

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, November 25, 2025

The City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, met in Work Session on Tuesday, November 25, 2025.

The following Council Members were present:

Victoria Petro, Daniel Dugan, Chris Wharton, Alejandro Puy, Darin Mano, Sarah Young, Eva Lopez Chavez

Present Legislative leadership:

Jennifer Bruno – Executive Director, Lehua Weaver – Deputy Director, Nick Tarbet – Deputy Director

Present Administrative leadership:

Erin Mendenhall – Salt Lake City Mayor, Rachel Otto – Chief of Staff, Jill Love – Chief Administrative Officer, Megan Yuill – Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Lindsey Nikola – Deputy Chief of Staff

Present City Staff:

Mark Kittrell – City Attorney, Matthew Brown – Deputy City Recorder, Stephanie Elliott – Minutes & Records Clerk, Taylor Hill – District Liaison/Policy Specialist, Scott Corpany – Staff Assistant, Mary Beth Thompson – Chief Financial Officer, Allison Rowland – Public Policy Analyst, Linda Sanchez – City Council Operations Manager, Tammy Hunsaker – Director of Community & Neighborhoods, Cindy Lou Trishman – Deputy Director of Operations and Administration, Sophia Nicholas – Sustainability Deputy Director, Laura Briefer – Public Utilities Director, Sylvia Richards – Public Policy Analyst, Joe Taylor – Transportation Planner, Austin Kimmel – Public Policy Analyst, Stephanie Duer – Water Conservation Program Manager, Renato Olmedo-Gonzalez – Arts Council Program Manager, Felica Baca – Art Division Director, Lisa Tarufelli – Public Utilities Finance Administrator, Julianne Sabula – Deputy Director of Transportation, Tom Millar – Planning & Design Division Director, Kira Luke – Communications & Policy Analyst, Jacob Jorgensen – Financial Analyst IV, Catherine Wyffels – Senior Air Quality and Environmental Program Manager, Kim Shelley – Director of Public Lands

The meeting was called to order at 2:08 p.m.

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Work Session Items

1. **Resolution: 2025 Water Conservation Plan** ~ 2:00 p.m.
20 min.

The Council will receive a briefing about a resolution that would adopt the 2025 Water Conservation Plan. The updated plan was developed in accordance with the state's Conservation Plan Act, as well as other state, federal, and industrial guidelines. It includes estimates of water supply and demand, analysis of historical water use, and establishes 5-, 10- and 40-year water conservation goals. The plan also outlines programs to achieve these goals and details a communications and outreach strategy to support implementation.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Set Public Hearing Date - Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Hold hearing to accept public comment - Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 7 p.m.

TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Summary:

Austin Kimmel and Laura Briefer introduced the item, noting the Planning Department's positive recommendation for the Water Conservation Plan.

Jesse Stewart and Stephanie Duer presented the plan. Council Members and staff discussed public education on water conservation, along with actionable steps for both commercial and residential users to achieve average water use.

2. **Informational: Public Art Program Maintenance and Conservation Report for Fiscal Year 2025-26** ~ 2:20 p.m.
20 min.

The Council will receive a briefing about the Public Art Program Maintenance and Conservation Report for Fiscal Year 2025-26 and the Maintenance and Conservation Artwork Projections. The Public Art Program recommends to the Finance Department that 20% of the Fiscal Year 2025-26 CIP Percent-for-Art funds (\$33,475) be deposited to the Maintenance Fund based on the information contained in the report.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

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Summary:

Sylvia Richards introduced the item.

Renato Olmedo-Gonzalez and Felicia Baca presented the art maintenance and conservation projects to preserve and install artwork around the city. Council Members and staff discussed projected costs compared to current budgeted funds.

Council Requests:

Council Member Petro requested a report on the amount of funds needed to cover projected maintenance costs prior to the 2026 – 2027 budget season discussion. Felicia Baca stated they would provide that information to the Council.

3. Informational: Climate Forward SLC Plan Update ~ 2:40 p.m.
25 min.

The Council will receive a briefing from the Department of Sustainability about the Climate Forward SLC Plan, an update to Salt Lake City's climate strategy. The department is in the early stages of developing the plan and is seeking feedback from the Council. Formal adoption of the plan is anticipated in 2026.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

Summary:

Austin Kimmel introduced the item.

Sophia Nicolas and Catherine Wyffels presented the Climate Forward Plan data, goals, and survey results.

Council Members and staff discussed public outreach and education, actionable steps to reduce climate impact, and the consolidation and/or addition of utility departments to increase direct control over clean energy.

Council Requests:

Council Member Petro requested further information on how Salt Lake City could prioritize environmental goals alongside other city initiatives, such as affordable housing.

