



2025 Local Officials Day–Selected Mock Committee Proposals

As part of Local Officials Day, youth councils will have an opportunity to participate in mock floor debates by submitting their own policy proposals for consideration. For a bill to become a law through the Utah legislative process, a bill is first presented to a legislative committee before it is debated and voted on by the full House or Senate in a floor debate.

Roles for the mock committee will include:

- Committee members
- Policy members
- Policy presenters (2 students from youth councils that are on the agenda)
- Members of the public

Process:

1. The committee will call presenters for the first policy proposal on the agenda.
2. The policy presenters will give a one (1) to three (3) minute presentation on their policy.
3. The committee will then have an opportunity ask any clarifying questions they have about the proposal.
4. The committee will open the floor for public comment about the proposal.
5. After the closure of public comment, the committee will debate as to whether they will recommend to the full legislative body.
6. Steps 1-5 will be repeated for the remaining items on the agenda (time permitting)

Preparing for mock committees:

To help students facilitate better discussion, we have included some critical thinking questions under each policy on the agenda that students can apply during the committee process.

We are excited to have youth both presenting their youth council policy ideas and debating on topics that will be relevant to them in the future.



AGENDA

OLYMPIC COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 22, 2025 | 10:00 A.M. | Room 355B & E Salt Palace

1. Committee Business

- Call to order

2. Draft Policy Proposal: Transportation Up Little Cottonwood Canyon

The committee will consider a draft policy proposal to reallocate state funding and projected tax revenue for the Little Cottonwood Canyon gondola towards transportation and infrastructure investments for the 2034 Olympics.

- Sandy Youth Council
- Public Comment
- Committee discussion/action
 - *What are the implications of diverting funds for a project that was approved by UDOT*
 - *What are the fiscal impacts of the suggested alternative to the gondola? How can public input be best incorporated into the decision to postpone gondola construction?*
 - *How can this policy be negotiated to produce a desirable outcome for all stakeholders? What types of concessions will need to be made?*

3. Draft Policy Proposal: Adaptive Reuse for Athlete Housing

The committee will consider a draft policy proposal to create a structure for adaptive reuse of existing office buildings, event centers, and other buildings to house Olympics athletes and later be converted into affordable housing.

- Saratoga Springs Youth Council
- Public Comment
- Committee discussion/action
 - *How can individual property owners be prompted to participate in the statewide survey of underused buildings?*
 - *What type of characteristics qualify an underused building for adaptive reuse?*
 - *Which regions or areas should be targeted for these projects?*
 - *What would a timeline for completion of these reuse projects look like- pre-Olympics, during the Olympics, and post-Olympics?*
 - *How can this policy be negotiated to produce a desirable outcome for all stakeholders? What types of concessions will need to be made?*

4. Draft Policy Proposal: Youth Programming

The committee will consider a policy proposal to allocate 5% of the tickets for the 2034 Olympics for youth from low- to middle-income families at no charge.

- Park City Youth Council
- Public Comment
- Committee discussion/action
 - *Can the tickets be resold? If not, how do we ensure that the tickets are used for the intended purpose?*
 - *How can tickets be distributed fairly to youth? A lottery system, applications, etc.*
 - *How can this policy be negotiated to produce a desirable outcome for all stakeholders? What types of concessions will need to be made?*

5. Adjourn



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Memorandum

January 12, 2025

To: Utah League of Cities and Towns Staff

Cc:

From: The Sandy Youth Council

Subject: Local Officials Day Mock Committee Proposal

Reappropriate projected funding and revenues for the LCC Gondola to transportation infrastructure improvements needed for the Olympics

Proposal

We propose all state funding and projected tax revenue currently approved for the construction of the gondola in Little Cottonwood Canyon should be reallocated to improve and expand public transportation and infrastructure that connect residents and visitors to Olympic venues.

