

MINUTES OF THE SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, August 24, 2021

The City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, met in Work Session on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 in an Electronic Meeting, pursuant to the Chair's determination.

The following Council Members were present:

Darin Mano, Dennis Faris, James Rogers, Amy Fowler, Ana Valdemoros, Chris Wharton, Daniel Dugan

Present Legislative leadership:

Cindy Gust-Jenson, Executive Director; Jennifer Bruno, Deputy Director; Lehua Weaver, Associate Deputy Director

Present Administrative leadership:

Mayor Erin Mendenhall; Rachel Otto, Chief of Staff; Lisa Shaffer, Chief Administrative Officer

Present City Staff:

Katherine Lewis – City Attorney, Amanda Lau – Public Engagement & Communication Specialist, Brian Fullmer – Constituent Liaison, Policy Analyst, Nick Tarbet – Senior Public Policy Analyst, Sam Owen – Public Policy Analyst, Andrew Johnston – Director of Homelessness Policy and Outreach, DeeDee Robinson – Deputy City Recorder, Bill Wyatt – Airport Director, Chief Mike Brown – Police Chief, Laura Briefer – Public Utilities Director, Lorna Vogt – Public Services Director, Nick Norris – Planning Division Director, Stephanie Duer – Public Utilities Water Conservation Program Manager, Allison Rowland – Public Policy Analyst, Kaletta Lynch – Chief Equity Officer, Kristin Riker – Director of Public Lands Department, Taylor Hill – City Council Staff

[Full Meeting Audio](#)

[Meeting Packet Material](#)

Councilmember Amy Fowler presided at and conducted the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 3:47 pm.

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Work Session Items

1. Informational: Updates from the Administration ~ 3:45 p.m.
20 min.

The Council will receive an update from the Administration on major items or projects, including but not limited to:

- COVID-19, the March 2020 Earthquake, and the September 2020 Windstorm;
- Updates on relieving the condition of people experiencing homelessness;
- Police Department work, projects, and staffing, etc.; and
- Other projects or updates.

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

Briefing - Recurring Briefing

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

Minutes:

Mayor Mendenhall provided information regarding:

COVID-19 Updates

- K-12 mask requirement issued on Friday, August 20, 2021 (direct support received from majority of SLC School District Board of Education).
- Current metrics: Salt Lake County in “High transmission” level, statewide cases, seven day average, etc.
- Child metrics: 246 positive since Monday, 963 in the past week.
- West Side vaccination rates (Citywide average 60% fully vaccinated).
- Countywide vaccination demographics.
- Vaccination events (Neighborhood House, SLC School District, and Operation Warm).

Andrew Johnston provided information regarding people experiencing homelessness, including:

- Shelter capacity/bed availability.
- Kayak Court rescheduled to Cottonwood Park due to weather and rescheduled for September.
- Camp cleaning/abatement was on hold due to weather and would resume this week.

Councilmember Valdemoros inquired how to measure impacts/metrics regarding mask requirements. Mayor Mendenhall said the State’s previous thresholds were being used to guide, data would be used from SL County Health Department, vaccination rates would be considered as well as community spread rate.

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2. **Informational: Updates on Racial Equity and Policing**

~ 4:05 p.m.
20 min.

The Council will hold a discussion about recent efforts on various projects City staff are working on related to racial equity and policing in the City. The conversation may include issues of community concern about race, equity, and justice in relation to law enforcement policies, procedures, budget, and ordinances. Discussion may include:

- An update or report on the Commission on Racial Equity in Policing; and
- Other project updates or discussion.

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

Briefing - Recurring Briefing

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

Minutes:

Kaletta Lynch (Chief Equity Officer) provided information regarding:

- Equity & Inclusion Team; introduction of team members, city-wide equity plan was underway.
- Racial Equity in Policing Commission; goals of the commission, recently submitted final Phase I report, proposed ordinance details and requested changes.

Allison Rowland provided information regarding ordinance being on upcoming agenda for approval, and upcoming dates for interviews/advice and consent for commission members.

Mike Brown provided information regarding: Salt Lake City Police Department (SLCPD) traffic safety efforts (focusing on education, enforcement, and engineering), details on the first event; Capitol Hill vehicle noise reduction effort (launched August 13, 2021), excessive vehicle noise statistics (August 13-15: 30 vehicles stopped/citations issued, August 20-22: 20 vehicles stopped/citations issued), details regarding Street Racing Reduction efforts (began early summer 2021) in various locations with various elements to prevent racing, 154 people in the most recent recruitment class (first day of academy August 23, 2021 – 20 candidates); with diversity percentage at 50%.

