

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
2/11/2026 15:54	Nelson Neuberger	Request for Review of Digital Lending Costs and Sustainability	<p>Dear Salt Lake City Library Board, City Council, and Library CEO, I am writing to share concerns about the long term sustainability and financial impact of the current e book lending model used by Salt Lake City’s public libraries. As you are aware, libraries do not own most e books and digital audiobooks. Instead, they must license them at prices significantly higher than the consumer market rate, often with strict limits on the number of loans or required re-purchasing after a set number of checkouts. These licensing structures place a substantial and recurring financial burden on public libraries and, ultimately, on taxpayers and renters who indirectly bear these costs. My concerns include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. High Costs for E Book Licensing Publishers typically charge libraries many times the consumer price for a single digital title, often requiring renewal after only a few dozen loans. This creates a situation where popular books can cost far more than physical copies we would own permanently. 2. Reduced Support for Authors Because so much funding is directed toward expensive short term licenses, less remains for building long term collections—including physical books that can support a broader range of authors over time. 3. Impact on Local Community Resources Salt Lake City has wonderful physical library spaces that serve as important “third places” for learning, community gathering, and local employment. Heavy investment in digital rentals risks shifting funds away from maintaining and expanding these community assets. 4. Sustainability Concerns The current model encourages a kind of “fast fashion” approach to reading—rapid consumption of high demand digital titles that are expensive and fleeting—rather than building a durable, locally owned collection. There are thousands of outstanding works, including many in the public domain, that could be preserved and shared permanently at minimal cost. 5. Accessibility Should Remain a Priority Digital materials are essential for patrons with disabilities, mobility limitations, or those who rely on assistive technologies. Ensuring continued access for these users is important. My concern is with the scale and cost of general digital lending, not the existence of accessibility driven services. <p>My Request I respectfully ask that the city and library leadership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reevaluate the balance between digital and physical media spending • Consider capping non accessibility-based needed digital borrowing where feasible • Prioritize investments in physical collections, local jobs, and public library spaces • Ensure that public funds are used in a sustainable manner that benefits the community long term <p>My perspective comes from a desire to support the financial health of our library system and maintain the strong, community-oriented spaces that make Salt Lake City a great place to live. Thank you for your consideration and for everything you do to support literacy, learning, and community well being. Sincerely, Nelson Neuberger. Salt Lake City resident and homeowner.</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
2/12/2026 16:17	Matthew Podolinsky	Shut down ALPR cameras - terminate SLC contract with Flock now!	<p>Dear Salt Lake City Council Members, My name is Matthew Podolinsky, a concerned Salt Lake City resident. I am writing to urge you to terminate the city's contract with Flock Safety and remove existing ALPR (Automated License Plate Reader) cameras that have already been installed around the city. While I understand the importance of public safety, the use of this technology raises serious concerns about privacy, data security, and long-term oversight. The widespread collection and storage of data affects all residents, regardless of whether they are suspected of any wrongdoing. Mass surveillance is wrong and without strict safeguards, transparency, and meaningful public accountability, erodes community trust and directly violate our Fourth amendment rights. Additionally, I am concerned about how long data is retained, who has access to it, how it may be shared with outside agencies, and what protections are in place to prevent misuse. There have already been cases where Flock has been easily hacked and exposed on the public internet (https://www.wflx.com/2026/01/09/flock-safety-exposed-live-police-camera-feeds-internet-data-breach-company-says/) and been misused by police to track and stalk ex-girlfriends (https://local12.com/news/nation-world/police-chief-gets-caught-using-license-plate-cameras-to-track-his-ex-girlfriend-228-times-arrests-charges-probation-flock-safety-follow-stalk-new-boyfriend-broke-up-out-of-town-misuse). Public safety measures should not come at the expense of civil liberties, especially when their effectiveness remains debated. I respectfully ask the Council to reconsider and terminate the contract with Flock Safety, remove existing ALPR cameras, and to prioritize alternative public safety strategies that are transparent, community-driven, and respectful of residents' rights. Thank you for your time and for your service to our city. I appreciate your careful consideration of this matter. Sincerely, Matthew Podolinsky</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