Background

In 2023, the Wasatch Front Regional Council approved a Regional Transportation Plan that included the construction of a gondola in Little Cottonwood Canyon. One year later, in 2024, the International Olympic Committee announced Salt Lake City as the location for the 2034 Winter Olympics. To prepare for both the surge of tourists to Utah for the Olympics, and the predicted doubling of Utah's population by 2030, we propose that the construction of the gondola be postponed until after the Olympics, to focus funding and resources to expanding and improving public transportation and infrastructure needed for the Olympics.

Funding Uses

We suggest the gondola funding be reallocated to the following projects:

- Improvements to I-80 between Salt Lake City and Park City, including adding bus only and carpool lanes to encourage the use of public transportation and limit single driver private vehicles in the canyon;
- Develop a shuttle and busing system that includes heated transportation hubs located near hotels and train stops with incentives for residents and visitors to take buses and shuttles to events instead of driving;
- Construct more Trax stops within Salt Lake City to reach newly developed neighborhoods within the City that house hotels or short-term rentals, as well as expand



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Trax to reach areas such as Snowbasin, Soldier Hollow, Kearns, and other Olympic venues;

- Place incentives that encourage carpooling and public transportation, such as “free bus rides with event ticket purchase” or high fees for parking near events;
- Improve transportation up Little and Big Cottonwood Canyon by building Avalanche Mitigation Snow Sheds that allow avalanches to travel over roads and decrease avalanche related accidents and traffic delays;
- Protect local Utah’s ability to commute to work and travel to other places by developing commuter/ local only lanes on major roadways, such as developing a “local driver” sticker system or enhancing commuter HOV lanes;

After the Olympics

These proposed infrastructure improvements will not only help Utah prepare for the Olympics but will also address the proactive changes necessary to accommodate the state’s rapidly growing population. Many of these improvements can be transitioned to benefit commuter and public transportation: expanded Trax stops will allow for farther and easier commutes for working Utahns; expanded bus only lanes in Parley’s Canyon will ease traffic congestion for tourists from around the world visiting two of Utah’s most popular ski resorts; and improvements to Little and Big Cottonwood Canyon will lower the high carbon emission rates coming from backed up traffic.

Additionally, Utah could take revenues from sales and tourism taxes collected during the Olympics and reallocate them to fund the gondola construction after the Olympics. By waiting until after the Olympics, Utahns will not have to pay double the taxes (taxes to fund the gondola and taxes to fund Olympic infrastructure improvements) within the same ten year period.

Saratoga Springs City Youth Council

2025 Mock Floor Debate Proposal

Local Officials Day at the Legislature

The Saratoga Springs City Youth Council presents a forward-thinking proposal aligned with the state's preparations for the Winter Olympics of 2034. We urge a strategic approach that prioritizes the renovation of existing unused buildings, which include office buildings, event centers, and apartment complexes. By repurposing these structures for use during the Olympics and beyond, we aim to achieve multiple benefits for our community and state economy.

Identification and assessment of existing buildings would be necessary by conducting a comprehensive survey to identify unused or underutilized buildings that can be feasibly renovated. This includes evaluating office buildings, event centers, and apartment complexes for their potential to serve as Olympic housing and event venues. Plans could then be made to develop and implement renovation that ensure these buildings meet the standards required for Olympic use, including: ensuring safety, accessibility, and functionality for athletes, officials, and visitors.

By prioritizing the engagement of local companies for renovation projects it would not only support local businesses but also stimulate the state's economy by creating jobs and fostering economic growth. Leveraging existing buildings reduces the need for extensive new construction, resulting in significant cost savings. These savings can be redirected to other essential Olympic related infrastructure and services.

Considering the future, post hosting the 2034 Olympics, the renovated buildings can be converted into affordable housing units. This addresses the ongoing need for low-income housing and helps mitigate housing shortages. If additional new structures are required, we advocate for designs that allow for future adaptability. These buildings should be constructed with the capability to be repurposed as high-density housing, community or senior centers.

This proposal offers a sustainable, economical, and responsible solution for the state's preparations for the Winter Olympics of 2034. By renovating existing buildings and utilizing local companies, we ensure a positive economic impact and long-term benefits for our community. This proposal embodies the principles of resourcefulness, efficiency, and foresight.

