

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

The City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, met in Work Session on Tuesday, May 19, 2026.

The following Council Members were present:

Victoria Petro, Alejandro Puy, Chris Wharton, Erika Carlsen, Daniel Dugan, Sarah Young

Present Legislative Leadership:

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

Present Administrative Leadership:

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

Present City Staff:

Mark Kittrell – City Attorney, Keith Reynolds – City Recorder, Caitlin Carlino – Minutes & Records Clerk, Andrew Johnston – Director of Homelessness Policy and Outreach, Allison Rowland – Senior Public Policy Analyst, Sylvia Richards – Public Policy Analyst, Austin Kimmel – Public Policy Analyst, Kate Werrett – Budget & Policy Analyst, Michael Sanders – Budget & Policy Analyst, Kira Luke – Communications & Policy Analyst, Mary Beth Thompson – Chief Financial Officer, Ben Luedtke – Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Lisa Hunt – Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Andrew Reed – Deputy Budget Director, Lorena Rizzo Jenson – Director of Economic Development, Brian Redd – Chief of Police, Zach Posner – IMS Chief Information Officer, Jacob Maxwell – Deputy Director of Economic Development, Nole Walkingshaw – IMS Chief Information Officer, Chad Korb – IMS Deputy Chief Information Officer, David Buchanan – Chief Human Resources Officer, Joseph Anthony – Financial Manager, Melissa Green – Deputy Chief Human Resources Officer, Jennifer Jeppson – Deputy Chief Human Resources Officer

The meeting was called to order at 2:23 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

[For more information on the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget, visit the Council's hub: link.slc.gov/slcfy27.](https://link.slc.gov/slcfy27)

[Click Here for the Mayor's Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27.](#)

Work Session Items

- 1. Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget: Department of Economic Development** ~ 2:15 p.m.
45 min.

The Council will receive a briefing about the proposed budget for the Department of Economic Development for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Set Public Hearing Date - Tuesday, April 21, 2026 and Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Hold hearing to accept public comment - Tuesday, May 19, 2026 and Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at 7 p.m.

TENTATIVE Council Action - TBD

Summary:

Austin Kimmel introduced the item. Lorena Rizzo-Jenson and Jacob Maxwell presented the department's proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget, highlighting recent economic development successes, operational efficiencies, and a proposed budget reduction of approximately 4.4%.

Council Members and staff discussed:

- Proposed changes to the Construction Mitigation Grant Program and ongoing efforts to support local businesses
- Potential impacts of Ballpark-area construction and redevelopment on surrounding businesses
- Expanding eligibility beyond road construction projects to include other City-led construction and infrastructure impacts
- Opportunities to leverage private-sector funding to supplement business assistance
- The department's role in advancing economic growth, including recent business recruitment and retention successes such as Western Governors University's downtown expansion

- 2. Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget: Information Management Services** ~ 3:00 p.m.
45 min.

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

The Council will receive a briefing about the proposed Information Management Services (IMS) budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27. The department provides technical and communication support for the City.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Set Public Hearing Date - Tuesday, April 21, 2026 and Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Hold hearing to accept public comment - Tuesday, May 19, 2026 and Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at 7 p.m.

TENTATIVE Council Action - TBD

Summary:

Kira Luke introduced the item. Zach Posner, Nole Walkingshaw, and Chad Korb presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget, including a 3.3% overall reduction, departmental efficiencies, customer service initiatives, technology governance efforts, and opportunities for innovation through emerging technologies and artificial intelligence (AI).

Council Members and staff discussed:

- Operational efficiencies achieved through technology modernization, process improvements, and strategic resource management
- The proposed Innovation Fund and emphasizing evaluating existing solutions before pursuing new technology investments
- Improving customer service and strengthening accountability for technology projects and public engagement tools
- Prioritizing community engagement initiatives, including continued development of shapeSLC and other public participation platforms
- Governance frameworks intended to balance innovation, security, procurement requirements, and organizational needs
- Cybersecurity considerations and data protection measures associated with the City's computer donation program
- Ongoing efforts to improve coordination, communication, and customer experience across City departments
- Appreciation for IMS staff and the department's role in supporting City operations and public meetings

3. Tentative Break

~ 3:45 p.m.
20 min.

