



# Salt Lake City: Your City, Your Voice!

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**SALT LAKE  
CITY COUNCIL**

# Welcome to the Salt Lake City Council's civic guide!

Salt Lake City is your home, and your voice matters. This guide will show you how our city government works and how you can get involved.

You'll learn:

- What the Mayor and City Council do.
- How the city makes laws.
- Ways you can help in your community.

There are many ways you can make a difference. You can attend meetings, help in your neighborhood, and share ideas.

Let's learn how to work together to make Salt Lake City the best it can be!

## Salt Lake City Government History

From 1909 to 1979, a small group called the Board of Commissioners ran Salt Lake City. In 1979, the people voted to change this system. They created a Mayor and a City Council to work together on city issues. The first City Council started in January of 1980.

Today, people vote to pick a Mayor and seven City Council Members, each serving a four-year term.

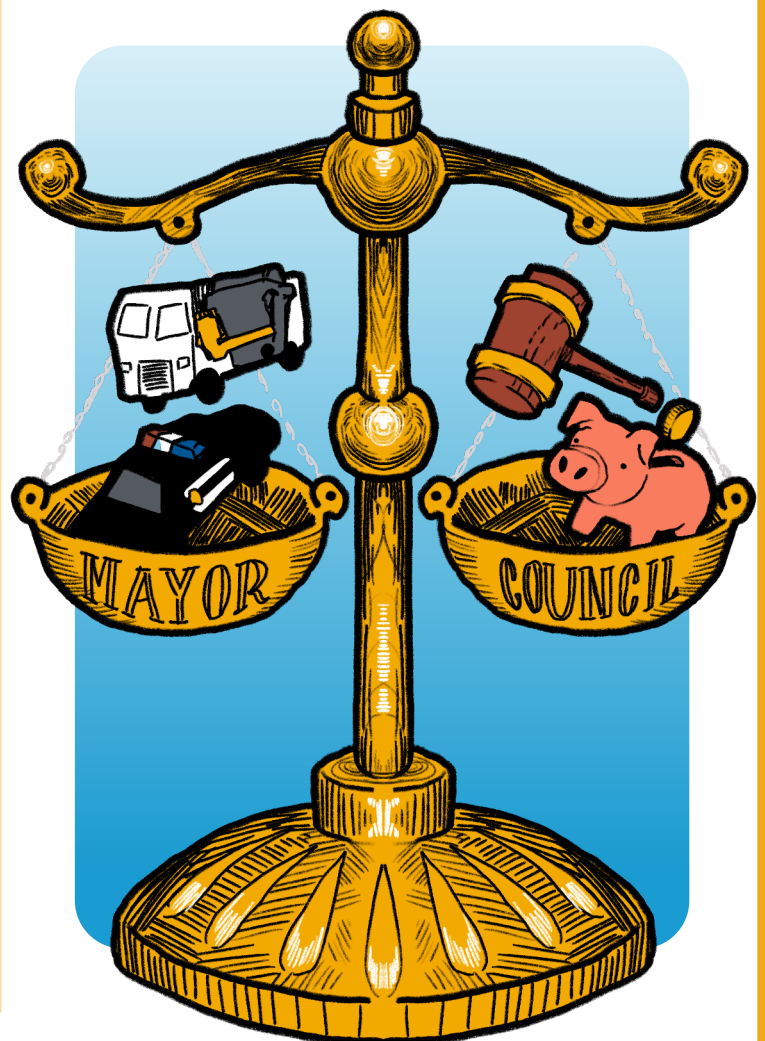
## How the City Works

Salt Lake City has two branches of government:

The Mayor is the Executive branch and manages city services like parks, roads, and trash pickup.

The City Council is the Legislative branch that makes the city's rules (called laws) and decides how to spend city money.

The Mayor and the Council work together to make Salt Lake City a great place to live.





