



Salt Lake City

A Council-Mayor Form of Government

The Mayor and the Council are elected by Salt Lake City residents and serve four-year terms.

History

From 1909 to 1979, Salt Lake City was run by a five-member Board of Commissioners. In 1979, residents voted for a change to create a Council-Mayor form of government. On January 7, 1980 the City's first Council was sworn into office.

Form of Government

The Council-Mayor form of government separates executive (Mayor) and legislative (Council) branches of City government. Patterned after both the Utah and United States governments, the Council-Mayor system has definite checks and balances; it is a joint responsibility to make the system work. Each Council Member performs the same legislative functions at the City level as a Legislator would at the state level or a Senator or Representative at the national level. The Council adopts laws, but does not direct how they are implemented. The Mayor—like a governor or president—can recommend laws, but cannot adopt them. The Mayor and their staff enforce the laws and implement services and programs. The Mayor is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the City.



Salt Lake City Council

451 South State Street, Room 304, P.O. Box 145476, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5476
council.comments@slcgov.com | Phone: 801-535-7600 | Fax: 801-535-7651

Salt Lake City is divided into seven Council Districts. Do you know who your Council Member is?
Find out by visiting: www.slccouncil.com and type in your address under "Find Your Council Member."



James Rogers

District 1



Andrew Johnston

District 2



Chris Wharton

District 3



Derek Kitchen

District 4



Erin Mendenhall

District 5



Charlie Luke

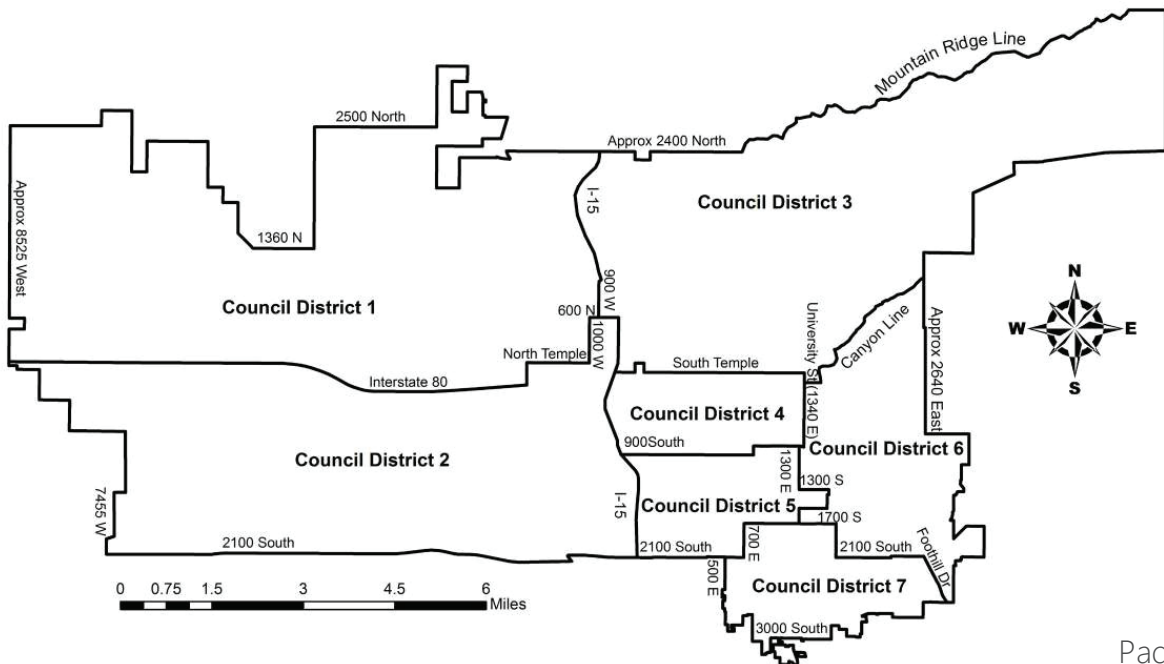
District 6



Amy Fowler

District 7

Photos by Busath Photography



Mayor

Executive Branch

The Mayor has employees who are part of many different departments. Everyone who works for the Mayor is their Administration. Each department is responsible for providing different services. For example, the Public Services Department provides services such as: snow removal from city streets, dog off-leash parks, streets, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, pothole repairs, graffiti removal, skate parks and much more!



