

Legislative Policy Committee

June 1, 2026





LPC Sign-in

AGENDA:

1. Welcome & Adoption of 3/2 minutes
2. Session Data/Spring Training Data
3. LPC Advisory Groups, BUILD Council
4. Prioritization Slido
5. Homelessness
6. Revenue & Taxes
7. Housing & Land Use
8. Economic Development
9. Water
10. Transportation & Billboards
11. Energy
12. Public Safety
13. Potential Constitutional Amendment
14. Interim Study Items
15. Adjourn

REMINDERS:

- Fill out GOED's Opportunity Zone survey by this Friday
- Engage in advisory groups & prioritization process
- RSVP for LPC meetings

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| • August 24 | • January 25 |
| • September 21 | • February 1 |
| • October 19 | • February 8 |
| • November 16 | • February 16 |
| • January 11 | • February 22 |
| | • March 1 |



One size misfits all...

ULCT Resolution 2023-002 on Preserving the Authority of Municipalities

(C) Therefore, be it resolved that:

1. The federal government and the State of Utah should respect and uphold the principles of local self-governance, refrain from unwarranted preemption actions, and engage in collaborative and constructive partnerships with local governments.
2. The ULCT encourages federal and state policymakers and community and civic leaders to recognize and advocate for the preservation and enhancement of local authority, fostering an environment where local governments can thrive and effectively serve their communities.
3. The ULCT fundamentally opposes mandates that unnecessarily create unelected boards, commissions, authorities, or any type of entity that preempts local governments by giving authority to unelected boards/commissions by removing that authority from local elected officials.
4. The ULCT fundamentally opposes mandates that remove revenue from local governments or transfer that revenue to a board, commission, or authority that is not comprised of local elected officials.
5. The ULCT fundamentally opposes mandates that eliminate land use and zoning authority from municipalities.

Upcoming Events

**Next Legislative
Policy Committee
Meeting**

August 24th at the Utah Local Governments Trust & Zoom

**LPC Roster Update
Time Frame**

August (all month long)

**2026 ULCT Annual
Convention**

October 27-28 in Salt Lake City

**2026 National League
of Cities City Summit**

November 19-21 in Nashville, TN

Session & Spring Training Data



Data for the current session is incomplete until the week concludes.

Select Session(s)

- ☐ 2017
- ☐ 2018
- ☐ 2019
- ☐ 2020
- ☐ 2021
- ☒ 2022
- ☒ 2023
- ☒ 2024
- ☒ 2025
- ☒ 2026

- All blank is the same as all selected.
- To select multiple, hold down CTRL/Command key.

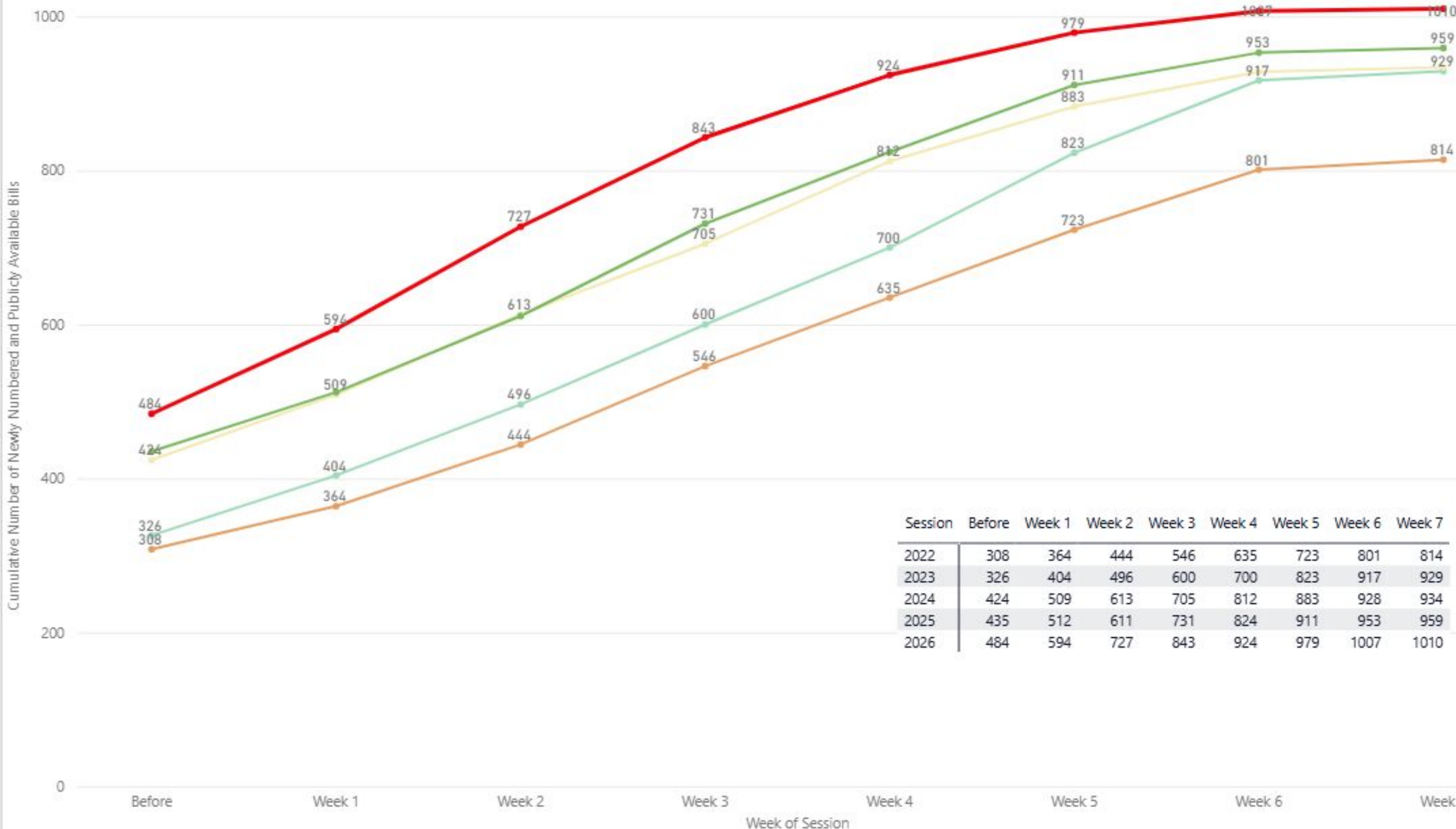
Select an item, then click here for details

The details page lists only the bills between the weeks and not the entire list of bills.

Menu

Cumulative Bills Numbered and Publicly Available (not substitutes) by Week

General Session ● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024 ● 2025 ● 2026



2026: 1,010 bills introduced



Data for the current session is incomplete until the session concludes.

Select Bill Type(s)

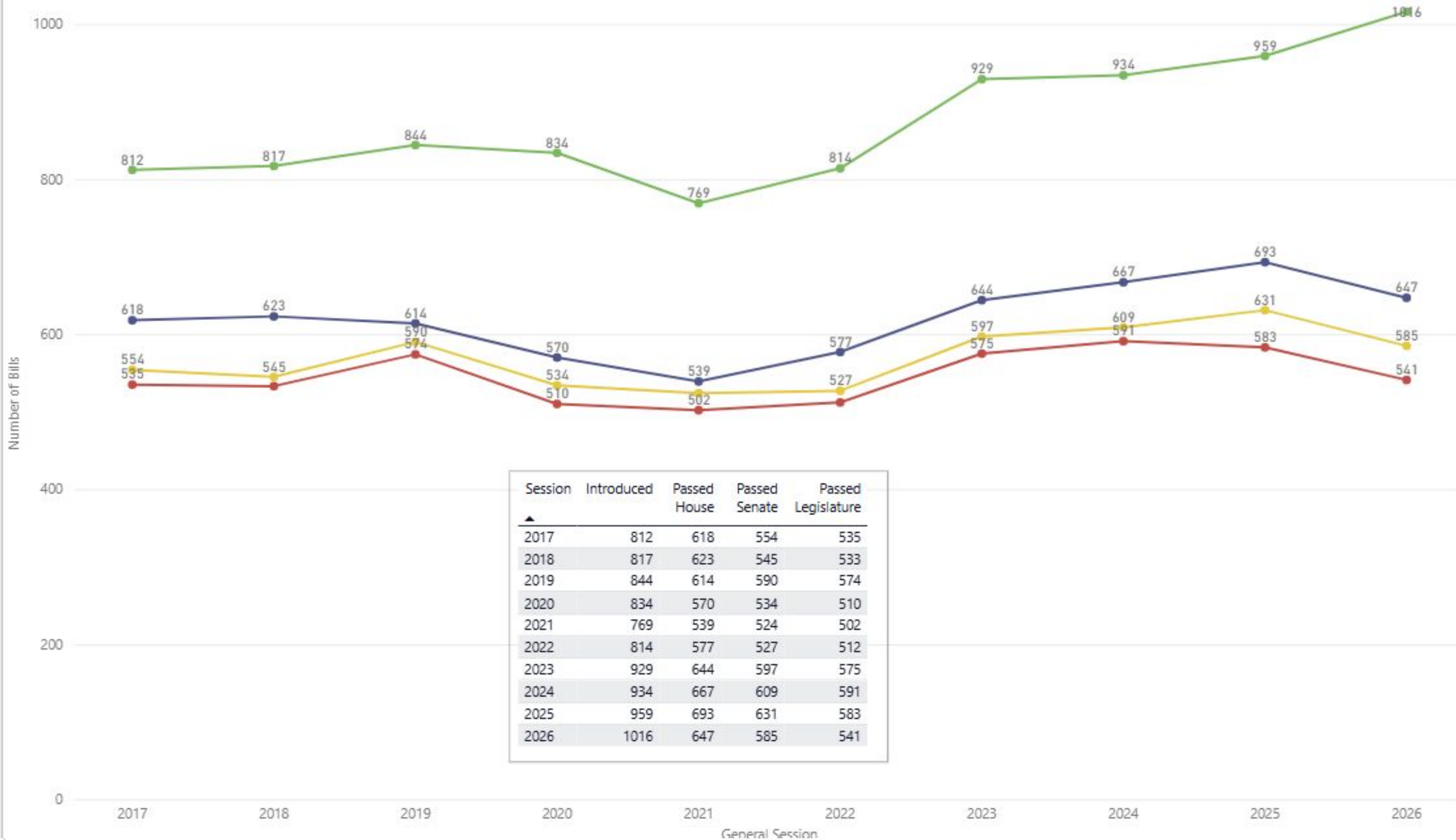
- ☐ HB
- ☐ HCR
- ☐ HJR
- ☐ HR
- ☐ SB
- ☐ SCR
- ☐ SJR
- ☐ SR

