



Office of Regional Development

Dina Blaes, Director | August 20, 2024

Environmental Programs

Emily Paskett

Housing & Community Development

Mike Akerlow

Economic Development

Dina Blaes (interim)

Regional Planning & Transportation

Helen Peters

Office of Regional Development Divisions

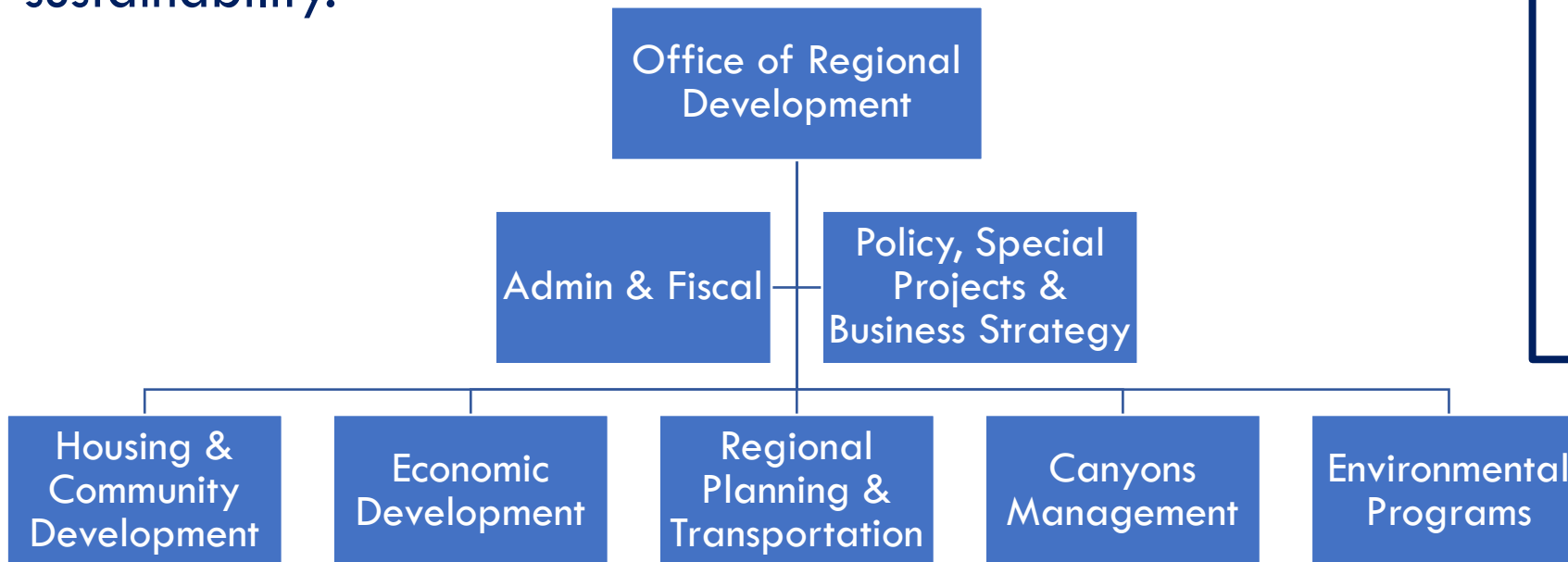
Canyons Management

Jason Wolf

Office of Regional Development

Mission

Address issues of regional significance in urban planning, transportation, housing, community development, economic development, canyons ecosystems, and environmental sustainability.



Overview

55 Employees

\$49M Annual Budget
(includes ARPA)

15% General Fund

85% Federal Grants

28 Funding Sources

Office of Regional Development's Roles

- Convene and collaborate with stakeholders
- Create, influence, and advocate for policy
- Secure new funding
- Competitively disburse grants & entitlement funds
- Conduct research and program evaluation
- Invest in ORD staff

Intergovernmental Affairs

- Salt Lake County Council of Governments
- Association of Municipal Councils
- Point of the Mountain State Land Authority Board
- Jordan River Commission
- Great Salt Lake Advisory Council
- Envision Utah
- Unified Economic Opportunity Commission
 - Commission on Housing Affordability Subgroup
- Utah Association of Counties
- UTA, UDOT, and WFRC
- State Land Use Task Force



Housing & Community Development

Housing & Community Development

Mission: Dedicated to providing affordable and accessible housing options for all residents and support for broad community service providers.

