

SALT LAKE COUNTY

2001 So. State Street
Salt Lake City, UT 84114



Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 12, 2025

1:00 PM

Room N2-800

**TRCC - Tourism, Recreation, Cultural and
Convention**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Attendance

- Chair Mayor Kristie Overson – Present
- Vice Chair Tawnee McCay – Present
- Board Member Kim Sorensen – Call-In
- Board Member Mayor Lorin Palmer – Absent
- Board Member Mayor Monica Zoltanski – Call-In
- Board Member Miranda Barnard – Call -In
- Board Member Mayor Robert Dahle – Call-In
- Board Member Eric Barney – Absent
- Board Member Kerri Nakamura – Call-In

TRCC Staff

- Robin Chalhoub, SLCo Community Services, Director – Present
- Bobby Sampson, SLCo Community Services Associate Director – Present
- Christopher Otto, SLCo Community Services Division Director – Absent
- Erin Litvack, SLCo Deputy Mayor/Chief Administrative Officer – Absent
- Lori Okino, SLCo Community Services, Fiscal Administrator – Present
- Craig Wangsgard, SLCo Senior Civil Attorney, DA's Office – Present
- Andrea Sorenson, SLCo Park Development Project Manager – Absent
- Brad Kendrick, SLCo Mayor's Financial Admin, Assoc Budget Admin – Present
- Darrin Casper, SLCo Deputy Mayor of Finance and Administration CFO – Absent

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

No Minutes to Approve.

25-480

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 Cottonwood Canyons Foundation - Implementation of Phase 1 of the Tri-Canyon Trails Plan

Presenter: Joanna Wheelton, Project Contact
(10 Minutes)

Informational

Attachments: None

- Presented the Cottonwood Canyons Foundation's proposal for critical high-use construction and reconstruction of trails in the Wasatch National Forest.
- Cottonwood Canyons Foundation (CCF) presented their request for critical trail construction and reconstruction in the tri-canyons area, which receives 1.175 million hiking and walking visits per year, with the project designed to enhance connectivity and provide safer off-road access.
- CCF was formed 25 years ago as a collaboration between Salt Lake City public utilities and the Forest Service to manage environmental stewardship in Mill Creek Canyon, Big Cottonwood, and Little Cottonwood Canyons.
- These tri-canyons receive 1.175 million hiking and walking visits per year, with 335,000 in Mill Creek and 160,000 in the Silver Lake area.
The project proposes three new trails in Mill Creek Canyon, including a connector from Birch Hollow to Porter Fork, two new connector trails from the improved Maple Grove Trailhead, renovation of Silver Lake Trail, and a new Deaf Smith connector trail.
- NEPA approval is expected in December, with the project falling under a categorical exclusion review.
- Funding would support a 24-month plan that can scale up or down depending on available resources.

4.2 Murray City - Willow Pond Playground

25-481

Presenter: Erica Brown and Bruce Holyoak, Project Contacts:
(10 Minutes)

Informational

Attachments: None

- Presented Murray City's request for \$175,000 with their Willow Park Pond playground replacement as priority two, requesting \$175,000 with a 100% match to upgrade the 2002-built playground that is not ADA accessible and poses safety risks.
- Willow Pond Park is a 30-acre facility on the Jordan River Parkway serving about 200,000 people annually with baseball fields, basketball courts, walking trails, and three playgrounds.
- The current playground was built in 2002, is not ADA accessible, has unsafe mulch surfaces, and lacks accessibility features for people with disabilities.
- The new playground would feature poured-in-place rubber surfacing, 57 by 57 feet of space, two slides, climbing structures, and comprehensive ADA accessibility features.
- Board members suggested considering full shade structures based on successful implementations in other cities.

4.3 Murray City - Woodstock Meadows Park Improvements

25-482

PRTT

Presenter: Erica Brown and Bruce Holyoak, Project Contacts: (10
Minutes)

Informational

Attachments: None

- Presented Woodstock Meadows Park Renovations as Murray City's priority one project, requesting \$250,000 with a \$50,000 match to address maintenance issues in the 8-acre neighborhood park serving about 3,000 residents.
- Murray took over the park from Salt Lake County in 2023 and identified numerous maintenance issues, including deteriorating walking bridges, cracked sidewalks, overgrown vegetation, restroom repairs, and pavilion upgrades.
- The park serves as the only green space in a densely populated urban area and is used daily by children, senior citizens, and families.
- Board members raised concerns about funding deferred maintenance versus new infrastructure and requested that Murray provide classifications distinguishing between needed capital infrastructure and ongoing operational maintenance.
- Staff stated they would follow up to obtain detailed cost breakdowns and prioritization within the project scope.

