



# SYRACUSE CITY

## Syracuse City Council Work Session Agenda

**January 13, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.**

In-Person Location: Syracuse City Hall, 1979 W. 1900 S.

Electronic Via [Zoom](#)

Connect via telephone: +1-301-715-8592 US, meeting ID: 882 7301 1039

Streamed on Syracuse City [YouTube Channel](#)

- a. Meeting called to order.
- b. Discussion regarding Business Meeting Agenda Item #3, consideration of appointments to Special Service Districts. (10 min.)
- c. Discussion of Regular Business Agenda Item #9, proposed Resolution R26-04 expressing support for proposed State Legislation authorizing a limited optional local sales tax dedicated to emergency services for communities serving qualified State Parks. (10 min.)
- d. Adjourn.

In compliance with the Americans Disabilities Act, persons needing auxiliary communicative aids and services for this meeting should contact the City Offices at 801-825-1477 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

### CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

The undersigned, duly appointed City Recorder, does hereby certify that the above notice and agenda was posted within the Syracuse City limits on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026 at Syracuse City Hall on the City Hall Notice Board and at <http://www.syracuseut.gov>. A copy was also provided to the Standard-Examiner on January 8, 2026.

CASSIE Z. BROWN, MMC  
SYRACUSE CITY RECORDER



# COUNCIL AGENDA

January 16, 2026

Agenda Item “b”

## **Review Business Meeting Agenda item #3, consideration of appointments to Special Service Districts**

### ***Factual Summation***

- Syracuse City makes appointments to local districts: North Davis Sewer District, Mosquito Abatement District, and Wasatch Integrated Waste Management District. Section 2.45.060 of the Syracuse City Code defines the process for considering these appointments as follows:
  - “(A) Prior to appointing individuals to any local district, the Council shall discuss the appointment in a work meeting, and schedule a public hearing to consider the issue at its next regular Council meeting or a special meeting.
  - (B) After conducting a public hearing, the Mayor shall open the issue to discussion among Council Members. At the conclusion of discussion, the appointment shall be made by motion, which must be supported by a majority vote. The Mayor may participate in the appointment action as a voting member.”
- Councilmember Cragun has been serving as the City’s appointee to the Mosquito Abatement District since July of 2024; his term ended December 31, 2025. The Mayor has discussed the position with Councilmember Robertson and intends to nominate her to fill the position. He has indicated this board “discusses a lot of health risks to citizens carried by mosquitos. Julie’s background as a nurse will serve the city well to help report to the city”.
- The City was previously represented by Councilmember Savage on the Wasatch Integrated Waste Management Board. Mayor Maughan indicates that the Board is made up of all three Davis County Commissioners, two representatives from Morgan County, and 14 representatives from cities, of which 12 are mayors. The Mayor intends to nominate himself to fill the position because most of the other city representatives are Mayors.

### ***Discussion Goals***

*Discuss the matter and reach a consensus on who should be appointed to the positions following the public hearing during the business meeting.*



# COUNCIL AGENDA

January 13, 2026

Agenda Item “c”

## **Discussion on Resolution Expressing Support for Proposed Legislation Authorizing a Limited Optional Local Sales Tax Dedicated to Emergency Services for Communities Serving Qualified State Parks.**

### **Discussion on Action Requested**

Consider adoption of the attached resolution expressing support for proposed state legislation that would authorize a limited, optional local sales tax dedicated to emergency services for communities that serve qualified state parks as the primary emergency response agency.

### **Background**

Antelope Island State Park encompasses approximately 42 square miles and is accessed via a seven-mile causeway. Emergency responses to the island require extended travel times and frequently result in Syracuse City emergency units being unavailable for in-city calls.

The size and terrain of the island require the City to maintain specialized equipment, supplies, and staffing capable of responding to incidents occurring several miles off-road and off-trail. These requirements exceed the level of service typically needed for in-city responses.

### **Fiscal Considerations**

Over the past several years, the City has incurred several hundreds of thousands of dollars in costs related to emergency responses on Antelope Island. These costs are currently absorbed within the City’s existing budget and are primarily borne by Syracuse City residents, despite the park serving visitors from across the state.

Visitation to Antelope Island State Park is among the highest in the Utah State Park system and is expected to continue increasing due to recent facility and visitor center improvements, which may further increase emergency service demand.

## **Legislative Action**

The proposed legislation would allow communities in similar circumstances to adopt a limited local sales tax dedicated to emergency services. A dedicated funding source would improve the City's ability to plan, staff, and equip emergency response operations associated with the state park while maintaining adequate service levels within the City.

Adoption of the attached resolution would formally communicate the City Council's support for this legislation to state leaders and the City's legislative delegation.

## **RESOLUTION NO. R26-04**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF SYRACUSE CITY, UTAH, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR PROPOSED STATE LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING A LIMITED OPTIONAL LOCAL SALES TAX DEDICATED TO EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR COMMUNITIES SERVING QUALIFIED STATE PARKS**

**WHEREAS**, Syracuse City is the primary emergency response agency for Antelope Island State Park, a major state recreational facility that attracts a significant number of visitors from across Utah and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, Antelope Island encompasses a large land area covering 42 square miles and is separated from the Syracuse City community by a seven-mile causeway, which requires extended response times and frequently results in Syracuse City emergency units being unavailable for local calls while responding to incidents on the island; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the size, terrain, and remote nature of Antelope Island, Syracuse City must maintain specialized equipment, supplies, and trained personnel capable of responding to fire, medical, and rescue incidents occurring, at times, several miles off-road and off established trails; and

**WHEREAS**, the financial impact of providing emergency services to Antelope Island State Park has placed a significant burden on Syracuse City's budget, with costs totaling several hundreds of thousands of dollars over the past few years; and

**WHEREAS**, visitation to Antelope Island State Park is among the highest in the Utah State Park system and is projected to increase further due to recent and planned improvements to the visitor center and park facilities, creating an increased risk of emergency incidents and higher call volume; and

**WHEREAS**, Syracuse City residents currently bear a disproportionate share of the cost for providing emergency services to a state-owned and operated facility that serves visitors from throughout the state, nation, and world; and

**WHEREAS**, proposed state legislation would authorize a limited, optional local sales tax dedicated specifically to emergency services in communities that serve qualified state parks, providing a fair and sustainable funding mechanism tied to visitation and use; and

**WHEREAS**, a dedicated funding source for this purpose would enhance Syracuse City's ability to provide timely, effective, and life-saving emergency services to both residents and visitors to Antelope Island State Park, while preserving emergency coverage within the local community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF SYRACUSE CITY, UTAH, THAT:**

1. The Syracuse City Council hereby expresses its support for proposed state legislation that authorizes a limited optional local sales tax dedicated to funding emergency services for local governments serving qualified state parks where they act as the primary emergency response agency.
2. The City Council encourages the Utah State Legislature to recognize the unique and substantial public safety burdens placed on local communities that provide emergency services to state-owned recreational facilities with large area and visitation numbers.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of Syracuse City, Utah, this 13th day of January, 2026.

SYRACUSE CITY

ATTEST:

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Cassie Z. Brown, City Recorder

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Maughan, Mayor