We invite local government officials to deliberate on this proposal and collaborate with us in creating a legacy that extends beyond the Olympic Games. Together, we can build a brighter future for our great state.

Park City Youth Council Policy #2: Olympic Access for All

In partnership with the International Olympic Committee, Utah should create an equity access program by allocating 5% of tickets for the 2034 Winter Olympic and Paralympic events for Utah's youth from low to mid- income families at no charge. This will ensure broader community participation and foster inclusivity in celebrating the Games. Funding can come from allocating a portion of Transient Room Tax using increased tourism income from the Games.



AGENDA

OLYMPIC COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 22, 2025 | 11:00 A.M. | Room 355B & E Salt Palace

1. Committee Business

- Call to order

2. Draft Policy Proposal: Affordable Housing

The committee will consider a draft policy proposal to require developers to designate 35% of units as for sale and owner-occupied for three years when a municipality grants density bonuses.

- Lindon Youth Council
- Public Comment
- Committee discussion/action
 - *What will the annual compliance audits that monitor owner-occupancy look like?*
 - *Will owner-occupancy and for-sale requirements impact developers' ability to maximize profits?*
 - *How can this policy be negotiated to produce a desirable outcome for all stakeholders? What types of concessions will need to be made?*

3. Draft Policy Proposal: Transportation Expansion

The committee will consider a draft policy proposal to invest heavily in rail transit for the 2034 Olympics, including TRAX expansion to Park City, Front Runner electrification, and a new high speed electric railway connecting the Wasatch Front with St. George.

- St. George Youth Council
- Public Comment
- Committee discussion/action
 - *Considering the fiscal impacts of this bill, should transportation investments be of highest priority?*
 - *Where will funding for these investments come from?*
 - *How can this policy be negotiated to produce a desirable outcome for all stakeholders? What types of concessions will need to be made?*

4. Draft Policy Proposal: Environmental Sustainability

The committee will consider a policy proposal to establish a robust statewide recycling program and foster a culture of environmental responsibility through education and public engagement.

- Midvale City Youth Council
- Public Comment
- Committee discussion/action
 - *How can a campaign to increase recycling in Utah be designed to maximize citizen engagement and participation?*
 - *What type of resources will be made available at the local level to encourage program participation?*
 - *How can this policy be negotiated to produce a desirable outcome for all stakeholders? What types of concessions will need to be made?*

5. Adjourn

Current Issue:

Housing affordability and availability is the Governor's top priority for Utah, and for good reason. Utah has experienced significant population growth, driven by a strong job market, a high birth rate, and an influx of people moving from other states. This increased demand for housing has put upward pressure on prices as construction of new housing hasn't kept up pace. As cities are increasingly pressured to relax land use and planning policies to allow for higher density development, one challenge elected officials experience is that the resulting housing units they changed zoning for often are marketed for rent only, edging out would-be homebuyers. Home ownership is critical to build generational wealth, create upward mobility, and a sense of community and long-term stability to neighborhoods. As developers approach cities to change zoning to allow for higher density, cities have no legislative tool to negotiate or require that any of those units become for sale by owner in exchange for density bonuses.

Proposal: To promote community stability, increased opportunities for home ownership, and support diverse housing options, this policy would require developers of residential projects to allocate a portion of housing units for sale to owner-occupants when density bonuses are permitted.

1. Applicability:

This requirement applies to all new residential developments where zoning has been increased or changed to allow for more units within the [City/County] jurisdiction.

2. Owner-Occupancy Requirement:

Developers must designate at least 35% of the total residential units in the project for sale exclusively to owner-occupants. These units must:

- * Be offered to individuals or households intending to use the property as their primary residence.
- * Prohibit immediate resale to be used as a long or short-term rental for a minimum of [3] years after purchase. Transfer to another owner-occupant is allowed.

3. Enforcement and Compliance:

- * Developers must submit a Homeownership Plan as part of their permit application, detailing the allocation, pricing, and sales strategy for owner-occupied units.

