

LEGISLATIVE GUIDE

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

The government closest to the people governs best. “Local control” matters because cities and towns are responsible for the health, safety, and welfare of their residents. ULCT urges stakeholders to respect cities and towns’ role in planning land use, providing public services and managing infrastructure for their residents, and to partner with us to preserve the quality of life of our collective constituents. This outlook shapes the ULCT policy pillars: respect, collaboration, and outcomes.



RESPECT

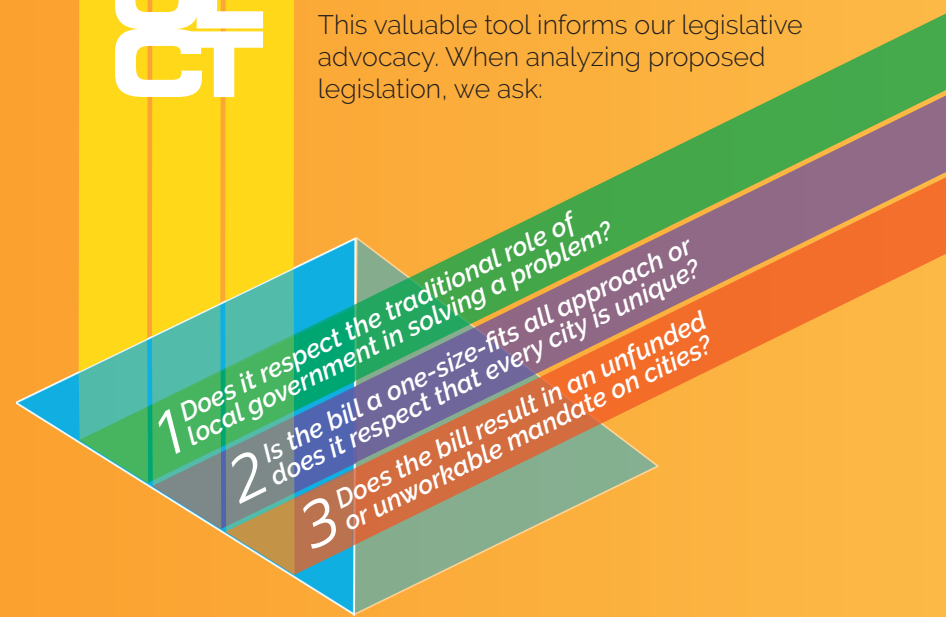
COLLABORATION

OUTCOMES



THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY PRISM

This valuable tool informs our legislative advocacy. When analyzing proposed legislation, we ask:



HOW ULCT COMES TO THEIR POSITIONS

The League's policy positions are determined by the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) and our Board of Directors. The LPC and Board consist of mayors, council members, city managers, and city attorneys from cities and towns across Utah. The LPC will meet every Monday at noon in Senate 210 during the session.

YOUR ULCT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The ULCT Board of Directors includes elected officials from Blanding to Logan and St. George to Clearfield. Our 2021-22 officers are:

Mayor Dawn Ramsey, President, South Jordan

Mayor Mike Caldwell, Immediate Past President, Ogden

Mayor Jeff Silvestrini, 1st Vice President, Millcreek

City Manager Gary Hill, UCMA Representative, Bountiful

Mayor Michelle Kaufusi, 2nd Vice President, Provo



GROWTH: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIPS

Utah is the fastest growing state in the country. This growth comes with unique opportunities as well as complex challenges surrounding housing, transportation, water, and more.

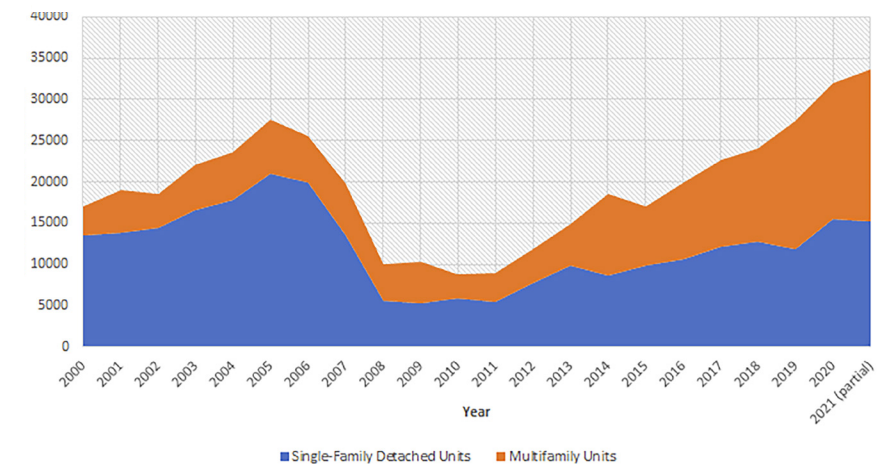


HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

Cities plan for housing, but cities do not build housing. In the last three years, local governments have permitted more housing units—particularly multifamily units—than any three year period in state history. Additionally, fast growing cities have entitled tens of thousands of more housing units for which developers have not yet sought permits.