- All blank is the same as all selected.
- To select multiple, hold down CTRL/Command key.

Select an item, then click here for details

Menu

Introduced Passed House Passed Senate Passed Legislature



2026 Session Slido Data

6 *LPC
Meetings*

42 *Slido
Questions*

6,395

Total Slido Responses

Spring Training Data

11 *Conference
Presentations*

8 *ULCT
Webinars*

2,042

Total Webinar Views

Spring Training Outreach

8 Webinars covering topics including:

- ✓ Quick session wrap up
- ✓ Taxes and Fees
- ✓ Land Use
- ✓ Economic Development
- ✓ Truth in Taxation (Hosted w/ Tax Commission)
- ✓ Housing (Hosted w/ WFRC)
- ✓ Population Estimates (Hosted w/ KCGI)
- ✓ Best of the Rest

Presented at 10+ conferences/panels:

- 🔊 Utah Land Use Institute
- 🔊 Utah Municipal Attorneys Association
- 🔊 Government Finance Officers Association
- 🔊 Utah Municipal Clerks Association
- 🔊 Utah Records Association
- 🔊 R6 Regional Meeting
- 🔊 Utah Association of Public Treasurers
- 🔊 American Planning Association of Utah
- 🔊 Utah City Managers Association
- 🔊 ULCT Midyear Conference

Legislative Recap



Utah League of Cities and Towns
2026 Legislative Recap

#CitiesWork



Faces & Places

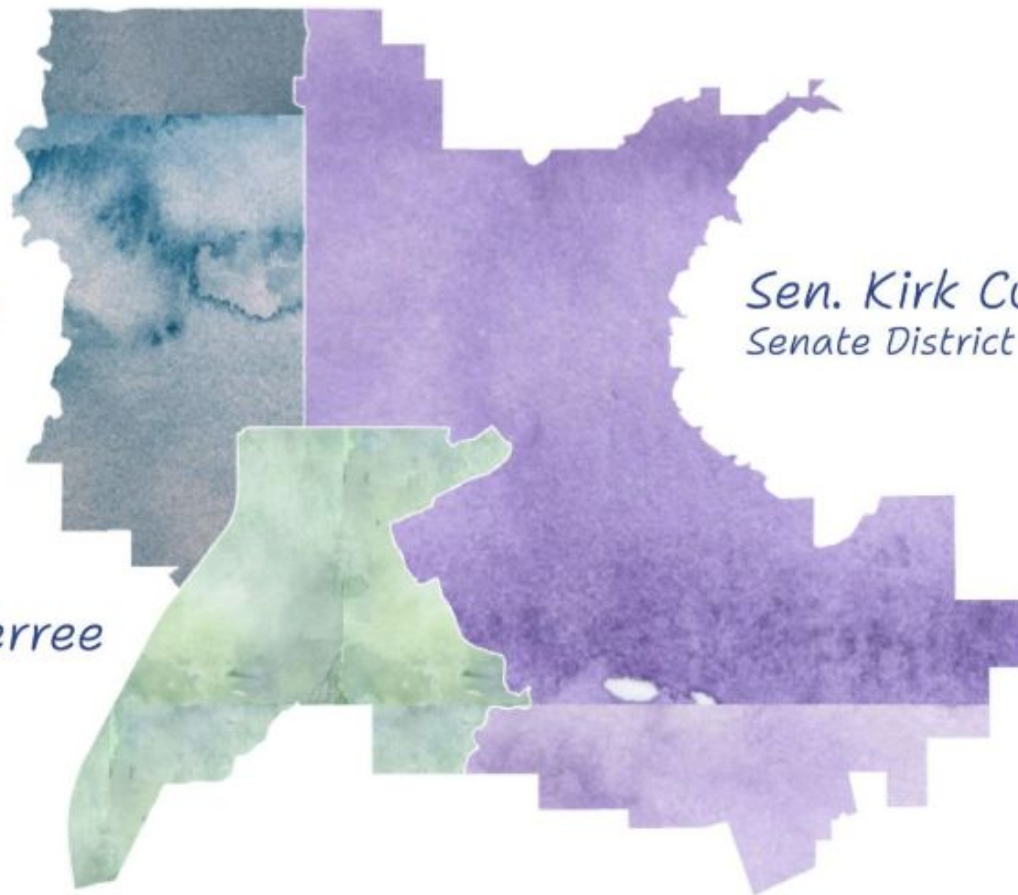
Building effective relationships with state legislators

