Council of Governments Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2026

Council Chambers

5:00 PM

Zoom Link

1. Call to Order

   Chairman Scott Wardle called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

2. Roll Call

   Scott Wardle, Erik Stromberg, Maresa Manzione, Dave McCall, Heidi Hammond, Sheldon Birch, Kathleen VonHatten, John Olson, Joe Johnston, Jeremy Walker, Christopher Damour, Geoff Dupaix, Wayne Bennion, Jed Bell, Adam Graft, Rachelle Custer, Cameron Diehl, Kate Bradshaw, Michael Resare, Andy Welch, Brittany Lopez.

3. Public Comment

   Geoff Dupaix of UDOT provided information on the Rural Health Grant Program, which will distribute approximately $11 million statewide over a five-year period to support active transportation and community connectivity projects in rural areas.

   Eligible projects may include sidewalk improvements, pedestrian crossing enhancements, trail improvements, and other active transportation amenities. The program is intended to fund smaller-scale community projects and is not limited to state highway corridors. Communities may propose projects located within their own jurisdictions that improve safety, accessibility, and connectivity.

   Examples discussed included sidewalk connections between community destinations, school access improvements, trail enhancements, and pedestrian infrastructure projects. UDOT is currently seeking project suggestions from local communities to help identify and prioritize potential funding opportunities.

   Mr. Dupaix noted that projects selected for funding must have funds obligated and be advertised for construction by September of the following year, making timely project identification important. While the current funding round is limited, additional funding opportunities are anticipated throughout the five-year program.

Council members were encouraged to submit project suggestions through Meghan VonHatten for review and prioritization. UDOT requested that feedback be submitted prior to July 4 to assist with the evaluation process.

COG members expressed appreciation for the opportunity and recognized the program's potential to support pedestrian safety, sidewalk connectivity, trail improvements, and other community infrastructure needs throughout Tooele County's rural communities.

4. Recognitions, Presentations, & Informational Items
    A. Countywide Pavement Assessment, Jed Bell

Jed Bill presented an update on the countywide pavement assessment project that was approved and funded by the Council of Governments. The project expanded upon the pavement assessment previously completed for Tooele County and now includes roadway evaluations for

- Grantsville
- Tooele City
- Vernon
- Rush Valley
- Stockton

The assessment was conducted using the INFORM pavement management system, which utilizes high-resolution cameras, mobile LiDAR technology, GPS mapping, and Federal Highway Administration pavement distress standards to evaluate roadway conditions. The data collected provides an objective analysis of roadway conditions and assists communities in developing long-term pavement maintenance and preservation plans.

Jed explained that the project was completed to support state auditing requirements, which require local governments to perform roadway condition assessments every three years and demonstrate responsible use of transportation funding. The project assessed approximately 269 miles of roadway and was completed under budget, with the final cost totaling approximately $59,000.

The assessment categorizes roads by condition using a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) rating system ranging from excellent to very poor. Roads identified as poor or very poor are typically prioritized for rehabilitation or reconstruction, while roads in good condition can be preserved through preventative maintenance treatments. The collected data is displayed through an interactive GIS-based platform that allows participating jurisdictions to review roadway conditions, evaluate maintenance needs, and prioritize future projects.

Adam Graft demonstrated how the system can be used to review roadway conditions, analyze pavement distress, inspect roadway assets, and evaluate potential maintenance treatments. The system also provides historical imagery and condition data to assist in long-term planning and budgeting.

Discussion emphasized that roadway condition ratings should be used as a planning tool rather than the sole factor in determining project priorities. Traffic volumes, roadway function, and overall community needs should also be considered when allocating maintenance funding. It was noted that some roads may receive low condition ratings despite serving very little traffic and therefore may not warrant immediate investment.

Jed Bell noted that the assessment establishes a consistent baseline for measuring roadway conditions across jurisdictions and will allow future assessments to accurately track improvements over time. By repeating the assessment using the same methodology every three years, communities will be able to measure the effectiveness of maintenance investments and make more informed transportation funding decisions.

Council members expressed appreciation for the presentation.

