

# FUNDING OUR FUTURE

## Engagement Report

(Addendum April 16, 2018)



# FUNDING OUR FUTURE

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# FUNDING OUR FUTURE

**Addendum April 16, 2018**



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## Overview of Outreach

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### Website Visits:

- Unique Pageviews as of April 16, 2018 – 3,252
- Total Pageviews as of April 16, 2018 – 4,162

### Survey Hits:

- 2,151 surveys completed as of April 16, 2018
- 349 direct responses from Qualtrics Community Feedback group
- 1,799 responses from FundingOurFutureSLC.com website link

### Telephone Comments:

- 33 calls as of April 16, 2018

### Email/Online Comments:

- 70 emails as of April 16, 2018

### Qualtrics/Survey Comments:

- 2,151 as of April 16, 2018

### Additional Meetings Attended:

- Gardner Policy Institute, Business Leaders Round Table - April 10, 2018
- Gardner Policy Institute, Newsmakers Presentation - April 11, 2018
- Bicycle Advisory Committee - April 16, 2018



To: Salt Lake City Mayor's Office and City Council Office  
From: Dianne Meppen, Director of Qualitative Research and Deliberative Community Engagement  
Date: April 12, 2018  
RE: Deliberative Community Engagement with Downtown Business Leaders on Salt Lake City Critical Needs and Funding

## Summary

At the request of Salt Lake City, the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute convened and facilitated a discussion with select city business leaders to solicit feedback on the city's proposal to fund critical infrastructure, housing and public safety needs. This technical memo provides a high-level summary of the theme and findings from this convening.

We utilized a process known as Deliberate Community Engagement to engage these business leaders. The process connects people with a variety of perspectives, provides them with a foundation of high quality information, and enables them to share perspectives that will lead to informed decisions.

Fifteen business leaders attended the deliberative session on April 10, 2018 at the Gardner Policy Institute. Discontent with the city's public input process emerged as the dominant theme. Specific feedback was given on the four critical needs and proposed funding mechanisms. Each of these is discussed below.

## Discontent with Public Input Process

The primary theme from the discussion was discontent with the input process and that feedback was being sought about a plan that had already been decided. One participant described it as an announcement rather than an agreement. "There's not going to be the level of engagement that the city wants if it continues to be an announcement rather than an agreement." Others expressed concern that while their industry would be directly affected by the sales tax in particular, they learned about the proposed plan indirectly rather than being approached by the city as a key stakeholder in the issue.

The needs identified are of importance to this group as well, and they would have liked to have been involved in the problem-solving process. They wondered how much their input could be incorporated if input is being sought a week before the vote. "It seems like a sales job rather than a public process."

In this same vein, it was expressed that more time is needed for this input process, and that an issue as complex as raising and spending additional revenue requires a more thoughtful, transparent dialogue.

Those who had recently heard from a city representative tasked to inform and solicit feedback from the business community expressed that the representative did not have sufficient information. Or, it was assumed sufficient detail of these plans must not exist.

Participants said the lack of communication and transparency is not a new characteristic of the city's policy process. However, this perception can be altered by using feedback from this discussion as a way to improve future public policy deliberations. Another way to improve this public policy process is greater transparency, particularly regarding why new revenue streams are necessary rather than more efficient budgeting. The example cited is the mismanagement of road maintenance. Participants opined that road conditions got this bad due to budget mismanagement. There were concerns mismanagement would continue to happen with any new revenue stream.

## Feedback on Critical Needs

The group agreed the four needs identified by the city are indeed critical, and that these needs have existed for some time. Homelessness was also brought up as critical need. They acknowledged two of the four needs seek to address aspects of homelessness, but concerns were raised that more police and affordable housing wouldn't sufficiently address this issue; police officers lack authority of the law to dissuade loitering and camping, and transitional housing isn't transitional for those who suffer from mental illness. Some worry the perceived lack of safety may start to affect their ability to recruit talent from out of state. The increase in Medicaid funding helps, but they wonder if it is enough to address the complex issue.

More generally, it was recommended that more specific plans with prioritized recommendations should be made available. For example, when \$5 million is being requested for housing when \$20 million is needed, what aspect is prioritized for that \$5 million and why?

It should be noted that some participants were familiar with the city's plans and recommendations, and others appeared not to know the city had conducted in-depth studies and plans altogether.

## Feedback on Funding Mechanisms

Most of the discussion focused on the proposed sales tax. Participants seemed more open to the General Obligation Bond as the decision lies with voters with adequate time for feedback.

Concern with the sales tax mostly focused on its economic impact. Participants shared concerns that a sales tax increase would slow economic growth and impair economic competitiveness. They said the quick turnaround of the sales tax vote on April 17th would deter thoughtful dialog necessary for such an impactful decision, especially given the perceived lack of detailed information provided and lack of community engagement. For example, it was not communicated with the commercial community how the revenue mechanisms would affect their properties. The only information provided to the public is how much it would cost a household. Some noticed the city had involved their constituents in the process while "neglecting the economic engine, the business community."

It was recommended that the city convey funding mechanisms that have been tried but unsuccessful. This disclosure would help the public better understand how the city has come to the conclusion that a sales tax increase is the best option.

Additional concerns expressed include the following:

- \$67 million of state funding for Operation Rio Grande expires in 2019
- Overall tax rate if county transit tax is approved
- Why \$3 million is set aside for a rainy-day fund when the needs are so critical, especially since rainy-day funds can be used for unspecified needs

Some in the group believe that adequate funding already exists, but that finding efficiencies in the current city budget hasn't been prioritized. There was little feedback when pressed for alternate funding recommendations, but the following options were offered:

- Increasing density development to increase the tax base
- Considering state change to provide road funding based on square footage rather than linear foot

## Methodology

Leadership from 24 companies around the city were invited to participate in the roundtable discussion. The list was generated jointly by Wilkinson Ferrari and the Gardner Policy Institute. Of the 24 invited, 15 attended. With the given time frame, the Gardner Policy Institute was able to allow invitees a two-week notice, and ensured a brief meeting given their busy schedules. Invitations were mailed to each recipient by the Gardner Policy Institute director. Follow-up phone calls were made to those who had not responded. Confidentiality was of particular concern to multiple invitees and so the deliberation included only Gardner Policy Institute staff.

Using information provided by Wilkinson Ferrari, the Gardner Policy Institute created a “placemat” fact sheet for the discussion outlining details and action plans for the four critical needs, and the two revenue generating mechanisms proposed to fund the action plans. Each participant was given time to review the fact sheet before discussion began.

Given the short duration of the conversation, the Gardner Policy Institute was able to collect a wide range of input, but did not have sufficient time to probe for feedback on each issue. This memo represents the general consensus as it was expressed during this hour. For each topic, there may have been some participants with viewpoints who chose not to share their perspectives.



