for decades, and he had not felt like he was taking advantage of anyone by using it, but then he saw a Facebook post about how his daughter's childcare was costing taxpayers so much money. He will probably be able to figure something out, but a lot of families will not be able to do that, and will have to seek other government programs. Everyone in the County should have this resource available to them. He asked that the Council do what was right.

Ms. Lyndsay Longtin spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated the Child Care program help working families bridge the hours between school and home, giving kids a safe place to learn and play, and supporting parents who are keeping the local economy moving. When programs like this disappear, parents lose safe care for their children and employers lose reliable workers. She asked the Council for three things: a transparent, public breakdown of the funding gap and the options that were considered; a short-term bridge plan to keep services running while long-term solutions can be developed; and a collaborative working group of parents, providers, County staff, and city partners to find sustainable funding and partnerships to keep this lifeline open.

Mr. John Lemnotis spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. The Council has responded "no" to his phone calls and emails on recommendations to make this program more sustainable, saying it did not belong in the childcare business. Senator John Curitis said the reason people do not like politicians and government officials is because of the answer, "no." It represents an unwillingness to listen and work together. He asked the Council to work together to come up with a solution that would keep this program operational until the State or someone else could run it.

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Mr. Thom DeSirant, Council Member, Millcreek, spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. He stated he did not have children, but he strongly supported having this program continue. He asked the Council to consider increasing tuition or having a non-profit organization provide this program. The decision to close it will leave a lot of families out in the cold. The County leases the Millcreek Community Center from the Granite School District for \$1 a year. There will never be another opportunity to get such a low-cost facility. In this period, when the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits are being cut, and the Federal Government has shut down, the Council is being tone-deaf by deciding to close this program. This decision is not in the best interest of the families in Salt Lake County.

Mr. Courtney Curtis spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. He stated families are struggling. Utah's birth rate has dropped from fourth to tenth over the last year, and the reason for that is because of the substantial cost to raise children. Keeping this program is an opportunity for the County to positively impact lives. This program should be considered more important than jails or sports arenas. Money to keep this open could be found. If the County advertised this program, it could eventually expand it. He hoped the Council would consider the seriousness of this issue and reconsider its decision.

Ms. Meredith Liddiard spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated her son attends the Magna Recreation Center Day Care program, which has financially saved her family and helped her son in positive ways. She asked that the Council help the participants of this program make sense of its decision to cut this. Now, it felt like there was a divide between the community and the local government and that the local government was tone-deaf.

Mr. Steve Van Marin stated it was interesting to note how many comments the Council was getting after the vote, rather than taking them before the vote.

Ms. Leslie Patino & Ms. Jocelyn Vialpanelo spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. Ms. Patino stated she and Ms. Vialpanelo were teachers at the Northwest Recreation Center Child Care program. The decision to close the program was made without any warning to the community or the employees. While the Council proposed keeping the Child Care program open for eight months, when those eight months are up, private daycare prices are still going to cost the same. Families using the County's Child Care program will be left with no childcare option when these centers are closed. The decision to close the program did not make sense. The Council is not hearing its constituents' voices.

Mr. Matthew Earl spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. He stated this Council and the Pathway Group are out of

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touch with how expensive childcare is in the State. He and his wife spent over a year-and-a-half trying to find affordable childcare. The Millcreek Activity Center saved their lives. The quality of childcare his son received at the Millcreek Activity Center was better than anything he would have expected. The closure of this program would set his family back financially. He asked the Council to reconsider its decision. Children deserve better from the Council than this.

Ms. Clare Collard, former State Representative, spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated this cut will be devastating to communities. The cut was one-tenth of one percent of the overall budget. It was based on a \$3 million figure from a study, but she did not know whether that study was valid, as the public had not been able to look at that study. The study was also done without input from residents and the people who use these services. The Council should have an open dialog with the people who this would impact, and it should have those meetings at the centers at a time people were not working. She urged the Council to leave these centers open. They are a vital part of the community.

Ms. Bailey Workman spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She stated she did not use these facilities, but she was here to support the community. Over the last 25 years, costs for childcare have risen from 9.5 percent of families' income to nearly 16.5 percent. When childcare costs are high, it strains families, limits opportunities, and worsens mental, physical, and economic health across generations. Affordable quality childcare is one of the strongest investments a society can make in public health and social stability. When childcare costs are not managed, costs go up for behavioral health services, substance abuse treatment, juvenile services, child protective services, court systems, and economic costs. In October 2023, Governor Cox stated that if Utah did not solve its childcare crisis, the State was going to keep losing talented Utahns from the work force, and that childcare costs were one of the biggest barriers to employment for parents, especially women. Governor Cox echoed this again in 2025, at a Cedar City summit. Some Council Members voted against options and strategies to find an alternative solution, stating childcare was not the County's role. Ms. Workman did not understand why this subsidy was even being questioned when government gives corporations billions in subsidies each year, and the Council voted to spend tens of millions in capital funds on modernizing facilities for the Olympics. This subsidy is helping working families in the community who are paying taxes. Without this program, the childcare crisis would worsen. She asked the Council to help the community find a solution.

Ms. Luz Escamilla, State Senator, spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. She represented the northwest quadrant of Salt Lake City, which included the Magna Recreation Center. She was also representing colleagues who serve the Kearns Recreation Center Day Care and the Millcreek Activity

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Center. They were all hearing from their constituents about this closure, and they had pledged to help them find a solution. It is government's role to put infrastructure in place for families to have a safe place to leave their children, so they can be productive members of society. The County, with the support of the State, could develop private public partnerships to provide high-quality childcare. She asked that the County pause on this decision to close the Child Care program and work with her and the State Legislature to figure out a solution. There are incredible families being served by this program and they needed the Council to help.

Mr. Daniel Blaser spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. For an elected official to say it is not the government's job to provide funding for essential children's programs, but then to support tens of millions of dollars for art centers, landscaping, and dog parks is hypocrisy. Most people agree that the County needs to spend less money. Property owners are tired of being robbed every year with property taxes for property they already own. Using fiscal conservatism as an excuse for the County to shut down a program it does not like, while giving favors and subsidizing other programs that are less necessary for the lifeblood of the community, is an act of contempt. Hypocrisy is the reason people no longer feel represented by those elected to represent them and the reason people lose hope in the future.

Ms. Tammi Diaz stated she was in an auto-pedestrian accident that left her with a traumatic brain injury. As a result, she had emotional problems. One thing that has helped her with her emotional problems is crafting and art. She suggested taking crafting and arts to the Salt Lake City Library, as a lot of homeless people go there who could benefit from that service. Ms. Diaz also spoke against tax increases and eliminating the Child Care program. With increased taxes, more people are going to end up homeless and involved in criminal activity, resulting in a more unsafe community.

Mr. Lance Johnson spoke in opposition to the closure of the Parks and Recreation Division's Child Care program. He stated he was a sales manager of a technology company and found it hard to live in Utah with the exorbitant cost of housing and cost of living. He takes his two daughters to the Kearns Recreation Center Child Care program, which has helped his family because of the affordability and quality of care. Additionally, there is only one other daycare provider that transports to his daughters' school and the cost of that daycare is double the cost of the County's program. The Council could cut a lot of other areas in the budget rather than the Day Care program. Parents would also be willing to pay more if they were given that option. He asked the Council to reconsider its decision and work to find a solution to keep the Child Care program open.

3. REPORT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS:

3.1 County Council Members

Council Member Stringham stated the 20 percent tax increase would hit families and people hard, so the Council had to look for cuts. Extending the Child Care program until the end of the school year would give the County a chance to look at options.

Council Member Johnson stated this was not a cut that needed to happen; it was not proposed in the Mayor's budget. He intended to vote to keep these daycare centers open. While the average cost of people's property tax would go up \$88 a year for a home worth \$620,000, these parents would also have to pay an increase of \$400-\$600 per child for alternative childcare.