Contact the Mayor

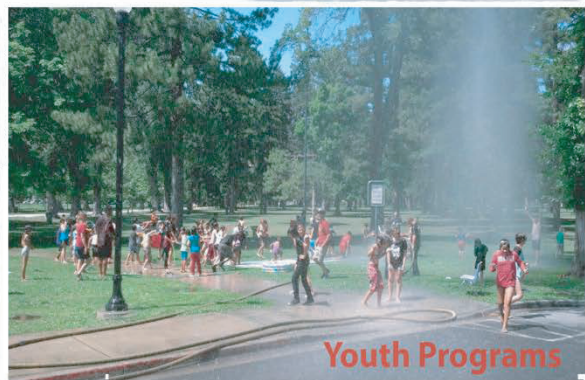
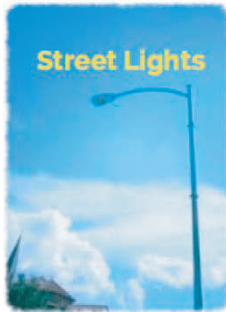
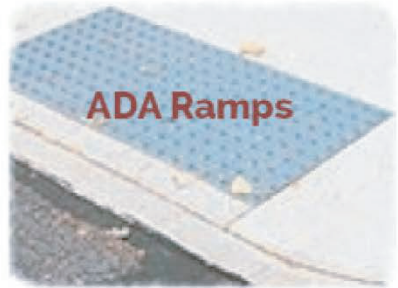
(801) 535-7704
mayor@slcgov.com
www.slcmayor.com

PO Box 145474
Salt Lake City, UT
84111-5474

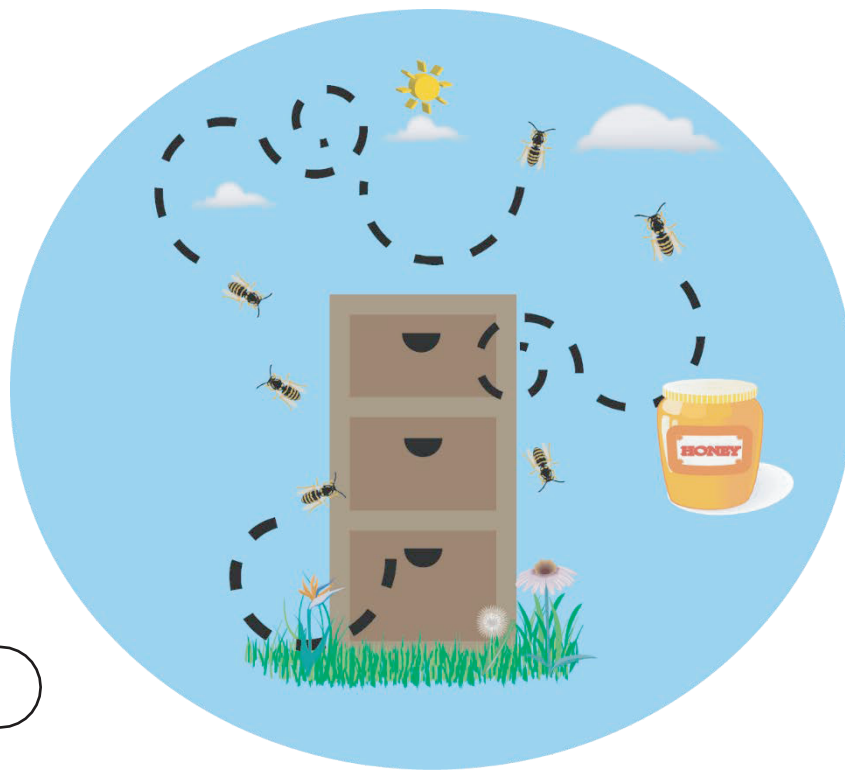
The executive and legislative branches are equal branches of the mayor-council form of municipal government. The executive (or administrative) branch is comprised of the mayor and the following departments:

- 911 dispatch
- airport
- attorney
- community and neighborhoods
- economic development
- fire
- finance
- human resources
- information management services
- justice court
- police
- public services
- public utilities
- sustainability

Did you know the City provides these services?



How a Proposal Becomes a Law



Henry thinks it would be fun and healthy if he could collect his own honey for his friends and family, but finds out that beekeeping is not allowed. He makes a proposal to the City Council about his idea.

"I think it would be really fun if I could keep bees in my backyard. Then I would have honey to share with my friends and family! I am going to share my idea with my Salt Lake City Council representative and ask them if they think my idea about keeping bees is a good one. If my Council Member thinks beekeeping is an excellent idea, it can then be put into the process of becoming the law. That would mean that keeping bees could become legal and my friends and family can all enjoy my honey!"

