



Sandy City, Utah

10000 Centennial Parkway
Sandy, UT 84070
Phone: 801-568-7141

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Brooke Christensen, District 1
Alison Stroud, District 2
Kris Nicholl, District 3
Marci Houseman, District 4
Aaron Dekeyzer, At-large
Brooke D'Sousa, At-large
Cyndi Sharkey, At-large

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

5:15 PM

City Hall Third Floor Multipurpose Room

Council Budget Priorities Workshop

Web address to view complete packet: <http://sandyutah.legistar.com>

This Council budget priorities workshop will be conducted both in-person, in the Sandy City Hall Third Floor Multipurpose Room, and via Zoom Webinar. Residents may attend the meeting either in-person or via the webinar link below. Virtual participation is offered as a courtesy. If for any reason the virtual meeting is inoperable, virtual attendees are encouraged to instead attend in-person. The meeting will be held regardless of the availability of a virtual option

5:15 Council Meeting

Council Chair Cyndi Sharkey welcomed those in attendance. Tonight the Council will be participating in the Budget Priorities Workshop.

Council Staff in Attendance
Dustin Fratto, Council Director
Justin Sorenson, Assistant Director
Chris Edwards, Council Clerk
Liz Theriault, Sr. Policy and Comms Analyst
Tracy Cowdell, Council Attorney

Administration in Attendance
Shane Pace, CAO
Lynn Pace, City Attorney
Ryan McConaghie, Fire
Jon Arnold, Police
Tom Ward, Public Utilities
Ben Hill, Parks & Recreation
Ryan Kump, Public Works
James Sorensen, Community Development
Brian Kelley, Administrative Services
Kasey Dunlavy, Economic Development
Martin Jensen, Deputy CAO
Susan Wood, Public Affairs/PIO
Ryan Mecham, Senior Policy Advisor

General Citizen Comment Period (At the conclusion of the Workshop Item)

Council Chair Cyndi Sharkey invited the public to participate in General Citizen Comment.

Josh Karr, representing his community near Alta High School, thanked the Mayor, Council and Administration for their responsiveness and action to address the safety issues at the intersection of 110 S 10 E. This is why Sandy is one of the greatest places to live.

Public comment closed.

Council moved to Legislative Report.

Council Budget Priorities Workshop

Council Chair Cyndi Sharkey welcomed those in attendance. Tonight the Council will be participating in the Budget Priorities Workshop.

1. [26-022](#) City Council Holding a Council Budget Priorities Workshop

Attachments: [Matt Dixon Bio](#)

[Budget Workshop Summary](#)

[Approved Council Budget Priorities FY25-26](#)

The Council held a Budget Priorities Workshop to review and update the Council's existing budget priorities leading into the FY2027 budget and beyond. These budget priorities will be used to assist the Council in evaluating various budget requests. Evaluations will take place using a simple evaluation tool that will be developed based on the Council's weighted priorities.

Council Chair Cyndi Sharkey invited Shane Pace, CAO, to provide a brief preview of the Administration's budget priorities. Mr. Pace mentioned the Mayor was meeting with community members at the intersection by Alta High School and apologized for not being present at this evening's City Council meeting.

Mr. Pace said this upcoming budget for FY 2027 will be a hard budget. Public Safety will be our top priority for the Administration. It also was a top priority for the Council and our residents. Compensation will also be a top priority for Administration. Compensation has been very effective in retaining experienced city employees and our first responders in the Police and Fire Department. We have an aging workforce with over 58 employees who have reached 30 years. We cannot afford to lose the experienced city staff that work for them, which means keeping the city's compensation competitive was very important. Mr. Pace went on to discuss capital projects. While Phase I and II of the Public Works capital projects have been completed, we still need to complete Phase III. The new recreation center will open during FY2027. We will need to include the needs of that new facility in the budget. Additionally, the Administration has asked all departments to cut their budget by 2% to 4%. Mr. Pace thanked the Council for the opportunity to provide an overview of the upcoming fiscal budget.

Dustin Fratto, Council Director, introduced the workshop facilitator, Matt Dixon and provided his background to the Council. Mr. Dixon facilitated our budget workshop last year and we have invited him back to lead the Council through the workshop this evening. Mr. Dixon will review with you the budget priorities the Council created last year and through this evening's workshop, will help you to evaluate, modify and update those priorities for the upcoming fiscal year.

The workshop began with introductions and a review of the City's Mission and Vision statement. Mr. Dixon then reviewed the Council Budget Priorities developed at the prior year's workshop: Economic Development, Employee Satisfaction, Community Safety, Quality of Life, and Fiscal Health. Mr. Dixon then walked the Council through the process to develop a strategic plan to accomplish the Council's initiatives. He reviewed why priority-based budgeting matters.

He then moved the Council into a SWOT analysis of the city's budget: Strengths, Weaknesses (Internal), Threats (External) and Opportunities. The Council presented their analysis to the group.

Strengths:

- Safe Community
- Partnerships with stakeholders
- Top recreation opportunities

Geographic Location
Invested and involved residents - actively engaged in the community
Strong Governance

Weaknesses (Internal):

Improved Communication with the Administration which will increase trust
Shared vision in the City and the process to get to that vision
Aging staff close to retirement

Threats (External):

State mandates and legislation
Revenue loss due to economic conditions
Natural disasters resulting in limiting resources
Competition from other cities

Opportunities:

Building trust and improving communications and developing a consistent process
Promoting the City and relations with external partners
Effective team building and collaboration
Succession planning

A lengthy Council discussion followed the SWOT analysis and included a budget prioritization exercise and the development of budget priorities for the upcoming fiscal year and budget. Council developed their budget priorities for the upcoming fiscal year. Staff will work on compiling these priorities and bring them back to the Council at an upcoming meeting for their review.

Following the workshop, Council moved to General Citizen Comment.

Standing Reports

Legislative Report

Ryan Mecham, Senior Policy Advisor, spoke about upcoming legislative issues. A top priority for the legislature was increasing the housing stock. There are also bills under review related to property taxes and urban wildland interface. Please reach out to him with any questions.

Adjournment

Council unanimously adjourned the meeting at 8:26 pm.