Council Member Harrison stated she thought the Council could get to a workable solution. The Pathway Group report laid out many solutions, and Senator Escamilla and other elected officials said they would be willing to partner to find solutions that were fiscally sustainable and fair to taxpayers.

Council Member Pinkney stated she wanted to keep the daycare program open. That is the right thing to do. Cutting this program will impact mothers. A for-profit solution that helps someone else's bottom line is not an acceptable solution.

Council Member Moreno stated he would like the community to be more involved in the budget. He would like them to understand the County's expenses, and to help create a realistic budget. The budget is out of control and there are many positions with a high salary attached to them that the County does not need to have. He will be holding a town hall on Saturday and would like the community to attend.

Council Member Winder Newton explained that some things, such as parks and recreation, and arts and culture are funded by tourism taxes, not property taxes. Basic services required by state statute are funded with property taxes, i.e., the criminal justice system, the jail, prosecution, behavioral health, elections. If the County were to continue to subsidize the Child Care program, it would cost \$2 million a year, which was almost a 1 percent increase to everyone's property taxes. That meant 1.2 million people would be helping to pay for daycare for 271 children. Taking money from people who might also be struggling and using it to pay for childcare for 271 children did not seem equitable.

Mayor Jennifer Wilson stated her budget included continuation of this program. However, after reading the Pathway Group report and seeing the amount of the subsidy, she realized the County had to decrease that cost. After hearing people speak today, she recognized there could be partnerships and better ways to do this. While she understood the motivation of the Republicans to get the tax increase down for the benefit of the

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public, she wanted to give parents utilizing this program and the employees more time. She proposed extending the Child Care program for one year, through the end of 2026, with a 20 percent increase in tuition; and to make a decision on July 1, 2026, whether to continue or discontinue the program.

Council Member Theodore stated the Mayor proposed a 20 percent tax increase, and the community is livid. The community is also mad about the County increasing salaries and adding positions. Her job as a Council Member is to push back and look for efficiencies and ways to do things better. This program is not a government duty, nor is it equitable. It is not provided in her district nor in other districts.

3.2 County Mayor

3.3 Other Elected County Officials

4. CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Romero, that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Members Harrison, Johnson, and Moreno were absent for the vote.

4.1 Consideration of Clark Planetarium Advisory Board Appointments: Daniel Mendoza (District 1), Gina McBride (District 2), Robert Gonzalez (District 1)

25-733

Attachments:

1. Daniel Mendoza app and resume_Redacted
2. Gina McBride app and resume_Redacted
3. Robert Gonzalez app and resume_Redacted

The vote on this consent item was approved.

4.2 Consideration of Approval of the Following Contribution from Council Member Suzanne Harrison's Office: \$500 Contribution to the Utah Food Bank

25-745

Attachments:

1. 501c(3) Letter only
2. Harrison UFB donation form with signature 24Oct2025

The vote on this consent item was approved.

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- 4.3 Consideration of Approval of Council Office Director Isaac Higham to Serve as Designated Alternate for Council Fiscal Manager Dave Delquadro as the Salt Lake County Council Representative on the Taxing Entity Committee** 25-780

Attachments: None

The vote on this consent item was approved.

- 4.4 Consideration of Contribution Request for the United Jewish Federation of Utah & Community Partners Against Hate in the Amount of \$3000** 25-791

Attachments:

1. Overview Student Unity Summit to Eradicate Hate1
2. United Jewish Federation of Utah application Form 1200 (1)
3. United Jewish Federation Tax Exempt SKM_C75924030516100

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 Romero, that the Tax Letters be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Members Harrison, Johnson, and Moreno were absent for the vote.

- 5.1 DMV Registration Refunds** 25-770

Attachments:

1. MV 0020 Personal Property Tax Refund DMV \$266
2. MV 0021 Personal Property Tax Refund DMV VET \$2,982

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

- 5.2 DMV Registration Refund** 25-771

Attachments:

1. 25-9022 25- Refund DMV Incorrect coding error \$267.95

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

5.3 Department of Motor Vehicle Refund 25-772

Attachments:

1. 25-9023 25- Refund DMV valuation error \$1,413.26

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

5.4 Board of Equalization Personal Property Tax Refund 25-773

Attachments:

1. 25-9024 25- Refund BOE Stipulation Agreement \$174,543.17

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

5.5 Refund Overpaid Mobile Home Property Taxes 25-774

Attachments:

1. 25-9025 25- Refund MH property tax overpayment \$539.98

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

5.6 Refund Business Personal Property Taxes 25-775

Attachments:

1. 25-9026 25- Refund overpayment of personal property taxes \$29,906.98

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

6. ACCEPTANCE OF ETHICS DISCLOSURES

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Romero, that the ethics disclosures be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Members Harrison, Johnson, and Moreno were absent for the vote.

6.1 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosure: Jiro Johnson (County Council District 1) 25-769

Attachments:

1. Jiro Johnson Disclosure 2025

The vote on this ethics disclosure was received and filed.

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6.2 Acceptance of Ethics Disclosure: Nicholas Rupp (Health Department Employee) 25-788

Attachments:

1. Health Department Disclosure - Letter & Form - Nick Rupp

The vote on this ethics disclosure was received and filed.

7. MORNING WORK SESSION

7.1 Proposed Hire Report / Incentive Plans - \$3000 and Under / Weekly Reclassification Report 25-789

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst
(Approx. 10:45 AM, Less than 5 minutes)

Informational

Attachments:

1. Proposed Hire Report - 10-29-2025
2. Incentive Plans - \$3,000 and Under 10-29-2025
3. Weekly Reclassification Report 10-29-2025

Ms. Hoa Nguyen, Budget & Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the new hires, reclassifications, and incentive plans.

7.2 Consideration of Real Estate Legislative Intent 25-779

Presenter: Suzanne Harrison, Salt Lake County Council Member; Natalie Pinkney, Salt Lake County Council Member
(Approx 10:50 AM, 5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Real Estate Legislative Intent

Council Member Harrison reviewed the legislative intent, stating the purpose is to consider additional uses and revenue streams when renovating, building, or acquiring real estate through retail partnerships, housing opportunities, and other ways. The legislative intent also encourages optimizing service delivery by having agencies and programs in the same building, where possible, such as was done at the Millcreek Community Center.

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

7.3 Discussion and Direction Regarding Continued 2025 Program Activities at the County's Four Licensed Daycare Centers and Associated Costs

25-787

Presenter: Sharon Roux, Human Resources Director
(Approx. 10:55 AM, 10 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments: None

Mr. David Delquadro, Chief Financial Manager, Council Office, asked if the Council wanted to revisit the Child Care program. The Mayor proposed a 20 percent increase in the fees and a \$77,000 increase for food.

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, stated agenda Item 8.2 includes consideration of other 2026 budget-related items, and this item is related to the budget. Therefore, the Council can consider past and additional budget requests during this portion of the meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to adopt the Mayor's recommendation that the County seek non-profit or other private provider partnerships, and work with the State, cities, and residents to find a possible path forward that is fiscally responsible; and to increase the fee by 20 percent, as recommended by the Pathway Group report; and to bring this back for a discussion by July 1st, to address the work that the Mayor's Office will do in the interim.

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to conclude the Child Care operations on May 31st, so it continues through the school year; and to increase the tuition fee, as recommended by the Mayor by 20 percent, effective January 1st; and during that time, look into other partners participating or talk about other options.

Council Member Winder Newton stated this would give families seven months to find alternative childcare, while still honoring taxpayers, recognizing this subsidy cannot continue long-term.

Council Member Harrison stated she would be voting no on the substitute motion. Since last week, when she proposed the continuation of the program through the end of the first quarter of 2026, the Council has heard from many working families asking it to

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keep the program open. She could not in good conscience vote to end this program without trying to find viable solutions.

