

Utah League of Cities and Towns
Legislative Policy Committee Minutes – 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
 - a. ULCT 1st Vice President Mike Mendenhall welcomed the LPC and the group approved the minutes from August 21, 2019. ULCT Director of Government Relations Rachel Otto mentioned that ULCT Executive Director Cameron Diehl and ULCT President Mayor Jon Pike would be excused early from the LPC meeting to deal with the land use component of the medical cannabis special session bill. She added that there have been allegations that cities have obstructed medical cannabis production facilities but further discussions with those cities have revealed those allegations to be untrue. In reality, the land use process just takes time. ULCT has been working with stakeholders to help the state achieve their goal of expedited production without preemption local land use. One possible solution is referencing the rip cord (10-9a-509.5) that already exists in other areas of LUDMA. Rachel encouraged cities who've had interactions with these facilities to reach out to Cameron to be involved in the ongoing discussion. Layton City Attorney Gary Crane advised cities to be good partners with the State, so we're not blamed if the ambitious implementation timeframe isn't reached.

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
 - i. ULCT Senior Policy Advisory John Hiskey introduced the economic development resolution (sponsored by Sandy City Economic Development Director Nick Duerksen and Lehi City Economic Development Director Marlin Eldred. He stated that the resolution has been compiled with themes and feedback from a variety of economic/community development staff and elected officials. John added that SB 172 (2019) required EDCU to put together workgroups to study economic development and that the resolution complemented EDCU's study nicely. John explained resolution's emphasis on community first development and maintaining quality of life. John invited Nick Duerksen to speak on the resolution. Nick stated that cities welcome the SB 172 study

because he anticipates the study will likely conclude that cities don't have enough economic development tools. There's a lot of cooperation that must happen between taxing entities to make meaningful changes for communities. John Hiskey proceeded to walk the LPC through the resolution. The group discussed whether the list under subsection 3 appears to prioritize policy items. Some LPC member expressed concern that if the list is prioritized, the priorities don't fit their respective community development goals. After some deliberation the language in that subpoint was amended to clarify that a statewide review of local economic development tools must cities and towns to be successful. The list of policy considerations was also made alphabetical to avoid the appearance of prioritization. The LPC made several minor changes to the wording of the subsections. Cottonwood Heights City Manager Tim Tingey motioned to pass the resolution with a favorable recommendation. Ogden City Manager Mark Johnson seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously. Rachel Otto reminded the LPC that resolutions could still be changed during the Annual Convention business session.

- b. **Resolution 2019-002:** Resolution on improving Utah's air quality
 - i. Millcreek City Mayor Jeff Silvestrini (the resolution sponsor) introduced draft resolution 2019-002. He explained that the resolution encourages local authority for acting to improve air quality where local governments can. It also encourages the state and federal government to improve air quality in policy areas where local governments cannot act. The LPC deliberated whether or not subsection 2 should be changed. Some members expressed concerns that encouraging other governmental entities to act in their own lanes contradicts the principle of local control. The committee voted to keep the language as is. The LPC amended the resolution to include a provision to encourage an investigation into the Great Salt Lake water levels to mitigate dust pollution for nearby communities. Some members expressed concern that the list of municipal tools may limit local government tools to address air quality to items listed in subsection 1. The resolution passed with a vote of 13-9 in the LPC.

3. Adjourn

- a. The LPC adjourned.