Henry then contacts his Council Member to explain his idea.



"Hello Council Member. My name is Henry and I have an idea I would love to share with you. Are you available to chat?"

"Very nice to meet you Henry. What is your idea that you want to share with me?"



Henry's Council Member supports his idea and believes that the proposal would benefit the City.



"Hi Henry, I think your beekeeping proposal is a fantastic idea!" I will get working on this right away to get it in front of the Council as soon as possible."

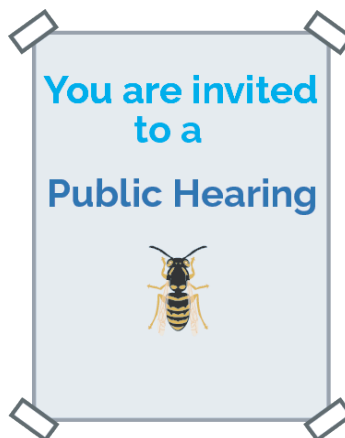
Henry's Council Member shares Henry's proposal with the rest of the Council.



A proposed ordinance (law) is drafted.



Once Henry's proposal has been written into an ordinance draft, it is then scheduled for discussion during a Council Meeting where the Council will talk about how keeping bees can be a good or bad idea. The Council takes time to think about how beekeeping will benefit Salt Lake City. The Council holds a public hearing to listen to what others think about the proposal.



During the public hearing, which is held at the City & County Building, residents attend in person to tell the Council their ideas about keeping bees. If someone can't attend the meeting, they can make comments by using social media, writing letters, or making a phone call to the Council.



Mrs. Smith @mrs_smith

I agree with Henry and I think that being able to keep bees would be a great activity for my whole family. It would also be a good way to keep healthy. [#beekeeping](#)



Doug Rudeen

I think beekeeping is good for nature and I also think it will make our ecosystem healthier.

[#slccouncil](#) [#bees](#)

"Hello Council, my name is Grandma Matilda and I am Henry's next door neighbor. I have a couple concerns about passing an ordinance that allows people to keep bees on their property. My first concern is my garden. I feel like a big beehive would be a disturbance to my garden and could possibly be unhealthy. My second concern is my adorable cats. I am afraid the bees would sting them and they would be scared to live at their home."



"I think keeping bees is a good idea because it is good for the environment."

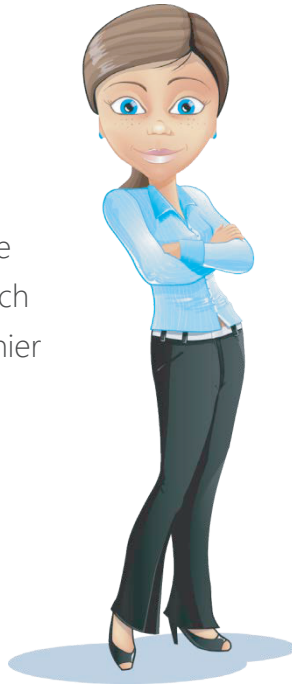


The Council listens to all the comments from the public. They listen carefully to what each person says and thinks about whether beekeeping is good for the City or bad for the City. Then the Council decides to vote to make the proposal law.



PROS

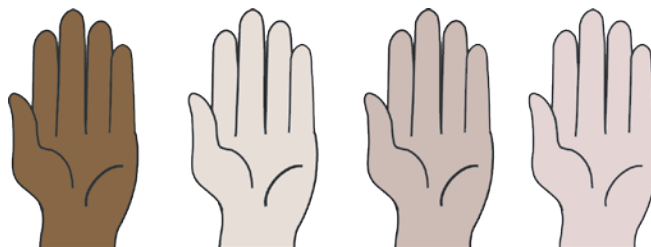
- Provides honey for families
- Promotes healthy eating
- Great way to be sustainable
- Bees pollinate gardens which makes our ecosystem healthier



CONS

- People can be afraid of a lot of bees
- Some animals could get stung by bees
- Beekeeping can be a lot of work and education

In order for the proposal to become law, a majority of the Council must vote "yes" for the proposal (a majority means at least 4 out of 7 Council Members must be in favor).



The Council votes... and the ordinance gets passed!



Grandma Matilda is very happy for the honey Henry has given her. Her cats love the bees and her garden is healthier than it was before. Henry and other residents of Salt Lake City are very happy that they can all keep bees.

Did you know?

There are beehives located on the roof of the Main Salt Lake City Library? On August 17, 2010, Frank Whitby was formally recognized as Beekeeper for Salt Lake City.