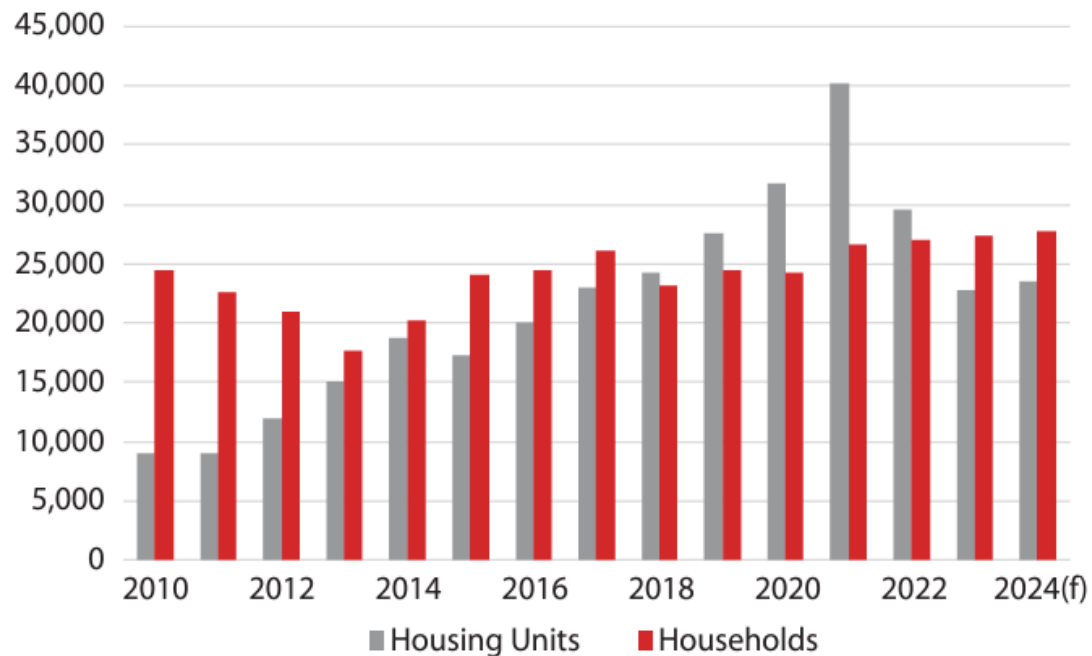


Outcomes:

- Low to moderate income individuals and families achieve housing stability, economic mobility, and/or crisis support services from interventions facilitated through nonprofit agencies.
- Low-income households in SLCo have safe homes that support health and well-being.
- SLCo residents have safe and energy efficient homes.

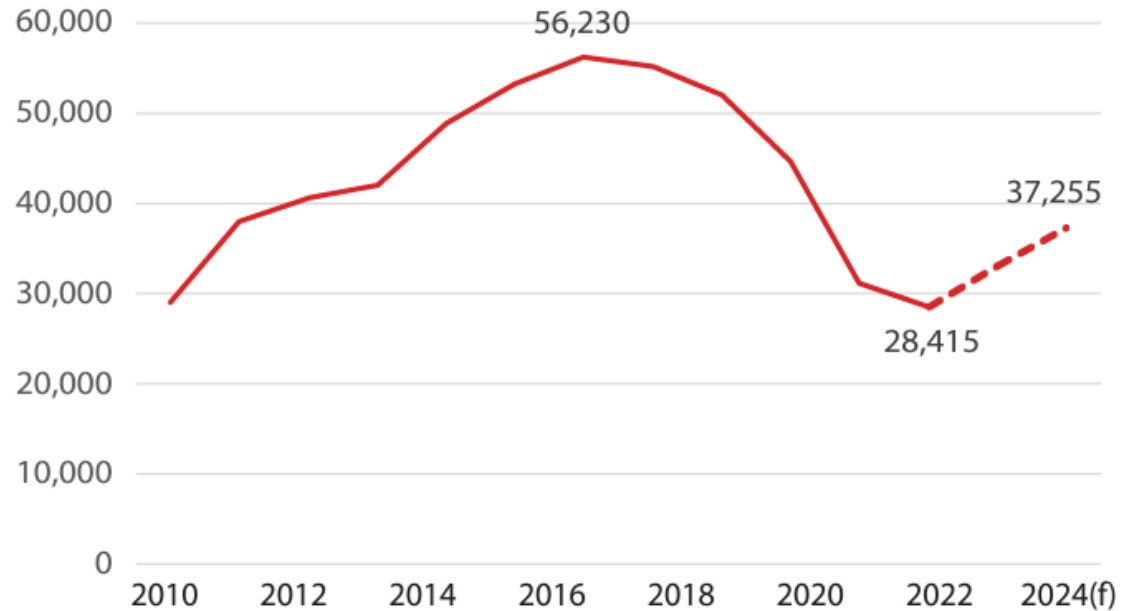
Regional Context

Figure 9: Increase in Utah Housing Units vs. Increase in Utah Households, 2010-2024(f)



(f) = forecast (2023-2024)
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute

Figure 10: Cumulative Housing Shortage in Utah, 2011-2024(f)



(f) = forecast (2023-2024)
Source: Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute

Source: <https://gardner.utah.edu/wp-content/uploads/State-Of-Housing-Sep2023.pdf?x71849>

Stakeholder Engagement

- Division Director, Utah Representative Federal Home Loan Bank Advisory Council
- 2 Yearly Public Comment Periods for federal entitlement grants (CDBG & HOME) around Action Plans and required reporting, and as needed based on projects
- Once yearly Provider Expo for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Providers
- Quarterly meetings of the HOME Consortium and Urban County
- 5-year Consolidated Plan
 - Convenings of community stakeholders, including current and prospective partners
 - Community Surveys
 - Survey of Municipal Mayor's Priorities
 - Community Needs Assessment

Current Programs

- Residential rehabilitation for Radon, Lead, Weatherization, Green & Healthy Homes, and Aging In Place
- Rental Assistance + Down Payment Assistance
- Social Services Support, including homeless service providers
- Housing Trust Fund
- Federal grants: CDBG, SSBG, ERAP 1 & 2, ESG, HOME

Successes

- Secured \$5.1M in new Lead Abatement Grant funds through 2027
- Awarded \$300,000 for a Solar for All Pilot Program
- \$4.7M going out for new affordable housing development in 2024
- \$25M allocated for affordable housing, resulting in 1545 new units
- Completed division reorganization, securing new leadership, and undergoing a strategic plan

Affordable Housing: East 72



SLCo's contribution:

\$1,700,000 Housing Trust Fund (ARPA)

\$900,000 in HOME funds

89 units, including

- 5 Permanent Supportive Housing
- 5 Physically Disabled
- 5 Domestic Violence
- 10 Adaptable
- Nearly half for those with incomes below \$30,000 per year

Looking Ahead

- Housing Now
- PSH Tool Kit Funding application
- Community Land Trust Program in development
- PRICE Grant application
- Systemic Coordination: Supportive Housing Workgroup
 - Affordable housing inventory mapping

Regional Planning & Transportation



Regional Planning & Transportation

Mission: Dedicated to creating sustainable and thriving communities through comprehensive regional plans, transportation strategies, and land use management.