Utah League of Cities and Towns

Sen. Dan McCay
Senate District 18

Sen. Kirk Cullimore
Senate District 19

Sen. Heidi Balderree
Senate District 22

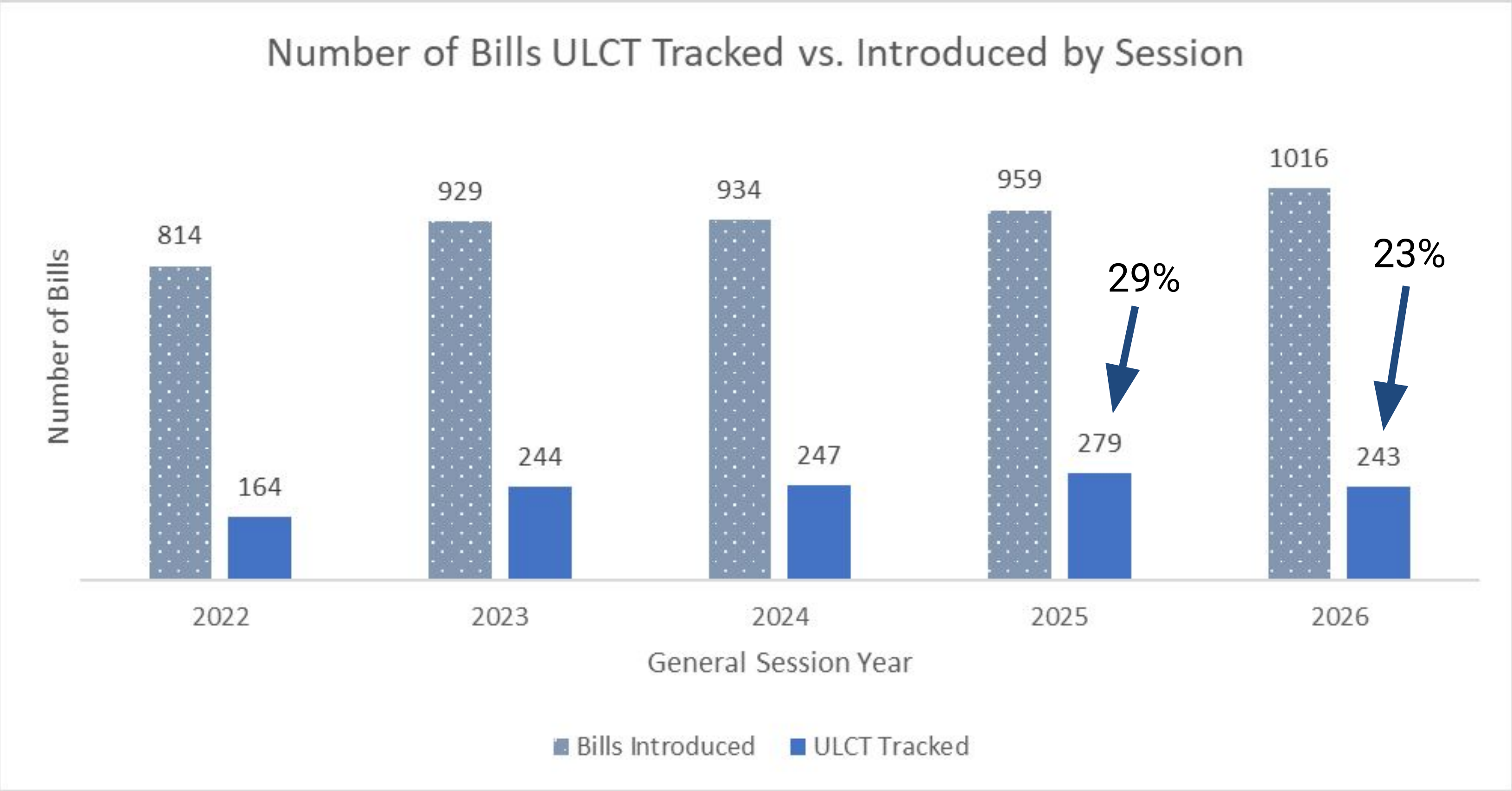


Draper



Summer Surveys/Research

Bills Impacting Municipalities



Code Volume Growth

*Code length by pages 2018 - 2026**

Title 10 (municipalities)

+103 pages (30% increase)

Title 11 (taxing entities)

+132 pages (43% increase)

Title 17C (redevelopment)

+20 pages (20% increase)

Title 51 (public funds)

+11 pages (16% increase)

Title 52 (public officers)

+3 pages (12% increase)

Title 53 (public safety)

+273 pages (81% increase)

Title 54 (public utilities)

+50 pages (24% increase)

Title 59 (revenue & taxation)

+918 pages (29% increase)

Inflationary Costs



\$550,000

FIRE ENGINE ORDERED EARLY 2022



\$915,000

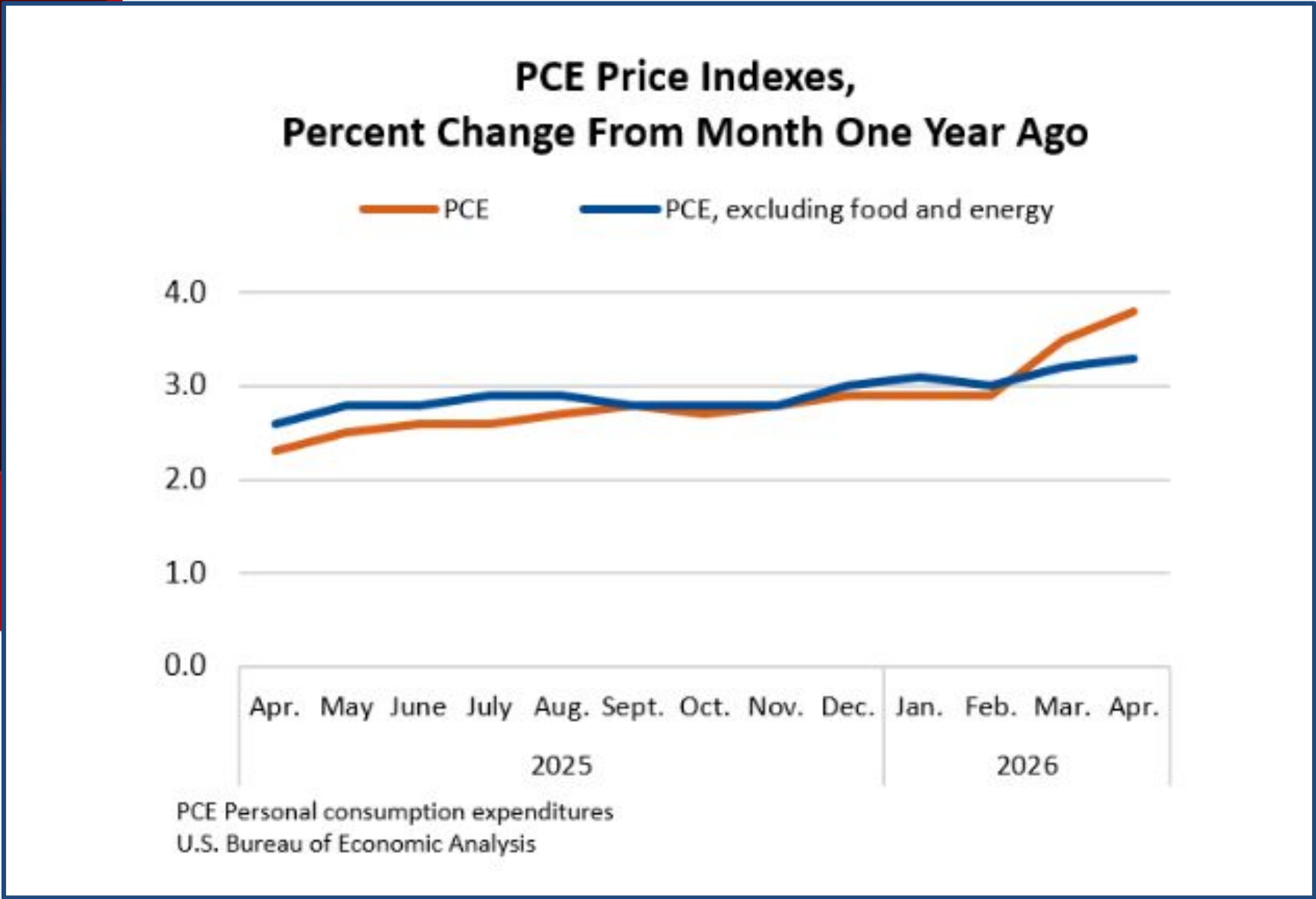
FIRE ENGINE ORDERED DECEMBER 2025

ANF

ATLANTA NEWS FIRST

INVESTIGATES

Month	Municipal Cost Index	MCI Year-Year Change
Jan 2026	328	2.61%
Feb 2026	331	2.86%
Mar 2026	334	3.86%
Apr 2026	337	4.77%



Research Projects

Cost of Implementation

- Implicit costs of implementing legislation and new federal requirements.
 - Emphasis on legislation
- Survey/research partnership

Cost of a City

- Demonstrate increases in cost to provide services (capital and ongoing)

Enhancing Fiscal Impact Data

State Government

UCA 36-12-13(2)(c)

Revenues	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028
Total Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enactment of this legislation likely will not materially impact state revenue.			
Expenditures	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028
Total Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0
Enactment of this legislation likely will not materially impact state expenditures.			
	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028

Local Government

UCA 36-12-13(2)(c)

Enactment of this legislation could cost each impacted local government \$20,000 one-time in FY 2027 for a flight park study, public outreach, staff time, and consultant fees.

Individuals & Businesses

UCA 36-12-13(2)(c)

Enactment of this legislation likely will not result in direct expenditures from tax or fee changes for Utah residents and businesses.

Regulatory Impact

UCA 36-12-13(2)(d)

Enactment of this legislation could result in a small increase in the regulatory burden for Utah residents or businesses.

Performance Evaluation

JR1-4-601

This bill does not create a new program or significantly expand an existing program.

**Advisory Groups & BUILD
Council**

2026 Interim Advisory Groups

Groups we know we need to meet soon

- Housing/land use
 - Continued from last year
 - MIHP 2.0
 - LUTF advisory group
- Annexations
- Economic Development
- Billboards

Groups we will likely need later

- PIDS
 - Working with legislators and Auditor
- Impact Fees
 - OLAG Audit
- Property Tax (and other revenue)
 - continued from last year
- Water
 - Waiting for specific topics to determine need

Email Justin if you want to be included in any of these group - jlee@ulct.utah.gov

BUILD Council Work Groups

Cameron Diehl represents cities on BUILD and ULCT will have 2ish reps in the following 6 strategic work groups

1: Regional
Infrastructure

3: Centers

5: Tech Integration
(transportation, utilities, etc.)