# FUNDING OUR FUTURE

**Additional Comments Received April 10 - April 16, 2018**





Date	Source	Comment
4/5/18	FoF Email	<p>I appreciate the invitation to give input on critical city issues. After having lived in Salt Lake City for over 40 years, I have been dismayed and discouraged about the potholes, huge cracks and uneven surfaces all over the City and particularly in the east bench, Sugarhouse and downtown areas. My husband and I have been living in Portland, Oregon for the past 1 1/2 years. With a very damp climate and much larger city and considerably more cars than SL, the roads there were in much better shape than here. Having been home for only a month, I am totally astonished and ashamed that the city administration has allowed such deterioration of many miles of roads. Before we moved in August of 2016, there were a few neglected roads( 2700 South between 2000 East to 1300 East, for example). It seems the adding of bike lanes on many roads has been a priority of this administration rather than responsible maintenance of well-used streets.</p> <p>I implore the city administration make it a high priority to lay down new asphalt and not do the haphazard patching on street surfaces and keep Salt Lake the beautiful, clean, well-maintained city it has been!</p>
4/6/18	FoF Email	<p>Instead of having everyone subsidize rent for low income families (encouraging them to stay poor to qualify for the hand out), the officials should adopt form-based zoning for the entire city to allow the marketplace create options for all types of housing demands.</p> <p>But our city stubbornly keeps on trying to make us pay for a new bond to finance exceedingly expensive new construction 'affordable' housing scheme.</p>
4/10/18	FoF Email	<p>First, May I say I'm grateful for all you do to for this city. I know it must be hard. Secondly, Thank you for asking for our suggestions. Lastly, I would love to see better servicing and maintenance of our streets. On Princeton and 2000 East you practically bottom out trying to get through the intersection. It has multiple chuck/pot holes. I did notice that the chuck/pot holes one block away were recently patched a block away at Princeton and 1900 East. At 2100 East and 1250 South, in front of the Anderson Foothill library, the median is need of attention. I don't think it's on any scheduled servicing for upkeep. I just looked at it and the curb, weeds and debris have been painted yellow. The library's non grass areas needs attention as well. They are chronically weedy and always look neglected. I recognize that a lot of money, time and effort are spent on streets and the library. With routine checking and inspections and a stronger commitment to meeting a basic standard of functionality, safety and care, these items would not need to be brought to the city's attention by a citizen. Perhaps all the workers that are involved in servicing the area generally can communicate the needs better (landscape crews, street sweepers, construction inspectors, garbage collectors)? The newly replaced stamped concrete at 1900 East and 1300 is cute, but taking care of existing deferred maintenance and basic servicing is important. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss further.</p>
4/11/18	FoF Email	<p>NO New Taxes!!!!</p>
4/11/18	FoF Email	<p>If you want to tax SLC, fine but don't tax the rest of us!</p>
4/11/18	FoF Email	<p>I live in Salt Lake City. We have a growing economy and sales tax revenues. I see no need to increase the sales tax rate.</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>none</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>a communications tax on cell, internet, and cable providers</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>A tax hike on gasoline would be appropriate since those buying gas are the ones using the roads which need repair.</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>Add \$5 to residential SLC service bills for \$60 per year regardless of property, rental, size. Waive this requirement for LOCALLY-OWNED brick-and-mortar business. All other businesses pay extra monthly up to \$1000 per year based on a sliding scale of the number of Utah employees they have.</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>Add to the hotel tax, and other hospitality revenue sources. People who visit from other places use the City services and generally find SLC more inexpensive than their hometown cities.</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>Address homelessness. Move homeless population away from neighborhoods and avoid building or instituting homeless shelters in private neighborhoods.</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>Allowing the lottery to enter. When we lived I Colorado, this is how they funded many of their park projects. I personally do not support the lottery, but I feel this could generate revenue.</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>At the moment, I have no suggestions.</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>Better trails access near U of U</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>carbon tax</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>Change water structure for businesses -- current AWC approach is inappropriate and does not foster conservation. Move to "one-side-of-street" for garbage/recycle/brown can to reduce both driver time and costs. More accurately monitor building permits and results, with appropriate fines when deviation. Fix watering schedules on city-owned property to avoid inappropriate consumption. Stop spending money on ineffective lobbying, like that regarding northwest quadrant, and get GOOD EFFECTIVE lobbying. Fewer city-paid travel jaunts. Cease "sham" citizen committees (e.g., RAC) when consultants make final decisions anyway without regard to valid input -- wastes citizens' time and raises amounts paid to consultants, and takes city staff away from real functions</p>

Date	Source	Comment
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Charge a \$1000 for a dog license. \$10,000 fine if your dog is off leash. \$100,000 to get your dog back from the pound. "Shared use" of parks doesn't work...segregate dog parks for human parks, and let dog owners pay for dog parks, not tax payers. It was their own choice to get a [redacted for language] dog.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Charge a small/minimal tax on residential landlords that would go to support low income housing.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Charging impact fees for large vehicles such as busses and sanitation vehicles
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Cigarette tax, carbon tax, tax on gun and ammo sales
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Cite more criminals and increase their fines. This city is nasty and ghetto. Stop bring more people here. Giving free stuff to homeless people makes the situation much worse.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Citing that so many options have been already offered and all of them are off the table, I don't really see much change possible. Legalization of marijuana, lottery and gasoline tax should be viable options as they are in other states. Give us more options instead of negatives.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Construction and high capacity builders should be paying for the roads they destroy by their construction.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	COuldn't we leverage more governments grants to increase our cities Green initiatives? Also, especially in the Sugarhouse area, I wouldn't be opposed to overnight parking permits. Salt Lake proper could raise millions issuing overnight permits in residential areas or in fines issued to people parking in the street overnight without a permit. My old hometown did it and it was well received by the majority. They also made it easy to call in and get "special" exceptions for overnight guests or extenuating circumstances by just calling parking enforcement giving the plate number and location. With the number of apt complex's going up, street parking even in front of my own house is becoming a challenge.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Cut the mayor and city council people salaries. Cut administration salaries also. Increase impact fees. Increase other fees that the city collects (e.g. parking tickets, speeding tickets, and other fees).
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Cutting expenses in other areas
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	cutting the budget (for example: why do we need so many libraries - most of which cannot be maintained properly)
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Don't just add more money to the same problems. Add new ways to address the problems. For examole more efficient homeless housing options, with Murphy beds and shared cooking space. Flooding the housing market with subsidies will only worsen the housing situation in SLC. You need to differentiate.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	New road routes and shrinking the size of buses will reduce wear and tear.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Early retirements, salary re-evaluations, streamlining current department budgets, employee benefit cost sharing. Basically what the rest of us accept in the private sector.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Education
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	end tax exemptions for churches who have made the decision to inject their religious opinions in the public purview.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Evaluate the budget line items elsewhere to see where cuts/sacrifices can be made in favor of dedicating adequate budgets to these four concerns.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	For affordable housing an ordinance should be in place to obligate developers to set aside a portion of new housing to low income people, attract the outdoor retailers back to slc, decrease law enforcement, collect tax on short term rentals and incentivize long term rentals, use toll roads in certain areas, higher gas tax during high smog days, cap city employee salaries to 100k, increase minimum wage to generate more revenue flow. There are a lot of options a city can do that would keep our taxes low and hold civil servants accountable.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Fuel tax
4/11/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Fund more service providing projects
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have left arrows added to stop lights, help prevent the amount of people who run red lights</li> <li>2. More police officers on the freeway and SLC streets to ticket speeders and those who run red lights</li> <li>3. Decrease the amount of days public schools (K-12th) have off during the school year, every month there is at least 1 day off, this is beyond hard for working parents and decreases our children's education. The amount child care cost and the cost of living in the city is too high for parents not to both work. What do we do with children when they have so much time off from school</li> <li>4. Increase the school times. Friday should be a full day, not a half day at public school. School time needs to be increased to ensure we can generate children that are educated and productive adults. If this mean increase pay then that should be on the next survey.</li> <li>5. More affordable childcare options for children of all ages, K-12th. Children 7-12 need just as much positive supervision as younger children, this is lacking in SLC</li> </ol>