Outcomes:

- SLCo works collaboratively with state and local partners to create and execute regional development plans that align with SLCo policy priorities.
- SLCo and partners invest in a robust, multimodal transportation network to enhance residents' quality of life and visitors' experience.
- SLCo influences local planning actions to align with national best practices and regional goals.
- All SLCo Planning Commission and Mountainous Planning Commission positions are filled, and members are representative of the communities they serve.

Regional Context

- Salt Lake County's population will grow by 35% from 2024 to 2060
- We support the linkage between land use and transportation to reduce congestion/travel time as well as enhance air quality
- Public engagement in regional transportation plans and projects allows people to express how they want to get around Salt Lake County
- Legislature is a key partner in setting transportation funding and direction

Stakeholder Engagement

- Regional Solutions highlights topics of county wide importance with keynote speaker and subject matter expert panels
- We recruit and train members for the Salt Lake County Planning Commission and the Mountainous Planning Commission
- Surveys and open houses are often used to gather information to inform projects and policies. (Example: Federal Lands Access Program Upper Mill Creek Canyon Road Improvement Project)
- Quarterly Transportation Funding Workgroup meetings to identify funding for projects for local jurisdictions transportation projects.

Current Programs

- Annual Regional Solutions Event: focus on planning and growth issues
- Transportation fund administration: Local Option Sales and Use Tax for Transportation (4th Quarter)
- Upper Mill Creek Canyon Road, Federal Lands Access Program
- Participate with Little (ROD) and Big Cottonwood environmental study
- Engage with regional urban transportation planning issues such as the Southwest Transit Study Refresh
- Traverse Mountain (Camp Williams) Compatible Land Use Study
- Great Salt Lake Sentinel Landscape funding collaboration

Successes

- Upper Mill Creek Canyon Road Improvement Project, FLAP - \$25M of improvements in Mill Creek Canyon from Winter Gate to Upper Big Water Trailhead
- Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinance
- Compliance with the State's Moderate Income Housing requirements and reporting
- Corridor preservation for future roadway and public transit in collaboration with local jurisdictions and COG Public Works Committee
- Update of parking ordinance in Little and Big Cottonwood Canyon



Looking Ahead


- FLAP grant for lower Mill Creek Canyon (Fee Booth to Winter Gate)
- Monitor Legislative directives and funding related to transportation
- Traverse Mountain Compatibly Land Use Study/Plan
- Ordinance Amendments:
 - Foothills and Canyons Overlay Zone (FCOZ) to add Wildlands Urban Interface (WUI) considerations
 - Forestry Recreation (FR) / Forestry Agriculture (FA) to address horses and other animals
- Identify regional issue for Regional Solutions 2025
- Distribution of transportation funding (4th Quarter)
- Collaborate with jurisdictions, UDOT, UTA and WFRC

You're Invited!

2024 Regional Solutions: Aging in Place

2024 Regional Solutions Event
Aging in Place

SAVE THE DATE!

 slco.to/2024RegSolutions

Oct. 2nd
9 - 4PM



**BUILDING RESILIENT
COMMUNITIES FOR
PEOPLE OF ALL AGES**

Keynote Speaker:

DANIELLE ARIGONI

Author, Managing Director for Policy and Solutions at National Housing Trust

Danielle Arigoni is an influential voice in community resilience and housing. As the Managing Director for Policy and Solutions at the National Housing Trust, she brings a wealth of experience in helping communities develop sustainable, inclusive, and age-friendly solutions.

Previously, Arigoni led AARP's Livable Communities program, championing safe streets, housing, and transportation options for people of all ages.

Her work at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development also shaped the Office of Economic Resilience, prioritizing the needs of vulnerable populations.

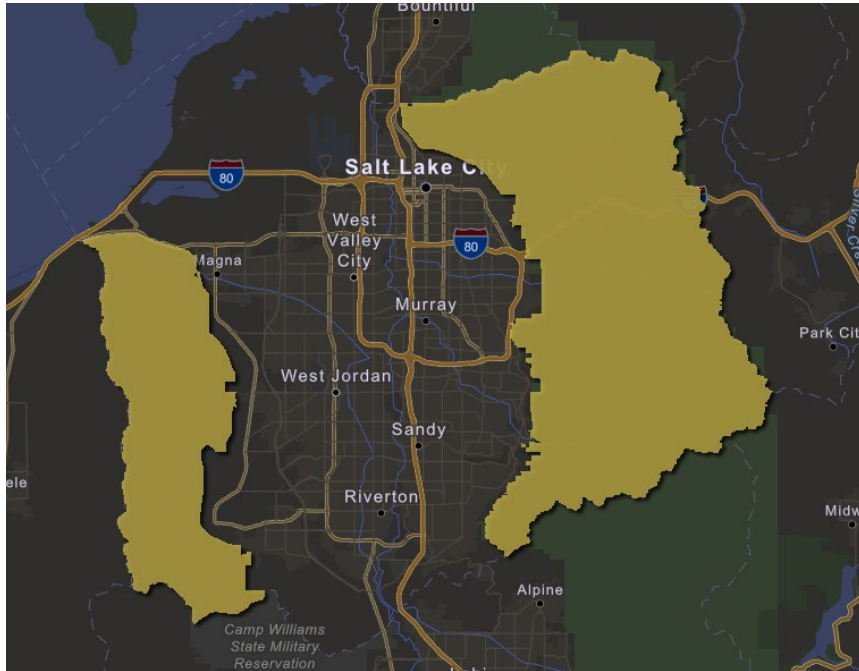




Canyons Management Program

Canyons Management Overview

Mission: Protect, enhance, and promote ecological and social values in the canyons through balanced approaches in conservation, recreation, and thriving communities in Salt Lake County.