2: Public Land

4: Agricultural
Optimization

6: Disaster resiliency

Email Alexa at aoldham@ulct.utah.gov if you are interested in serving

Outdoor Recreation Initiative Regional Recreation Council Opportunity

City or County Elected Officials needed from the following counties:

Box Elder

Emery

Sevier

Daggett

Garfield

Uintah

Duchesne

Iron

Weber

Salt Lake

*Email Alexa at [**aoldham@ulct.utah.gov**](mailto:aoldham@ulct.utah.gov) if you are interested in serving*

Prioritization Slido

Priority Issues as of 6/1



Housing & Land Use

Local land use authority,
affordable home ownership



Water Conservation

Sustainability & Resources



Local Financial Tools

Property tax, sales tax, fees



Infrastructure

Funding & Development



Homelessness

City, county, state roles



Economic Dev.

Tax Increment, PIDs

Potential Priority Issues

SLIDO: Which of the following items do you think should be prioritized to be addressed this interim?

- Population Estimates
- Door-to-door sales licensing
- Clarifying E-bike regulation
- Disposition of public property
- Constitutional amendment to allow cities to sell water

Potential Priority Issues

SLIDO: Which of the following items would your city spend your political capital with legislators to address?

- Population Estimates
- Door-to-door sales licensing
- Clarifying E-bike regulation
- Disposition of public property
- Constitutional amendment to allow cities to sell water

Homelessness

Homeless Shelter Cities Mitigation Task Force

Overview

- ULCT and the Office of Homeless Services (OHS) are partnering on an interim task force to explore the policy surrounding the State Homeless Shelter Cities Mitigation Fund
- The Task force will report its findings and recommendations to OHS, the Shelter Cities Advisory Board, and the Utah Homeless Services Board (UHSB) in the fall
- They will also keep ULCT membership apprised of progress as appropriate through LPC and other ULCT events

Homeless Shelter Cities Mitigation Task Force

Task Force Responsibilities

- Assess public safety costs for municipalities hosting eligible shelters
- Develop best practices for tracking and categorizing mitigation expenses
- Recommend a mitigation funding formula that:
 - Reflects shelter capacity and utilization
 - Adjusts over time using measurable system metrics
- Recommend mitigation fund distributions
- Recommend mitigation fund contribution requirements for non-host municipalities
- Identify qualifying offsets for mitigation contributions

Appointments to the Mitigation Task Force

Shelter City Representatives

Appointed by the ULCT Board of Directors based on recommendations from the Shelter Cities Advisory Board

- Ogden Mayor **Ben Nadolski**
- South Salt Lake Mayor **Cherie Wood**
- Tooele Mayor **Maresa Manzione**

Non-Shelter City Representatives

Appointed by the ULCT Board of Directors

- Bountiful Mayor **Kate Bradshaw**
- Orem Mayor **Karen McCandless**
- Springdale Mayor **Barbara Bruno**

OHS Officers and Utah Homeless Services Board Members

Appointed by the UHSB Chair & State Homeless Coordinator

- State Homeless Coordinator Tyler Clancy (Designee: **Nate Meinzer**)
- Salt Lake City Mayor **Erin Mendenhall**
- Department of Workforce Services Executive Director **Casey Cameron**

ULCT & OHS Staff

Non-voting, administrative support

- ULCT Deputy Director **Molly Wheeler**
- OHS Director of External Operations **Nick Coleman**

Takeaways for you

1. The Task Force will updates the ULCT Board of Directors and LPC throughout the process
2. Primary point of contact: Molly Wheeler (mwheeler@ulct.utah.gov)

Revenue & Taxes

Important Reminder for Municipalities Proposing a Property Tax Increase:

The deadline to notify the Tax Commission and your County Auditor of the date, time, and place of your municipality's August Truth in Taxation hearing is close of business TODAY.

Entities that don't provide notice cannot continue with the Truth in Taxation process.

Technical Errors in 2026 Legislation

Email Alexa at aoldham@ulct.utah.gov if you have run into any technical issues in the Truth in Taxation or budgeting statutory process

Property tax in the headlines since session

In one of his final acts, DeSantis calls for vote on sweeping Florida property tax cut

If Republican legislative leaders go along with DeSantis' plan, it will give the GOP a way to argue it is addressing the state's persistent affordability crisis heading into the midterms.

The plan—which DeSantis shared in a one-page summary—would increase the state's homestead exemption from \$50,000 to \$250,000, a move that would virtually eliminate property taxes for about 60 percent of Florida residents who now qualify for the exemption, according to *POLITICO*.

More Property Tax Proposals

ULCT meets with state leagues nationwide to stay updated on proposals from other state legislatures

Ohio

- Citizens group collecting signatures for a ballot proposition to eliminate property taxes

Georgia

- House Speaker's original priority was to eliminate property taxes altogether
- Ultimate bill capped valuation increases to inflation
- House was unsatisfied and wants to roll back property tax further next year

Florida

- House passed a bill that would reduce property tax revenue by \$100k each year until all property tax revenue was eliminated- total of \$15B hit for local governments (schools held harmless)
- Failed in the Senate, but Gov called a special session to reconsider action on property tax

Property Tax Resources

[*ulct.utah.gov/property-tax*](https://ulct.utah.gov/property-tax)

- Short videos and handouts designed for public education on property tax
- ULCT Truth in Taxation webinar
- Tax Commission's Truth in Taxation Checklist
- ULCT municipal budget process timeline
- Example property tax impact schedule and agenda outlines



TOTAL

SCHED

PROPOSAL

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
1	100	1.00	100.00
2	50	2.00	100.00
3	25	4.00	100.00
4	10	10.00	100.00
TOTAL			400.00

SCHEDULE

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
1	100	1.00	100.00
2	50	2.00	100.00
3	25	4.00	100.00
4	10	10.00	100.00
TOTAL 400.00			

increase schedule
which explains



Thanks to our 2025-26 property tax group!

ULCT officers & board members:

- Bountiful Mayor **Kate Bradshaw**
- Santa Clara Council Member **Christa Hinton**
- Herriman Mayor **Lorin Palmer**
- Draper Mayor **Troy Walker**
- Spanish Fork City Manager **Seth Perrins**
- North Logan Mayor **Lyndsay Peterson**
- Clearfield Mayor **Mark Shepherd**

Others:

- Logan - **Rich Anderson**
- Clearfield - **JJ Allen**
- Bountiful - **Gary Hill**

- Salt Lake City - **Jennifer Bruno, Angela Price, Mary Beth Thompson**
- South Salt Lake - Mayor **Cherie Wood, Josh Collins**
- Millcreek - **Lisa Dudley**
- Taylorsville - **John Hiskey, John Taylor, Dina Blaes**
- Midvale - **Mariah Hill**
- Sandy - **Ryan Mecham**
- West Jordan - **Danyce Steck**
- South Jordan - **Sunil Naidu**
- Gunnison - **Dennis Marker**
- Parowan - **Dan Jessen**
- Toquerville - **Ben Billingsley**
- ULCT - **Kerri Nakamura, Roger Tew**

Local authority over fees and taxes

- concern about implementation of the transportation utility fee (TUF)
- concern about other municipal fees for:
 - broadband
 - building permits/inspections
 - parks
 - rights of way
- impact fees
- concern about special service districts' ability to impose property taxes or fees if district board members are not directly elected
- MIDA and tax increment

Takeaways for you

1. Significant attention on property taxes and fees--who has authority to raise them, process, use, etc.--and advisory group will meet later in interim
2. Notify us about technical issues that arise this budget season so we can address them legislatively
3. ULCT gathering info from truth-in-taxation impact schedules
 - a. If you make any changes to your impact schedule, email the updated copy to aoldham@ulct.utah.gov

Housing & Land Use

HBs 68 and 492 implementation

HB 68: GOED now the host of state housing programs, state shift almost done

GOED hiring to manage HB 492 fund and use of state surplus land

HB 492: \$ available July 1 to unlock housing w/emphasis on affordable home ownership

- \$100 million loans for system infrastructure anywhere in state
- Grants available for infrastructure in Salt Lake County

Watch for a ULCT webinar in late June about the application process

Housing fault lines: starter homes

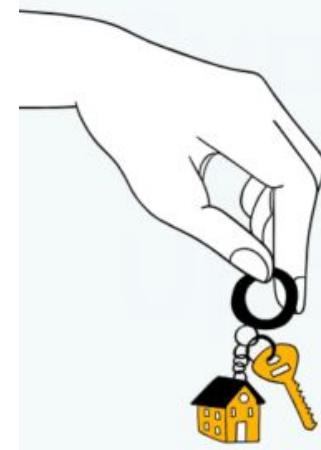
Gov. Cox: 35,000 new starter homes by 2028

State Housing Plan metrics: [Utah Housing Plan Metrics](#)

Builders: city zoning won't let us build starter homes because of lot size, setbacks, & other req'ts

Cities: many examples of allowing small lots, small setbacks and builders building large, unaffordable units (and some become rentals); infrastructure shortcomings

Recent bills: city can require % of units over 6 units to acre to be affordable or built smaller than than 1,800 sq feet



How Cities Can Expand Opportunities for Homeownership

Tools, Partnerships, and Case Studies
Beyond Single-Family Housing

Thursday, March 26th
Noon via Zoom



CENTERS WORK!