Council Member Winder Newton stated she was voting yes on the motion because all working families needed to be treated equitably. The seven months would give the County time to find partners and other options.

Council Member Johnson stated since last week, it has become clear that the quality of service these families are getting is high and that families are asking the Council to keep the daycare programs open. These families talked about it being a lifeline in their daily lives. There is funding in the budget to keep these facilities open while seeking fiscally responsible solutions.

Council Member Stringham stated the Mayor's proposed tax increase would generate \$48 million, and that increase would affect everyone in Salt Lake County. She wants to get that tax increase down, and that will require a lot of tough decisions.

Last year, the Legislature passed bills that affected the County. She heard the County had \$7.4 million in unfunded mandates from the Legislature, which will have to come from the General Fund. To avoid raising taxes, the County would have to cut \$7.4 million in programs to meet those requirements and cut programs that were not performing. The Pathway Group report showed that the Day Care program was not at capacity. If the program was evaluated on business alone, or as an effective government program, it would have closed a long time ago. She is doing due diligence to make sure the County is running good programs that meet some kind of metric.

Council Member Harrison stated for the record, she had an issue with the suggestion she was not doing her due diligence by wanting to work to find workable solutions that were fiscally responsible. Everyone on this Council takes their fiduciary fiscal responsibility seriously.

Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Stringham, restated the substitute motion to keep the Child Care centers open until May, 31, 2026; and to increase the tuition fee by 20 percent, effective January 1st; and that during that time, to listen to other ideas people have, or see if other partners were interested in continuing the day care program or subsidizing it; and to increase the budget by \$77,000 for the higher food costs. The motion failed 4 to 4 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

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Nay: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero

Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, restated the original motion, that the Council adopt the Mayor's recommendation to increase the tuition by 20 percent, as recommended by the Pathway Group, and the \$77,000 in food increases; and to direct the Mayor's Office to seek partnerships with non-profit organizations or private entities who would be willing to take over the service, while keeping spots open; and to bring this back for discussion by July 1, 2026, with an update from the Mayor's Office on those conversations. The motion failed 4 to 4 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero

Nay: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

Council Member Winder Newton asked if the Council could revisit this at any point during today's budget discussion.

Mr. Park stated the Council can revisit votes until the final vote on the budget on December 9, 2025. These votes are all placeholder votes to accomplish two things: 1) having a recommended budget for public consumption prior to the 10 days before the budget hearing, which will occur on the last Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving; and 2) having a final budget after the public hearing on December 9, 2025.

7.4 2026 Budget Workshop Under the Direction of David Delquadro, Council Fiscal Manager:

25-782

- **District Attorney's Office: Sim Gill, District Attorney**
- **Office of Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform: Anndrea Wild, Director**

Presenter: David Delquadro, Salt Lake County Council Fiscal Manager
(Approx 11:05 AM, 300 minutes total)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. District Attorneys Office Budget Presentation_FINAL_2025-10-31
2. OHCJR 2026 Budget Presentation to Council

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District Attorney

Mr. Sim Gill, District Attorney, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled District Attorney's 2026 Budget Presentation. He reviewed the 2026 budget requests for personnel, totaling \$9,172,630; the 2026 budget requests for operations and revenue, totaling \$828,554; and the Mayor's recommendation for the District Attorney's budget of \$5,364,278.

Council Member Stringham asked what the Juvenile Court Attorney would do.

Mr. Gill stated the District Attorney's Office is short one attorney to cover a court calendar. The supervising attorney is covering that calendar in addition to their supervisory duties.

Council Member Stringham asked if the Data Specialist could be moved to the Office of Data and Innovation, while still housed in the District Attorney's Office. She wanted to stay away from siloing positions.

Mr. Gill stated the Legislature is asking for that data, and the District Attorney's Office needed that data to be able to make informed decisions. The process for gathering that data is nuanced and complex, so the person in that position would need to have a working knowledge of the District Attorney's Office. If the person in that position could provide accessible, responsible, and timely data, Mr. Gill did not care who had ownership of that position.

Council Member Winder Newton stated the Children's Justice Center has historically been funded through grants and the private sector. She asked why the District Attorney was now asking for a Legal Secretary for the Children's Justice Center. It says in the budget there is not enough staff to perform the tasks related to direct victim services and the management of multiple interview appointments. She asked if there was another way to restructure this without adding an additional FTE.

Ms. Lisa Ashman, Administrative Assistant, District Attorney's Office, stated the District Attorney's Office has two locations for the Children's Justice Center – South Valley and CJC North. There is only one person providing these services and they are being shuttled back and forth between the facilities.

Council Member Winder Newton asked if the District Attorney's Office had data that showed the effectiveness of Camp Hope.

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Mr. Gill stated Camp Hope is for children who have been traumatized. The District Attorney's Office has data that shows the impact Camp Hope has on those children. He would forward that data to the Council.

Council Member Winder Newton stated she thought this program should be under the Human Services Department. She wanted the District Attorney's Office to focus on prosecution and civil duties.

Mr. Gill stated he disagreed. The single most common denominator in criminal action is the presence of trauma, and these are children whose cases were handled by the District Attorney's Office. Data shows that resolving trauma will keep that person from becoming a case in juvenile court, and subsequently, adult court.

Council Member Winder Newton stated she would like to put this on the list. She needed more clarity on whether this program should be under the Human Services Department instead of the District Attorney's Office.

Council Member Johnson stated when a program is moved from the organization already providing the service, there is a high risk it will no longer be provided.

Mayor Jennifer Wilson stated the District Attorney's Office created this program, and it is passionate about the program. If it was moved, the volunteer hours would be lost, and the effectiveness of the program would be diminished. However, she would like to work with community partners to see if more could be done. She would like to have a presentation and an in-depth discussion on this program.

Council Member Stringham stated she wanted to explore another way of funding this program. She did not think it belonged in the General Fund.

Council Member Theodore stated this program should remain under the District Attorney's Office because it dealt with the cases, but she would like to see it funded by a source other than the General Fund. She suggested setting up a fundraiser for it.

Council Member Stringham stated the Salt Lake County Foundation could be a source of funding for this.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that the Camp Hope program be put on the list to explore more about it and how to fund it.

Council Member Romero stated he was supportive of the motion, but he did not want to put it on the list and then forget about it. He wanted to fund this program.

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A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that the Camp Hope program be put on the list to explore more about it and how to fund it. The motion carried unanimously, with Council Member Moreno voting "Nay."

Council Member Pinkney asked what the revenue request was.

Mr. Ralph Chamness, Chief Deputy District Attorney, stated there were two events that led to this request – the first was a change in state statute that dealt with asset forfeiture. Over the last couple of years, that change dramatically reduced the amount of money the District Attorney's Office received. There is no way to make up for that lost revenue. The District Attorney's Office also lost revenue when the Unified Police Department (UPD) split with the Sheriff's Office, and the District Attorney's Office stopped providing risk management services to the UPD.

Council Member Theodore asked the District Attorney to explain the need for the 16 Court Coverage Attorneys.

Mr. Gill stated the District Attorney had approximately 18,000 screenings last year, and that number is projected to increase to over 19,000 this year. The County has gone to a courtroom assignment model, and each courtroom has a team of four prosecutors who handle the caseload assigned to that one judge. Currently, there are 9,838 unresolved cases. Each of these attorneys would help him work through that overwhelming workload.

Mr. Delquadro asked for clarification on the County Profile Intervention Program (CPIP) Legal Secretary. He read the position was not needed if the Council converted three of the time-limited positions to merit, but all four positions were funded in the Mayor's recommended budget.