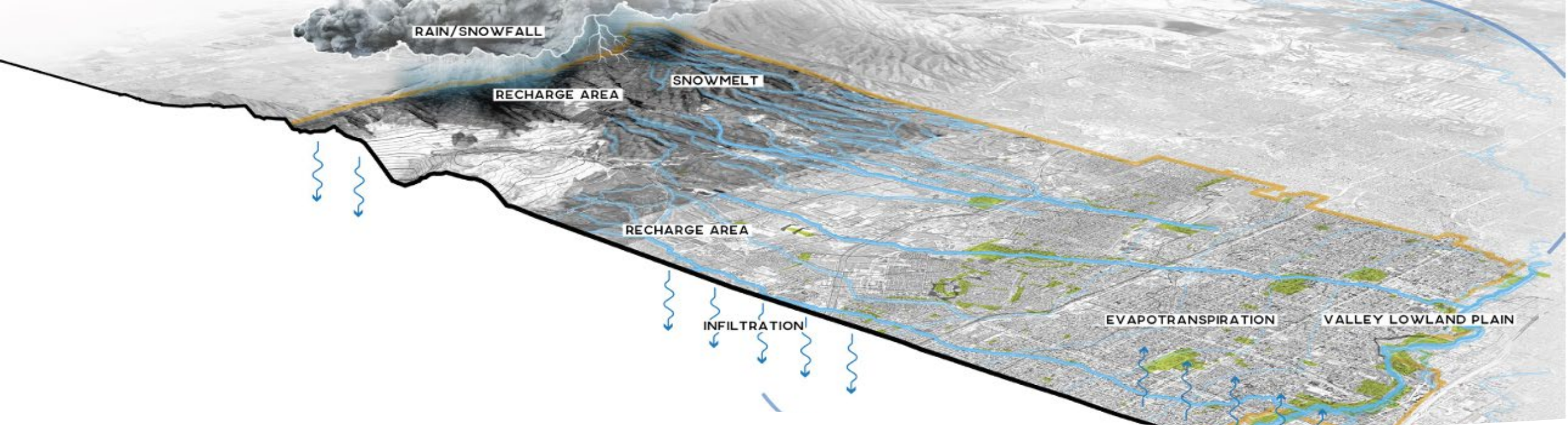


Outcomes:

- SLCo safeguards and preserves our natural resources to foster thriving and resilient communities.
- SLCo's canyon landscapes and ecosystems are healthy and resilient.
- SLCo community members and organizations are meaningfully engaged in canyon management activities.

Regional Context

- Increasing pressure on conservation and land protections as communities grow.
- Aim to safeguard the natural resources, biodiversity and unique ecological features in the canyons
- Public Engagement with stakeholders through plans and projects that shape the future of the canyons
- Defensible Space against wildfire - Wildfire threats in the canyons are an increasing risk to residents



Stakeholder Engagement

- Presented at the SLCo Watershed Symposium
- SW Waterway community engagement – Recently completed survey
- Work closely with Transportation and Planning on all Mill Creek Canyon Projects.

Current Programs

- County Resource Management Plan update
- H2Oquirrh: Southwest Waterways Vision Plan
- Wasatch Canyons General Plan
- Defensible space against wildfire planning
- Upper Mill Creek Canyon Trail Head Improvements