Date	Source	Comment
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	<p>a) If the state is requiring the city to fund infrastructure for an "inland port" but not allowing the city to share in the revenue, then we should tell the state to [redacted for language] off. Neither Salt Lake City residents, nor visitors, nor workers should be paying for a state project. Let the state pay for their own project.</p> <p>b) If the state wants to move the the state prison from Draper to SLC, then the state should pay all of the costs involved in that. Why exactly would the state allow the city to increase its tax rate because of the prison relocation if it didn't expect some of that money to be used to accommodate the move? Again, let the state pay the entire cost of their own projects, not SLC residents, visitors, or workers.</p> <p>c) Sure, increase transit services, but East-West is not the problem. Late night is the problem.</p> <p>d) No, don't charge SLC residents for increased road costs. Sales tax is the wrong way to fund this, and so are GO bonds. The GO bond proposal is absurd. These are not one time infrastructure costs. That is a dishonest way to find ongoing maintenance costs. Bottom line for me: Driving speeds are WAY too high in Salt Lake City residential neighborhoods. Smoothing out the roads will make that problem worse, not better. I say pay for roads using sky-high gas taxes and use fees on private vehicles. And let the streets disintegrate until people start driving a safe speed. Spend all road improvement costs of additional police enforcement and speed mitigation.</p> <p>e)Yes, make neighborhood police offices a routine sight. The lawlessness of speeding drivers, sidewalk-parking jerks, and selfish off-leash dog owners, and partying college students needs to be curbed at a neighborhood level.</p>
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	As stated before, affordable housing for low income people does not come under the price tag of \$250K. The only way true affordable housing for low income people can be achieved (and now is the time) is for the City to buy land at an auction price so that the lots are affordable. Impact Fee's need to be waived as well and all other add on's. People deserve OWNERSHIP, not rental units!
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Build small cabins or houses for the homeless and give them a job cleaning streets and picking up trash from the sides of the roads. This would pay for their small houses and give them money for food and clothing. And then I'd vote for a sales tax increase to help the homeless.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	By approving the sale of marijuana and taxing/controlling it much like Alcohol, we would generate slit of tax revenue for uses such as these.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Can we please be treated as adults and have regular beer on tap, none of the theocratically mandated 4% drivel?
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	City utilities have already gone up considerably in the last year or two. This apparent rises in the City's operating costs across the board gives room for pause. Why/how has the City apparently been operating at current levels WITHOUT these increases for so long, if the tax and utility prices were so under where they should be?
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Complete streets. Make everyone feel welcome on the streets and sidewalks and bike lanes in Salt Lake City.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Crack down on speeders on our city streets, especially during rush hour.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Deal with the homeless, it's a blight. Enforce the law on the books. Instead of more police look at mediator solution. Male leadership, female leadership, youth leadership. Mentors and counselors at street level.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Do not use a tax increase for Erin to put a head on the snake
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Don't hire any more police until you change the laws so that police who shoot unarmed or non-seriously threatening people are taken off the streets and have their guns withdrawn. Figure out why, with so many more people paying taxes into the city but essentially no new geography and few new streets, we don't have enough money to maintain the existing streets as well as they were maintained for the previous 3 decades?
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	don't raise taxes, having a hard enough time paying bills as it is with the low paying job that I have
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Don't waste tax dollars
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Everyone I know has a problem with petty crime like car prowlers, items (including Xmas decorations!) stolen, stolen packages and homeless people who leave messes including needles and human waste behind. I've seen people lying on sidewalks, front yards and driveways, drunk/high or passed out. I live in a nice part of town. I wish SLC could do more to deal with the problem!
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Fix roads and let the bikers wait. Upper 2700 s is terrible !!!!!
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	For every number of high density housing units, the developer must provide open space or financially support for low-cost , city-run recreation (percentage TBD)proportionate to the number of newly constructed units developed within a one-mile radius. Open space will be free of retail and commercial endeavors with the exception of city-run amenities such as aviaries, gardens, pools, concessions, and recreation centers. Make some "marketing free" zones for communities to exercise, play and meet their neighbors. When people know their neighbors and take pride they n their neighborhood, crime, litter, and conflict are reduced.

Date	Source	Comment
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	For me, the driving issue (sorry, that's punny) is the impact of increased traffic in the area. I live at 15th and 15th and have learned not to try driving on 13th E in early mornings or late afternoons. This is a big change from even just 5 years ago.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	For the last 10 years out inflation is 1.7%. My tax rates, including property taxes, has risen at a much higher rate. There is a disconnect of costs of the city projects and an increase in tax rates. One would think if more people are coming into SLC, they would also have to pay taxes. Thus having more money in the coffers for city projects. So why isn't the taxes covering for the cost of all of these projects?
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Front runner needs a station at 2700 south. There is a huge gap between Murray and downtown SLC. Why invest in a trolley through sugar house that doesn't get you anywhere near front runner.  Also what is going to take to get a North temple freeway offramp. Roads are getting torn up because there are not alternate routes. More traffic, leads to more braking which is harder on roads. Resurfacing the same roads is not the issue, creating new ones is more important. One downtown exit is embarrassing for a city of our size.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Get rid of any puppy mills.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	GO JACKIE!!
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Homelessness is a problem still. Instead of being in the Rio Grande area now, we've just spread the problem to surrounding areas!
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Housing and transportation are higher priority than more police officers
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	Housing for homeless and low income people is my top priority
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	I don't think tax-breaks for developers to build low-income housing is going to solve our problem. We need rent-controlled housing, we need mixed housing that doesn't segregate poor folks from rich folks, we need more creative housing solutions than folks who want to make money will build.  We need the city, along with other cities, to be leading advocates at the Capitol for raising the minimum wage in the state.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	I see a lot of waste in spending by doing stupid bike trails that hardly are used when it should be used for road repair.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	I support all aspects of this tax increase except the last facet--increased enforcement. This is likely a move similar to the Rio Grande Operation to build a bigger virtual fence along the I15 corridor to keep the homeless population away from downtown and and sequestered in the west side where they can continue to cause havoc without repercussion. Until this approach changes, I will not vote for a tax increase and I will persuade everyone I know to vote no until the enforcement strategy changes. What good is more police when homeless people have been "successfully" corralled into Rose Park and Glendale, with the highest concentrations around the previously promising Jordan River Parkway?
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	I think the sales tax and bond are good options to increase revenue. I just hope the city will focus on road improvements on the west side as much or more than the east side.
4/11/18	Qualtrics-General	I think there need to be more public bathrooms for the homeless population to use. The hepatitis outbreaks are a public health hazard and we as a society should consider it a community health issue.
4/12/18	Council Email	Go for it! We need to do something, now. Can't wait. Since the library bond will be retiring, people won't notice that very much, and the sales tax increase is a good way to get those who work in the city but don't live here to pay their bit.  I also think you should look at a way to get the churches to pay for utilities. Like the way they pay the storm water fee, started years ago, that would make a BIG difference. I'm ok with not asking the schools to pay, although the U of U pays the storm water tax. Maybe you can make it a fee for churches, rather than a tax.
4/12/18	Council Email	Salt Lake City has a growing economy and sales tax revenues. I see no need for an increase in the sales tax rate.