Ms. Ashman stated that is correct. A secretary who is time-limited is assigned to the specialty courts and the CPIP, but if the time-limited positions were made whole, that position would not be needed.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham to approve funding for six Court Coverage Attorneys and put the remaining Court Coverage Attorneys on the list. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, to fund the full request of 16 Court Coverage Attorneys.

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A substitute motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Winder Newton, to approve funding for six Court Coverage Attorneys and put the remaining Court Coverage Attorneys on the list.

Council Member Johnson stated he would be voting “no” on the motion. Every district court needed a fifth attorney, so prosecutors were not overburdened. That would reduce the amount of time cases spent in court. It would be a huge efficiency.

A motion was made by Council Member Stewart, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to call the question. The motion carried 6 to 3 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

Nay: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Winder Newton, to approve funding for six Court Coverage Attorneys and put the remaining Court Coverage Attorneys on the list. The motion carried 6 to 3 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

Nay: Council Member Johnson, Council Member Moreno, Council Member Romero

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, to approve funding for two Case Managers (37292), and a time-limited Case Manager, which would be converted to a merit position, but would be funded from a grant this year (37289).

Council Member Stringham amended the motion to approve funding for two Case Managers (37292), a time-limited Case Manager for one year and then converting it to a merit position (37289), the Legal Secretary for the Children’s Justice Center (37294), the Juvenile Court Attorney (37314), and converting the three time-limited positions to merit (37318).

Council Member Johnson stated it would be more appropriate to go line by line. He had different prerogatives than this.

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Council Member Stringham amended the motion to approve two Case Managers (37292). The motion died due to the lack of a second.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Romero, to approve the full request for 37292, which included six Case Managers. The motion failed 4 to 5 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero

Nay: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

A motion was made by Council Member Pinkney to approve three Case Managers. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

Council Member Harrison stated in the interest of time, she suggested providing the District Attorney with an amount that the Council wanted to cut and asking him to prioritize his needs with the remaining funding.

Mr. Gill stated he would prefer to do it that way. He knew what positions he needed to be functional and how to best utilize the funds to make the biggest impact.

A motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to direct the District Attorney to let the Council know what he would do with \$3.75 million, and what he would do with \$4.25 million, and to put that request on the list.

Council Member Stewart stated the Council gave the District Attorney a bunch of money not too long ago, and it approved a pay increase because of the increased workload. He wanted the District Attorney to show what he would do with \$2 million.

Council Member Theodore stated there is already a motion and a second.

A motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to direct the District Attorney to let the Council know what he would do with \$3.75 million, and what he would do with \$4.25 million, and to put that request on the list. The motion carried 6 to 3 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

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Nay: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham

Mr. Delquadro asked if the vote on the six attorneys and the rest going on the list was still in play.

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, stated two motions passed. The first motion provided that six attorneys would be tentatively funded in the budget and the other attorneys would be revisited. The subsequent motion provided that the District Attorney prepare recommendations at two different budgetary levels. Based on the Council's direction, he assumed the six attorneys would be funded at each level and that the District Attorney would make his recommendations for the rest of the funding, letting the Council know his priorities at a future meeting.

Mr. Chamness stated it was his understanding that a 16 percent contra account would be associated with each new hire.

Mr. Delquadro stated that is correct. Every new FTE would be subject to a 16 percent contra account for 2026.

Mr. Chamness stated the operating expenses have not been voted on yet.

Mr. Delquadro stated if the Council does not vote on that, the default is the Mayor's recommended budget.

Ms. Bridget Romano, Chief Deputy District Attorney, stated the Mayor's budget recommendation is \$5.3 million, which includes personnel and operations. Council Member Winder Newton asked the District Attorney to come back to the Council with his recommendation on the items on the Mayor's recommended budget within those two budget numbers, and that would include operations.

Council Member Winder Newton stated that is correct.

Office of Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform

Ms. Anndrea Wild, Senior Policy Advisor and Criminal Justice Advisory Council (CJAC), Office of Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform 2026 Budget Proposal. She reviewed the mission of the office and a new funding request for a Crisis Response Coordinator position.

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Council Member Stringham asked what the metrics were to know that this position would be successful, and if there were other funding options for this position.

Ms. Wild stated this request came after a lot of research and interviews. Research shows that law enforcement is responding to a lot of crises every day, but it is not well-equipped to address those crises. This position would coordinate and support a task force; implement the post-crisis care teams, which is included in the Office of Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform's coordination plan; improve data coordination and aggregation; usher in transportation changes, especially around Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams (MCOT) and law enforcement; support first responder training; and support co-response and ensure behavioral health experts are responding to these issues. Helping people understand the challenges and resolving those challenges collectively was going to be key to making sure jail spaces were used wisely and that the County was not defaulting to emergency rooms, and that the County was coordinating across systems. The Office of Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform did look to find a funding source, but there are not many funding sources available for this type of work.

Council Member Harrison stated this position is important. It would implement the Office of Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform's roadmap and help close gaps in the County's system, especially when someone shows up with a mental health crisis.

Council Member Theodore asked if this position was going to be ongoing.

Ms. Wild stated this position would be facilitated at the County level to support efficiency. She anticipated there would be a cost savings from having coordination, communication, and a reduction in crisis management.

Council Member Pinkney suggested having this position be time-limited for one year, and that the Office of Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform come back to the Council with the metrics and the outcomes that this task force was driving.

Council Member Winder Newton stated she could not get on board with paying someone \$120,000, plus benefits, to run a task force. That was not the best use of funds. She suggested having law enforcement and the Behavioral Health Division each assign someone to co-lead the task force.

Council Member Johnson stated there is a lack of coordination in this system, and a need for this position to help fill in the gaps.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson to approve funding for this position for one year because there is a need; and that after getting the metrics and seeing what the

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task force accomplished in that year, revisit whether the position is needed or if a different position is needed that is not a six-figure salaried position because of efforts by other members of the web. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Theodore, to put this on the list. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Council Member Stringham asked that the Office of Homelessness and Criminal Justice Reform provide the Council with a report on the roadmap at the time this position is discussed on the list.

Mayor Jennifer Wilson stated there has been an interest in the County moving to an inflationary adjustment each year. If the County did that, she would not want to open the door to new positions unless they were exigent. This position, and where there were other organizations asking for one or two FTEs, were justified because they could be game-changing and stabilize the organizations so they could operate for several years. That was her intent with this position.

BREAK FOR LUNCH— RECONVENE AT 1:00 PM FOLLOWING BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

8. AFTERNOON WORK SESSION

8.1 Informational Update on Salt Lake County Jail Capacity 25-776

Presenter: Rosie Rivera, Salt Lake County Sheriff; Matt Dumont, Chief Deputy Sheriff

(Approx. 1:10 PM, 10 minutes)

Informational

Attachments:

1. 2025 SO Corrections Presentation - Jail Capacity Update_November

Sheriff Rosie Rivera delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office Corrections Bureau Jail Capacity Update. She reviewed the current jail population of 2,239 individuals; bookings for 2024 and 2025; design capacity for the Metro Jail and the Oxbow Jail, totaling 2,730; rated capacity for both jails; operational capacity for both jails; and specialty beds in the Metro Jail; jail capacity remaining tight – recent steps to increase capacity and the current status; and next steps to address jail capacity.

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8.2 Continuation of 2026 Budget Workshop Under the Direction of David Delquadro, Council Fiscal Manager:

25-694

- **Sheriff's Office: Rosa Rivera, Sheriff**
- **Human Services: Kelly Colopy, Department Director**
- **Other 2026 Budget-Related Items**

Presenter: David Delquadro, Salt Lake County Council Fiscal Manager
(Approx. 1:20 PM, 300 minutes total)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 2026 SO Budget Request Presentation
2. FINAL - HS 2026F Budget Presentation ppt

Sheriff

Sheriff Rosie Rivera delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office 2026 Budget Requests. She reviewed the 2026 compensation request; compensation; sworn officer certifications; Sheriff's Office vacancy rates for sworn personnel; and the 2026 sworn compensation request. The requests include a grade change from 14 to 16 for a Public Safety Bureau Deputy and 18 to 19 for a Corrections Deputy, a 2.5 percent pay structure increase for sworn personnel, a 2.75 percent step increase or a 1 percent longevity increase for merit sworn personnel, and a benefit increase, totaling \$5,389 million.