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

Briefing - n/a

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a
Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a
TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

4. **Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget: Human Resources Department** ~ 4:05 p.m.
30 min.

The Council will receive a briefing about the proposed Human Resources Department budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27. The Department of Human Resources (HR) is an internal-facing department that serves all City employees and administers benefits.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Set Public Hearing Date - Tuesday, April 21, 2026 and Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Hold hearing to accept public comment - Tuesday, May 19, 2026 and Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at 7 p.m.

TENTATIVE Council Action - TBD

Summary:

Kira Luke, alongside Melissa Green and Jennifer Jeppson, provided an introduction to the department and their budget efficiencies/cuts. David Buchanan presented the department's proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 budget, highlighting recent accomplishments including enhancements to employee compensation and benefits programs, departmental restructuring, and operational efficiencies.

Council Members, Jennifer Bruno and staff discussed:

- Efforts to improve recruitment processes and workforce development initiatives
- Strategies for attracting and retaining qualified employees in a competitive labor market
- Ongoing employee training and professional development efforts through the department's reorganized Learning and Development program

5. **Ordinance: Budget Amendment No.5 for Fiscal Year 2025-26** ~ 4:35 p.m.
30 min.

The Council will receive a briefing about Budget Amendment No.5 for the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget. Budget amendments happen several times each year to reflect adjustments to the City's budgets, including proposed project additions and modifications. The proposed amendment includes funding for new police officers, replacement of aging police patrol vehicles, the purchase of a transport van, and a pass-

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

through of property tax revenue to the Salt Lake City Public Library, among other items.
For more information visit tinyurl.com/SLCFY26.

FYI – Project Timeline: (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)
Briefing - Tuesday, May 19, 2026
Set Public Hearing Date - Tuesday, May 19, 2026
Hold hearing to accept public comment - Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at 7 p.m.
TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Summary:

Austin Kimmel introduced Budget Amendment No.5 for Fiscal Year 2025-26. Ben Luedtke, alongside Andrew Reed, presented details of the amendment, including proposed adjustments related to public safety staffing and equipment, grant funding, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects, fund transfers, pass-through revenues, and other housekeeping items. Council Policy Analysts presented and discussed with Council Members and staff on individual items.

Item A-1: Reclass Airport Director of Finance Pay Grade (Airport: Ongoing, \$20,000).

- Kate Werrett presented the item.
- Council members and staff discussed compensation assumptions for the reclassified position, including potential salary savings if the position is filled below the maximum pay range.

Item A-2: Inland Port Related Police Expenses and Revenues (General Fund (GF): One-time, \$2,500,000; GF: Ongoing, \$2,500,000; IMS: One-time, \$103,700; Fleet Fund: One-time, \$748,500).

- Michael Sanders presented the item.
- Council Members and Chief Brian Redd discussed the use of Utah Inland Port Authority funding for additional Police Department staffing, hiring timelines, and public safety needs in the Northwest Quadrant.
- **Straw Poll:** Support for accepting funding through the interlocal agreement with the Utah Inland Port Authority and allowing the Police Department to move forward with hiring and preparing for 12 sworn and one civilian positions. All Council Members were in favor.

Item A-3: Workers Compensation Premium (GF: Ongoing, \$1,731,829).

- Kira Luke presented the item; there was no further discussion.

Item A-4: New Fund: Library Pass-Through (GF: Ongoing, \$33,195,704).

- Austin Kimmel presented the item.
- Jennifer Bruno explained that establishing the new fund provided a mechanism to account for library revenues and expenditures and clarified that the funding would not be reflected in the City's property tax calculations.

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Item A-5: CRA Pass-Through True-Up (GF: Ongoing, \$4,536,141).

- Kate Werrett presented the item.
- Jennifer Bruno explained the proposed transfer mechanism between the Community Reinvestment Agency and the Library Fund. Council Members discussed the accounting treatment and purpose of the pass-through funding.