# The Salt Lake City Mayor's Office

## What Does the Mayor Do?

The Mayor makes sure the city runs well, like a coach for a team. They make sure city departments provide important services, like:



Garbage and recycling   Parks and playgrounds



Fire and police services



**Mayor Erin Mendenhall**

[mayor@slc.gov](mailto:mayor@slc.gov)

801-535-7704

[slc.gov/mayor](http://slc.gov/mayor)



Libraries



Roads and sidewalks



Clean drinking water

# Meet Your Salt Lake City Council Members

## What Does the City Council Do?

The Salt Lake City Council is a group of seven people elected to represent different city areas or districts.

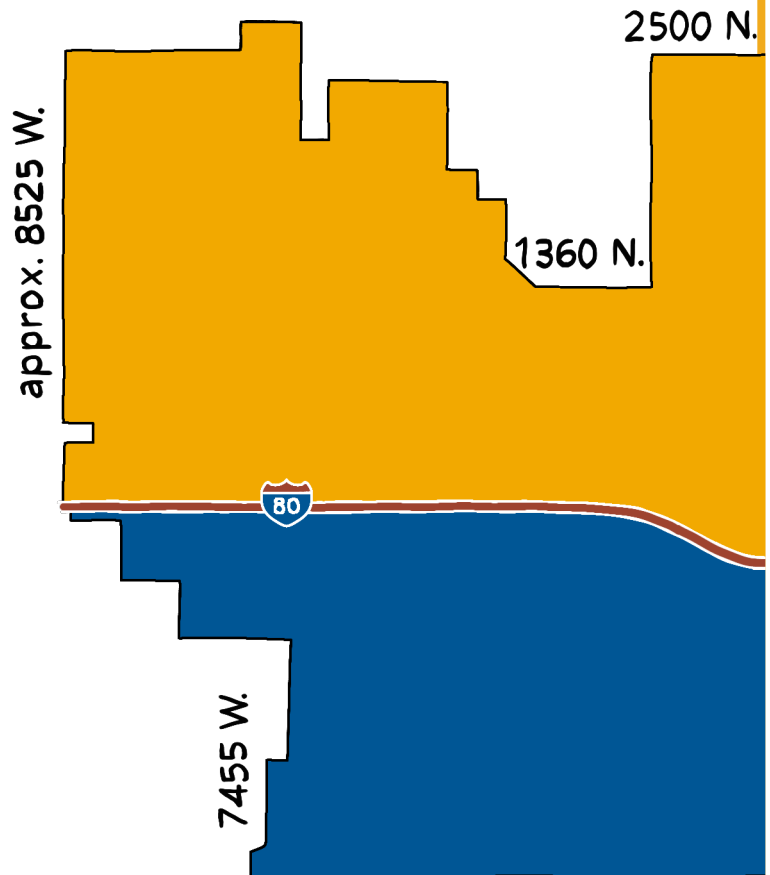
They work together to:

- Decide how the city spends its money (called the budget).
- Vote on city laws that keep the city safe, fun, and fair for everyone.
- Help set goals for the city.
- Listen to the community to understand what changes are needed.

Do you know which district you live in, and who represents you?

Find out at:

[tinyURL.com/CouncilMemberFinder](https://tinyURL.com/CouncilMemberFinder)