Date	Source	Comment
4/12/18	Council Email	<p>As citizens of Salt Lake City, we are subject to city taxes, Salt Lake County taxes, and Utah state taxes and in recent years we have seen tax increases at all three levels. Yet the city is proposing another round of tax increases. While housing prices, rents, and the cost of living continues to outpace wage increases in Salt Lake City, now is not the time to raise taxes again on the citizens of Salt Lake City, who are already strapped for cash and fighting to make ends meet.</p> <p>Below is a list of some of tax increases that affected taxpayers across the state, taxpayers in Salt Lake County, and taxpayers in Salt Lake City in recent years.</p> <p>In 2015, a state property tax increase of 3% was passed that was used to equalize the spending of property tax revenue (SB97). Under SB97, every homeowner in the state saw a tax increase, but the \$75 million collected was distributed only to school districts that fell below a set funding threshold.</p> <p>Effective January 1, 2016 the state of Utah raised gas taxes by 5 cents with annual increases indexed to the price of gasoline thereafter (HB362).</p> <p>In 2017, the state of Utah assessed taxes on all purchases made on Amazon.</p> <p>In 2018, the state legislature raised fees and taxes.</p> <p>At the Salt Lake County level, we have seen property taxes increase in 2010 by roughly \$100 per homeowner and again in 2013 by approximately \$59 per homeowner.</p> <p>And at the city level, we have seen property tax increases in 2013 by approximately \$67 per homeowner, and in 2017 by roughly \$20 per homeowner.</p> <p>2017 also saw Salt Lake City pass the first of five sewer rate increases that will ultimately raise rates by 127 percent over the next five years. In 2018 and 2019, this equates to 10 and 15 percent in those years. Moreover the public utilities also increased the cost of water 5 percent this year alone.</p> <p>And now in 2018, Salt Lake City wants to increase the sales tax by a half a percent and property taxes yet again.</p> <p>Every time a time increase is proposed it is meant to be the panacea to a problem but yet rarely goes away but leads to more and more unfulfilled promises. Living along the Wasatch front is becoming less affordable and increased fees and taxes do little to help struggling families and taxpayers. The question remains when is enough enough? How much money does our government need? All citizens have to live on a budget so why do all levels of government feel they should just increasingly enlarge their scope and place additional burdens on citizens?</p> <p>Please tell the city leaders that enough is enough. We all have to live within a budget. It's time that they do so as well and realize that more must be done to avoid the undue burden on the backs of the taxpayer.</p>
4/12/18	Council Voicemail	<p>Calling about a solution to save Salt Lake City money, the solution or recommendation is that Salt Lake City library stop funding they are called bathroom monitors and these people are people with mental illness basically is what I'm coming to understand and that being said not only are they being paid to monitor the bathrooms but because of their particular determent they are also in a position where they are able to make security recommendations immediately to people they may perceive as doing the wrong thing that being said these individuals are suffering from some type of mental impairment that it might be something they have construed in their mind this bringing upon the problem that: one we are paying these people to do this job, and two we are wasting the money on futile security endeavors that might all just be wrapped up in someone's mind. This all being said it might also be a good job that we save the City a lot of money from paycheck collectors of people that may be on these types of drugs etc. and so forth that we actually randomly on a regular basis test Salt Lake City employees for drug usage because they either might be able to act under the powers of these drugs or they might be someone not able to do their job because of these drugs that creating more of an impairment that costing the tax payers more money because basically a tax payer is trying to get a solution but you're dealing with someone that is highly not in the situation actually so those are my suggestions it has come to my attention these things are going on and it seems like a big money waster. Thank you.</p>
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Fundraising
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Gas tax increase, consumption based taxes are paid by those who use.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Gas tax.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	green open spaces, increased min. wage, affordable health care and housing, more local small businesses
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	I believe the bond is the right choice
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	I don't know that there's that much SLC can do without the State. Frankly, just push as hard as you can on the State to help with these issues.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	<p>I feel very strongly that the city should be doing so much more to prepare the city against a major earthquake. The Fix the Bricks program is not enough. I think the city should very strongly consider investing in an early earthquake detection system, like many other major cities that are prone to earthquakes have installed. With the massive problem of unreinforced masonry, even a 30 second warning would likely save thousands of lives, whereas the important efforts to reinforce our old brick buildings is important, but ultimately far less likely to save lives when compared to an early detection system. That being said, investing in reinforcing our old brick buildings, in my opinion, should also be a high financial priority for the city. But an early detection system should come first.</p>

Date	Source	Comment
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	I think not wasting the money we already have would be a great place to begin! As a resident I can see where money is not being used wisely. Many of the funds that we are currently taxed for could be redirected to these areas if we could do some financial reconstruction.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	I think the city and the county need more public transportation and i think anyone crossing county lines should pay a toll.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	I think there should be more focus on green options... public transit, bikes, etc.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	I would like the sales tax to be on non-food items, since food is essential for everyone. I would also like to see luxury items taxed more than essentials, so vehicle taxes are fine with me, particularly if transit improves.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	I would like to see a personnel audit of departments to see where there are unneeded employees. Some departments, such as forestry, are outsourcing almost everything and still so slow on the job, it's pathetic.This should be done by a local company with no ties to the city!
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	IDK
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Impact fee on new development.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	impact fees on developers
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Impact fees on new development and retroactive fees on more recent developments
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	IMPACT FEES!!!!!! Make Boyer, Cowboy Partners, et. al. pay for the development that they are inflicting upon us. Why should they get all kinds of breaks when they just take their profits to Davis County and Cottonwood Heights. City Wage Tax, Philly charges all of the suburb dwellers who come into the city and use their services everyday 5% income tax on their wages.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	income tax
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Increase property tax for .schools
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Increase property taxes
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Increase taxes on Airbnb rentals.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Increased automobile tax
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Large size business license fee increases
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Later route service for UTA
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	live within their budgets
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Live within your means. Budget and schedule an ongoing but consistent repair fund. Keep vehicles linger and quit trying toto release every 3 yrs. Remind everyone it is a priviledge to give public service not an opportunity to smooth with libbyists . line your pockets or figure another deep trough to feed at. Serve for honor not profit
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Manage the existing revenue better. Allocate the existing revenue to key needs of the city and benefits to the population at large rather then specially selected sub-populations. Stop the practice of providing premium everything for city functions. Why, for example, are all the fire stations and the PSB as nice as the Taj Mahal?
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Manage what you've got.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Mass Transit and Street Repair, Water Infrastructure, Global Climate change readiness
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	More affordable and safe after school and summer school/camp options for children preK-12th grade. More bike/walk routes in SLC
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	More housing for normal people who make normal wages. Fair pricing. Stop low income housing in the city. Going to come back to bite you. They can move outside of the city if they need lower income options.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	More mass transit to wider areas
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	More money towards education, teacher salaries and per-student spending.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-Funding	More Police and raises for them
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	I wish more pressure could be put on Rock Mountain Power to have individual homes contribute to grid wide solar power production. Instead of being a hurdle to get Solar, it should be encouraged.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	I would like to see the city borrow now while interest rates are relatively low. I think it would be helpful for the city to prepare a plan showing a timetable for roads improvement. That way residents/voters can see where all the money will be spent and what roads will be given priority. I assume infrastructure will be upgraded in conjunction with road reconstruction.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	If impact fees won't fly, make road and infrastructure investment an included part of all developments. If Boyer wants to build a 40 unit building then they will have to rebuild the adjoining roads and utilities as part of it. SLC is a desirable place to live, make those coming in pay to join us. People pay a premium to live here, if they don't want to pay the price they can live in South Jordan (aka suburban hell or the stucco ghetto)