- * Annual compliance audits will ensure units are sold and maintained as owner-occupied properties.

4. Incentives:

To support compliance, developers may qualify for reduced permit fees, expedited approvals, or tax incentives for meeting or exceeding owner-occupancy requirements.

This policy seeks to balance rental and ownership housing options, fostering long-term community engagement, stability, and equity. By requiring a portion of units to be owner-occupied, Cities aim to enhance local investment while supporting broader housing diversity and increase supply of housing units for sale.



St. George City Youth City Council

Policy Proposal 1: Utah 2034 Hospitality, Tourism and, Transportation Expansion Initiative

Goals: Accommodate for expanding growth in Utah by expanding the transportation specifically within 10 years in the Hospitality & Tourism industry. Expanding track lines while replacing and maintaining green eco-friendly transportation.

Timeline: Within 3 steps over 20 years:

1. Build TRAX in Park City and connect it to Salt Lake City with a new full-electric East-West Front Runner. 50 Miles of railway times \$5+ Million to build each mile creates a goal of **\$500 Million to \$750 Million (within 10 years)**
2. Convert the existing Front Runner system to become fully electric. 88 Miles of railway times \$5+ Million to convert each mile creates a goal of **\$750 Million to \$1 Billion (within 15 years)**
3. Create a high-speed electric railway connecting the St George area to the Salt Lake City area, connecting it to the existing TRAX network. 300 Miles of high-speed rail times \$40+

Million per mile of rail creates a goal of **\$15 Billion to \$20 Billion (within 20 years)**

Net Budget: \$17.5 Billion to \$25 Billion

Benefits: Job availability, carbon emission reduction, increased accessibility to transportation (specifically intercity transport), transportation affordability, and encouraging statewide tourism.

Utah should prioritize eco-friendly development, including Olympic buildings built with the intention of converting them into residential and commercial spaces and the expansion of public transit like the TRAX.

Zero Waste Utah 2034

Enhancing Utah's Recycling Infrastructure for Sustainable Growth and Olympic Readiness

Executive Summary

In preparation for the 2034 Olympic Winter Games, this policy proposal aims to establish Utah as a top state of the nation in sustainability by establishing a robust recycling infrastructure through public and private partnership.

Policy Details

Background Information

One of the key objectives of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) is to reduce the environmental footprint of the games and turn them into impetus for sustainable development. Meanwhile, Utah lacks a coherent state-wide policy to promote sustainable development as regulations are often set at the county level. According to a 2021 study by Eunomia, Utah had an abysmal 37% recycling rate of the common set of containers and packaging materials (CCPM) or 17% when excluding cardboard, which resulted in a national ranking of #26, and #31 respectively. The 2034 Winter Olympic Games offers a unique opportunity for our state to ratchet up investment in conservation efforts. Moreover, programs developed through such efforts will have positive long-term effects that go well beyond the games themselves as our state population continues to increase at a fast pace.

Goals

- Double Utah's recycling rates for CCPM by the start of the 2034 Winter Olympics.
- Rank among the top 10 states in the U.S. for CCPM recycling rates by 2044.
- Reduce landfill waste and promote a circular economy by increasing in-state recycling processing capacity.
- Foster a culture of environmental responsibility through education and public engagement.

Impact Analysis

Environmental Benefits

- Reduced landfill waste and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

- Conservation of natural resources through material reuse.

Economic Benefits

- Creation of jobs in recycling processing and related industries.
- Increased economic activity from new recycling facilities.

Practical Application of Recycled Materials

- Recycled materials can be processed to produce many products, e.g. containers, insulation materials, glass, asphalt, concrete additives, etc.
- Recycled materials can be used directly towards the renovation and construction of facilities for the 2034 Olympic Winter Games.

Social Benefits

- Improved public health through reduction of soil and water pollutants.
 - A stronger sense of community and shared responsibility.
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Implementation Plan

To achieve these goals, the state shall focus on the following three areas: expanding collection network, increasing local processing capacity, and raising public awareness.