Ms. Julene Elgueta, Compensation Manager, Human Resources Division, continued the presentation, reviewing the Human Resources Sworn Market and Step Analysis. She went over the Council legislative intent regarding pay options for Salt Lake County sworn officers; a public safety pay plan; a step analysis; a sworn market analysis; and the sworn market and step analysis recommendations.

Mr. Ed Meono, President, Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement Association, stated the Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement Association is in support of the Sheriff's recommendations. The County's budget is on a calendar year, while the rest of the valley's budgets are on a fiscal year, so the County is always trying to catch up.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Winder Newton, to approve the 2.5 percent structural increase; that there be one grade increase for the Public Safety Bureau Deputies and one grade increase for the Jail

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Deputies, but no grade increase for the Law Enforcement Bureau; and approve the 2.75 step or 1 percent longevity increase for merit sworn personnel.

Mr. David Delquadro, Chief Financial Manager, stated there is an ongoing \$3 million contra account on the Sheriff's budget, which applied to the jail. About \$620,000 of that contra account would pay for the additional structural adjustment.

Council Member Harrison asked for a friendly amendment to put the grade increase on the list, so the Council could get additional information on why it was important to increase the Public Safety Bureau by two grades.

Council Member Winder Newton stated she thought all the compensation requests went together.

Council Member Harrison stated she would support the motion, but she might want to talk about that grade increase later.

Council Member Johnson stated he asked if the purpose of the contra account was because the Sheriff was unable to fully hire staff because it is a large agency, and because the County did not want that \$3 million to go to waste.

Council Member Stringham stated the contra account would allow the County to put any under expend up to \$3 million back into the General Fund. In a normal budget, the Sheriff would get to spend anything it received, through the end of the year.

Sheriff Rivera stated it is hard to fill vacancies in the Corrections Bureau.

Mr. Zachary Stovall, Fiscal Administrator, Sheriff's Office, stated the Sheriff's Office could probably cover that contra account, but it would like the ability to come back to the Council to request that be removed if it runs into problems.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Winder Newton, to approve the 2.5 percent structural increase; that there be one grade increase for the Public Safety Bureau Deputies and one grade increase for the Jail Deputies, but no grade increase for the Law Enforcement Bureau; and to approve the 2.75 step or 1 percent longevity increase for merit sworn personnel. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Sheriff Rivera continued the presentation, reviewing the following new requests of the Law Enforcement Bureau:

- School Safety Lieutenant in response to HB84 (2024) and HB40 (2025)

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- Mental Health Program Manager in response to HB378 (2024)
- Victim Advocate Vehicle
- Drone Unit
- Threat Assessment Deputy
- Genealogist Contract
- Threat Management Unit Vehicle
- Gang Unit Sergeant for the Metro Gang Unit
- Four Choose Gang Free Advocate positions

Council Member Winder Newton stated the County's only statutory requirement for the school safety program is to provide the training and the County already has two trainers for that. Some schools are considering contracting for school guardians. If a school contracted with the Sheriff to do that, she thought the school would pay for that position year-round.

Sheriff Rivera stated the County is also required to coordinate, and to coordinate the security of the buildings.

A motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Stewart, to cut this from the budget.

Council Member Johnson stated this position is worth the cost. The State Legislature is requiring this program, and the County should make sure people are trained. He did not want an untrained person with a gun to misfire and hurt a child.

Council Member Winder Newton stated the position is for a second manager position.

A motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Stewart, to cut this from the budget. The motion carried 5 to 4 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

Nay: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero

Sheriff Rivera stated this position is to coordinate and be the supportive role in conducting the training, so she would be asking for funding for it again. The County could also go to the Legislature and ask that city police departments be responsible for this. The County does not have a school in its jurisdiction.

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Council Member Winder Newton asked if the Sheriff's Office had looked into contracting with an entity to fulfill the requirements of HB378 rather than adding a Mental Health Program Manager position.

Sheriff Rivera stated she could look into contracting for this service, but she did not think it would be cheaper to do so because of the difficulties with families and retirees.

Council Member Harrison stated given the statistics of the impacts on law enforcement's mental health, this is an important position to fund.

Council Member Stewart stated the Unified Fire Authority did an analysis on mental health impacts last year. This is a better way to approach the issue.

Council Member Stringham asked if the person in this position would be on call 24/7 to answer calls.

Sheriff Rivera stated yes, and they would also put the program together.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Stewart, to approve this request. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Council Member Stringham suggested looking to see if Fleet Management could provide a vehicle for the Victim Advocate.

Sheriff Rivera stated she could talk to Fleet Management.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham to put this request on the list to be discussed later. The motion failed due to a second.

Council Member Winder Newton asked how often the County used a Victim Advocate for the unincorporated area.

Sheriff Rivera stated the Victim Advocate services the unincorporated as well as the canyons. The Victim Advocate also meets with victims or their families on sexual assault, domestic violence, and homicide cases. Currently, the Victim Advocate drives their own vehicle when responding to victims, but that is a safety issue because someone could get the Victim Advocate's license plate number at the scene and target the Victim Advocate.

Council Member Winder Newton asked how that was done from a budgetary standpoint. State law requires the County to have a separate budget for what it provides outside of the unincorporated County.

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Mr. Zach Van Emmerik, Deputy Chief, Sheriff's Office, stated that was part of shared services, and the costs for the unincorporated were allocated to the Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement Service Area (SLVLESA).

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Pinkney, to approve funding for the Victim Advocate Vehicle, the Drone Unit, and the Genealogist Contract, and to put the Threat Assessment Deputy and the Threat Assessment Unit Vehicle on the list to be discussed later.

Council Member Harrison amended the motion to approve funding for the Drone Unit and the Genealogist Contract, and to put the Victim Advocate Vehicle, Threat Assessment Deputy, and the Threat Assessment Unit Vehicle on the list to be discussed later. Council Member Romero seconded the amended motion.

Council Member Winder Newton asked why the County did not contract with the UPD for the Drone Unit.

Sheriff Rivera stated the Drone Unit would pay for a lot of the fees and the training for the drone. Currently, drone operations are performed by trained staff as a secondary duty. The Drone Unit would also support Search and Rescue operations. It would be cumbersome to have to contract with another agency every time the County went on a search and rescue. The County has its own drone and deploys it every day.

Council Member Pinkney asked the Sheriff to talk about the genealogist.

Sheriff Rivera stated the Sheriff's Office currently uses the State's genealogist to identify unknown individuals, but the State limits case volume, and the Sheriff's Office has a lot of cases it needs to get through. Contracting with a genealogist would improve accountability.

An amended motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Romero, to approve funding for the Drone Unit and the Genealogist Contract, and to put the Victim Advocate Vehicle, Threat Assessment Deputy, and the Threat Assessment Unit Vehicle on the list to be discussed later. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Mayor Jennifer Wilson stated it would be best to discuss the Threat Assessment Deputy and Threat Assessment Unit Vehicle in a closed meeting.

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A motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Harrison, to approve funding for the Gang Unit Sergeant. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Sheriff Rivera stated Sheriff Rivera continued the presentation, reviewing the current challenges for the Choose Gang Free Advocate program and what the four case managers / advocates would do. Since the County took this over from the UPD, it has started collecting data. It can bring that data back to the Council in a year.