Date	Source	Comment
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	if not being done now, I urge a concerted effort to reduce waste, both material waste from supplies, equipment, and furniture, as well as duplication of work by personnel
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	If the sale tax is higher in SLC, I (and many others )will simply go to Costco in Bountiful (because groceries are a big ticket item); therefore the revenue will like not meet rosy projections.  I also think this survey is horribly manipulatively worded to justify the outcome that the City wants people to say.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	In regards to the sales tax - the city needs to support MORE of the public (local and nationally) coming to our city for events and entertainment. Better use of space for events would include strong support of the Fairpark for events such as the Market, and better parking. I hear people say they don't come "downtown" because of parking. Meters were an awful idea and they seem to be a growing problem rather than encouraging people to come to SLC. We have lost the Outdoor Retailers and other events to Sandy and the South of the valley. People also have the impression that SLC and especially our dear West Side - are only full of crime and the "homeless" population. We need to do something "good" to address this image as well as the problem. What happened last year only spread the problem to other areas - did nothing to make it better.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Increase funding for tEachers and other low pay city workers to match the rate of increased cost of housing
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Increased tax on families with more than 2 children.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Invest in water conservation projects
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	It is difficult to roll all of these issues in one bill. I can understand the need to maintain roads, although, I don't see this on a day to day basis. However, I have not seen enough evidence to support the other issues other than general comments. 1. Housing - How does SLC compare to other large cities in the West. I am sure we have better housing market than Denver, Portland, Seattle, and all large Cali cities. We have a very low cost of living compared to other similar cities. We seem to be catching up, not rocketing beyond. 2. Safety - I often see multiple police cars show up to a minimal traffic violation. We have safe streets by in large. Where is the data on officers per residents, increase in crimes per resident, etc. 3. Transit - I agree that we need improved public transit! However, the proposed changes does little to affect the day to day errands people run. I do not see how this will significantly eliminate cars and significantly help commuters.  In the end, I have no concerns about raising sales tax. I have an issue with how the money is being spent and a mis-match between goals and proposed actions.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	If you have better data that supports these actions, please forward to [redacted email address]
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	It is disappointing to see that education is not one of the areas of consideration. It is common knowledge that higher rates of education lead to lower crime rates. Instead of hiring more police, I believe that an investment in education could be a long term solution to public safety.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Keep up the good work!
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Limit yourself to basic government functions. Cut services to homeless so they move away.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Look at incentives to get higher income individuals to leave lower income units needed for low and very low income individuals.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Major road repairs must be accompanied by a comprehensive maintenance plan. Many of our current problems could have been avoided or fixed for far less money if basic road maintenance had been a priority. We can't just ignore things until they're out of control.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Maybe asking questions that are not "yes" or "no" questions. Perhaps all of this has gone through due public process in order to get to this point, and I am not as keyed in as I should be. But recognizing the nuance of problems in order to come up with effective solutions . For example: Making neighborhoods safer simply by adding police to the neighborhood is terribly flat response. What about the street design? Lighting design? Afterschool programming? Etc. I do support safe neighborhoods. I don't think adding police in the traditional sense is the answer. I vehemently support access to housing, but not if it's the kind of multi-family housing that is currently being built throughout Salt Lake - low-performing, cheap, and generally poorly designed.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Maybe work for better management if the funds you already have and get rid of the 10% rainy day fund. Why would you take people's money just to not use it?
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	More "noticeable" signs above intersections of running red or yellow lights!!! Penalties and/or dangers .
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Neighborhood police liasons need to be switched out every so often. When an office is in the same area too long, he seems to get complacent.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	No
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	No at this time
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	No car zones



Date	Source	Comment
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	No comment
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	No.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	not convinced that city government should take the responsibility for housing any particular segment of our population since such action automatically has an effect on the private segment of the housing market
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Not fair the people who are low income are getting all of these amazing new apartments built and those of us who aren't, get old outdated [redacted for language] housing options at astronomical prices.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	not handling homeless problem adequately, other states (Maine) do not put up with it
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	not specifically referred to, homelessness, addiction, and mental health street people are frightening and disconcerting. If these issues had been addressed when when smaller and less overwhelming, we would not be in the fix we are in.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Only in favor of funding road if the include transit priority and/or road diets. Roads in salt lake are extremely wide, with most not needing to be that way (i.e. low traffic volumes).
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	People need to be responsible for themselves- no more subsidized housing or motel vouchers
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Please do not give up the fight on the NW quadrant state legislature land grab
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	PLEASE FIX THE ROADS NOW!
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Please make sure the Urban Forester can oversee our beautiful trees.
4/12/18	Qualtrics-General	Please replace/fix the gutters and roads in Rose Park.
		<p>I am writing to voice my opposition to both the proposed sales tax hike and property tax hike. I note with amusement and frustration the headlines in the newspapers...."support for tax hike overwhelming". I must say that you are good at marketing and promotion of this idea that people are excited about the prospect of having their taxes raised. I view these headlines as mainly propaganda fed to a press corps no longer staffed with real journalists as the newspapers have become more like PTA bullitens with no investigation and no hard questions answered. Looks like the on line survey has only 1,600 respondents. This sample is certainly not a random sample and it also is way too small (in a City of over 200,000) to be statistically significant, yet it is being used by the City to say that "support is overwhelming". Very misleading, but way to go for the marketing campaign with a pre-determined message. I live in Charlie Luke's district and own and develop apartment property in Sugar House and downtown. Since 2014, property taxes on our apartment building in Sugar House have gone up by 30%. That means that City revenue has gone up by 30% even without raising taxes. And on top of the 30% increase in our taxes you want to raise taxes even higher? Really? In current times of high property valuation you should have all the increased revenue you need to run this city. You have already been given a 30% windfall in revenue just due to the good economy.</p> <p>How would you feel if government had just decided to "take" 30% more of your hard earned apartment revenue in just three years, even though rents have not gone up much? We paid \$27,000 more in taxes in 2017 than we did in 2014 without much of an increase in income. And now you want even more. Raising taxes is rarely a good idea. It amounts to expansion of government. Expansion of government should not be a sought after objective as such expansion puts heavier and heavier burdens on the backs of hard working tax payers. Earning money is very hard work. Taking it away from someone through taxation is easy. Before even thinking of a tax increase, wasteful and unnecessary government divisions should be eliminated. The city should keep the snow plows running, sewers working. parks maintained and provide for public safety. It is not within the proper City scope to delve into areas like "sustainability", "diversity", trying to intervene into housing markets, and other social engineering experiments. Soon there is a large bureaucracy that has far exceed its scope and mission statement, all while citizens are having more and more of their hard earned money taken from them to support this expanding bureaucracy that is out to solve all the world's problems.</p> <p>We need more police on the streets. We need the roads fixed. Find a way to do this with all the increased revenue you have and by cutting all the fix the world's problems programs. Affordable housing is a slippery slope. The City trying to alter the force of housing markets is a little like someone standing in the Colorado River trying to divert it. It won't really make a difference. In my view, increasing taxes on all citizens, rich and poor, to create a \$5 million annual revenue stream to try and intervene in housing markets is a dangerous experiment. Why should every citizen, rich and poor subsidize a select few that get to move into fancy subsidized housing? Many such taxpayers live in housing far inferior to what will be provided in the new "affordable housing" projects. If you really feel like you want to do something with affordable housing, let the RDA do it with dedicated money that has been generated from redevelopment etc. Don't start imposing a "housing tax" on everyone who pays taxes. Don't raise taxes. Don't expand government. Live within the means you have, which has been greatly expanding for years.</p>
4/13/18	Council Email	No one I know is excited at you tax increase plan.
4/13/18	FoF Email	Please do not raise sales tax. If the City wants to raise money through a General Obligation bond, that's fine. No more tax increases. Thank you.