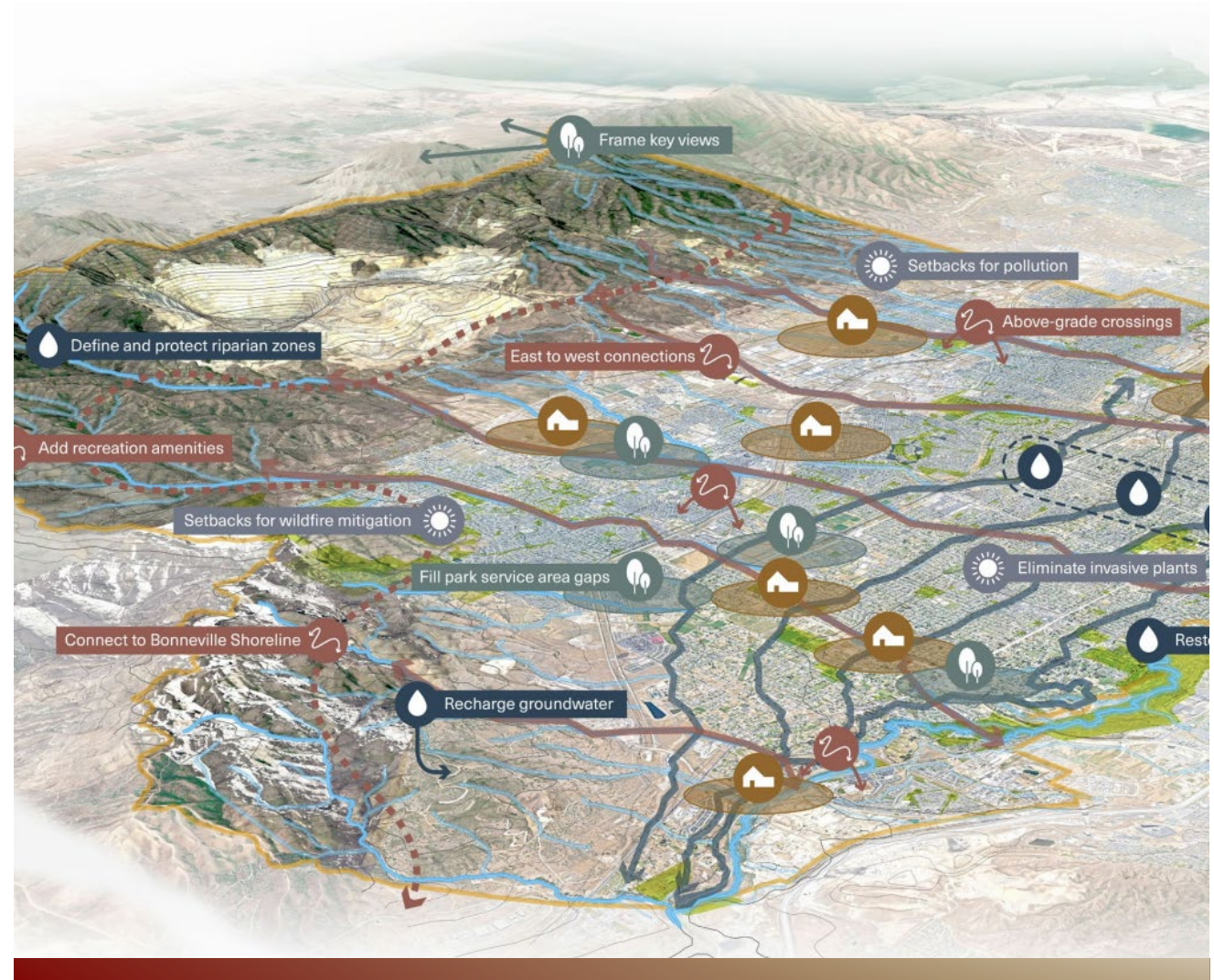


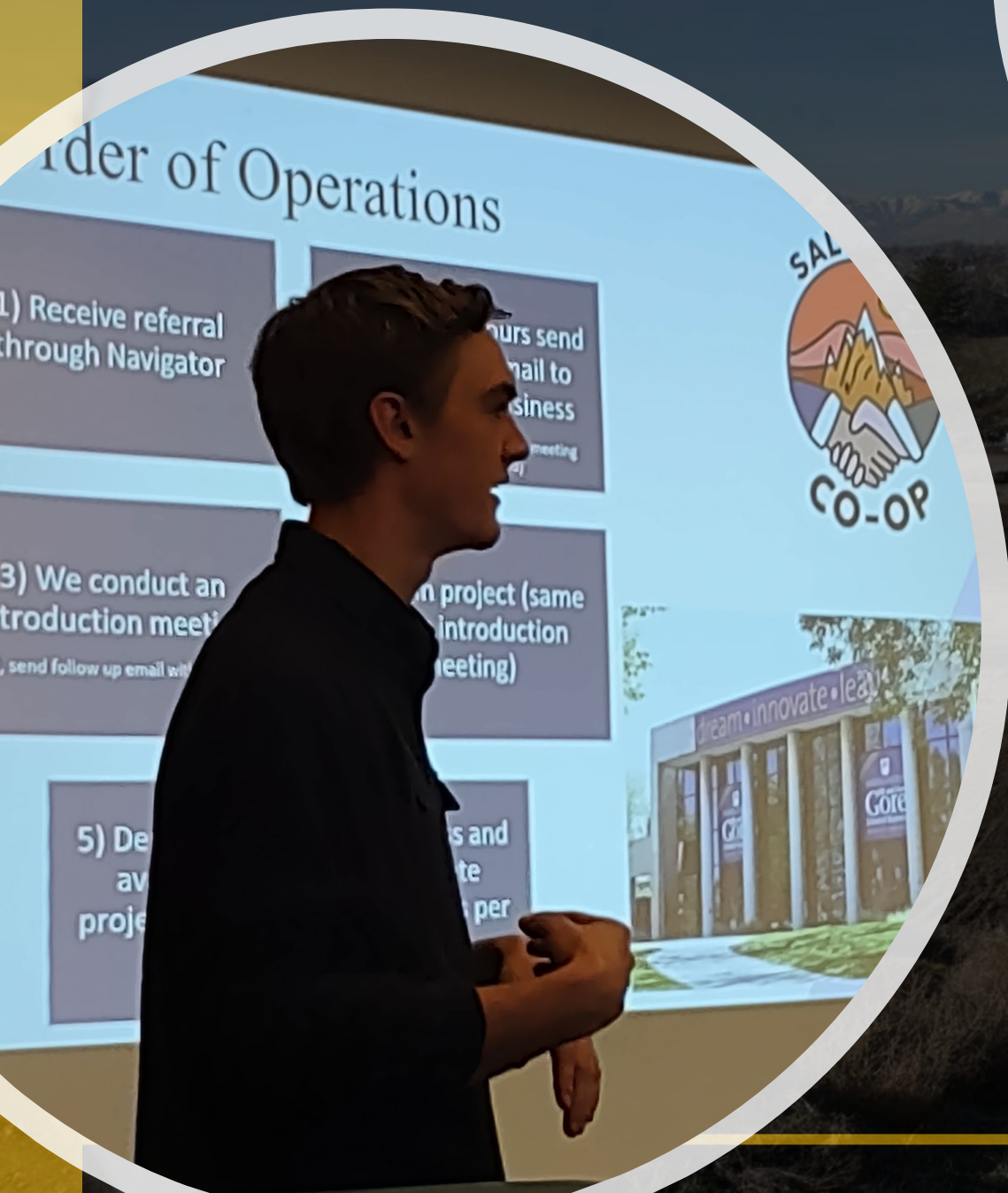
Successes

- Canyons Policy Framework
- Canyons Strategic Plan
- Grant for the new Pipeline Trail Bridge at Elbow Fork - \$76,000
- Grant for the Upper Mill Creek Canyon Trail Heads - \$750,000