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4. **Ordinance: Consolidated Fee Schedule Corrections Follow-Up** ~ 3:05 p.m.
20 min.

The Council will receive a follow-up briefing about an ordinance amending the Salt Lake City Consolidated Fee Schedule (CFS). During the budget process for fiscal year 2025-26, the CFS was updated with several changes. After the schedule was approved and adopted by the Council, Departments noticed errors and omissions that needed to be corrected. The changes include adding the Title "Fire Lines" and the Description "Per Inch" to one of the rate tables in the CFS for Public Utilities.

FYI – Project Timeline: (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)
Briefing - Tuesday, September 16, 2025, Tuesday, October 14, 2025, and Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, December 2, 2025

Summary:

Austin Kimmel introduced the item and clarified options for possible council action.

Laura Briefer, Lisa Tartufelli, Jacob Jorgensen, and Council Members discussed rate terms and increased cost projections, future budget impacts from rate increases/fluctuations, fire line service cost responsibility, and improvement in communication with impacted customers.

Jennifer Bruno clarified that Public Utility revenue and fee schedules were determined based on projected costs to cover capital expenses, which differed from general fund revenue flexibility.

Council Requests:

Council Members requested that the discussion and straw poll decisions be continued at the December 2, 2025, Work Session.

5. **Tentative Break** ~ 3:25 p.m.
20 min.

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

Briefing -

Set Public Hearing Date -

Hold hearing to accept public comment -

TENTATIVE Council Action -

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6. **Informational: West-East Connections Study, Phase One Update** ~ 3:45 p.m.
30 min.

The Council will receive a briefing on Phase one of the SLC West-East Connections Study, which was awarded funding through the US DOT Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program. The study (now known as WE Connect) is designed to improve west-east connectivity across the Interstate 15/railroad track divide by evaluating transport needs and identifying potential solutions for driving.

FYI – Project Timeline: (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)
Briefing - Tuesday, November 25, 2025
Set Public Hearing Date - n/a
Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a
TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

Summary:

Allison Rowland introduced the item. Julianne Sabula and Joe Taylor presented updates on the study's status, including phase one survey results and phase two next steps.

Council Members and staff discussed public engagement strategies, concerns regarding a lack of community representation in phase one, blocked train crossings affected West Side businesses/residents, and plans for future infrastructure impacts. Tammy Hunsaker clarified that expanded community engagement, including more translated materials, would be included in phase two to ensure greater public engagement.

Council Member Requests:

Council Member Petro requested that the North-South divide element be included in the study to ensure all community traffic concerns were considered.

Council Member Young suggested that the request for proposals (RFP's) include a scoring element in the procurement process to ensure the best possible outcome and community representation.

7. **General Obligation Bond for Parks, Trails, and Open Space – First Issuance Update and Second Issuance Funding Request Follow-Up** ~ 4:15 p.m.
45 min.

The Council will receive a follow-up briefing on projects funded by the first issuance of the General Obligation Bond for Parks, Trails, and Open Space (Series 2022), and consider the Administration's request to approve the second issuance (Series 2026). The second issuance would fund between \$26 million and \$49 million in new projects, including Glendale Park construction, and new investments in other parks, trails, and open space in each Council district. These funds would also update salary amounts from early 2023 for bond-specific personnel to reflect inflation since that time. Voters authorized a bond of up to \$85 million in 2022 to be dedicated to acquiring, improving, renovating, and upgrading parks, trails, open space, and related amenities.

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FYI – Project Timeline: (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)
Briefing - Tuesday, May 13, 2025 and Tuesday, November 25, 2025
Set Public Hearing Date - n/a
Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a
TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

Summary:

Allison Rowland introduced the item.

Mayor Mendenhall gave a brief presentation on the General Obligation Bond, cited strong public support and minimal to no property tax increase for phases one and two, and confirmed that phase two was construction-ready once the Council made their funding decisions.

Tom Millar presented follow-up information, including three funding scenarios for the second tranches and the potential impacts of not funding them.

Council Members Tom Millar, Allison Rowland, Mary Beth Thompson, and Kim Shelley discussed funding allocations for projects, budgetary impacts if specific projects were delayed or bonds were not funded/approved, and departmental process improvements to enhance public communication and engagement.

Council Requests:

Council Member Petro requested a report on wage predictions for the general public, middle-income earners, and workforce in Salt Lake City related to the cost-of-living increases. Jennifer Bruno stated that data could be gathered for the council to review.

Council Member Lopez Chavez requested further review of the impacts if funds from the first or second tranche scenarios were rescoped or added to reduce the third tranche scenario. Tom Millar stated they would follow up with more information.

Council Member Puy requested further information on shovel readiness for projects and a mechanism to regularly inform the council of timeline updates/changes.