*Utah's Missing Middle Housing Toolkit:
Practical Help for Local Governments*



CENTERS WORK!

*See It to Believe It: Visualizations &
Interactive Tools to Inspire Your Next Center*

Tuesday, October 7th
Noon via Zoom



Tuesday, November 18th
Noon via Zoom



C of O Reporting Reminder

Instead of MIHP reports, MIHP cities are required to report the number of residential units issued certificates of occupancy during the last year to G0E0.



MIHP 2.0 & Gov. Cox's starter home goal

Rep. Gricius' HB 436: froze MIHP reporting for this year

LPC 2025: lots of feedback about MIHP 2.0 concepts which informed HB 492

Unanswered Q in 2026: what happens to MIHP next year?

Reminder: October 1 deadline to ensure compliance with detached ADU ordinance (SB 284)

Impact Fees

- 2026 Impact Fee Bills Introduced:
 - SB 245 (Sen. C. Musselman) - Service area must be justified if it covers the entire city
 - HB 568 (Rep. T. Peterson) - Caps impact fees at \$50,000 for one public facility type
 - HB 570 (Rep. R. Ward) - Requires the number of plumbing fixtures to be used in calculating impact fees for single family residential units
- Legislative audit by Office of the Legislative Auditor General (OLAG)

Impact Fees

Active litigation

- **Issue:** Whether a city can spend impact fees collected under one impact fee study for projects that were only included in a subsequent impact fee facilities plan.
- **Key principle** worth defending: If the nexus and proportionality elements are still met, then funds should still be able to apply to new projects/facilities in amended or new facilities plans. Infrastructure plans and needs change dramatically overtime and flexibility to adapt should be retained by cities and towns.

Land Use Task Force Potential Topics

- Impact fee studies
 - Impact fee methodology, metered data, lot/unit size, fixtures (bldg permit)
 - Impact fee & individualized determination
 - Use of AI in plan review (pilot?)
 - Prohibit requiring garages for >80% AMI
 - Uniform development standards
 - Reasonable diligence
- Pre-approved design (South Bend)
 - GP/zoning concurrency
 - Regional housing plans/goals
 - No flexibility in land use authority unless explicitly dictated in state statute (Dillon rule)

Land Use Task Force Potential Topics

- Plan review & inspection timing - question study
- City accountability/penalty for mistakes
- Permits all third-party to perform review/inspection
- Inspection fee structures
- Penalties on cities for non-compliance with state law, faster admin appeal (examples: excessive bonding req'ts, delays, design standards, improper tax)
- Auto transition from bond release to warranty
- Require city to make formal finding when denying property use

- Limits on duplicate engineering review fees
- Accept stamped engineering docs w/o city review
- Reduce building permit fees if a private special inspection is req'd
- Retention bond req'ts
- Limits on deed restrictions, DAs
- Impact fees can't be assessed until you actually have impact
- Can't ask for more than what is in municipal code
- "Modernization" of GPs/zoning

Law School Question on Inspections

Scenario:

Builder desires to have an inspection performed on a house. On Monday, June 1st, the builder tries to schedule an inspection through Tingey Town's online scheduling tool. The builder notices that the first available time Tingey Town has open is the following Monday, June 8th. The builder schedules the inspection for June 8th. The inspection is done on Wednesday, June 10th.

Do you believe Tingey Town met the requirement to perform the inspection within three days?

Are builders in your city always able to schedule an inspection within three days from the time they get on or do they have to pick the first available time (which may be more than three days out)?

Do you think there needs to be clarification regarding when the 3 days begins?

HOAs

Alleged Concerns:

- HOA Boards are unsophisticated to handle public works issues
- HOA's charge money for what "should be provided by cities and paid for through property tax"
- Double taxation for the same benefits that others receive through their property tax
- Remove the ability to use HOA's as a function of consideration for development moving forward

Proposal:

- Require cities to reimburse or provide discount for HOA areas
- Prohibit use of HOAs in development agreements

Update on PIDs

Beginning of Auditor's Findings:

- A PID in Coalville went bankrupt.
- Auditor did financial audit on Coalville's financial statement and found that Coalville did not accurately report that PID was a component unit of the city
- Auditor withheld distribution of funds for a week period, and then later released them.

Auditor's Determination:

- Some PIDs are component units depending on how they are established & supported the claim by stating that GASB would not allow them to depart from the rule.
- If board was chosen by city, then automatically a component unit and required to report on financial statement

Update on PIDs

Possible Questions/Protections:

- Additional regulation may be needed
 - League's approach has only been related to "component unit"
- Transparency
 - Signs
 - Clear placement "Your Property is Included Within a PID"
- Sales Price

Annexation/incorporation/prelim. munis

Alleged Concerns:

- Municipalities are purposefully stopping development by exercising their authority to stop automatic annexations.

League Response:

- Rejected idea of automatic annexation for unincorporated areas along borders of cities because of local land use authority to determine own boundaries
- Last session, Utah County, Davis County, and Weber County had some form of automatic annexation of inner islands (completely surrounded by the same County and less than 55 acres) based on specific criteria

ANNEXATION WILL BE BACK!

Takeaways for you

1. Housing/land use advisory subgroup (volunteer!)
 - a. Depending on amount of interest, it may break up into smaller subject groups
2. ULCT has met with interested legislators on annex/incorp, HOAs, PIDs, impact fees and will meet with the Property Rights Coalition soon so fill out the prioritization survey!

Economic Development

ULCT Policy Resolution 2019-001:

Community first approach to economic development

(C) Therefore, we, the members of the Utah League of Cities and Towns resolve that:

1. Utah should promote a community-first model of economic development, which prioritizes sustainability and quality of life for all residents, old and new.
2. Collaboration in economic development should be encouraged and supported reciprocally in all levels of government, recognizing that economic development is most effectively and efficiently implemented locally.
3. Any comprehensive review of current tools and programs will only be successful with the involvement of cities and towns and must prioritize community-first economic development.

ULCT Policy Resolution 2017-001: Encouraging Economic Development while preserving local land use authority and tax increment

(C) Therefore, we, the members of the Utah League of Cities and Towns resolve that:

1. Cities and towns within the State of Utah commit that they are willing and ready to collaborate and partner with the State, the business community, and other stakeholders to pursue a broad range of future economic development opportunities, including those located in proximity to State transportation infrastructure.
2. Cities and towns cannot support development proposals, task forces, commissions, districts, development authorities or other legislation that would deprive local municipalities of their traditional local land use authority on private property, or deprive them of control of tax increment generated within their jurisdiction without their consent.

Then (February)



Voters know what the next big issue is. They don't know how they feel about it.

Our new poll reveals the early contours of an evolving political battle.

Data centers are quickly becoming the next big political issue. And neither party has figured out how to run on them.

Major political figures on both sides have struggled to figure out their positions, and in-depth [results from The POLITICO Poll](#) help explain why: Americans don't know much about data centers, they don't really know how to feel about them and they're not yet sure where the political battle lines lie.

But they do know they matter. A bipartisan majority of Americans said they expect data centers to become a campaign issue in their area eventually, the poll found, with nearly half saying it would become one within the next five years.

Now (May)

GALLUP®

Americans Oppose AI Data Centers in Their Area

BY JEFFREY M. JONES MAY 13, 2026

Seven in 10 Americans Oppose Local Construction of AI Data Centers

Overall, would you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the construction of a data center in your area to support artificial intelligence, or AI, technology in the U.S.?



March 2-18, 2026
"No opinion" percentage not shown

[Get the data](#) • [Download image](#)

GALLUP®

Box Elder Data Center in the Headlines

Box Elder County Authorizes MIDA to Initiate Stratos Project

County News & Press Releases

Posted on May 04, 2026

‘Rejected’: Voters won’t get a say on Box Elder data center, county attorney says

Box Elder County Attorney Stephen R. Hadfield determined that no referendum application “is legally referable to voters” — but also makes way for a potential lawsuit.



