

**Utah League of Cities and Towns**  
**Legislative Policy Committee Agenda – September 9, 2019, 12:00 p.m.**  
**Utah Local Governments Trust (and Zoom webcast)**

1. Welcome, introductions, logistics, and adoption of August 21, 2019 minutes  
(*ULCT 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres. Mike Mendenhall*)
2. Consideration of resolutions:
  - a. **Resolution 2019-001:** Resolution encouraging a state-wide review of the effectiveness of all economic development incentives and urging a community-first approach to economic development (*John Hiskey*)
  - b. **Resolution 2019-002:** Resolution on improving Utah’s air quality (*Rachel Otto*)
3. Legislative items (time permitting):
  - a. **UPDATE:** [Regional Water Conservation Goals](#) (*Wayne Bradshaw*)
  - b. **UPDATE:** Public safety retirement benefits (*Wayne Bradshaw*)
  - c. Other legislative issues from membership (*ULCT 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres. Mike Mendenhall*)
4. Adjourn

**To join via Zoom webcast:**

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Resolution 2019-001

*(A) Resolution encouraging a state-wide review of the effectiveness of all economic development incentives and urging a community-first approach to economic development*

*(B) We, the members of the Utah League of Cities and Towns find:*

**Whereas**, Utah's rapid and disparate growth, its accompanying opportunities, and infrastructure challenges have spurred a state-wide review of economic development policy tools, strategies, objectives and definitions; and

**Whereas**, economic development strategies within Utah are implemented on multiple levels, including the neighborhood, community, city, county, region, and state; and

**Whereas**, the residents of Utah's cities and towns elect mayors and councilmembers to be stewards of their communities which includes ensuring economic development occurs in a manner, location, and scale that is appropriate and compatible with their respective communities; and

**Whereas**, community-first economic development policies are designed to address the specific needs and objectives of the community, as developed by their local elected officials; and

**Whereas**, the purpose of economic development is to provide economic sustainability, opportunity, and balance to residents in Utah's communities, both current and future; and

**Whereas**, the success of economic development projects is contingent upon the entities who provide for and enhance the physical and service infrastructure supporting economic activity; and

**Whereas**, economic development largely occurs on privately owned land within the boundaries of cities and towns, who provide services to accommodate the growth; and

**Whereas**, changes to economic development statutes should be conducted judiciously and involve stakeholder participation; and

**Whereas**, economic development approaches differ by municipalities' ages and cycles of development; specifically, rural communities have different community assets, objectives, and challenges in development than those of urban communities; and

**Whereas**, economic development is most beneficial when all affected stakeholders collaborate and contribute towards a mutually beneficial outcome; and

**Whereas**, economic development begins and occurs at the local level and local municipalities are eager to partner reciprocally with other stakeholders, including but not limited to the State of Utah, counties, neighboring municipalities, associations of governments (AOGs), school districts, property owners, residents, businesses, and chambers of commerce.

- i) Examples of partnerships with counties, AOG's, special districts, other taxing entities, and the State might include resource development, technical assistance, infrastructure development, and access to additional tools for small jurisdictions; and

Whereas local municipalities are best suited to coordinate economic development with other local taxing entities; and

**Whereas**, cities and towns cannot support development proposals, task forces, commissions, districts, development authorities, or legislation that would deprive local governments of their traditional land use authority or control over their tax increment without their consent; and

*(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. Utah's cities and towns welcome a comprehensive review of current tools and programs to implement community-first economic development including, but not limited to the following policy considerations:
  - a. Housing development— one of the key conditions for economic development is achieving the appropriate balance of housing types and other uses of land and infrastructure;
  - b. Place-making (including arts & culture programming);
  - c. The formation and capacity building of Redevelopment Areas (RDAs) /Community Reinvestment Areas (CRAs);

- d. Main street economic development incentive programs;
- e. Small business development support, including access to capital and mentoring/training program;
- f. Agricultural grants;
- g. Employment center development (business parks, office buildings, retail developments);
- h. Industrial rehabilitation and environmental reclamation;
- i. Tourism development;
- j. Entrepreneurship and innovation assets (creative capital, incubators, research parks, technology transfer, maker spaces, coworking facilities, industry-academic research partnerships);
- k. Business expansion & retention programs;
- l. Business recruitment and marketing efforts;
- m. Public infrastructure;
- n. Transportation strategies, including municipal airport integration;
- o. Professional development education for local staff and elected officials that covers core concepts including many of the programs listed above; and
- p. Local Economic Development Tax Increment Financing Tool (EDTIF) applications.

Submitted by:

Marlin Eldred, Lehi City Economic Development Director  
Nick Duerkson, Sandy City Economic Development Director

September 9, 2019

Resolution 2019-002

*(A) Resolution on Improving Utah's Air Quality*

*(B) We, the members of the Utah League of Cities and Towns, find that:*

**Whereas**, the leaders of Utah's cities and towns value the efficient use of our natural resources, our economic success, and public health;

**Whereas**, some areas in Utah suffer from periodic poor air quality, which is a serious public health concern and a detriment to our economic prosperity as a state;

Whereas, Utah's air quality has gradually improved in recent decades, but further improvement is needed given our enhanced knowledge about the detrimental impacts of air pollution on human health;

**Whereas**, Utah's periodic poor air quality also affects rural areas including visibility in our national parks through regional haze;

**Whereas**, while the state has taken significant steps in recent years to address air quality, much more could be done at the federal, state, and local levels;

**Whereas**, ULCT supported HB 411 during the 2019 General Session, which provided cities with the ability to transition to 100% renewable energy without shifting costs to other customers;

**Whereas**, ULCT supported HB 148 during the 2019 General Session, which provided cities with greater enforcement over anti-idling ordinances;

**Whereas**, Utah's cities and towns recognize that our buildings and homes contribute nearly 40% of the harmful emissions that contribute to poor air quality and will soon surpass combustion engine vehicles as the leading contributor to air pollution;

**Whereas**, Utah's cities and towns recognize that benchmarking energy efficiency of buildings and homes and increasing energy efficiency can result in direct benefits to municipal budgets; and

**Whereas**, Utah's cities and towns are home to over 90% of the state's population and have the ability to be innovative in finding solutions to the air quality and other environmental concerns that they face.

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

1. Utah cities and towns support local action to address air quality, including but not limited to:
  - a. Enacting idle-free ordinances;
  - b. Installing electric vehicle charging networks;
  - c. Encouraging energy efficiency in homes and businesses;

- d. Encouraging and purchasing renewable energy sources where appropriate;
  - e. Considering non-combustion options for fleet vehicles and other city equipment;
  - f. Transportation planning and technology that increases access and connectivity without primarily relying on single-occupancy vehicles;
  - g. Planning our neighborhoods and communities to facilitate use of transit and active transportation options;
  - h. Exploring city functions that might be performed by employees via teleworking; and
  - i. Upgrading city buildings and facilities to comport with higher energy efficiency standards.
2. Utah cities and towns support enhanced federal and statewide action to address air quality, including but not limited to:
- a. Increased support for renewable energy;
  - b. State funding for public transit;
  - c. Creation of a statewide electric vehicle charging network;
  - d. Enactment of more energy-efficient building code standards;
  - e. Enactment of transparency requirements for building energy efficiency;
  - f. Stricter vehicle emissions testing; and
  - g. Support for federal enactment of cleaner car standards.

Submitted by:

Jeff Silvestrini, Millcreek City Mayor

September 9, 2019