2/13/2026 11:24	Amy Wicks	Concerns about Water Infrastructure Legislation	<p>I am reaching out to you with some concerns I have about HB 501 and how it will impact local governments and water providers, taking away local control and creating a new level of bureaucracy. HB 501's tax on all Utahns will be used to expand state government. This new bill at the Utah Legislature proposes a new tax on all water bills to fund Utah government and pay for gigantic water projects that could harm the Great Salt Lake and divert water out of the Colorado River. HB 501 would set a tax on municipal water rates and sewer bills to fund water development projects inside Utah state government. Utahns currently pay property taxes on their cars, housing, and businesses for water, they pay two different sales taxes for water, and now they would pay a new tax on all their water bills. The bill does not specify which water projects would receive these funds, but big water projects that are currently authorized and collecting sales tax funds include both the \$3–4 billion proposed Bear River Development and \$3–4 billion Lake Powell Pipeline. Smaller water projects could also be funded by these taxes. The tax would be determined by multiplying a percentage times the median income in any given water supplier's service area. This means that in communities like Salt Lake City, where the median income is significantly higher than household incomes in poorer communities, the working poor will be paying a disproportionately large amount compared to wealthy households on the east bench and upper avenues. Funds could be used for Bear River Development, a controversial water project that would be the death knell for the Great Salt Lake. Proposed Bear River Development would divert the Bear River to the lawns of the Wasatch Front upstream of the Great Salt Lake. Because the Bear River is the single largest source of water to the Great Salt Lake, proposed Bear River Development would lower lake levels dramatically, impacting air quality and wetland bird populations. All Utah residents will eventually pay this tax, but that doesn't mean they'll receive any water from the projects it funds. Worse yet, the biggest water wasters along the Wasatch Front — secondary water users — will not have to pay this tax. Furthermore, Utah's biggest water users — farmers — won't pay this tax either, except in their household water bills. Agriculture uses 80–85% of all the water used in Utah. The next House Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Committee is scheduled for Wednesday February 11th at 2:00 PM. It's possible that the bill could be heard in committee at that time, where there is the opportunity for public comment in person or online. We are working on a calculator to determine the contribution each city would make under this bill and can send that to you soon, if you are interested in the financial impact this would have on your community and water utility. The bill can be found at https://le.utah.gov/~2026/bills/static/HB0501.html The problematic language language starts around line 611. Please reach out if you have any questions and pass this information on to anyone in you city. The Utah League of Cities and Towns is opposing this bill. Amy Wicks Northern Utah Program Manager Great Salt Lake Waterkeeper Utah Rivers Council Utah Rivers Council Northern Office</p>
2/13/2026 12:01	Tracey Valentine	ICE Yes	<p>Hello Dan, Hope you and your family are doing well! Our son, Matt Valentine, is currently an orthopaedic Physician Assistant in Palm Springs! And he is engaged! Hope your kids are following their dreams. I just wanted to let you know my position on ICE as a voter in your district. I WANT ICE in Salt Lake City. I WANT criminal illegal aliens arrested and deported. I EXPECT my local government to follow the law and work with federal agencies. I DO NOT WANT agitators to think they have a safe haven in SLC. I DO NOT WANT criminals to set up shop here because it is a sanctuary. We can argue about procedures and mistakes made by all sides, but SLC needs to support federal efforts to keep us all safer. To allow agitators to take over will make us Portland or Seattle. No thanks. Let's have some leadership at the top. Best, Tracey Valentine</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
2/13/2026 12:07	Ellen Schwede	Traffic Safety near Uintah Elementary	<p>Good afternoon- I am the parent of three children in local public schools, two of whom walk across the intersection of 1300 S and 1500 E every school day (the third crosses the even-more-hazardous crossing at 2100 S and 1500 E). This seemingly innocuous 4-way-stop intersection has been the site of many near misses and fender-benders due to distracted and speeding drivers, endangering children, parents, crossing guards, and the general public. The school zone for Uintah is very short and almost a block away from this intersection, even though (according to our Safe Routes plan) this crossing is used by students just as, if not more, frequently. This makes enforcement and driver awareness difficult. Lastly, in the mornings there is heavy traffic in four directions- heading north to the UofU, west to downtown, south to the freeway and east (often turning) towards Uintah for dropoff, making pedestrian safety even more difficult. A woman was recently hospitalized in extremely critical condition after being struck by a truck while walking in a crosswalk at that intersection, just steps from Uintah Elementary. The same types of driver behavior that led to that tragedy are occurring here daily. As a neighbor (we live on 1300 S. less than a block from the intersection), SCC committee member and PTA parent, I would like to ask the city to seriously consider immediate short term safety measures that are proven to reduce pedestrian injuries, including portable speed feedback signs, temporary bollards at corners to slow turning vehicles, refreshed high visibility crosswalk markings and stop bars, advance yield markings, in street pedestrian crossing signs, and increased enforcement during school hours while longer term engineering solutions are evaluated. This is an urgent safety issue that we have come to the city and district with more than once in recent years. We do not want to wait until a child, crossing guard, or neighbor is seriously hurt AGAIN before action is taken. I appreciate your prompt and thoughtful attention to this matter! -Ellen Schwede</p>