ULCT supported SB 34 in 2019. SB 34 provided a list of best practice planning strategies that cities were required to adopt. Cities with compliant Moderate Income Housing Plans (MIHP) are eligible for projects to be funded through the state Transportation Investment Fund.

Local governments have permitted record high numbers of housing units, particularly multifamily housing, in the last three years



In 2022, ULCT is working with the Commission on Housing Affordability on legislation to build on the foundation of SB 34. ULCT also strongly supports the Wasatch Choice vision for center-oriented planning.

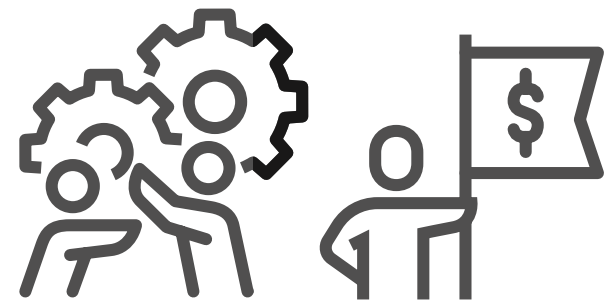
In addition, ULCT is also supportive of state appropriations to:

- **Expand the Homelessness Mitigation Fund**
Cities and towns contribute more than \$5 million annually to assist

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE—RESPECT, COLLABORATION, OUTCOMES

fellow cities who house homelessness resource centers with their related public safety costs

- Invest in **permanent supportive housing** and preservation of existing affordable homes
- Invest in **technical assistance** for cities to implement zoning changes and train elected officials
- Partner with cities and districts for **water conservation** related infrastructure
- Invest in a **strategic communications effort** to engage Utahns about the challenges and opportunities around population growth
- **Renew the COVID-19 Local Assistance Matching Grant Program** (local match)



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TAX POLICY

The state is narrowing the use of state and local tax incentives for economic development.

ULCT is supportive of some additional limits on the use of local tax incentives, particularly for big box retail. That said, ULCT is also concerned about the potential impact of state limits on the ability of cities to fund infrastructure, redevelop areas, or plan for mixed use projects. We are also concerned about state preemption of local land use and tax increment. Cities and towns rely on a mix of local sales taxes and property taxes to provide services and infrastructure but are limited by state law in how we can generate additional revenue.

WATER

Utah's limited water resources and growing population mean that we need to enact water-wise policies. ULCT is involved with Prepare 60 and the H2O Collective seeking to ensure that we have enough water for all



of those who call Utah home. ULCT is proposing legislation to better couple water conservation with land use planning — encouraging local governments to consider water conservation as they plan for future growth, redevelopment, and construction.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Cities and towns employ more public safety officers than any other level of government. ULCT created a Love, Listen, Lead task force with the Utah Chiefs of Police Association, Utah City Management Association, and Utah Municipal Attorneys Association to create a space where we support our officers and identify areas where we can enhance community trust. In the 2021, ULCT worked on more than 20 bills to improve data collection, training, and accountability of officer misconduct. In 2022, ULCT will work on bills to invest in the mental health of our officers, promote the recruitment and retention of officers without creating unfunded mandates, and to protect the due process rights and safety of our officers.



ARPA/CARES ACT

ULCT appreciates the State of Utah for sharing state CARES and ARPA dollars with cities and towns. Utah was one of a few states to share their entire eligible portion (45%) of the CARES Act with local governments which we in turn voluntarily shared with hardest hit cities. Utah also matched state

ARPA dollars with local governments for infrastructure investment. The State of Utah allocated \$50 million and there were more than \$1.06 billion in requests. The partnership has provided significant return on investment for the state and local governments. Thank you!

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UTAH CITIES & TOWNS
1,385
MAYORS & COUNCIL
MEMBERS

STAY IN TOUCH:

ULCT will work on more than 200 bills this session. Please contact us about any bills that impact cities and towns. We look forward to working with you to ensure the quality of life of our collective constituents!

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