A-6: CRA Pass-through to the Library (GF: One-time, \$2,311,032).

- Kate Werrett presented the item; there was no further discussion.

A-7: Increase in Workers Compensation Premiums (Risk Fund: Ongoing, \$1,710,000).

- Kira Luke presented the item; there was no further discussion.

A-8: Fund Transfer to Fleet for Police Department Vehicles (GF: One-time, (\$1,001,800); GF: One-time, \$1,001,800; Fleet Fund: one-time, \$1,001,800).

- Michael Sanders presented the item and clarified that funding was proposed for 12 vehicles.
- Council Members discussed reasoning for the prisoner transport's inclusion in the budget amendment rather than the Fiscal Year 2026-27 proposed budget. Mary Beth Thompson explained that available excess funding provided an opportunity to address the need through the current amendment.

D-1: 400 South Bridge Funding Rescope (GF: One-time, \$0).

- Allison Rowland presented the item; there was no further discussion.

D-2: Budgeting All Funding Available for the Old Library, Plaza 349 and the Justice Court Capital Improvement (CIP: One-time, \$4489,610.79).

- Kate Werrett presented the item; there was no further discussion.

D-3: Sustainability's Environmental & Energy Division Housekeeping and Utah Renewable Communities Start Up Costs (GF: One-time, \$902,186; Refuse: One-time, \$453,592; Refuse: One-time, \$1,355,778).

- Austin Kimmel presented the item.
- Council Members discussed the inclusion of Utah Renewable Communities start-up costs and questioned whether the proposal represented a new initiative rather than a housekeeping adjustment. Jennifer Bruno explained that the City was temporarily fronting the costs as a guarantee and that reimbursement might not be necessary depending on participation levels.

D-5: UDOT Railroad Safety Grant Funded Railroad Crossing Improvements on 700 South (CIP: One-time, \$101,005).

- Sylvia Richards presented the item and noted it was related to Item E-3.
- Council Members discussed the proposed crossing improvements and requested additional information regarding project locations and design details.

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

- **Council Request:** Council Member Puy requested additional information regarding the proposed crossing improvements and project details. Jennifer Bruno and Sylvia Richards stated that the requested information would be provided.

D-6: CIP: CPTED Assessments, New Street Lights and Other Improvements (GF: One-time, (\$200,000); GF: One-time, \$200,000; CIP: One-time, \$200,000).

- Michael Sanders presented the item.
- Council Members discussed the proposed use of public safety funding for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessments, street lighting improvements, and related safety enhancements. Andrew Johnston explained the funding would support improvements intended to assist law enforcement efforts and address safety concerns without affecting the next fiscal year's budget.

D-7: Impact Fee Excess Capacity & Interest Income Transfer (Impact Fee: One-time, \$1,814,796.04; GF: One-time, \$1,814,796.04; CIP: One-time: \$443,705.06; Impact Fee: One-time, \$0).

- Sylvia Richards presented the item.
- Jennifer Bruno clarified that impact fee revenues had funded a portion of the facility associated with the transfer and explained the accounting adjustment.

D-8: CIP Transfer to General Fund Correction (CIP: One-time, \$6,786,000).

- Kate Werrett presented the item; there was no further discussion.

D-9: General Obligation Series 2026 Bonds (Debt Service: One-time, \$1,062,474; CIP: One-time, \$49,336,400).

- Allison Rowland presented the item; there was no further discussion.

D-10: UDOT Green Bike Expansion Supplied CIP Budget (CIP: One-time, \$895,004).

- Austin Kimmel presented the item; there was no further discussion.

D-11: Moving Mayor's Funding from Non-Departmental to the Mayor's Office (GF: One-time, (\$580,000); \$580,000).

- Austin Kimmel presented the item.
- **Council Request:** Council Member Puy requested details regarding fundraising totals and revenues received. Austin Kimmel stated staff would follow up with the requested information.

D-12: Moving State ARPA Funds from Grant Fund to Public Utilities/Remove CIP Budgets (CIP: One-time, (\$2,000,000); Misc. Grants: One-time (\$2,000,000); Misc. Grants: One-time, \$2,000,000; Stormwater: One-time, \$0.00).

