

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

November 10, 2016

11:30 AM

Sandy City Hall Room 341

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carmen Freeman and introductions were made. Sandy City Councilmember Steve Fairbanks welcomed the meeting attendees to Sandy City.

Justice Re-Investment Act Funding – Mayor Cullimore

Mayor Cullimore made a [power point presentation](#) regarding the present inadequacy of funding for drug and alcohol treatment of individuals who have been arrested for offenses for the same and have been diverted from the jail to a treatment program. He emphasized that, in many cases, the jail will not even book the offenders who are assigned to treatment. The problem lies in the fact that the waiting list for treatment is several months long. It is getting to the point that many police officers will not even arrest offenders because they know that nothing will happen to them.

Mayor Cullimore noted that the law reducing the penalties for drug offenses has had the effect of reducing the population at the State prison. He suggested that the funding saved there could be used to help eliminate the treatment backlog. He said that the COG agrees with the premise of treatment instead of incarceration. However, the program must be funded to work.

Transportation Funding – Mayor Applegarth

Mayor Applegarth addressed the issue of transportation funding and noted that the Legislature has authorized the ¼ cent sales tax increase for transportation which was on the 2015 ballot. Unfortunately, the voters did not approve it. It is likely the cities will ask the county to place the issue before them again in the next few years. He also expressed his appreciation on behalf of the cities for the willingness of the Legislature to revisit the issue of motor fuel tax allocation. Lastly, the Mayor emphasized the cities' and county's concern that no additional funding be diverted from the transportation fund as it would jeopardize many upcoming projects scheduled by UDOT in Salt Lake County.

Short Term Rental Units – Mayor Eyre and Cameron Diehl

Mayor Eyre and Cameron Diehl from the Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT) addressed the issue of short term rental units in residential areas. Internet based companies such as Air B and B have made short term rental of housing a viable option for many individuals looking for an alternative to a hotel. This has become problematic in certain areas close to the Wasatch Mountain resorts such as Sandy and Cottonwood Heights cities. Other cities such as Murray have

experienced little in the way of impact due to their location. Cities that have been impacted by this practice have passed some ordinances regulating the use of these properties within their boundaries. Because the use of these rentals varies widely from city to city, flexibility in the passage of these ordinances is desirable.

Representative John Knotwell has been working with ULCT staff on crafting a bill to regulate what the cities can put in their ordinances governing this practice. Mr. Diehl expressed his appreciation for Rep. Knotwell's willingness to work with ULCT on this issue and asked that the principle of local control be maintained in any future legislation.

Senate President Wayne Neiderhauser

President Neiderhauser thanked the members of the COG for the opportunity to speak to them. He noted that he understands the problem of unfunded mandates being imposed on lower governmental levels.

The federal budget is three times the size of all 50 state budgets combined. The states will be working on taking back some of the power from the federal government.

The last two major projects on I-15 were paid for with State money. It is likely that practice will continue.

He expressed his appreciation for the cities' position on criminal justice and noted that the issues of medical marijuana and hate crimes will probably 'get the press' during the upcoming session of the Legislature.

Housing density is an issue that the cities will need to continue to address. Other cities will need to be accepting of transitional housing and treatment centers. The new, smaller homeless shelters and other facilities need to be close to transit and other needed infrastructure. Salt Lake City has agreed to new shelters with a total of 550 beds.

Salt Lake County staff member Patrick Reimherr noted that there are many social services provided for the homeless and low income persons in many cities scattered around the Salt Lake Valley.

House Speaker Greg Hughes

Speaker Greg Hughes noted opioid addiction is a crisis. Many of those addicted are not natural criminals. Rather, they are addicted and are committing criminal acts to fund their addiction. Sending them to prison exposes them to hardened criminals who introduce them to a deeper

level of criminality. The new prison will have pods in which different classes of criminals can be separated so that young offenders are not housed with hardened criminals.

The redevelopment of the old prison site could lead to an additional \$94 million in new tax revenues that will help pay for many of these needed new programs.

The Legislature appropriated \$14 million last year to expand Medicaid for the purpose, in part, of funding drug treatment. He would like to know how that is being spent before committing additional funds.

The Speaker was appreciative of the ULCT and the Utah Association of Counties willingness to work out a compromise on the issue of motor fuel tax re-allocation. He expects to see a bill run to that effect in the legislative special session scheduled for November 15, 2016.

Tax receipts are coming in slightly below earlier budget projections and may require some belt tightening.

COG MEMBERS PRESENT

Bluffdale	Mayor Timothy	Sandy	Councilman Fairbanks
South Salt Lake	Mayor Wood	Midvale	Mayor Seghini
Holladay	Mayor Dahle	Draper	Mayor Walker
South Jordan	Mayor Alvord	Cottonwood Heights	Mayor Cullimore
Riverton	Mayor Applegarth	Taylorsville	Mayor Johnson
Salt Lake County	Mayor McAdams	Herriman	Mayor Freeman
West Jordan	Councilmember Burton	Salt Lake City	Mayor Biskupski
Murray	Mayor Eyre	Bluffdale	Mayor Timothy
Millcreek	Mayor Silvestrini	West Valley City	Councilmember Lang
Salt Lake County	Councilmember Burdick	Salt Lake County	Councilmember Winder-Newton
South Jordan City	Councilmem. Shelton	Riverton	Councilmem. Wayman
West Valley City	Mayor Bigelow	Salt Lake City	Councilmember Luke
Riverton	Mayor Applegarth	Herriman	Councilmember Moser
		Staff	Sam Klemm

LEGISLATORS PRESENT

Senate President Wayne Neiderhauser	House Speaker Greg Hughes
Senator Wayne Harper	Representative Brian King
Senator Howard Stephenson	Representative Dan McCay
Senator Lincoln Filmore	Representative Joel Briscoe
Senator Luz Escamilla	Representative Carol Spackman-Moss
	Representative Bruce Cutler
	Representative Elect Karen Kwan
	Representative Elect Mike Winder
	Representative Elect Susan Pulsipher
	Representative Elect Elizabeth Weight

OTHER PERSONS PRESENT

Andrew Gruber	WFRC	John Hiskey	Sandy City
John Guldner	Alta City	Ken Bullock	ULCT
David Litvack	Salt Lake City	Cameron Diehl	ULCT
Paul Wayman	Riverton City	Patrick Reimherr	Salt Lake County
Gary Whatcott	South Jordan City	Muriel Xochimitl	WFRC
Nicole Martin	Sandy City	Robby Russo	Cottonwood Heights
Laurel Price	Rep. Mia Love	Wilf Sommerkorn	Salt Lake County
Matt Sibul	UTA	Russell Weeks	Salt Lake City
Jerry Benson	UTA	Kara Trevino	Salt Lake County
		Janet Towers	Murray