Jennifer Bruno suggested adding a Legislative Intent to include Council Member requests.

Straw Poll:

Support for scenario three, releasing a tranche amount of \$49,336,400. Council Member Puy proposed a Legislative Intent to include a shovel-ready report and a mechanism to inform the council of changes to the project's timeline or scope. Council Member Lopez Chavez proposed another Legislative Intent to include a review of the possible rescope of funds to scenario three if available. Council Members Young, Mano, Puy, Wharton, Dugan, and Lopez Chaves voted in support, with Council Member Petro voted against.

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8. Informational: Review of 2026 Annual Meeting Calendar ~ 5:00 p.m.
15 min.

The Council will review the draft 2026 Annual Meeting calendar for the City Council, Community Reinvestment Agency, and Board of Canvassers.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

Summary:

Linda Sanchez introduced the item and confirmed tentative meeting dates with Council Members to address conflicts and concerns before solidifying the year.

Jennifer Bruno clarified that tentative meetings were added to ensure city business could be addressed/discussed.

9. Board Appointment: Community Development and Capital Improvement Programs Advisory Board – Parviz Faiz ~ 5:15 p.m.
5 min.

The Council will interview Parviz Faiz, resident of District 3, prior to considering appointment to the Community Development and Capital Improvement Programs Advisory Board for a term ending June 5, 2028.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Summary:

An interview was held, Council Member Wharton stated the appointment would be on the Consent Agenda for formal consideration.

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Standing Items

10. Report of the Chair and Vice Chair

Report of Chair and Vice Chair.

There was nothing to report.

11. Report and Announcements from the Executive Director

Report of the Executive Director, including a review of Council information items and announcements. The Council may give feedback or staff direction on any item related to City Council business, including but not limited to scheduling items.

Summary:

Jennifer Bruno clarified that there was a scrivener's error in Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget Amendment No. 2 and that it was on the consent agenda for update.

12. Tentative Closed Session

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

- a. discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.
- b. strategy sessions to discuss collective bargaining.
- c. strategy sessions to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation.
- d. strategy sessions to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares, if public discussion of the transaction would:
 - (i) disclose the appraisal or estimated value of the property under consideration, or
 - (ii) prevent the public body from completing the transaction on the best possible terms.
- e. strategy sessions to discuss the sale of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares, if:
 - (i) public discussion of the transaction would:
 - (A) disclose the appraisal or estimated value of the property under consideration, or
 - (B) prevent the public body from completing the transaction on the best possible terms.
 - (ii) the public body previously gave public notice that the property would be offered for sale, and
 - (iii) the terms of the sale are publicly disclosed before the public body approves the sale.
- f. discussion regarding deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems.
- g. investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct.

A closed meeting may also be held for attorney-client matters that are privileged pursuant to Utah Code § 78B-1-137, and for other lawful purposes that satisfy the pertinent requirements of the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act.

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Summary:

Closed Session started at 6:06 p.m.

Council Members in attendance:

Council Member Dugan (Online)
Council Member Wharton
Council Member Petro
Council Member Young
Council Member Puy (Online)
Council Member Lopez Chavez
Council Member Mano
Council Member Elect Erika Carlsen

Staff in attendance: Rachel Otto, Lindsey Nikola, Megan Yuill, Jennifer Bruno, Arron Bentley, Mark Kittrell, Cindy Lou Trishman, Keith Reynolds, Matt Brown, Kira Luke (online), Lehua Weaver, Allison Rowland

Closed Session ended at 6:26 p.m.

Motion:

Moved by Council Member Petro, seconded by Council Member Mano to enter into Closed Session for the purposes of f. discussion regarding deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems and attorney-client matters.

AYE: Victoria Petro, Daniel Dugan, Chris Wharton, Alejandro Puy, Darin Mano, Eva Lopez Chavez, Sarah Young

Final Result: 7 – 0 Pass

Motion:

Moved by Council Member Dugan, seconded by Council Member Petro to exit Closed Session.

AYE: Victoria Petro, Daniel Dugan, Chris Wharton, Alejandro Puy, Darin Mano, Sarah Young, Eva Lopez Chavez

Final Result: 7 – 0 Pass

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Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Minutes Approved: February 17, 2026

City Council Chair – Alejandro Puy

City Recorder – Keith Reynolds

Please refer to Meeting Materials (available at <https://data.sl.gov> by selecting City Council Meeting Information) for supportive content including electronic recordings and comments submitted prior to or during the meeting. Websites listed within the body of the Minutes may not remain active indefinitely.

This document along with the digital recording constitutes the official minutes of the City Council Work Session meeting held Tuesday, November 25, 2025 and is not intended to serve as a full transcript. Please refer to the electronic recording for entire content pursuant to Utah Code §52-4-203.