Looking Ahead

- Research demands on Natural Resources as the County continues to grow
- Challenges: Seek funding for Community Wildfire Defense program
- Identifying opportunities within the Oquirrh and Traverse Waterways





Centro Cívico Mexicano serves the Hispanic/immigrant community in #SLC. With an EPA's Revolving Loan Fund subgrant, it removed asbestos, mercury, hydrocarbons & more from the property and now is home to a new community center & 61 apts for low-income seniors #EconomicDevelopment



Economic Development & Redevelopment Agency

Economic Development & RDA

Mission: Serve as an economic development platform that partners with regional stakeholders to solve regional issues, strengthen our value proposition, and increase prosperity.



Outcomes:

- SLCo RDA makes investments in project areas that increase economic opportunity and vibrancy for those communities.
- SLCo makes sound investments in resolving blight and other market failures which increases opportunities for smart and inclusive growth.
- SLCo increases economic opportunities for businesses from socioeconomically disadvantaged communities.
- SLCo helps unemployed and underemployed lower income SLCo residents get better jobs.

Regional Context

COVID showed us the gaps we have reaching underserved populations. Our ARPA programs continue to focus on ensuring our regional prosperity benefits everyone through select workforce development and small business support programs.

We're experiencing continued pressure on property tax diversion due to state-mandated TIF participation programs.

Figure 3.3: Utah Annual Average Unemployment Rate and Wage Growth, 1980-2023e



e=estimate
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

<https://gardner.utah.edu/2024-utah-economic-report-to-the-governor/>

Stakeholder Engagement

- Participation with Legislature and industry on property tax diversion legislation
- Senior ED Manager serves on Urban Land Institute (ULI) Utah board
- Senior ED Manager serves on the SLCo HTRZ Committee
- Hosted former Labor Secretary Tom Perez in March 2024 with a panel on Workforce Development strategies
- Partnered with Westminster University's Small Business Conference

Current Programs

- CO-OP Small Business Assistance Program (ARPA)
- Pre-Apprenticeship Program (ARPA)
- Brownfield Remediation grants and loans (EPA)
- Tax Increment Financing Agreements
- Salt Lake County Redevelopment Agency
 - Arbor Park
 - Magna Main Street

PIK2AR Business Partner Award for CO-OP



Looking Ahead

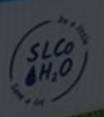
- Transformational Initiative Program continuation through grant funding
- Monitor state legislation on property tax diversion initiatives
- Develop strategy for expiring Magna RDA project areas
- Submitted grant application Pathways to Infrastructure Grant through Department of Labor to continue the Pre-Apprenticeship Program for \$5.1M

WATER
CONSERVATION
IN PROGRESS

Help us fight the drought!