Lorna Vogt said there were efforts underway to provide permanent solutions for City streets to prevent street racing.

Council Members Wharton and Faris expressed gratitude on efforts by the Police Department to curb street racing, noting the community was grateful for the initial work.

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3. Resolution: Capital Improvement Program Projects Follow-up ~ 4:25 p.m.
20 min.

The Council will receive a follow-up briefing about the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) which involves the construction, purchase or renovation of buildings, parks, streets or other physical structures. Generally, projects have a useful life of five or more years and cost \$50,000 or more. The Council approves debt service and overall CIP funding in the annual budget process, while project-specific funding is approved by September 1 of the same year.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, June 1, 2021; Tuesday, July 13, 2021; Tuesday, July 20, 2021; Tuesday, August 17, 2021; and Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Set Public Hearing Date - Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Hold hearing to accept public comment - Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 6 p.m.

TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Minutes:

Councilmember Fowler indicated that no discussion was required for this item at this time.

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4. **Informational: Northpoint Small Area Master Plan Update** ~ 4:45 p.m.
20 min.

The Council will receive an update about the Northpoint Small Area Plan. The Planning division is providing this update early in the planning process so the Council has a good understanding of the scope of work, the project budget, project timeline, and any barriers. Additionally, this is the opportunity for the City Council to provide input on the public engagement process, stakeholders, and provide other information to the consultants that may help improve the outcome of the planning process.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

Minutes:

Nick Tarbet provided an introduction and indicated Council input was sought.

Nick Norris and **Megan Moore** (Senior Associate, Logan Simpson Design) provided information regarding: overall process and schedule (previous plan adopted in 2000, addressing increasing development pressure along 2200 West Corridor and interest in annexations of adjacent unincorporated land), what the update would include (identify appropriate land use, infrastructure requirements, elements to support transportation, etc.), process timeline was in initial stages – feedback to be gathered over the next few months with draft plan to come early next year (2022), early feedback included determining success/ways the project could be successful, and next steps included: one-on-one interviews, online questionnaire available to the public, and determining existing conditions and mapping.

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5. **Ordinance: Renaming of People's Freeway Park to Ballpark Playground** ~ 5:05 p.m.
10 min.

The Council will receive a briefing about a request that the People's Freeway Park, located at 1560 South West Temple, be renamed the Ballpark Playground. The Public Utilities Department owns the property, and it is managed by the Public Services Department, Parks Division. Both departments support the name change.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, September 7, 2021

Minutes:

Brian Fullmer provided an introduction to the proposal and detailed the requirement for the Council to be notified regarding renaming major City assets, and the Mayor's requirement to approve renaming minor City assets.

Kristin Riker (Director, Public Lands) said the Ball Park Community Council initiated the request and had been discussed with Public Utilities (with positive support received from both entities).

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6. **Resolution: Public Benefits Analysis - Authorizing the Waiver of Lease Fees to Facilitate the Operation of an Airport Military Service Members Lounge** ~ 5:15 p.m.
15 min.

The Council will receive a briefing about a resolution that would authorize a waiver of lease fees at the Salt Lake City International Airport to facilitate the operation of an Airport Military Service Members Lounge operated by United Service Organizations (USO), a nonprofit corporation. The USO lounge would feature comfortable furniture, donated snacks, beverages, entertainment, and free Wi-Fi to active duty, Reserve, and Guard service members and their families at no charge, 365 days per year. The Council will discuss and consider the proposal, which would exempt the group from paying for the space at the airport.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Set Public Hearing Date - Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Hold hearing to accept public comment - Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7 p.m.

TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, September 21, 2021

Minutes:

Sam Owen provided an introduction to the proposal, history of the United Service Organization (USO), and considerations within the State law.

Bill Wyatt introduced Bob Kurkjian, USO Regional President and Shane Andreason, Director of Airport Administration, provided information regarding: charging the USO \$1.00 a year for the service lounge, benefits of the lounge, etc.

Bob Kurkjian (Regional President, USO) expressed excitement for the USO to be returning to Utah.