MAY 29, 2026

Gov. Cox signs Executive Order setting a higher bar for data center development in Utah

EXECUTIVE ORDER
2026-03

AI Preemption Bills Around the Country

Proposals aiming to protect the broader ability for individuals to develop and use AI; impose a very high legal standard on any local government action that regulates AI

- New Hampshire (2, 1 failed), Ohio, South Carolina, Virginia

Proposals prohibiting engagement with AI systems controlled or owned by an entity from a foreign country

- Georgia, Florida (2, both failed)

Proposals specifically targeting local regulation of AI

- Illinois, New Hampshire (failed)

Other states have proposed legislation that specifically restricts or bans data center development

Governor's Office of Economic Development Strategic Plan

Cox unveils 'Utah Elevated' plan to guide state's economic growth over the next decade

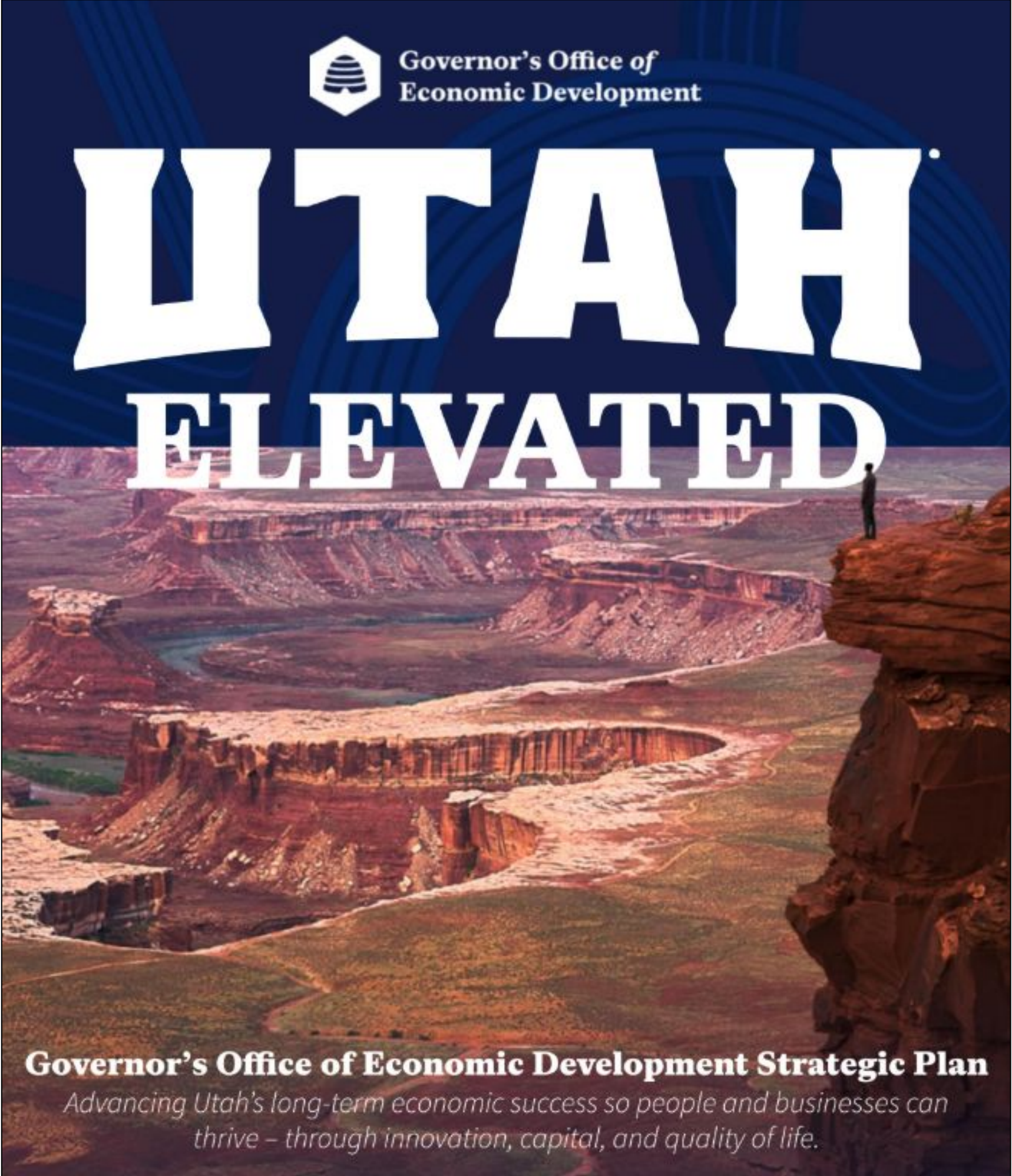
By Bridger Beal-Cvetko, KSL | Updated - May 22, 2026 at 9:27 a.m. | Posted - May 22, 2026 at 9:27 a.m.





Governor's Office of
Economic Development

UTAH ELEVATED



Governor's Office of Economic Development Strategic Plan
Advancing Utah's long-term economic success so people and businesses can thrive – through innovation, capital, and quality of life.

GOED Opportunity Zone Survey

- Governor Cox will designate 37 Opportunity Zones in Utah by September 1st. Help inform his decision by filling out this survey!
- Contact Olivia at GOED at omidgley@utah.gov with questions



Due this Friday, June 5th

HB 475: Economic Development Council

- 1) Purpose: establish strategic economic development objectives, coordinate projects with regional or statewide significance, make recommendations to GOED Exec. Dir. & Legislature
- 2) ULCT successfully lobbied for local gov't representation on the council
- 3) Membership:
 - Governor
 - Senate President
 - House Speaker
 - Fairpark Area Investment and Restoration District (UFAIR) Director
 - Inland Port Authority Director
 - Military Installation Development Authority Director
 - Point of the Mountain Director
 - School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration Director
 - Utah Assoc. of Counties CEO
 - Utah League of Cities and Towns: Board of Directors appointed Cameron Diehl to council
- 4) Meeting schedule: TBA

HB 507: Political Subdivisions TIF work group

- 1) Purpose: study tax increment policy, including caps on the amount of revenue or % allowed
- 2) ULCT successfully lobbied for local government representation on this work group
- 3) Membership:
 - Rep. Jim Dunnigan
 - Rep. Jill Koford
 - Rep. Cal Roberts
 - Sen. Wayne Harper
 - Sen. Cal Musselman
 - Jordan School District's John Larsen
 - Tax Commission's Jason Gardner
 - UAC's Brandy Grace
 - ULCT: Board of Directors appointed Cameron Diehl
- 4) Timeline: recommendations by Nov. 1

Takeaways for you

1. 2026 Session:

- a. Limited tax increment that could be offered to large load data centers
- b. Converts state-approved tax increment tools (HTRZ, FHIZ, HOPZ) to RSDZ by Jan 1, 2028
- c. Preserved local authority over local tax increment tools (CRA), but enhanced reporting
- d. Created two state-level workgroups to study tax increment and economic development strategy

2. Economic development/TIF LPC advisory work group: please volunteer!

- a. first ULCT meeting ASAP to discuss existing TIF tools, data centers, and more