4.4 Seven Canyons Trust - Folsom Trail Hidden Waters

Presenter: Ronnie Pessetto, Project Contact:
(10 Minutes)

25-483

Informational

Attachments: None

- Seven Canyons Trust requested funding for the Folsom Trail Hidden Waters Project, which involves installing water drop artwork on existing lighting posts to tell the story of City Creek flowing underneath the city and build momentum for future \$20 million daylighting efforts. Part of their mission to uncover and restore all seven creeks in the Salt Lake Valley.
- The organization emerged from a 2014 University of Utah classroom and focuses on architectural daylighting, educational programming, and cultural daylighting when physical creek uncovering is not possible.
- Six local artists would create double-sided water drop artwork attached to existing lighting posts along Folsom Trail from 1000 West to 800 West to tell the story of City Creek flowing underneath the city.
- The project builds on a downtown hidden water project completed in April 2025. It aims to increase understanding of Salt Lake City's water issues while building momentum for future daylighting projects estimated at \$20 million.
- Board members questioned whether this art project falls under parks and recreation or cultural programming and raised concerns about potential CRA funding availability for projects in redevelopment areas.

4.5 Holladay City - Holladay City Hall Auditorium Renovation

25-484

Presenter: Holly Smith, Project Contact
(10 Minutes)

Informational

Attachments: None

- Presented Holladay City's request for \$1.2 million with city matching funds.
- The project would extend the stage, address accessibility issues, resolve safety concerns, including sprinkler challenges and fire-rated curtains, and create a new welcoming entrance to replace the current steel door used for food delivery, address accessibility issues, and implement safety improvements as part of a larger seismic retrofit of the former elementary school building.
- Specific improvements include new ADA parking, controlled access, a permanent ADA lift for stage participation, and enhanced functionality for the 250-person capacity venue.
- The space currently generates revenue through rentals and hosts free community events, with strong support from the historical commission, arts council, and theater groups.
- Construction would coincide with a larger seismic retrofit of the building, making it cost-effective to complete improvements while contractors are already mobilized.

4.6 South Jordan City - Park Diamond Sports Scoreboards PRT Priority 1

25-485

Presenter: Kelsey Nelson, Project Contact
(10 Minutes)

Informational

Attachments: None

- South Jordan City presented two projects, starting with their priority one scoreboard replacement that serves nine baseball and softball fields.
- They are requesting \$70,377 toward a \$175,595 total project to replace outdated scoreboards at their City Park diamond sports complex.
- The current scoreboards have not worked for approximately 20 years, with technology that no longer exists, creating eyesores with peeling paint and rust.
- The complex serves over 12,000 players in baseball and softball with 2,000 coaches and 300+ games annually, attracting visitors from across the Wasatch Front and out-of-state tournaments.

- New scoreboards would feature modern design, sponsorship spaces, game tracking capabilities, and appropriate branding to enhance the professional atmosphere.
- The project has secured sponsorships from Merritt Medical, RDJ Construction, Shields, Intermountain Health, and Rocky Mountain Power, with completion planned for March 2026.

**4.7 South Jordan City - Stonehaven Park Playground
Replacement Project PRT Priority 2**

25-486

Presenter: Kelsey Nelson, Project Contact
(10 Minutes)

Informational

Attachments: None

- Presented their second priority, requesting \$165,000 with a 50% city match to replace the playground at Stonehaven Park, a 5.3-acre neighborhood park serving 17,600 annual visitors.
- The current playground, installed in 2006, has been relatively unpopular due to a lack of features for young children, minimal ADA accessibility, and deteriorating conditions with unavailable replacement parts.
- The new design by Big T Recreation would be significantly larger and more dynamic, with 28 accessible activities, ground-level features, an ADA accessible swing, bridges, and composite wood chips for fall surface.
- Board members strongly recommended considering poured-in-place surfacing and full shade structures for better accessibility and usability, citing successful implementations in other communities that dramatically improved park activation and user experience.
- Board members expressed strong concerns about South Jordan's choice of wood chips over poured-in-place rubber surfacing, emphasizing that true accessibility requires better fall surfaces for wheelchair users and individuals with mobility challenges.

