



Happy Holidays, Salt Lakers.

I hope this email finds you well.

No matter what you do to celebrate the holiday season, I want you to get there safely. Impaired driving is dangerous and 100% preventable. Think about using a ride-share or public transportation if you are going out. You can find UTA's holiday schedule [here](#).

Winter shelter

Last week, the Temporary Shelter Community - [Utah's first microshelter](#) began operations to support 50 individuals experiencing homelessness. Switchpoint, the nonprofit service provider [selected by the State Office of Homeless Services](#), will operate the temporary site through April 30, 2024. 24-7 support is provided to the individuals who live on-site in secure shelter units that are fully equipped with heating, lighting, air conditioning, electrical outlets, and beds. This temporary microshelter will inform the state's implementation of a more permanent site, in 2024.

Between the homeless resource centers, the new winter shelter in West Valley, and the St. Vincent De Paul winter shelter, there are more than 400 additional shelter beds that have opened since October 2023. This is on top of the 1,000 beds that are open all year long.

Earlier this month, the [Medically Vulnerable People \(MVP\) Transitional Housing Program](#) in Sandy had a ribbon cutting and will begin taking in residents at the start of the new year. This facility will add 165 beds to our shelter network.

On days when the temperature drops below 15 degrees F, a [Code Blue is issued](#), which means up to 200 more emergency beds are available in addition to year-round and winter shelter beds.

We are enforcing no camping, and we encourage people to use the [SLC Mobile app](#) to report needs for city and county services. The city homeless engagement team reviews mobile app requests for services daily and helps deploy street outreach, cleaning, and

other engagement services to camps. Our first efforts are always to get people into shelters or housing and offer any possible services as quickly as possible, including crisis mental health services, detox, and other substance use treatment.



Inauguration and State of the City

I am so honored to get to be mayor of this amazing city for another four years. I ran for mayor because: I love this city and our people, and I see a path to achieving a greater future.

There are so many good elements at play in Salt Lake City today, so many bright opportunities and reasons to work for progress. I hope you'll join me at the inauguration at noon on Jan. 2nd.

I would also like to invite you to tune into this year's State of the City on Jan. 30. Details to come in the next few weeks.

Affordable Housing Incentives

This month, Salt Lake City took a monumental step toward creating more opportunities for affordable housing by adopting meaningful zoning amendments city-wide. The Salt Lake City Council approved my administration's Affordable Housing Incentives (AHI),

which will go into effect on April 30, 2024. This effort will generate transformational change in Salt Lake City, supporting residents for generations.

[Read more about the incentives here](#)

Gov.'s proposed budget & the legislative session

Governor Cox unveiled his proposed budget for the State of Utah, which includes proposals to support affordable housing and resources for our most vulnerable communities experiencing homelessness. If adopted by the State Legislature in the 2024 General Session, the Governor's recommendations would be a major investment in our quality of life. The 2024 Legislative Session begins on Jan. 16, 2024. You can view the Legislature's schedule, subscribe to committees, and read about proposed legislation [here](#).



Panel: Downtown - The next chapter

I recently joined a lively panel discussion, hosted by the Salt Lake Tribune and the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, to explore the bright future of Downtown and the legacy we are crafting together. With our buzzing 🐝 Downtown community expected to double by 2025, we are embracing creative initiatives, and opportunities to address challenges that arise from our growth, including housing, air quality, and transportation. [Read](#) Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute's most recent publication about population trends, housing, and economic mobility in Salt Lake City, or listen to the panel in a [podcast](#) episode.

ICYMI: Airport AMA (and what's coming in 2024)

Ahead of heavy holiday travel, our Director of Airports Bill Wyatt joined me for an #AMASlc on Instagram and Twitter to talk about the new gates, concessions, and art at SLC International Airport, as well as what's to come in 2024 during Phase 3 of The New SLC build-out. Perhaps the most common question was: When will the Central Tunnel open? The Central Tunnel will be located right after passing through security and take travelers straight to Concourse B. It features one of our final major airport art installations—The River Tunnel. It's almost here...count down to the Fall of 2024! Find answers from the AMA in a highlight on @SLCMayor's [Instagram page](#).



And the winner is ... ?

And in case you missed it, the [SLC Airport](#) was named 2023 Utahn of the Year by the Salt Lake Tribune!

2023 Utahn of the Year

As always, feel free to reach out to me at mayor@slcgov.com

Best regards,

Handwritten signature of E. Mendelsohn



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