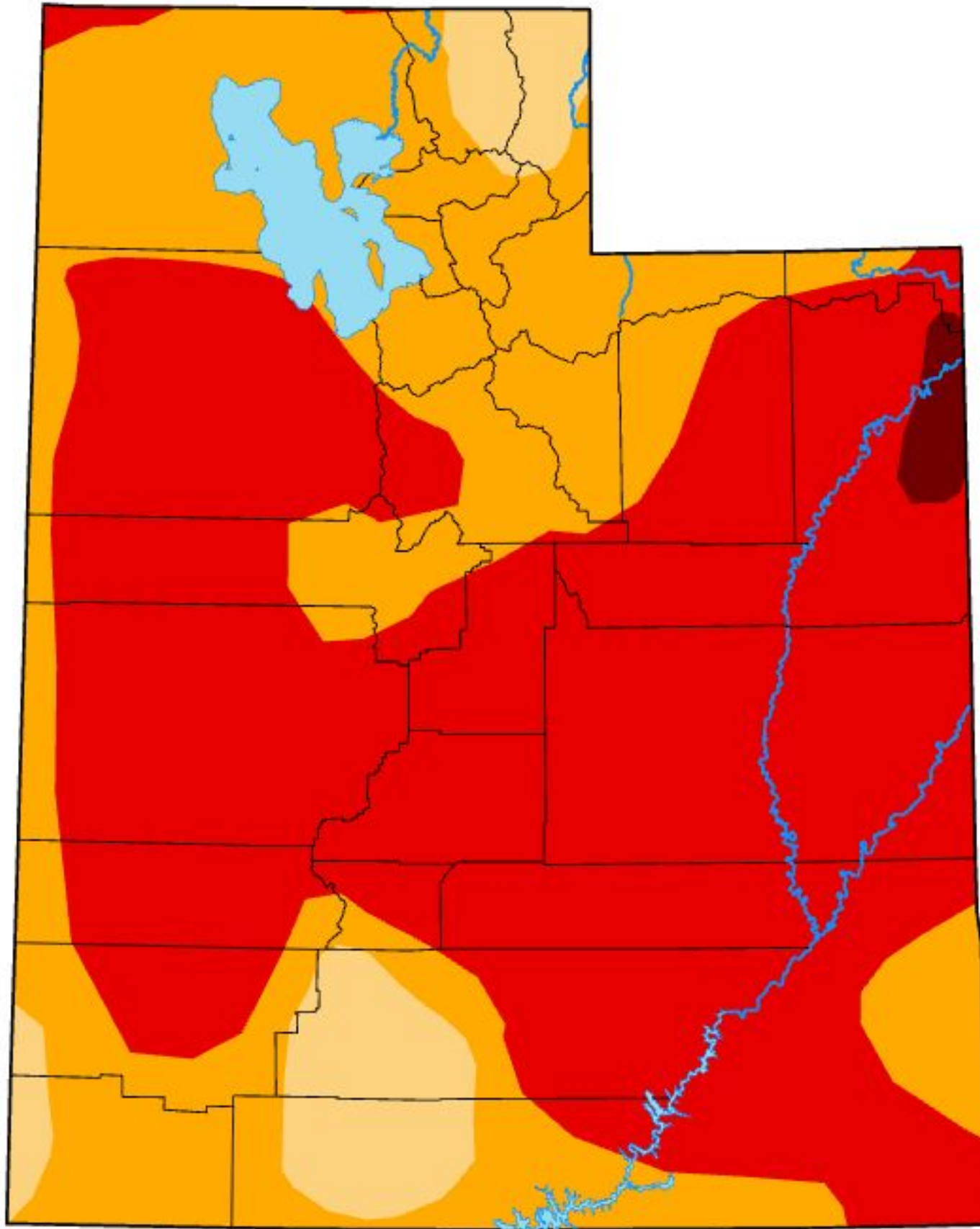
Water



Utah State Capitol - Shelby Cooley

Gov. Cox Issues Drought Executive Order





Map released: Thurs. May 28, 2026

Data valid: May 26, 2026 at 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):

[Adam Allgood](#), NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

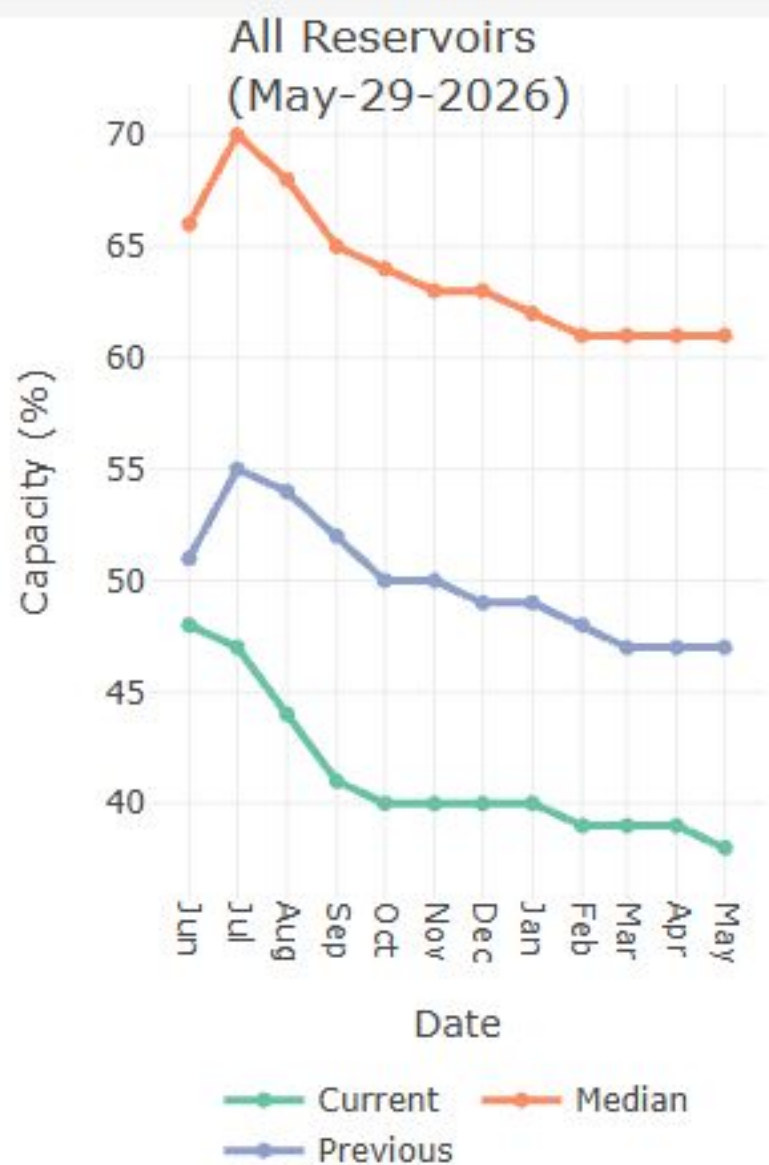
Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

[Rocky Bilotta](#), NOAA/NCEI

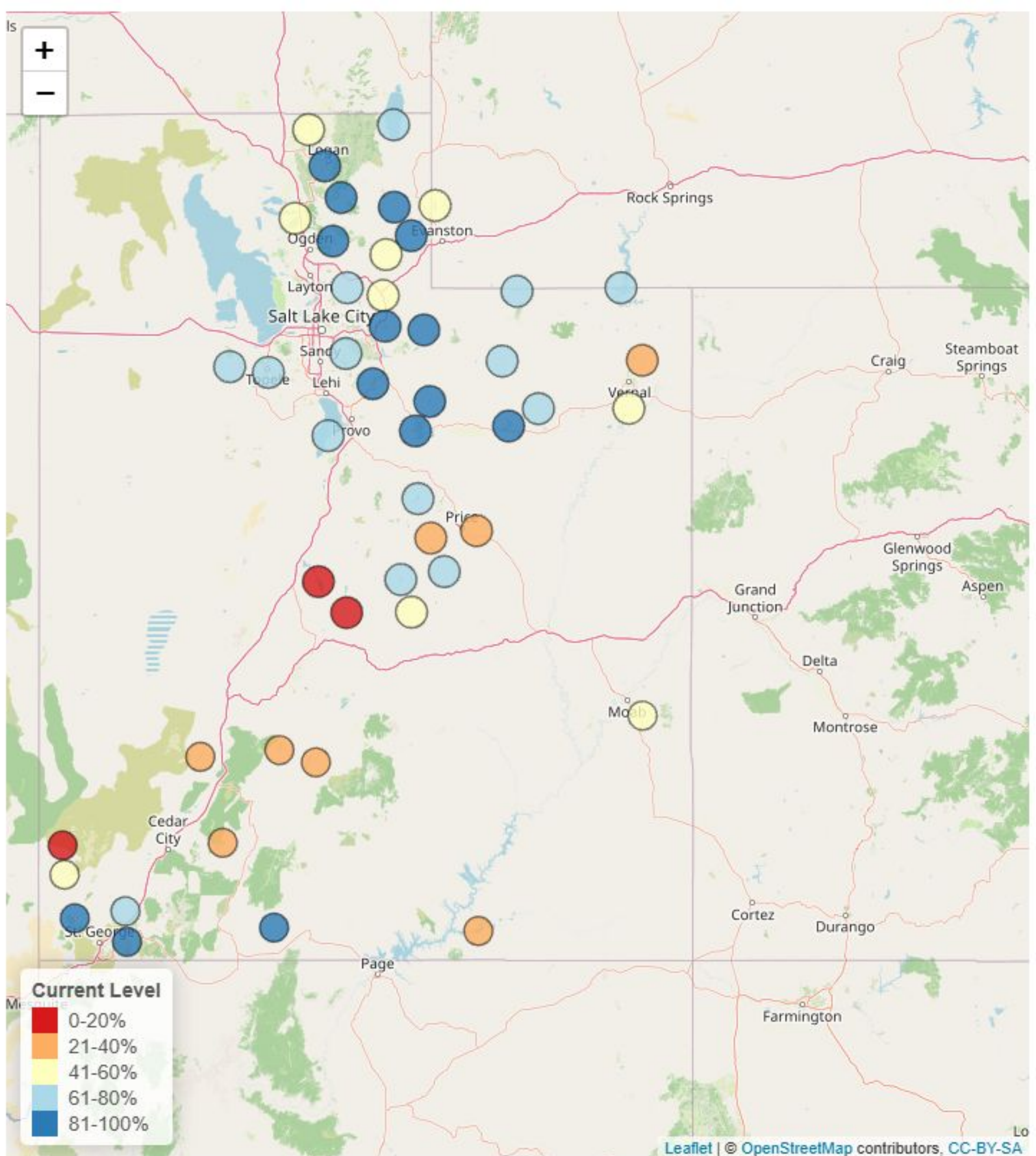
Reservoir Conditions

Reservoir Selection:

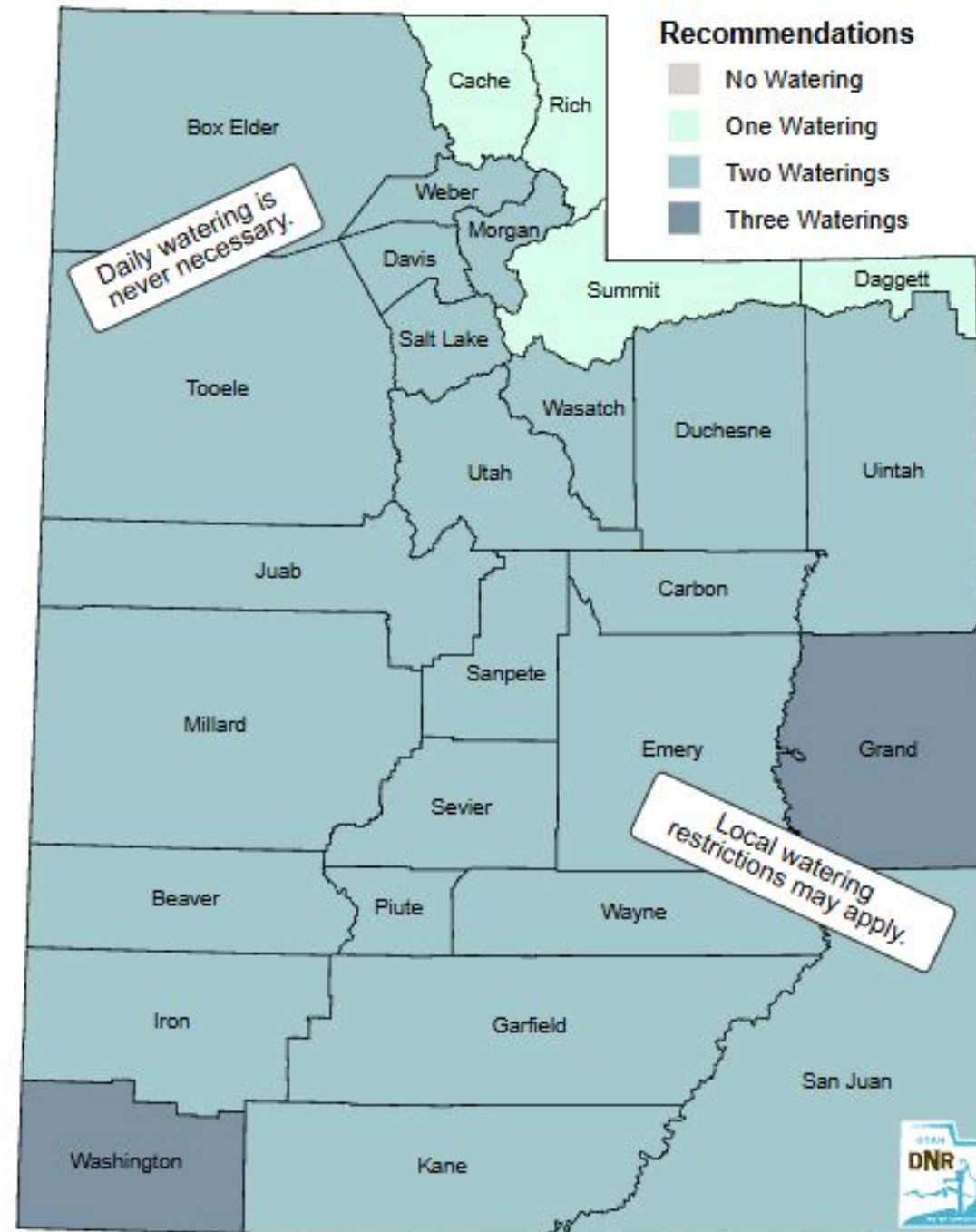
All Reservoirs Capacity: 38%



This month's 'Current' data represent varied dates based on available data for each reservoir. Click the [More Info](#) tab to learn more.



Weekly Lawn Watering Guide

Lawn Watering Guide
May 29 - June 04, 2026Get a rebate at SlowTheFlow.org

How long should I water?

The chart below shows how different sprinkler heads apply water at different rates. A higher precipitation rate means a shorter run time. For example, 1.3 inches per hour = 23 minutes.

Head type	Precipitation rate	Run time for 0.5" of water	Cycle recommendation
Spray	1.3" - 2.0"	23 - 15 min	3 cycles (8 or 5 min)
Rotor	0.4" - 1.0"	75 - 30 min	3 cycles (25 or 10 min)
Multi-stream, multi-trajectory	0.4" - 0.6"	75 - 50 min	3 cycles (25 or 17 min)

*Information courtesy of the [Center for Water Efficient Landscaping](#), Utah State University.

Not sure what your precipitation rate is? Schedule or DIY a [water check](#).

Cycling Recommendation: Instead of running sprinklers all at once, split the total run time into three shorter cycles with 30–45 minute breaks in between. This 'cycle and soak' method helps the soil absorb water and reduces runoff.

Did you know that weather-based irrigation controllers use weather stations to determine how frequently your irrigation system should turn on? When programmed correctly, these controllers have the potential to save a lot of water. Find out if you qualify for irrigation controller rebates or other rebates and incentives at SlowTheFlow.org.

Takeaways for you

1. Check out [Drought.Utah.Gov](#) for various resources for your city or town and your residents

Transportation... and billboards



Surface Transportation Reauthorization Utah's Background & Principles 2025-2026

Provided by Utah's Transportation Partners

Background

The current federal multi-year surface transportation authorization legislation – the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) – expires on September 30, 2026. Utah's transportation agencies and partners have jointly developed key *principles* for a multi-year reauthorization to keep Utah moving. These shared principles aim to advance the collaborative work between all partners, as embodied in [Utah's Unified Transportation Plan](#).

Considerations as Utah stakeholders engage in transportation reauthorization deliberations:

Trains, planes, and automobiles... and boards

New Utah Transit Authority commission, beginning July 1

- Davis/Weber Co. COG: former Ogden Mayor (and ULCT President) Mike Caldwell
- SL Co. COG: former Millcreek Mayor (and ULCT President) Jeff Silvestrini
- Utah Co. COG: Muriel Xochimtl
- 2 House Speaker appointments
- 2 Senate President appoints

Billboards and reconstruction (SB 219)

Takeaways:

- Hold tight on transit & fed \$; if your city has billboards and pending construction of a state freeway/highway, please join the LPC advisory group!

Takeaways for you

1. Hold tight on transit & federal Surface Transportation Act
2. If your city has billboards and pending construction of a state freeway/highway, please join the LPC advisory group!

Energy

Energy update

Operation Gigawatt: double Utah's power production over the next decade

Focus areas: transmission capacity, more energy production (e.g. nuclear, geothermal), innovation & research

Pioneer pipeline expansion concept & potential affected entities:

- Summit County
- Salt Lake County
- Emigration Canyon
- Salt Lake City
- Woods Cross
- West Bountiful
- North Salt Lake

Takeaways for you

Takeaways:

1. Hold tight on Operation Gigawatt for now
2. Stay tuned for Pioneer Pipeline kickoff meeting

Public Safety
Utah Communications Authority

Potential Constitutional Amendment on Initiatives

Interim Study Items

2026 Interim Study Items



Study Items Added at May Interim:

Revenue & Taxation

- Feasibility studies for incorporating municipalities

Economic Development & Workforce Services

- State land use authorities (MIDA, UIPA, others)
- Data centers

Natural Resources, Agriculture, & Environment

- Data center impact on wildlife

2026 Interim Advisory Groups

Groups we know we need to meet soon

- Housing/land use
 - Continued from last year
 - MIHP 2.0
 - LUTF advisory group
- Annexations
- Economic Development
- Billboards

Groups we will likely need later

- PIDS
 - Working with legislators and Auditor
- Impact Fees
 - OLAG Audit
- Property Tax (and other revenue)
 - continued from last year
- Water
 - Waiting for specific topics to determine need

Email Justin if you want to be included in any of these group - jlee@ulct.utah.gov

Takeaways for you

1. LPC advisory groups starting soon
 - Housing/Land Use
 - Annexations
 - Property Tax
 - Economic Development
 - Billboards
2. Homeless shelter cities mitigation task force underway
3. Outdoor recreation volunteers from cities within 10 counties
4. BUILD work groups (regional infra, public lands, centers, ag optimization, technology, disaster resiliency)
5. Utah Communications Authority interest
6. Upcoming webinars on TUF, HB 492, DADUs
7. Policy prioritization survey

Summer Advocacy Calendar

**June Legislative
Interim**

June 16-17 at the Capitol

ULCT Board Meeting

June 22 at Bountiful City Hall

June Primary Election

June 23

ULCT Board Meeting

August 17 at the League Offices

**August Legislative
Interim**

August 19 (No July Interim) at the Capitol

LPC Meeting

August 24 at the Utah Local Governments Trust & via Zoom

**State Work Groups &
LPC Advisory Groups**

All Summer Long!

*Cache on June 8
Tooele on June 18*

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