2/13/2026 14:17	Katie Pappas	Northpoint Upzone	<p>Dear Council Members, As you know, the Salt Lake Planning Commission voted to forward a negative recommendation to the Salt Lake City Council. I hope that when this issue comes up for a vote at the Council, you will consider voting against it. The 2023 Sackett ruling at the Supreme Court drastically changed the definition of wetlands, eliminating protections from ephemeral wetlands, important wetlands areas that are not always wet. While these areas may not always appear to be wetlands, they play an important role in natural ecosystems. At some point, this 80 acres was identified as wetlands, indicating it falls into the category of “ephemeral wetlands.” Worldwide there is a 0.52% annual decline in wetland areas. According to the EPA, wetland area benefits include water storage and filtering, groundwater recharge and discharge, floodplain development, nutrient cycling and providing wildlife habitat. Trading preservation of one wetland area for another is not a good option as it results in net loss of overall wetland area. We need all the wetlands we can get, especially as we struggle to save the Great Salt Lake. Although this area is relatively small, it is one of many being impacted. Huge economic development projects, from Spanish Fork to Box Elder County, including the inland port, have already, and will continue to impact wetland areas. In the Northpoint Small Area plan, this parcel was to be preserved as open space. Other assurances, including truck traffic rerouting and buffers between industrial and residential, and industrial and natural space were promised. None of these have happened and this rural area is being sacrificed for the worst kinds of development. Why would any local small business want to locate here? I urge you to vote against this upzone and join Salt Lake County in adopting a resolution to protect wetland areas, public and private, along the shores of the Great Salt Lake. Respectfully, Katie Pappas Salt Lake City</p>

Date/Time Opened	Contact Name	Subject	Description
2/17/2026 9:22	Ellie Keller	Inquiry Regarding R-1 Occupancy Limits	Hello, I'm reaching out to inquire whether the City Council is currently considering changes to the occupancy limits for unrelated individuals in R-1 zoning districts. Is there an active ordinance, study, or proposed amendment related to this policy? If so, where can members of the public follow updates or review materials? Thank you for your assistance. Ellie Keller
2/17/2026 9:26	Margaret Holloway	Public Lands Park Rangers budget.	I asked for the numbers for this i see as unnecessary program. Without numbers it didn't show value. So they answered. Is there any other city in the state that does this? Margaret Holloway
2/17/2026 9:27	Jenny Starley	CCNC comment for tomorrow's Council agenda item: Northwest Pipeline Project	Hi Eva and Erika, On behalf of the Central City Neighborhood Council (CCNC), I'm submitting the following written comments for tomorrow's Council agenda item related to the proposed sale of a publicly-owned property to the Salt Lake Housing Authority/developer team. In addition, Annie Isaacson will be providing a public comment on behalf of CCNC at tomorrow's City Council meeting. • The City is proposing to sell a publicly-owned property which appraised for around \$18 million for just \$1 million. This represents a significant public subsidy and opportunity cost. • Financing is not yet secured; the developer has shown very little progress since its 2024 selection. We are concerned about continued delay and the developer's competence to carry out the project. • The current proposal consists entirely of low-income apartments which are greatly overrepresented in this pocket of the neighborhood. The median income in this census tract is about 57% of the County's Area Median Income. We are concerned about the further concentration of poverty, something the United States learned was not a good practice decades ago. • The Housing Authority's proposal that was selected proposed some for-sale condo homes within the project, which has since been removed. Central City is about 80% renter and is in need of more long-term residents. • CCNC asks the Council to deny the Housing Authority's request and instead to sell the land for a condo development to support long-term neighborhood stability and greater Downtown SLC stability. • In the interest of disclosure, CCNC Board Chair Austin Taylor and Land Use Committee Chair Travis Starley are not endorsing this opinion due to work conflicts of interest (Austin and Travis are recusing from any public statement). Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Jenny Starley Vice Chair, Central City Neighborhood Council (CCNC)
2/17/2026 15:40	Bernie Hart	Let's get it done If you help one person	Nick, I was torn between a deep belly laugh and tears. 1300 chronically homeless in Utah on any given night. 1300 beds in the proposed lock'em up shelter. There are over 5.000 LDS Wards in Utah. Ask the LDS Church to assign 3 Wards to each chronically homeless individual and let God do what God does. A simple solution. One that can be accomplished before the next Olympics without additional funding. Now I can smile .. Bernie