Council Member Harrison stated this is so important for prevention and helping turn the tide in the lives of many kids in the community.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Winder Newton, to approve funding for the four Choose Gang Free Advocate positions. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Sheriff Rivera continued the presentation, reviewing the following new requests for the Corrections Bureau:

- Sixteen positions for the Adult Detention Center and the Oxbow Jail program expansion in response to HB312 (eight Judicial Processing Specialists, four Jail Nurses, and four Mental Health Therapists)
- Meal Delivery Carts
- Jail Culinary Program
- U.S. Marshals Contract Revenue True-up

Council Member Johnson stated the jail is getting increased pressure due to the downtown safety initiative that it has no control over. Having more mental health therapists at all times of day would be very helpful. Currently, nurses are providing mental health coverage when a mental health therapist is not available, and that is not what nurses should be doing, nor were they necessarily qualified. Having mental health therapists would also help reduce the number of inmate incidents, thereby keeping inmates and officers safer.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, moved to approve funding for these 16 FTEs.

Council Member Stewart stated he agreed the jail needed more nurses, but he thought these steps were moving toward the Miami-Dade County model, and he was not sure he agreed with that yet.

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Mayor Jennifer Wilson stated this request is not related to the Leifman Group. This is related to Representative Karianne Lisonebee's bill that placed restrictions on who could be released from jail. People with health and mental health needs are staying in jail for a longer period. This is an investment in getting these people on a better path.

Council Member Moreno asked for an explanation of the meal delivery carts.

Chief DuMont stated the meal carts are used to transport 7,000 meals throughout the jail. The meal carts are specialized; each of them has a heating element to keep the meals at a safe temperature. The meal carts have not been replaced for 18 years, and they are wearing out and getting rusty.

Council Member Stringham asked if the Jail Culinary Program worked out of the same kitchen that was used to prepare the meals for the jail.

Chief DuMont stated it is in the same general area, but it is secluded. This program would be done in partnership with local vendors to train individuals in the jail how to make dirty sodas, coffee, and things like that, prior to being released from the jail, so the individuals could then work for the vendors.

Council Member Stringham suggested putting together a committee to look into preparing some of the Meals on Wheels meals in the jail.

Sheriff Rivera stated she would be happy to look into that.

Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, amended the motion to approve all the requests for the Corrections Bureau. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Sheriff Rivera concluded the presentation, reviewing the deferred maintenance and the estimated costs: Sheriff's Office building at \$605,039.92, the Oxbow Jail at \$15,839,607.94, and the Adult Detention Center at \$27,036,305.99. This did not include the Sheriff's Office shooting range or the Special Operations building.

Council Member Johnson asked what the estimated end of life was for the Oxbow Jail.

Sheriff Rivera stated the Oxbow Jail is held together by duct tape in some areas, but it is not unsafe. Daily checks are done on the building to make sure it is safe. She did not know how long the County could keep welding things together and using tape to fix things. It would be more efficient to close it and only have one facility.

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Council Member Stringham stated she would like to see if some funding can be found to maintain some of this.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to put the three deferred maintenance requests on the list to discuss later. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Human Services Department

Ms. Kelly Colopy, Director, Human Services Department, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Human Services Department 2026 Budget Presentation. She reviewed the Human Services Departments' vision and goals; a 2026 budget overview; operating revenues by categories; a 2026 FTE overview; criminal justice system needs; the Criminal Justice Services Division's pretrial and probation caseloads; Criminal Justice Services new County funding requests; adult indigent defense; the Salt Lake Legal Defender Association's (LDA) new County funding requests; other Human Services' requests; a demographic context: senior population explosion; the Aging and Adult Services Division's budget overview on nutrition; costs for other services were increasing beyond the budgeted funds; Aging and Adult Services' new County funding requests; other new County funding requests; and the budget neutral and technical adjustment requests.

Council Member Johnson asked if the Legal Defender Association's request to fund Adult Criminal Defense Conflict of Interest was because conflict cases were more complex this year or because there was an increase in cases.

Mr. Neil Webster, Indigent Legal Services Manager, Human Services Department, stated the request is due to both situations. There were direct conflicts of interest in the LDA's budget, and an increase in cases that fell outside the LDA contract. Those were generally murder cases, which in some instances necessitated the County hiring private attorneys.

Mr. Richard Mauro, Executive Director, Legal Defender Association, stated there had been increased spending, some of which was to hire experts and those sorts of things. The LDA's biggest challenge is workload and having to cover two courts, often at the same time.

Council Member Winder Newton stated if the District Attorney had to take a haircut, she wondered if indigent defense budgets should be reconciled as well.

Council Member Johnson stated what the LDA is asking for is dramatically lower than what the District Attorney's Office had asked for, but the pressures are affecting both

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entities the same. There has been a 23 percent increase in cases due to pressure from the State Legislature and the downtown initiative. He thought it would be appropriate to do what the Council did with the District Attorney's Office by setting a budget amount and allowing the LDA to figure out what it needed within that amount.

Council Member Pinkney stated when it came to court attorneys, there needed to be parity. It would be appropriate to give the LDA the same number of attorneys that were given to the District Attorney's Office.

Council Member Johnson disclosed an unrestricted conflict of interest, stating he is a trial attorney working for the LDA. He would be voting on the LDA's budget because his votes were not related to his salary.

Council Member Pinkney also disclosed an unrestricted conflict of interest, stating she is married to a legal defender.

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, stated acknowledging an unrestricted conflict of interest went above and beyond the required public disclosure. If there was a conflict between a Council Member's public duties and their personal duties, he would trust that they would report that as statute required.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Romero, to approve the Mayor's proposed budget for the Indigent Legal Service's Division, but to increase the funding for new FTEs from \$891,000 to \$1.5 million. The motion failed 4 to 5 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero

Nay: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Harrison, to approve the Indigent Legal Services Division's budget as proposed by the Mayor. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Council Member Winder Newton stated years ago, the Council voted to remodel the Tenth East Senior Center to the tune of \$10 million. If the County were to close the Tenth East Senior Center now, that would save the County \$400,000 a year in ongoing costs and millions in remodel costs. The Tenth East Senior Center is close to the Liberty Senior Center, and the Tenth East senior citizens were already moved to the Liberty

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Senior Center in preparation for the remodel. The County has spent a lot of money to start mitigating asbestos, but it would have to do that regardless.

A motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to close the Tenth East Senior Center, and deploy the funds that would have been used for that remodel to other uses; and that the \$400,000 in ongoing costs be used to cover some Aging and Adult Service's budget requests; and to approve the rest of the Aging and Adult Services Division's budget.

Council Member Johnson stated closing that facility is fiscally irresponsible. The Council voted to renovate it and advertised to this population, as of September, that the center was coming back in 18 months. Additionally, the County already spent \$3 million on this renovation, and that would not be recoverable. The \$400,000 is not a large savings; it adds up to about 35 cents on someone's tax bill. This was not the vision of county government he supported; it was wrong. He would be voting against the motion.

Council Member Stringham stated she has been getting more emails from seniors concerned about the tax increase than anything else. The amount of tax increase on the \$400,000 might not be a large amount for some people, but it would be for other people on a fixed income. Pulling back some of the money was not wasteful.

Council Member Harrison stated if this motion is approved, the County might have to sink additional money to tear the building down. This did not make fiscal sense.

Council Member Romero spoke against the motion, stating he was concerned about the way the County was doing business. The Council voted to close daycares and would now be voting to close a senior center without giving public notice. The Council serves the public, and it needs to inform the public of such decisions. The County is in the business of providing senior centers, and it has an obligation to rebuild the Tenth East Senior Center, as that is what it committed to do.

Mayor Jennifer Wilson stated she did not know that the County had ever reversed a decision for an investment in the community. This was irresponsible; the County made a promise to the community. The win here would be to keep the senior center open and integrate additional uses into it rather than wasting money that has already been dedicated to this.