Date	Source	Comment
4/13/18	FoF Email	Why do you ask for bonding after giving millions upon millions of tax breaks out for corporations, Plus no impact fees for years. But the residents are asked to keep paying. Only for you to move the money to where you want. Put the roads on a fee system so everyone in the city has to pay including the government and church buildings. Just like the city did for the lights and the water treatment plant improvements.
4/13/18	FoF Email	Why do you ask for bonding after giving millions upon millions of tax breaks out for corporations, Plus no impact fees for years. But the residents are asked to keep paying. Only for you to move the money to where you want. Put the roads on a fee system so everyone in the city has to pay including the government and church buildings. Just like the city did for the lights and the water treatment plant improvements.
4/13/18	FoF Email	I say no to any tax increase-----look to use the money collected more efficiently. There is money that is wasted and embezzled etc. What about people that get paid and do nothing? Leek into all of those things first.
4/13/18	FoF Email	I was one of the people who started the survey to immediately discover this was nothing more than an attempt to justify a tax increase. I have stated this time and again, these deliberately dishonest attempts continue to deteriorate any trust the public may have in their elected officials. if you honestly want to gain public support, then be honest, propose a budget with the express note that the mayor's proposed budget will require a tax increase and ask if the citizen agrees with it. Then if the answer is No, allow the citizens to weigh in on what project(s) to not fund. Then respect the tax payers and follow the proposals cutting the pet projects.  Even as I type that I felt a bit silly, fully knowing the current administration has shown no desire to be honest but simply pushing their agenda on the public. Hopefully the next election will provide us someone who will actually listen to the public, take feedback and not show up at community council meetings with no ability to answer basic questions.
4/13/18	FoF Email	it's really ridiculous that the government can't perform (way beyond what it does now on less money). in my job I've been around lots of state, county and local entities.....the service is usually under par for the amount of money received. when you see the waste of tax payer money \$\$ it makes many of us sick, and frankly! shocked! by the waste. why does the staff of ALL government entities need to grow with population? if anyone had some balls they would go into the government workforce (undercover), see all the waste and worthless employees and dump it and then all for people and company's that produce for the tax payers. the money I think and see pissed away on furniture, equipment, décor, unneeded labor force, etc..... how many times have we been in a govt. office and listen to multiple employees shooting the sh*t for hours on end, bitching about their lousy wage, retirement, medical, vacation..... what a waste! tell us how important they are..... not!! we don't need tax increases we need SOMEONE in charge (whatever that means) to account to the tax payers for the waste!!  increase alcohol and tobacco tax, are you [redacted for language] me! how about cake and ice cream, you HIPOcrites!!how about people using all of "the stuff" pay their share instead of people who don't pay it for them?? there's piles off money out there getting sent down the drain..... fix that crap first, then ask for more.....
4/13/18	FoF Email	sorry about my spell'n I got educated here
4/13/18	FoF Email	I am not in favor of a super high sales tax increase that will put us at 7.4% sales tax. I am not in favor of a bond either. I question whether citizens are responsible for low income housing. The city receives plenty of funds at the current levels and increasing a sales tax only hurts businesses as it's difficult to pass on. You are hired to manage the budget strictly. Honestly I don't believe giving more money will help any of the issues you have mentioned. I am a democrat too.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	More public transit from east to west is needed and would be greatly utilized. SLC would also benefit from more affordable housing units.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	More tax on unhealthy products like e-cigarettes
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	More Tracks and bus service
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	More trees! Parks. Beautification.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	My understanding is that developers will reap a major windfall in responding to housing needs (they already have). I guess that's just the way our system works.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	No comment
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	None, you are putting a lot of burden on people by raising taxes when there is much waste in government.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Nothing. No new taxes. Make do with what you have. Cut services everywhere else to fix roads.