1. Expanding the Collection Network

Objective

To lower the barrier of recycling by increasing the number of collection points for recyclable materials and expanding the types of materials collected.

Actions

- Build An Extensive Network of Recycling Collection Points
 - Public facilities: schools, fitness centers, etc.
 - POS location of CCPM: grocery stores, liquor stores, etc.
 - Other high foot-traffic areas: large retail establishments, etc.
 - All 2034 Olympic Winter Games venues.
- Expand Recyclable Materials

- Add single-use plastic bags, styrofoam, and batteries to the existing list of commonly collected recyclable materials.
- Standardize Recycling Bins to accommodate new types of materials collected.

Key Stakeholders and Responsibilities

- State Government
 - Provide funding and incentives for expanding the collection network.
 - Develop and adopt regulations to support recycling goals.
- Local Governments
 - Implement and manage expanded recycling collection points.
 - Ensure licensure with business and public property owners.
 - Report progress to the state government.
- Private Sector
 - Partner with local governments to host recycling collection points.
- Citizens of Utah
 - Actively participate in recycling programs.
 - Educate others about the importance of recycling.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Key Metrics
 - Number of new recycling collection points established.
 - Volume of materials collected by type.
- Reporting
 - Local governments will submit quarterly reports to the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

2. Increasing Local Processing Capacity

Objective

To ensure that collected recyclable materials do not end up in landfills elsewhere while creating new business opportunities for the private sector.

Actions

- Upgrade existing recycling plants and construct additional recycling plants.
- Develop new technologies for more cost-effective ways to process recyclable materials.
- Source construction materials from local recycling plants where possible for any renovation or construction projects related to the 2034 Olympic Winter Games.

Key Stakeholders and Responsibilities

- State Government
 - Collaborate with recycling centers to secure engagement
 - Offer tax incentives, government-backed loans, and reduced land leases to businesses that establish recycling processing centers in Utah.
- State Funded Universities:
 - Drive technical innovations for more cost-effective means of processing recycled materials.
 - Partner with private sectors to fast-track adoption of new technologies.
- Private Sector
 - Invest in recycling processing facilities to take advantage of state incentives.
- Local Governments
 - Collaborate with the private sector to ensure adequate processing capacity for collected materials.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Key Metrics
 - Volume of recyclable materials processed in-state.
 - Processing cost for each type of material recycled.
- Annual Reporting
 - The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will publish an annual progress report accessible to the public.

3. Raising Public Awareness

Objective

To foster a culture of environmental responsibility through education and public engagement.

Actions

- Develop educational materials for schools, businesses, and community centers.
- Launch a statewide media campaign using social media, TV, and radio ads.
- Establish annual recycling awareness day – Utah Recycle Day.

Key Stakeholders and Responsibilities

- State Government
 - Fund and oversee the public awareness campaign.
 - Establish Utah Recycle Day
- State Board of Education

- Develop educational materials for schools, businesses, and community centers.
- Educational Institutions
 - Integrate recycling education into curricula.
 - Host recycling drives and awareness events.
 - Serve as model institutions for sustainable practices.
- Nonprofits and Community Organizations
 - Advocate for recycling initiatives.
 - Organize community recycling drives and awareness events.
- Citizens of Utah
 - Educate themselves and others about the importance of recycling.
 - Hold local and state governments accountable for meeting recycling goals.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Key Metrics
 - Track public participation rates in recycling programs.
 - Survey the public regarding their experience with recycling.
 - Measure the effectiveness of educational and media campaigns through surveys and feedback.
 - Annual Reviews
 - Policies and programs will be reviewed annually to address challenges and improve effectiveness.
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Conclusion

Utah's rapid growth and the upcoming 2034 Winter Olympics present a unique opportunity to lead by example in sustainable development. By expanding recycling networks, incentivizing local processing, and fostering a culture of environmental responsibility, this policy proposal will not only establish and cement Utah as a nation leader in sustainability, but also ensure the 2034 Olympic Winter Games become one of the most environmentally friendly games ever held. Together, we can build a cleaner, greener, and more resilient Utah for generations to come.