Council Member Theodore stated the County has another senior center within two miles of this one. Senior centers are not cheap to run. They need maintenance and the County is already behind on maintenance. Closing this facility is the efficient thing to do.

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Council Member Stewart stated the Southwest has one senior center for the cities of Bluffdale, Herriman, and Riverton, and the building is owned and maintained by Riverton City. While the County made a commitment to spend money on this senior center, it is a money pit, and the County cannot keep dumping money into it.

A motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to close the Tenth East Senior Center, and deploy the funds that would have been used for that remodel to other uses; and that the \$400,000 in ongoing costs be used to cover some Aging and Adult Service's budget requests; and to approve the rest of the Aging and Adult Services Division's budget.

Council Member Harrison asked to bifurcate the motion and vote on the rest of the Aging and Adult Services Division's budget separately.

A motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to close the Tenth East Senior Center, and deploy the funds that would have been used for that remodel for other uses; and that the \$400,000 in ongoing costs be used to cover some Aging and Adult Service's budget requests. The motion carried 5 to 4 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

Nay: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero

Ms. Erin Litvack, Deputy Mayor of County Services, stated the County did close a senior center in Salt Lake City not long ago, so this will be the second senior center that it will close. Of the remaining two senior centers in Salt Lake City, the River's Bend Senior Center is in poor condition and barely meets the needs of the two communities combined there, and the Liberty Senior Center is overflowing. With the number of senior centers in Salt Lake City, these will not serve the community.

A motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to approve the rest of the Aging and Adult Services Division's budget. The motion carried 8 to 1 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

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Nay: Council Member Moreno

Council Member Theodore asked for an explanation of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Education under other new requests.

Ms. Colopy stated the Utah State University (USU) Extension had been funding four SNAP educators with federal dollars, but the Federal Government ended that program. However, there is still a need in the community for this. The proposal is to fund one position instead of four from the General Fund.

Council Member Winder Newton stated she did not think she could support this. She suggested combining this with some other outreach programs the County is already doing.

Council Member Harrison stated thousands of Utahns will not be receiving basic nutrition benefits through SNAP right now. Now was the wrong time to cut educators who could help recipients of SNAP learn basic eating or cooking skills.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the other funding requests.

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Theodore, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to put the SNAP educator on the list to be discussed later. The motion carried 7 to 2 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Romero, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

Nay: Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney

Council Member Stringham stated she would like to hold off on the Property Tax Increase for Countywide Funds to get some questions answered.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Theodore, to put the Property Tax Increase for Countywide Funds on the list to be discussed later. The motion carried 6 to 3 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

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Nay: Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero

Council Member Winder Newton stated the request for \$23,000 for the Junior Livestock program is in addition to the \$27,000 already allocated for that program, and the County already does a lot for Utah State University (USU) Extension for the 4-H program. This program could be done by the private sector. It is not the role of county government.

A motion was made by Council Member Winder Newton, seconded by Council Member Moreno, to cut \$50,000 for the 4-H Junior Livestock meat donation.

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Theodore, to cut the \$23,000 new budget request, but keep the \$27,000 allocation that is already in the budget. The motion carried 6 to 3 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Moreno, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero, Council Member Theodore

Nay: Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton

Council Member Romero stated this program provides youth with the experience of raising an animal, and the meat that is purchased goes to the Food Bank. He would like to approve the additional \$23,000. He would also like to see more advertising done for the Junior Livestock Show.

Council Member Stringham stated she has become convinced to keep the funding since making the motion.

Council Member Winder Newton clarified this program is not to provide funding for the 4-H kids to participate; it is just for the County to bid on their animals and donate the meat.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Theodore, to approve the USU compensation. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the budget neutral and technical adjustment requests. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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Ms. Colopy stated she would like to present an update on the Opioid Settlement Fund and the proposals for that.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Theodore, to move the Opioid Settlement Fund discussion to January when the Council is not in the middle of budget, and to decide in January what to spend the funds on, as that would allow more time to understand the programs.

Council Member Theodore stated there were a lot of proposals on the list, and she wanted to understand everything better before voting on them.

Council Member Johnson stated this is a comprehensive plan that has FTEs attached to it, and if the Council does not fund the FTEs now, it will have to terminate the employees in those positions and rehire someone for them later. These funds are for programs that would help put a dent in the homeless and drug-addicted populations, many of whom also have mental health conditions. If Council Members want to delay this, he suggested delaying it for two weeks, not until a different funding cycle.

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Romero, to move this discussion to the November 18th meeting, which would allow two weeks to dig in and get questions answered, rather than delaying this unnecessarily.

Council Member Harrison stated the Human Services Department has put together an evidence-based comprehensive plan, and needs funding for the FTEs.

Council Member Stewart stated he was in support of the original motion. This is an area where the Council was disconnected. It is important for Council Members to agree on what these funds should go toward.

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Romero, to move this discussion to the November 18th meeting, which would allow two weeks to dig in and get questions answered, rather than delaying this unnecessarily. The motion carried 6 to 3 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

Nay: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham

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Ms. Colopy stated the Council has not yet addressed the Criminal Justice Services Division's new requests for 13 Case Management FTEs to address the ongoing increase in cases, both in pretrial and probation.

A motion was made by Council Member Stewart, seconded by Council Member Winder Newton, to put this request on the list to be discussed later. The motion carried 7 to 2 by the following roll call vote.

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Moreno, Council Member Romero, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

Nay: Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney

Council Member Theodore stated she was fine putting these on the list, but if the County could get 75 percent of the people in jail into pretrial services, it would free up jail capacity.

Council Member Harrison stated even though this was an initial investment, having people in pretrial services would get the County to \$3 or \$5 a day, rather than \$140 a day for them to wait in jail.

Council Member Stewart stated he wanted to see if Opioid funding could be used for this.

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, recommended the Council vote on the rest of the budget.

A motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to approve the rest of the Human Services Department's budget as recommended by the Mayor. The motion carried by 8 to 1, with Council Member Stewart voting "Nay."

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ISSUANCE OF PUBLIC NOTICES

- 9.1 Set a Public Hearing for November 18, 2025, at 4 PM, at 2001 South State Street Room N1-110, to Receive Public Comment on Proposed Granting of a Perpetual Right-of-Way Easement to Rocky Mountain Power Across a Portion of Real Property Owned by Salt Lake County 25-793

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Located at Approximately 1300 West 300 North, Salt Lake City, UT, 84116 for a Purchase Price of \$306,000.00

Attachments:

1. Resolution for Right of Way Easement RMP

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

10. PENDING LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

10. Consideration of A Resolution Setting Forth Maximum 1 Operational Capacity for the Salt Lake County Jail

25-777

Presenter: Dea Theodore, Salt Lake County Council Chair
(Approx. 4:50 PM, Less than 5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 2025 Jail Capacity Resolution 103025 ratfl

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, stated this resolution restates what the Sheriff presented earlier.

RESOLUTION NO. 6335

A RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH MAXIMUM OPERATIONAL CAPACITY FOR THE SALT LAKE COUNTY JAIL

WHEREAS, Utah Code Annotated, Section 17-22-5.5 authorizes the Sheriff to establish a maximum operating capacity of each jail facility with the approval of the County legislative body; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff currently operates the County's Jail Facility which consists of the Salt Lake County Adult Detention Center and Oxbow Jail; and

WHEREAS, Utah Code provides that with the approval of the County Council the Sheriff shall set a maximum operating capacity for each jail facility based on the facility design and staffing; and

WHEREAS, Utah Code Annotated Section 17-22-5 authorizes the Sheriff to implement written policies for admission of prisoners and classification of incarcerated person in

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the jail for the safety and well-being of the prisoners and the community prior to and in conjunction with the maximum operating capacity.