- Austin Kimmel presented the item; there was no further discussion.

G-1: Outdoor Recreation Initiative (ORI) City Creek Daylighting Project (Misc. Grants: One-time, \$600,000).

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

- Kate Werrett presented the item.
- Council Members discussed project funding and implementation considerations related to the City Creek Daylighting Project.

Jennifer Bruno noted that a Council-added item had been inadvertently omitted from the staff report. The item would allocate \$255,000 from Funding Our Future fund balance to First Step House, consistent with Council's previously approved legislative intent related to CDBG funding.

6. Board Appointment: Housing Authority of Salt Lake City – Turner Bitton ~ 5:05 p.m.
5 min.

The Council will interview Turner Bitton, resident of District 2, prior to considering appointment to the Housing Authority of Salt Lake City for a term ending May 19, 2030.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Summary:

An interview was held. Council Member Puy stated that Turner Bitton's name would be included on the evening's Consent Agenda for formal consideration.

7. Board Appointment: Planning Commission – Kevin Chung ~ 5:10 p.m.
5 min.

The Council will interview Kevin Chung, resident of District 7, prior to considering appointment to the Planning Commission for a term ending May 19, 2030.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, May 19, 2026

This item was not held.

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

8. **Board Appointment: Historic Landmark Commission – Rosemary Stum** ~ 5:15 p.m.
5 min.

The Council will interview Rosemary Stum, resident of District 5, prior to considering appointment to the Historic Landmark Commission for a term ending May 19, 2030.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, May 19, 2026

This item was not held.

9. **Tentative – Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget: Property Tax Impact Schedule** TENTATIVE

The Council will discuss the proposed property tax impact schedule that was received with the Mayor's Recommended Budget for Salt Lake City for Fiscal Year 2026-27, including reviewing and discussing the items proposed for funding through a property tax increase.

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

Briefing - Recurring Briefing Through May and June 2026

Set Public Hearing Date - Tuesday, April 21, 2026 and Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Hold hearing to accept public comment - Tuesday, May 19, 2026 and Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at 7 p.m.

TENTATIVE Council Action - TBD

Summary:

Council Member Puy stated that this item was required to be included on the meeting agenda per state code.

Standing Items

10. Report of the Chair and Vice Chair

Report of the Chair and Vice Chair

There was no report of the Chair and Vice Chair.

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.

There was no report or announcement from the Executive Director.

12. Tentative Closed Meeting

The Council will consider a motion to enter into closed meeting. A closed meeting described under Utah Code Annotated (UCA) Section §52-4-205 may be held for specific purposes including, but not limited to discussing:

- 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

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

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.

Motion:

Moved by Council Member Wharton, seconded by Council Member Dugan to enter into Closed Meeting for the purposes of discussing reasonably imminent litigation and attorney-client matters.

AYE: Victoria Petro, Alejandro Puy, Chris Wharton, Erika Carlsen, Daniel Dugan, Sarah Young

Final Result: 6 – 0 Pass

Summary:

Start time: 5:05 p.m.

Council Members in attendance: Council Members Petro, Puy, Wharton, Carlsen, Dugan, and Young

Staff and Administration in Attendance: Jennifer Bruno, Mark Kittrell, Lehua Weaver, Austin Kimmell, Mayor Mendenhall, Rachel Otto, Jill Love, Lindsey Nikola, Megan Yuill, Nick Tarbet, Michael Sanders, Cindy Lou Trishman, and Keith Reynolds

End time: 5:16 p.m.

Motion:

Moved by Council Member Wharton, seconded by Council Member Dugan to exit the Closed Meeting.

AYE: Victoria Petro, Alejandro Puy, Chris Wharton, Erika Carlsen, Daniel Dugan, Sarah Young

Final Result: 6 – 0 Pass

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Minutes Approved: July 14, 2026

City Council Chair – Alejandro Puy

City Recorder – Keith Reynolds

Please refer to Meeting Materials (available at <https://data.slcc.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, May 19, 2026 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.