Date	Source	Comment
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Panhandlers who occupy public space should be required to pay to use it - just like a parking spot - they generate revenue - it should be taxed.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Pay City, county employees more money.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	private funding and re-prioritize the city budget.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Privatize some assets owned by the City and the County. For example, the Broadway Theater cost about \$112 million. It is owned 25% by the City and 75% by the County. It could be sold to investors and the proceeds could be used for roads and homeless.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Promote tourism advertising outside Utah. Everyone knows about the parks of Utah, but besides skiing, most people don't know how fantastic the area is for all outdoor activities. Loosen the alcohol law to allow businesses to sell wine, and higher content alcohol beverage and collect taxes from it. Allow the entertainment industry (concerts, games) to sell wine, and higher content alcohol beverage than now (3.8% I think). Legalize some controlled forms of gambling and collect taxes from it. I am aware that it might not be possible due to state regulations, but the city should push for it.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Property tax increases if necessary to get ALL of the city's roads into excellent condition quickly and keep them that way.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Raise the meter fees but change the time to three hours so people can spend more time enjoying the downtown while spending more money while making more money for the city. A win win!!
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Raising taxes
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Reallocation of funds
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Reduce money spent on homeless
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	reducing programs
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Rent vouchers to partially subsidize rents for higher income individuals willing to move out of units with rents at least \$300 lower than their new unit.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Repair sidewalks in the neighborhoods and make it safer to walk. A lot of sidewalks are crumbling and uneven.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Sales tax should all go to roads Sell surplus buildings for police & get paid & use funds from Pipeline bldg Use transit tax from next year for transit service not projects Affordable housing does need all of the bond and a form based State Street plan to encourage housing
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Schools. More support for the Teachers
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Scratchy lottos. Toll booths for people driving into SLC. (I realize neither of those is realistic and/or likely...)
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Spend less tax dollars elsewhere.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Support of homeless
4/13/18	Qualtrics-Funding	taxing big corporations moving into our valley, bringing more people which clogs our air and roadways.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Please start drawing more definitive lines between church and state. The LDS Church has far too much influence on local politics.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Provide more bikes for use downtown- those bike paths are not being used nearly enough
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Quit giving tax breaks to private sports, they can support themselves, like REAL Salt Lake and the Jazz, big waste of money
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Really work on good and affordable transit! Out system costs as much as other systems that are much better.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Repairing roads needs to be the main priority! Our roads are deplorable!! Building new housing (large apartment buildings) needs to be scaled way back as our roads cannot accommodate the increased traffic. Sugarhouse is a mess! We also don't have enough water to support endless new apartment dwellers. Put money into roads, not new housing. Also the bus service should be increased if it is going to be useful. In other cities were people actually use public transportation the buses run every 10-15 minutes. No need for schedules because the next bus is always only a few minutes away. More convenient transportation options might cut down on the daily gridlock on Foothill Dr (maybe access to the U should be ONLY by public transportation??)
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Road markings should be raised and utilize reflective paint. Road markings are too difficult to see when the roads are wet.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Sales tax is regressive. I oppose it in general, ESPECIALLY if cars are excluded. Why else are there car dealerships in otherwise prime development areas near downtown?
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Should we all go to our boss and say "Gee boss give me more money to do my job and by the way I want a credit card that you can fund for me"! This is exactly what you are doing.

Date	Source	Comment
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	SLC has done a terrible job taking care of the important things like roads and safety, they've focused on ridiculous social programs that the majority don't agree with. The city has forced crime and unstable tenants into sugarhouse specifically and we are unsafe, unsure and angry. I look forward to voting you all out the next round.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	slow the growth
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Stop building so many of the same effing apartment building. Add a liquor store and move the one from 200 W somewhere else. Stop making more and more 20 MPH zones- every street is not a school zone. Get rid of stop lights along 700 S- none of them work anyway, and stop signs would be plenty sufficient for the amount of traffic along that street.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Stop encouraging growth by providing tax incentives for businesses to move here.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Support the development of community policing, involving communities to become more communal and to share responsibility for knowing their neighbors, recognizing shifts in neighborhood patterns and working with SLC police to educate neighborhoods how to keep safe and hospitable.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Thanks for your efforts!
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	The city should consider joining with the Salt lake City School District and United Way to support a scaling up of public supported preschools in low income areas of the city.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	The city should start to eliminate the City's Jeep fleet, we're using 15 mpg Jeeps to check parking meters vehicles that are expensive to maintain and pollute the environment. An electric Smart car would be a better alternative.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	The funds raised by the increased taxes should be monitored publicly to be sure that they are used for the stated purpose, and not simply mingled with other funds.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	The homeless is really a "whole country" issue. It could be handled by moving people into Federal barracks like the military uses for basic training. Any advance we do here in Utah will be heard about in other areas, and their homeless would gravitate to Utah. Not a good idea.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	The more we strategically spend on early childhood education and services, and the more we offer affordable housing for ALL people who serve our city, the better off we will ALL be in the future.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	<p>The Rio Grande plan was nonsense. You kicked everyone out of an area with no plan to help for over 2 years. And that's if the resource centers actually open on time. Plus, you're working with the State, who is actively supporting a Medicaid waiver that will add work requirements, time limits, and other things to those you're trying to help. This will not be better for those folks, and will only lead to problems. Stand up against that, please.</p> <p>And I said I didn't support the hiring of more police for safety because that's not the only option. I'm sure it would help, but I disagreed because I'd like you all to think of other options. Increasing services, and not making it harder for folks to access them, would also make streets safer. There are a ton of things that could be done, including, perhaps, hiring more police.</p> <p>To be clear, I'm a homeowner in SLC, and I was burglarized recently. I'd like safer streets, but I'd like you all to think outside the box a little bit.</p> <p>Moreover, your police officers were nice. But the folks, the administrative staff and other folks, at the public safety building are some of the most unpleasant people ever. Customer service could be improved. Just a thought.</p>
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	These filthy pigs take enough of our money already. They need to become more efficient instead of just a larger wasteful government.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Too many road projects currently are unnecessary, appear not well managed. Traffic engineering could improve rush hour flow. Pass the laws allowing bicycles and autos to treat lights as stop signs. Housing situation could be improved by attracting out of state developers, giving them tax breaks and incentives to build multi-unit condos. SLC Police is one of best have experienced. Don't need more police just better capability to respond and coordinate with neighborhood crime watch and reporting.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	Use the new police to better enforce traffic laws (speeding in 25 mph zones, running red lights).
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	We are growing quickly and will continue to do so even more over the coming years. We must fund infrastructure and housing now before these problems become even bigger and more costly.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	We can't sustain the growth-- I live at 9th and 9th which is already gridlocked. I-15 is a nightmare any time of the day now in both directions. The inversion is awful and affects my health. How can we keep bringing people in when our infrastructure and natural resources can't support them?
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	We need more police. There are 1000s of criminals everywhere. Clean up the city. Lockup the criminals. Stop giving away free stuff. Bring jobs that pay a living wage. Make sure people are here legally. Tax large families more. Tax cigarettes more. Make a law to arrest or fine people distributing the peace at all hours (thumping music). Tax the rich and business more.
4/13/18	Qualtrics-General	We need to increase maintenance