Council Members Rogers, Fowler, and Dugan expressed gratitude to the Mayor and Mayor Staff and Bill Wyatt for their efforts to provide this service here in Utah and for the benefits it would provide to service members.

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7. **Informational: Utah State Infrastructure Bank Loan Application** ~ 5:30 p.m.
20 min.

The Council will hold a discussion and consider obtaining a \$7,000,000 loan from the Utah State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) to finance a neighborhood parking structure, a 926 stall garage, located between 400 and 500 West and 600 and 700 South. The loan would be used to allocate public parking and allow for an improved design that contemplates future diminished need for vehicular traffic in the neighborhood.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - TBD

Minutes:

Jennifer Bruno provided an introduction to the proposal, indicated no City dollars would be used to pay the loan back, and said this was the first time the City utilized this tool.

Rachel Otto reiterated this funding was never applied for before and provided details on benefits the project would provide to the area.

Councilmember Dugan expressed concern on adding more parking when car-use was determined to be more limited.

Councilmember Fowler requested more information regarding who would be using the parking garage and how or if affordable housing was incorporated into the considerations of use.

Mayor Mendenhall reminded the Council of the RDA's future plan for a parking garage on this property and detailed the public benefits surrounding the project.

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8. Informational: Public Utilities Update

~ 5:50 p.m.
30 min.

The Council will receive an update from the Department of Public Utilities about the City's water shortage contingency planning, including the stages of water use restrictions related to drought circumstances. The Department will also discuss the recently-adopted Water Conservation Master Plan and the status of its implementation.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - n/a

Minutes:

Sam Owen provided an introduction to the item.

Laura Briefer and **Stephanie Duer** provided information regarding:

- 2021 Drought Response & Water Supply Demand Planning, including: drought response results (details on meeting goals of water shortage contingency plan – 15% reduction since July 1 – more than 900 M gallons saved).
- New development supporting growth (Water Supply & Demand Plan through 2060 – addressing regulatory/legal requirements, land use changes/growth, and climate change impacts – considering water resources, water demand, conservation, infrastructure, and risk).
- Population projected increase of 100,000 by 2060 in SLC's service area.
- Land use changes in the Northwest Quadrant (NWQ)
- Peak/annual water supply and demand projection scenarios – source/catastrophic source loss and climate change impacts).
- Being in exceptional/extreme drought throughout the State.
- 2020 Water Conservation Program highlights including: differences between Conservation Program and Drought Planning, outreach (water saving programs to incentivize reducing water use), economic programming (Localscapes & Flip Your Strip programs, rebates on irrigation devices, low-water turf seed program, etc.), utility (improvements and repairs to City facilities using water – water audit/loss control program in progress), law and policy (landscape/water waste codes survey in progress), research and metrics (Golf Turf Study and water use analysis ongoing).

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9. **Advice and Consent: Director of 911 Dispatch Department - Stephen Meyer** ~ 6:20 p.m.
10 min.

The Council will interview Stephen Meyer prior to considering appointment as Director of the 911 Dispatch Department.

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

Briefing - Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Set Public Hearing Date - n/a

Hold hearing to accept public comment - n/a

TENTATIVE Council Action - Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Minutes:

Interview was held. Councilmember Fowler said Stephen Meyer's name was on the Formal agenda for Advice & Consent.

Councilmember Valdemoros commented on being able to previously informally interview Mr. Meyer and said she was impressed/excited with concepts he proposed and welcomed him to the City.

Councilmember Rogers asked that Lisa Shaffer share information on the hiring/interview process for the position.

Lisa Shaffer said she was on the hiring panel and shared details of the process and noted Mr. Meyer distinguished himself in all of his interviews.

Councilmember Fowler said she looked forward to Mr. Meyer and the experience he was bringing to the City, specifically his responses regarding an alternative response model and his attention to mental health within the 911 Dispatch Department.

Standing Items

10. Report of the Chair and Vice Chair

Report of Chair and Vice Chair.

Minutes:

Item not held.

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.

Minutes:

Item not held.

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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; and
- 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.

Minutes:

Item not held.

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Meeting adjourned at 6:26 pm.

Minutes Approved: September 7, 2021.

City Council Chair

City Recorder

This document is not intended to serve as a full transcript as other items may have been discussed; please refer to the audio or video for entire content pursuant to Utah Code §52-4-203(2)(b). This document along with the digital recording constitute the official minutes of the City Council Work Session meeting held Tuesday, August 24, 2021.