**4.8 Gina Bachauer - Bachauer International Piano
Competition and 50th Anniversary**

25-487

Presenter: Melisa Cattin and Kerry Billings, Project Contacts:
(10 Minutes)

Informational

Attachments: None

- Gina Bockauer International Piano Foundation presented their 50th anniversary competition, requesting tourism promotion funding, expecting applications from 40 countries, and estimating 2,500 ticket sales with the potential to draw 20% of attendees from outside Salt Lake County.
- The organization represents the largest piano arts organization in Utah, hosting internationally recognized competitions for three age groups, with applications from 69 countries throughout their history and 40 countries in the most recent competition.
- The competition process includes preliminary rounds in five cities internationally, followed by performances at Bean Valley Performing Arts Center, Rose Wagner, and Abravanel Hall with the Utah Symphony.
- Approximately 20% of attendees come from outside the county, with goals to increase overall attendance by 30% and out-of-county visitors by another 30% through enhanced marketing.
- The foundation maintains 1,500 host homes for international competitors and 25-488 generates a significant economic impact, with three-fourths of spending occurring within Salt Lake County.

4.9 West Valley City -City Park Scoreboard Tower

Presenter: Jamie Young, Project Contact:
(10 Min.)

Informational

Attachments: None

- Presented West Valley City's request for approximately \$500,000 toward replacing the outdated scoreboard tower at West Valley City Park, which is currently owned by Salt Lake County but managed by West Valley since the early 1980s
- The outdated scoreboard tower at City Park serves diverse youth baseball and football programs and hosts tournaments drawing teams from multiple states, with the current facility being unsafe and non-ADA compliant.
- The facility serves the diverse, second-largest city in the county and functions as a regional park hosting sporting events, car shows, pet adoption events, and city parades.
- The current tower, built before 1982, has become unsafe and ineffective, primarily used for equipment storage and concession operations that fund low-income youth participation in baseball and football programs.
- Representatives from youth baseball and football emphasized the facility's importance for hosting county-wide tournaments and leagues, with the baseball director noting accessibility challenges and safety concerns, including electrical fires and structural instability.
- The project would completely demolish and rebuild the tower with safe, ADA-compliant facilities, accessible restrooms, and improved concession areas, though design documents have not yet been completed.

- Bobby Sampson: Stated he would follow up with them to refine the design costs estimate for their scoreboard tower project based on the board's direction.

5. OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS

5.1 Upcoming TRCC Meeting Dates

25-489

- **9/19/2025**
- **9/26/2025**
- **10/03/2025**
- **10/10/2025**
- **10/17/2025**
- **11/21/2025**

Presenter: Robin Chalhoub, SLCo Director of Community Services.
(Less than 5 Minutes)

Informational

Attachments: None

- Board members discussed the need for clearer guidelines distinguishing between capital improvements and deferred maintenance, with concerns about becoming primarily a playground replacement funding source rather than supporting truly transformational projects.
- Accessibility standards emerged as a key priority, with Board Member Mayor Barney emphasizing the responsibility to ensure all funded improvements serve the total population and avoid value engineering that limits access for people with disabilities.
- Staff confirmed they will follow up with applicants on clarification requests and provide additional documentation in the Dropbox folder, with the next meeting scheduled to review approximately six more project presentations.
- Bobby Sampson: Stated that he would send out a list of next week's 6 project presentations to board members by the end of the day, coordinating with Lauren as needed. He included that he would also follow up with applicants to obtain additional information requested during presentations, including cost breakdowns for project components and clarification on design costs.
- Craig Wangsgard: Suggested that revising the TRCC guidelines would be to better define tourism requirements for funding criteria, and to also better define capital projects versus deferred maintenance, and establish clearer expectations around accessibility requirements. He stated that he would review tourism

funding definitions and requirements to ensure compliance with statutory purposes.

ADJOURN

—