Environmental Program

slcoh20.org



Environmental Programs

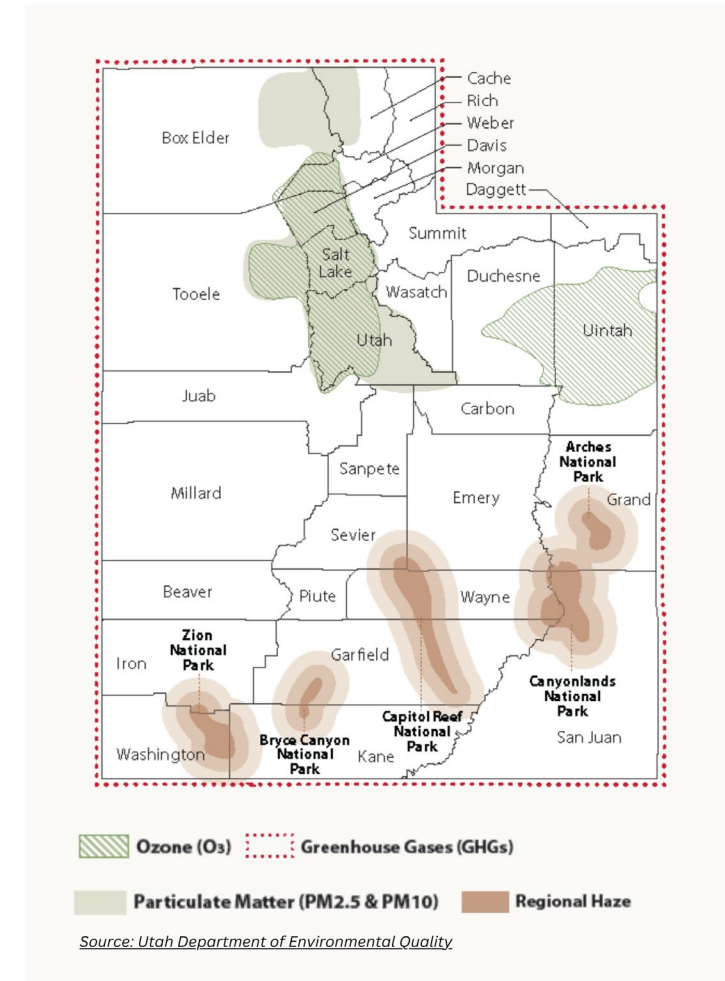
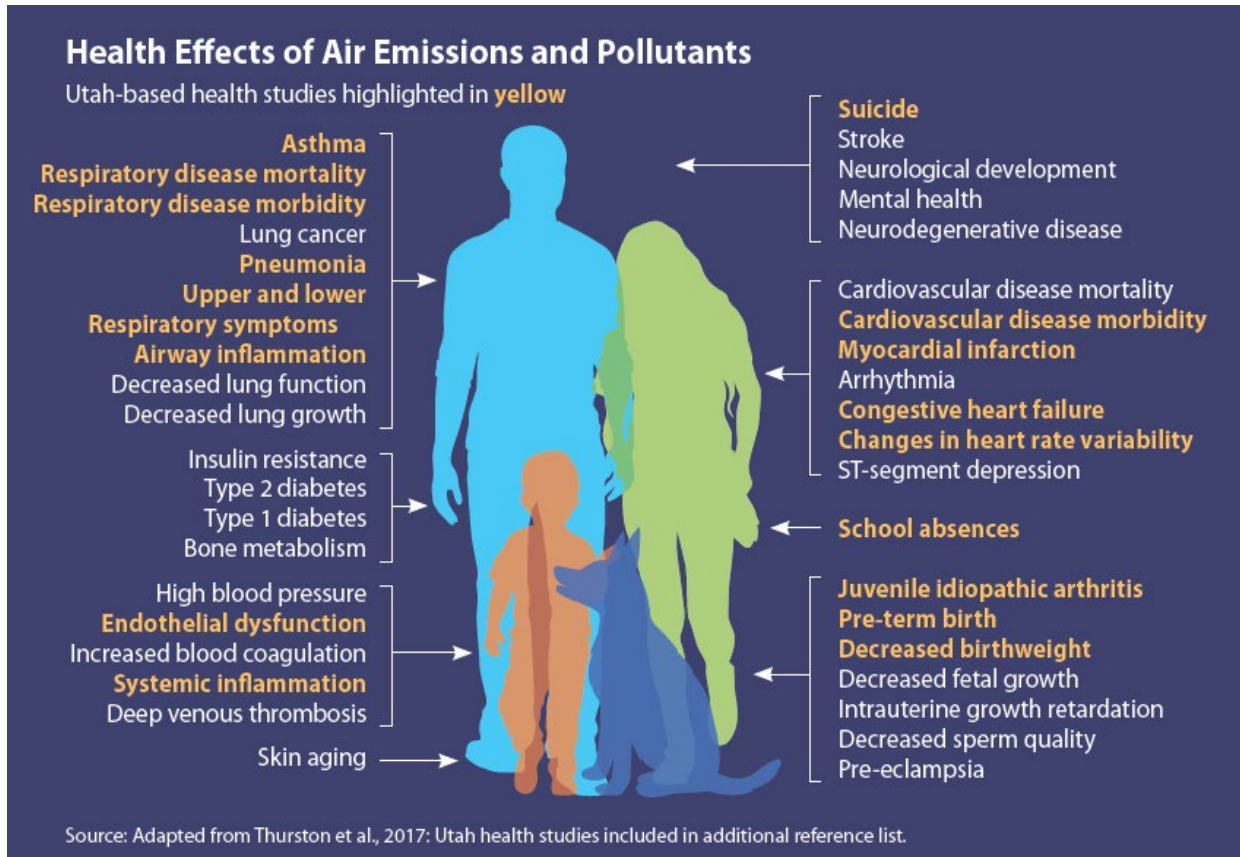
Mission: Supports regional sustainability measures to ensure all populations live in a safe, secure, and healthy environment.



Outcomes:

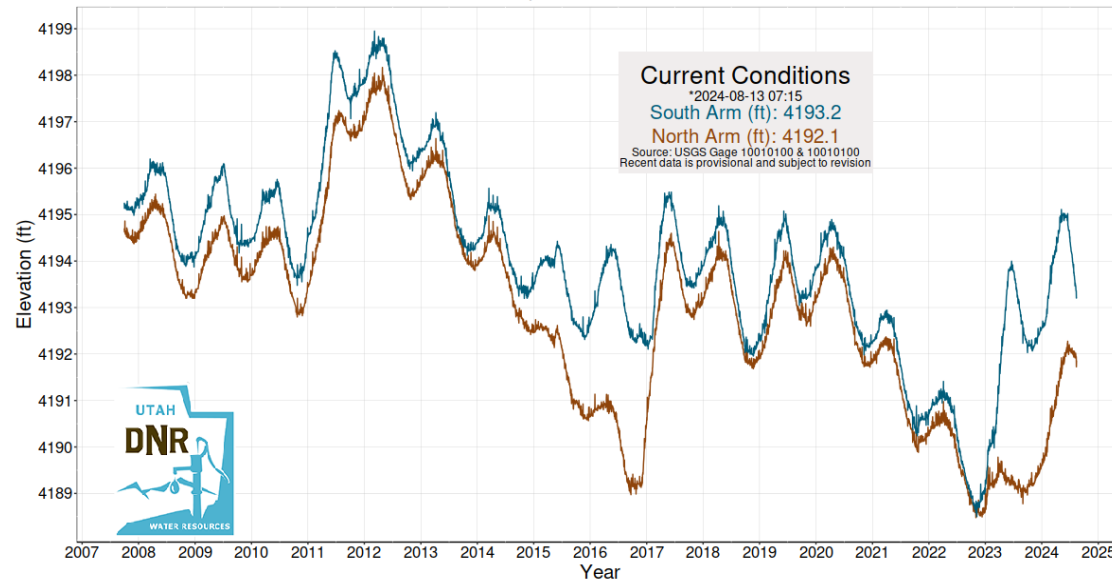
- SLCo invests in regional sustainability initiatives to improve air, water, energy, land, and waste management to improve residents' quality of life and visitors' experience.
- SLCo makes operational decisions and investments for facilities and programs to improve air, water, energy, land, and waste management.
- SLCo supports water conservation for public entities in the region.