Getting involved in your community allows you to **CHANGE THE WORLD**

By becoming an informed and involved citizen, you will make the City better.

1. Volunteering can involve: serving your community with your family and friends through religious organizations or non-profit groups.

List how you get involved in your community and how you can make a difference:

2. Lead the Pledge at a Council meeting:

Do you belong to a Boy Scout or Girl Scout troop?

The Council would like to invite you to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at a future Council meeting. Call (801) 535-7600 or email council.comments@slcgov.com.



3. Attend a community council meeting:

This is a way to stay informed about what is going on in your community.

There may be a proposal for a new law or a change in your community that you may be interested in - such as a proposal to create an off-leash dog park or to build a new skate park in your neighborhood.

Visit: www.sl.gov/community-councils to find a community council meeting near you.

4. Encourage your parents or older brothers and sisters to volunteer to serve on a City Board or Commission:

These groups serve many important roles for the public and local government. Citizen boards serve as a source of advice for local government. Each board and commission is a vital link between community members and City government.

Visit: www.sl.gov/boards/boards-commissions.

5. Join Salt Lake City Police Department's Explorer Program:

Youth from 14 to 20 can explore what it's like to work in police service and return for new activities and community service programs.

Find out more at: www.slcpd.com/community/explorers/

Family members who are 18 years or older can participate in Salt Lake City Police Department's Citizens Academy:

This class is held twice a year and teaches "Cadets" what it's like to work in the Police Department. People who attend will learn the basics of patrolling and self-defense.

Visit: www.slcpd.com/community/citizens-academy/

Staying connected with the City is also how you can **CHANGE THE WORLD**

The City Council welcomes your comments on City issues that are important to you. Feel free to contact the Council to voice your opinion on anything to do with the City. Here are all the ways you can contact the City Council:

Visit: slccouncil.com and submit your comments where it says “we’re listening”

Email: council.comments@slcgov.com

Phone: (801) 535-7600

Write: Salt Lake City Council
PO Box 145476
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5476

Fax: (801) 535-7651

24-Hr Comment Line: (801) 535-7654



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[youtube.com/user/SLCCouncil/featured](https://www.youtube.com/user/SLCCouncil/featured)

twitter.com/slccouncil

Sign up to receive updates from your Council representative by visiting: bit.ly/slccouncilemail.



WORD SEARCH

L E L X P T R O Z J P T O L P
I L B I Q E H O A C N S R A F
H B I A B Z R V Y E O K D S I
H A E F J R T M M A R R I O R
R N B Z D R A N I E M A N P E
G I Y I A N R R W T U P A O E
I A D I K E A E I B S Y N R P
I T L L V E S L W E V C C P O
B S C O U N C I L I S Z E T L
K U G S T O R M W A T E R A I
A S G N I L C Y C E R O D M C
L A C O L P D I J T P Q I F E
Z U W B K X M M F R J O Z B B
A R T S E G Z O I B T M F U T
X X E K V O D A D D L I G Y B

Airport

Arts

Bike

Council

Fire

Government

Landfill

Libraries

Local

Mayor

Ordinance

Parks

Permits

Police

Proposal

Recycling

Sewer

Sustainable

Storm Water

Trails

**Write us at the Salt Lake City Council.
We want to hear from you.**

Today's Date:

Salt Lake City Council
451 South State Street, Room 304
PO Box 145476
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5476

Your Topic:

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to you because _____

Sincerely,

Your name
Your address
Your email
Your phone number

Your Name
Address
City/State/Zip

Postage
Stamp

SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL
PO BOX 145476
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84114-5476

Attending a City Council Meeting is another way you can **CHANGE THE WORLD**

The City Council discusses proposed laws at Council meetings.

1. Council meetings are usually held on the first, second and third Tuesdays of the month. To find out more information before attending a meeting, visit: www.sl.gov/council/agendas or call (801) 535-7600. Meetings are held at the City & County Building, 451 South State Street, Rooms 326 and 315.
2. Watch Council Meetings live from a computer by visiting: www.slctv.com.
3. View a rebroadcast of a City Council meeting on SLCTV cable channel 17.
4. Visit: www.sl.gov/vod to listen to a previous Council meeting or download a podcast.
5. Contact the City Records Office at (801) 535-7671 and request a CD copy of a Council meeting or a particular agenda item.

How will you change your community and the world?

Change
Organize
Mobilize
Maximize
Unite
Nurture
Involvement
Team
You can make a difference!

Published September 2018