### DISTRICT 1

**Victoria Petro**

victoria.petro@slc.gov  
801-535-7723



### DISTRICT 2

**Alejandro "Ale" Puy**

alejandro.puy@slc.gov  
801-535-7781

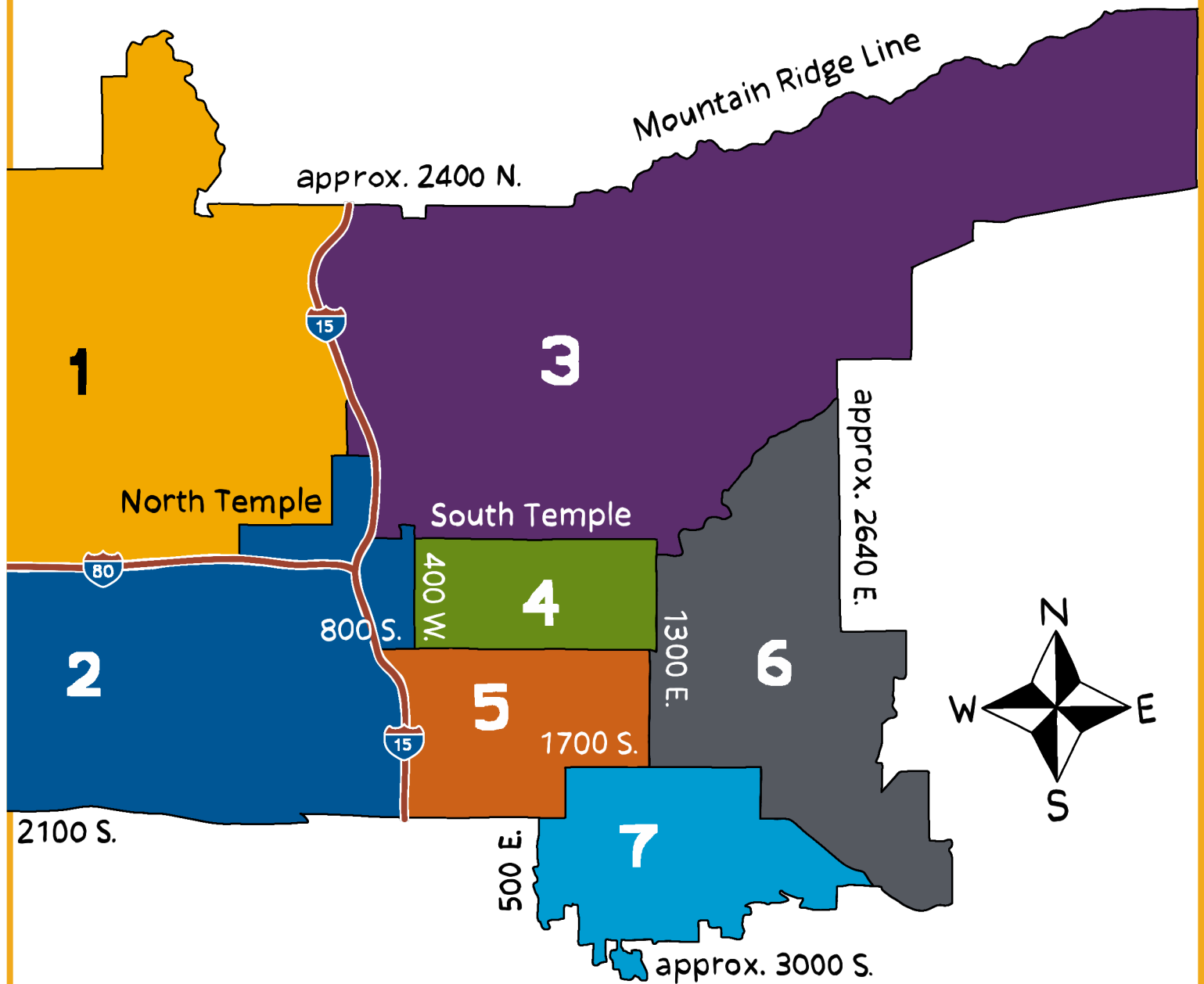


### DISTRICT 3

**Chris Wharton**

chris.wharton@slc.gov  
801-535-7726





#### **DISTRICT 4**

**Eva Lopez Chavez**

eva.lopezchavez@slc.gov

801-535-7782



#### **DISTRICT 5**

**Erika Carlsen**

erika.carlsen@slc.gov

801-535-7786



#### **DISTRICT 6**

**Dan Dugan**

dan.dugan@slc.gov

801-535-7784



#### **DISTRICT 7**

**Sarah Young**

sarah.young@slc.gov

801-535-7715

# HOW AN IDEA BECOMES A LAW:

## HENRY AND HIS HONEYBEES

Henry loves bees. He wants to keep a beehive in his backyard. But there's a problem—Salt Lake City doesn't allow beekeeping.

Instead of giving up, Henry takes action! Here's how his idea becomes a law:

An illustration of a young boy with dark skin and curly hair, wearing a blue shirt. He has a lightbulb above his head, indicating he has an idea. He is holding a blue phone to his ear.

### STEP 1: Henry Has an Idea

Henry talks to his City Council Member. He explains why bees are good for gardens and the environment.