Date	Source	Comment
4/14/18	FoF Email	Just what we needed was more tax. Tax is a joke. You can't earn, save, or spend money without being taxed. How many times can you tax the same dollar before enough is enough?
4/14/18	FoF Email	Concerning the proposed .5% increase in sales tax- In the 35 years years I have owned my house, the water bill used to be so low that I believe it was sent out only every other month. Now the water bill has a host of other charges added, a sewer charge, garbage charge, streetlight charge ( we bought the streetlights and the home the streetlight is in front of pays the electricity), and a franchise charge! Even in the winter the bill is \$80 to \$90 a month. Recently it was reported that the city donated \$200,000 to a variety of programs. The city is out of control. The proposed 7.3% increase will make it more expensive to live and work in Salt Lake City and discourage business activity in the city. The city needs to reduce it's budget, reduce the sales tax, and assume the proper role of city government.
4/14/18	FoF Voicemail	Hello I think that .5% increase on taxes would be a good thing considering all the taxes, maybe the idea would be easy to work out. I think it a good thing bye.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Time to review the budget and cut the waste.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	To water our lawn and garden, we have to use culinary water. I would love to see money invested to allow for water conservation and allow residence to use non-culinary water to water for gardens and lawns.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Toll roads for nonelectric vehicles
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Tolls on major roads coming into the city at rush hour. Minneapolis does something like this.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Transportation utility fee
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	unsure
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Use existing tax revenues responsibly. Please be more responsible and less immoral.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Use the money the city already has more efficiently
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	User fees
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Using the private sector, since it is more efficient and better equipped to handle these problems.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Using what funding it has more efficiently.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	very strict and reflective expenditure reviews; would like to know how past budgets have met funding requirements after the fact; what happens to money left over from budget excesses....
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	We need more housing
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Why the [redacted for language] don't we have Lotto?
4/14/18	Qualtrics-Funding	Work on making city operations and budgets more efficient. Eliminate and manage cash flow before placing the burden on tax payers. Focus on running a great city as opposed to global issues. Tax the developers.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-General	We should not be promoting growth. In my view growth brings more negatives than positives. Growth equals more traffic, more pollution, more noise, etc.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-General	While there might be a gap for affordable housing and those at the low-end of the income scale - rent is also rising significantly for those in the middle. The more affordable housing continues to increase the more likely it is that rent will rise for those outside of qualifying for affordable housing. The housing shortage and rent problem extends beyond the lower class. The problem identification of housing should be expanded to include a more comprehensive look at housing in the valley. Rather than the only focus on affordable housing. This problem is further perpetuated by the notion that everyone else will be paying to fix the problem.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-General	Why doesn't the city invest in better lobbies, especially ones that don't have a shady past? Since we have seen a land grab from the governor how can our next move be to increase taxes? Increasing taxes should happen when community trust in government is high not low. Fight for our land then we will gladly give more to other projects. Don't underestimate the value of being territorial otherwise the administration will not last.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-General	Why is it the responsibility of a city (and its taxpayers) to provide housing? What are the consequences of encouraging and attracting a large population who cannot sustain themselves? Why should a taxpayer be asked to pay for the consequence of someone else?
4/14/18	Qualtrics-General	Why is the city not looking at liquidating surplus property to help pay for improvements?
4/14/18	Qualtrics-General	Work harder to get more housing built.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-General	Yes, concerning the question about hiring more police officers. I think an aspect of this is continuing to strengthen personal relationships with police officers with the community. In addition to having more on the force, supporting the force more strategically to foster more personal relationships.
4/14/18	Qualtrics-General	You need a good independent auditor who's not affiliated with government to review all dept budgets and spending plans before it is submitted for approval

Date	Source	Comment
4/14/18	FoF Voicemail	I'm just calling to let you know that I am against any new proposed taxes on anything. There is more apartments being built, thats more property taxes, that means more people are going to, that meaning more income coming into the city as it is. Because there are more apt. being built in my neighborhood. So no, no more taxes, there is not an an overwhelming, I am not overwhelmed for having more taxes put on my property. My husband heard that there was something saying that the mayor, she was saying she was having overwhelmingly approval but that is BS because I am not approving new taxes. Just wanted to let you know, thanks
4/15/18	FoF Email	Please consider other options to providing affordable housing other than contracting with large developers. Large developers have provided low quality housing which does not last, guarantees large profits for them, and leaves the city to clean up areas when the housing falls into disrepair. Please consider higher standards for the housing with public subsidies if necessary, and a defined maximum profit these developers can make.
4/15/18	FoF Email	I, a senior, residing in the Glendale area, would like to share my voice on sale tax increase: 1. Food: please do not. 2. Non food items: .25%
4/16/18	Council Voicemail	Yes calling the comment line in regards to potential solutions to save the City money. Idea of City wide employee random drug testing this being said as that some people appears to be functioning as a type of addict that either aren't on page when you are speaking to them or seem and appear to be somewhere else again random drug testing on all City employees. Thank you.
4/16/18	Council Voicemail	I am an avenues resident I am calling about the proposed half percent sales tax increase and general obligation bond I support a bond for streets and taxes for streets but I think it ought to be limited to five or ten years and ought to go only for street we need to find ongoing ways to fund other programs such as increase in police put this particular tax ought to be a limited thing and only for streets. Thank you.
4/16/18	Council Voicemail	I'm just calling to say I support a .5% sales tax increase and a general obligation bond to fund our street repairs more than anything else I know theirs other affordable housing and transit and all that good stuff but our streets are a nightmare so please let it go to that. Thank you.
4/16/18	Council Voicemail	Hi my name is Nick Thomas and my phone number is [redacted phone number] you do not need to call me back but I am totally in favor of the tax increase if it's going to fix our roads not for other stuff just fix the [redacted for language] streets. Thank you.
4/16/18	FoF Voicemail	I complete support the combo of 0.5% sales increase and a GO bond, we just need to fix our streets. So I support it. Just register me as supporting it.
4/16/18	FoF Voicemail	I totally in favor of the tax increase as long as it goes to fix our streets, which are horrible. Thank you, Bye

Date	Source	Comment
4/16/18	FoF Email	<p>As citizens of Salt Lake City, we are subject to city taxes, Salt Lake County taxes, and Utah state taxes and in recent years we have seen tax increases at all three levels. Yet the city is proposing another round of tax increases. While housing prices, rents, and the cost of living continues to outpace wage increases in Salt Lake City, now is not the time to raise taxes again on the citizens of Salt Lake City, who are already strapped for cash and fighting to make ends meet.</p> <p>Below is a list of some of tax increases that affected taxpayers across the state, taxpayers in Salt Lake County, and taxpayers in Salt Lake City in recent years.</p> <p>In 2015, a state property tax increase of 3% was passed that was used to equalize the spending of property tax revenue (SB97). Under SB97, every homeowner in the state saw a tax increase, but the \$75 million collected was distributed only to school districts that fell below a set funding threshold.</p> <p>Effective January 1, 2016 the state of Utah raised gas taxes by 5 cents with annual increases indexed to the price of gasoline thereafter (HB362).</p> <p>In 2017, the state of Utah assessed taxes on all purchases made on Amazon.</p> <p>In 2018, the state legislature raised fees and taxes.</p> <p>At the Salt Lake County level, we have seen property taxes increase in 2010 by roughly \$100 per homeowner and again in 2013 by approximately \$59 per homeowner.</p> <p>And at the city level, we have seen property tax increases in 2013 by approximately \$67 per homeowner, and in 2017 by roughly \$20 per homeowner.</p> <p>2017 also saw Salt Lake City pass the first of five sewer rate increases that will ultimately raise rates by 127 percent over the next five years. In 2018 and 2019, this equates to 10 and 15 percent in those years. Moreover the public utilities also increased the cost of water 5 percent this year alone.</p> <p>And now in 2018, Salt Lake City wants to increase the sales tax by a half a percent and property taxes yet again.</p> <p>Every time a time increase is proposed it is meant to be the panacea to a problem but yet rarely goes away but leads to more and more unfulfilled promises. Living along the Wasatch front is becoming less affordable and increased fees and taxes do little to help struggling families and taxpayers. The question remains when is enough enough? How much money does our government need? All citizens have to live on a budget so why do all levels of government feel they should just increasingly enlarge their scope and place additional burdens on citizens?</p> <p>Please tell the city leaders that enough is enough. We all have to live within a budget. It's time that they do so as well and realize that more must be done to avoid the undue burden on the backs of the taxpayers.</p>