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE the County Council of Salt Lake County resolves that under the current design and staffing, the maximum operational capacity of the Salt Lake County Jail Facility is two thousand four hundred and twenty three (2,423). The maximum operating capacity may be temporarily reduced by the number of unavailable beds when a unit is closed for repairs, due to staffing or other administrative necessities. Upon reaching the maximum operating capacity, the Sheriff shall take appropriate measures allowed by law.

Further, when the prisoner population reaches 80% of the maximum operating capacity the Sheriff shall apply the uniform written policies for admission of prisoners as allowed by law for the safety and well-being of inmates and the community.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 4th day of November, 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 Harrison, seconded by Council Member Stringham, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

10. Consideration of Formal Initiation of Land Use 2 Ordinance Amendment

25-782

Presenter: Zach Shaw, Deputy District Attorney; Curtis Woodward, MSD
Senior Planner
(Approx. 4:55 PM, 10 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments: None

Mr. Curtis Woodward, Senior Planner, Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District, stated the purpose of this is to clarify some ambiguity in the Foothill and Canyons

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Overlay Zone regarding an approved forest management program for removing trees on private property.

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, stated the motion would be to give staff directions to work with the Planning Commission to bring back a recommendation back to the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Stewart, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to direct the Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District and County staff to work with the Planning Commission on a recommendation for the Council's consideration. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

10. Consideration of a Resolution of the Salt Lake County

25-735

3 Council Designating November 7, 2025, as Victims of Communism Remembrance Day

Presenter: Carlos Moreno, Salt Lake County Council Member; Laurie Stringham, Salt Lake County Council Member; Sheldon Stewart, Salt Lake County Council Member
(Approx. 5:05 PM, 5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Victims of Communism Day Resolution(RAFL)

Council Member Pinkney stated she believed the resolution was in violation of both the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and Article 1 of the Utah Constitution; therefore, the resolution should not be voted on. If the Council passed this resolution, it would be compelling speech. The First Amendment forbids government from compelling speech. Communism is not a political issue of relevance in Salt Lake County. There are two dominant political parties in Utah and in America, not one.

Council Member Moreno reviewed the resolution, stating this is a commitment to truth, to remembering, and to defending liberty. He came to the United States seeking political asylum, having lived through such a regime - a regime that punished people who dared to speak their mind. Liberty is precious beyond words, and it is the duty of citizens, leaders, and Americans to protect future generations.

RESOLUTION NO. 6336

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A RESOLUTION OF THE SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 7, 2025, AS VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM REMEMBRANCE DAY

WHEREAS, in 1991, the United States Congress unanimously passed two resolutions with the mission to educate, remember, and honor those who suffered and continue to suffer under communist regimes, and to educate people about the history and consequences of communism; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that over 100 million people worldwide have lost their lives as a result of political repression and inhuman policies of communist regimes, including imprisonment, loss of property, torture, exile, suppression of speech, religion, and basic human rights; and

WHEREAS, a 2025 survey revealed that 62% of young Americans have a positive view of socialism, and 34% have a favorable view of communism, underscoring the importance of educating future generations about the history, ideology, and consequences of communism's abuses in order to prevent their recurrence; and

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Council affirms that no ideology can ever justify or conceal mass violations of human rights, and pledges to stand in solidarity with all who have endured oppression in the past and with those who continue to suffer under authoritarian regimes today; and

WHEREAS, the United States immigration process itself requires applicants for citizenship to affirm that they are neither members nor supporters of the Communist Party, recognizing the incompatibility of communism with American principles of liberty and democracy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Salt Lake County Council, that November 7, 2025, be designated as Victims of Communism Remembrance Day in Salt Lake County, Utah.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Council shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation in Washington, D.C., and shall make this designation publicly available on the County's official website.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Salt Lake County Council encourages all residents, along with civic, educational, and faith institutions, to honor the memory of those who suffered and perished under communist regimes and to foster greater

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understanding of the history and consequences of communism in defense of human rights, liberty, and the dignity of all people.

APPROVED and ADOPTED this 4th day of November, 2025.

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

ATTEST (SEAL)

By /s/ DEA THEODORE
Chair

By /s/ LANNIE CHAPMAN
Salt Lake County Clerk

Mr. Mitchell Park, Legal Counsel, Council Office, stated the District Attorney's Office reviewed this resolution and advised as to form and legality. If the Council were to enact the resolution, it would do three things: 1) designate November 7, 2025, as Victims of Communism Remembrance Day in Salt Lake County; 2) ask that the Clerk transmit a copy of the resolution to the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation in Washington D.C. and make the designation publicly visible on the County's website; and 3) encourage residents along with all civic educational faith institutions to "honor the memory of those who suffered and perished under communist regimes and to foster greater understanding of the history and consequences of communism in defense of human rights, liberty, and the dignity of all people." Council Members can interpret the Constitution when performing their duties. However, Mr. Park did not think this resolution would be compelling members of the public to speak in a particular way.

Ms. Bridget Romano, Chief Deputy District Attorney, stated the last line and third element of the resolution speaks in terms of encouragement. There is no compulsion. Individuals were free to follow the encouragement or disregard it. She did not see this as a violation of either the State Constitution or the Federal Constitution.

A motion was made by Council Member Pinkney, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to table this resolution to allow for further legal investigation. The motion failed 4 to 5 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero,

Nay: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

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A motion was made by Council Member Stewart, seconded by Council Member Stringham, to approve the resolution. The motion carried 8 to 1 by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Moreno, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton, Council Member Theodore

Nay: Council Member Johnson

11. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL

12. PROCLAMATIONS, MEMORIALS, AND OTHER CEREMONIAL OR COMMEMORATIVE MATTERS

12. A Proclamation of the Salt Lake County Mayor and Salt Lake County Council Honoring His Holiness the Dalai Lama's 90th Birthday, Year of Compassion, and Day of Compassion 25-790

Attachments:

1. Proclamation Honoring His Holiness Dalai Lama 90th Birthday Year of Compassion

Mayor Jennifer Wilson read the following proclamation.

Salt Lake County

WHEREAS, His Holiness, the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, has dedicated his life to promoting peace, compassion, love, inner happiness, mindfulness, forgiveness, and humanity; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, by sharing wisdom through words and actions, and earning worldwide recognition as a tireless advocate for human rights, democracy, religious freedom, and environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989 for his steadfast commitment to nonviolence and dialogue in resolving conflicts, particularly in advocating for the rights and freedoms of the Tibetan people; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, is committed to talking about the importance of human values and regularly advocates for happiness, harmony, hope, and emphasizing

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the value of Indian heritage, reminding everyone to “be kind whenever possible—it’s always possible,” and;

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Mayor and Salt Lake County Council stand united in support of human rights, religious freedom, and the self-determination of peoples, including the right of Tibetan people to preserve their religious and cultural heritage free from political interference; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Salt Lake County Mayor and Salt Lake County Council do hereby honor the life and legacy of His Holiness, the 14th Dalai Lama, acknowledges the period from July 6, 2025, to July 5, 2026, as the Year of Compassion in honor of his 90th birthday, and proclaims November 5, 2025 as the Day of Compassion in Salt Lake County.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama’s 90th Birthday, Year of
Compassion, and Day of Compassion

Jennifer Wilson
Mayor

Dea Theodore
District 6, Chair

Laurie Stringham
At-Large A

Suzanne Harrison
At-Large B

Natalie Pinkney
At-Large C

Jiro Johnson
District 1

Carlos A. Moreno
District 2

Aimee Winder Newton
District 3

Ross Romero
District 4

Sheldon Stewart
District 5

13. OTHER BUSINESS

13. Cancellation of the November 11, 2025, County Council Meeting in 1 Observation of the Veterans Day Holiday

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

ADJOURN

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THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM until Monday, November 10, 2025.

LANNIE CHAPMAN, COUNTY CLERK

By 

DEPUTY CLERK

By 

CHAIR, SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

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