Regional Context



Regional Context

Great Salt Lake Elevations
Updated 08/13/2024



<https://greatsaltlake.utah.gov/current-conditions>

One Utah city will offer prizes to get people to conserve more water
08-05-2024 by Ben Winslow

MILLCREEK, Utah — In an effort to get more residents to conserve water, Millcreek city leaders are launching a game. The city has agreed t...

[READ MORE ...](#)

Great Salt Lake's dry lakebed 'big' producer of greenhouse gas emissions, study finds
07-29-2024 by Carter Williams

SALT LAKE CITY — While researchers continue to investigate the effects that dust from the Great Salt Lake might have on communities, a new s...

[READ MORE ...](#)

Great Salt Lake is a major source of greenhouse gases, study says
07-27-2024 by Ben Winslow

SALT LAKE CITY — The Great Salt Lake is a big contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, according to a new study. The Royal Ontario Museum...

[READ MORE ...](#)

BYU College of Life Sciences
Plant and Wildlife Sciences

Emergency measures needed to rescue Great Salt Lake from ongoing collapse

Great Salt Lake is facing unprecedented danger. Without a dramatic increase in water flow to the lake in 2023 and 2024, its disappearance could cause immense damage to Utah's public health, environment, and economy. This briefing provides background and recommends emergency measures. The choices we make over the next few months will affect our state and ecosystems throughout the West for decades to come. We thank all those already working on solutions, and we thank you for considering this information.

Benjamin W. Abbott¹, Bonnie K. Baxter², Karoline Bucche³, Lynn de Freitas⁴, Rebecca Frei⁵, Teresa Gomez⁶, Mary Anne Karen⁷, Rachel L. Buck⁸, Joseph Price⁹, Sara Frutos¹⁰, Robert B. Sowby¹¹, Janice Brubaker¹², Bryan G. Hopkins¹³, Matthew R. Bakken¹⁴, Jeremy S. Bakker¹⁵, Russell Rabeni¹⁶, Brian Brown¹⁷, Mary Proteau¹⁸, Gregory T. Craling¹⁹, Lyle Conner²⁰, Paul Alan Cox²¹, Ethan MacQuhan²², Christopher Casarson²³, Darian T. Neilson²⁴, R. Jeffrey Davis²⁵, Daniel Horne²⁶, Heather Dove²⁷, Tara Bishop²⁸, Adam Johnson²⁹, Kaye Nelson³⁰, John Bertram³¹, Patrick Belmont³²

¹Brigham Young University, ²Westminster College, ³Friends of Great Salt Lake, ⁴University of Alberta, ⁵Utah State University, ⁶Wasatch High School, ⁷Brain Chemistry Labs, Jackson Hole, ⁸Utah Valley University, ⁹Integral Consulting, ¹⁰Great Salt Lake Audubon, ¹¹Ph.D. Research Ecologist, ¹²Corneus Utah Valley



Figure 1. A bridge where the Bear River used to flow into Great Salt Lake. Photo: EcoFlight.

First published on Wednesday, January 4th, 2023

<https://pws.byu.edu/great-salt-lake>

Utah received money to study the harmful effects of Great Salt Lake dust. It just hasn't spent it.
07-26-2024 by Anastasia Hufham

The Utah Legislature provided funding for increased dust monitoring in 2023. As the Great Salt Lake shrinks, dust from its lakebeds impact...

[READ MORE ...](#)

The gap between the Great Salt Lake's arms is closing. What does that mean for salinity?
07-26-2024 by Carter Williams

SALT LAKE CITY — The difference between the Great Salt Lake's northern and southern arms continues to shrink, but the state office tasked wi...

[READ MORE ...](#)

<https://greatsaltlakenews.org/>

Stakeholder Engagement

- Program Manager is a member of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Wasatch Brownfields (EPA RLF) Board & Brownfields Assessment Grant Advisory Committee
- Electric Bus Air Quality Monitoring engagement through publicly accessible map.



Current Programs

- Utah Renewable Communities
- Electric Bus Air Quality Monitoring program
- Sustainability Strategy for County Operations
- Municipal Land Use & Water Conservation Program
- County Facility Flip-the-Strip program



Successes

- Supported the waterwise landscape efforts of municipalities across Salt Lake County to save 10.3 million gallons of water per year.
- Coordinated cross-agency Sustainability Summit within the Mayor's portfolio.
- Partnered with the University of Utah, Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Utah Transit Authority and additional local organizations to launch the EBus Local Air Quality Website.
- Launched Flip-the-Strip which converts 160,930 square feet of unused lawn at Salt Lake County facilities into "localscape".



Looking Ahead

- Strengthening cross-agency initiatives.
- Supporting cross-agency collaboration for resource and operational efficiency.
- Enhancing public awareness and education.
- Building resilience to environmental risks.
- Evaluating sustainable technologies.

Thank you

[Office of Regional Development](#)