An illustration of Henry talking to a woman with blonde hair, identified as his City Council Member. She is wearing a blue shirt and is holding a blue phone to her ear. Henry is holding a small notepad and a pen. There are bees flying around them.


### STEP 2: Sharing the Idea

The Council Member thinks it's a good idea and shares it with the rest of the City Council.





## STEP 3: Writing the Rule



The City Council writes a new rule (called an ordinance) that would allow beekeeping.




## STEP 4: Hearing from the Community

At a meeting, people share their thoughts about the idea (called a public hearing). Some like it, and others have questions or concerns.



## STEP 5: The Council votes

The Council talks about what they heard, and then they vote. If most members say "yes," the rule becomes a law.



**Success! The Council said, "Yes!" Now Henry can keep bees. His neighbor is excited, too—the bees will help her flowers grow. Henry made a difference in his city!**

# How You Can Get Involved

## Come to a City Council Meeting

The City Council meets at least two Tuesdays a month. You can join in person or watch online. There are two types of meetings:

2 p.m. Work Sessions: Council Members talk about new ideas and city plans. The public can listen but not speak.

7 p.m. Formal Meetings: The Council votes and may hear from the public.

Visit the website at [slc.gov/council/agendas](https://slc.gov/council/agendas) to view meeting dates, times, and topics. If you need help, call 801-535-7600.

## Lead the Pledge of Allegiance at the Council Meeting

If you are in Scouts or another group, you can help lead the Pledge at a City Council meeting. Call 801-535-7600 or email [council.comments@slcgov.com](mailto:council.comments@slcgov.com) to find out more.

## Go to a Community Council Meeting

Going to a community council meeting is a good way to learn about what is happening in your neighborhood, like a new park or road changes. Find your community council at [slc.gov/community-councils](https://slc.gov/community-councils).

## Join the Police Explorer Program (Ages 14-20)

Learn about police work and help with community projects at:

[police.slc.gov/community-engagement/explorers](https://police.slc.gov/community-engagement/explorers).

## Join the Community Police Academy (Ages 18+)

Find out what it's like to be a police officer. Learn how the police department works, meet officers, and practice safety skills.

[police.slc.gov/community-engagement/community-academy](https://police.slc.gov/community-engagement/community-academy)

## Get Your Family Involved

Ask your parents or older siblings to join a city board or commission. These groups share ideas with city leaders to help improve Salt Lake City. It's a great way to be part of the community and make a difference.

Learn more at: [slc.gov/boards](https://slc.gov/boards)



# Stay Connected to the Council

Share your ideas about parks, streets, safety, or anything else that matters to you anytime. Here are some ways to contact the City Council and speak up for your community!

Online Form: [tinyURL.com/CommentSLC](https://tinyURL.com/CommentSLC)

Email: [council.comments@slc.gov](mailto:council.comments@slc.gov)

Phone: 801- 535-7600

24-Hour Comment Line: 801-535-7654

Mail: PO Box 145476, Salt Lake City, UT 84114

## Follow us on Social Media

Instagram: [@slccouncil](https://www.instagram.com/slccouncil)

Facebook: [facebook.com/slccouncil](https://facebook.com/slccouncil)

X (formerly Twitter): [x.com/slccouncil](https://x.com/slccouncil)

TikTok: [@slccouncil](https://www.tiktok.com/@slccouncil)

## Sign up for emails

Get updates from your Council Member sent straight to your email inbox. Sign up using [tinyURL.com/SLCCouncilEmails](https://tinyURL.com/SLCCouncilEmails).

## Write Us a Letter

We want to hear from you! Use this template to write us a letter and share your ideas.

Your name

Your home address

City, State and zip code

Postage Stamp

Salt Lake City Council

PO Box 145476

Salt Lake City, UT

84114-5476



# Word Search

A G S B C K I P W R T F H Q W  
S U S T A I N A B L E P I N Y  
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G N A T H Y S K A R D L Y I T

1. Airport

4. Fire

7. Local

10. Parks

13. Proposal

2. Arts

5. Government

8. Mayor

11. Permits

14. Sustainable

3. Council

6. Libraries

9. Ordinance

12. Police

15. Trails