5. Minutes
    A. Meeting Minutes from April

Attachments

1. Draft-Meeting Minutes 4.16.26.pdf

Erik Stromberg motioned to approve the April meeting minutes and Maresa Manzione seconded the motion. All in favor.

6. New Business
    A. Upcoming Growth Summit Discussion

Council Member Wardle provided an update on the proposed Nuclear Lifecycle Campus, noting that the State of Utah continues negotiations with the U.S. Department of Energy. Additional information is expected in the coming weeks as negotiations progress.

An update was also provided on the Regional Growth Summit initiative. The Growth Summit Subcommittee has recommended a series of quarterly growth summits to address long-term regional issues. The first summit is scheduled for August 3, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Tooele Technical College. This initial summit will be limited to elected officials and key stakeholders due to space constraints and will focus on the proposed Nuclear Life cycle Campus, including project details, potential community impacts, and public safety considerations. RSVP responses are requested by July 16, 2026 to Meghan VonHatten.

Future summits are planned to address housing, transportation, economic development, and infrastructure planning. A second summit is tentatively scheduled for November 12, 2026, and will focus on housing and transportation issues in preparation for the 2027 legislative session.

Representatives from the Utah League of Cities and Towns, including Executive Director Cameron Diehl and League President Mayor Kate Bradshaw of Bountiful, expressed support for the regional planning effort. They emphasized the importance of collaboration among local governments, utilizing available planning resources, and learning from communities

that have experienced similar growth challenges. They also encouraged local leaders to identify goals and desired outcomes for future Growth Summit discussions and offered assistance in connecting communities with planning resources and legislative solutions related to growth, infrastructure, and housing.

7. 3rd Quarter Sales Tax
    A. 3rd Quarter Recommendations and Vote

Eric Stromberg, Chair of the Third Quarter Sales Tax Subcommittee, presented the committee's funding recommendations for the 2026–2027 funding cycle. He noted that the committee continues to refine the application scoring process, particularly regarding cost-effectiveness measures and economic impact criteria, to ensure projects are evaluated consistently and fairly.

Mr. Stromberg reported that five applications were submitted for consideration. In addition, Stockton qualified for the previously established allocation of $150,000 from Corridor Preservation funds designated for the smaller southern communities, contingent upon submission of a completed application.

Third Quarter Sales Tax Recommendations

The subcommittee reviewed and scored the following applications:

- Tooele City – $881,786.40 for a transportation project, scoring 63.5 points.
- Tooele County – Village Boulevard construction project, requesting $6,246,712.80 and scoring 65 points. Recommended for 2,500,000.
- Tooele County – Droubay Road project, requesting $1,243,931 and scoring 70 points.

The committee recommended fully funding the Tooele City project and the Droubay Road project, and providing $2.5 million toward the Village Boulevard project. Mr. Stromberg noted that the Third Quarter Sales Tax fund currently maintains a balance of approximately $8.9 million and remains financially capable of supporting the recommended awards.

Mayor Manzione moved to approve the Third Quarter Sales Tax funding recommendations as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Olson and passed unanimously.

Corridor Preservation Recommendations

The subcommittee also reviewed two Corridor Preservation applications:

- Tooele County – Pole Canyon right-of-way acquisition, requesting $1.5 million and scoring 60 points.
- Grantsville City – Depot Road right-of-way acquisition, requesting $890,000 and scoring 70 points.

The committee recommended fully funding both projects. Mr. Stromberg reported that the Corridor Preservation fund currently maintains a balance of approximately $9.2 million.

Eric Stromberg moved to approve the Corridor Preservation funding recommendations, including the allocation of $150,000 to Stockton contingent upon submission of a completed application. The motion was seconded by Mayor Olson and passed unanimously.

Council members expressed appreciation for the work of the subcommittee and noted continued improvements to the application and scoring process. Members also commended the collaborative approach taken by the committee in evaluating projects and developing funding recommendations that benefit communities throughout Tooele County.

8. COG Committee Reports/Updates

   Utah League of Cities and Towns: Executive Director Cameron Diehl and ULCT President and Kate Bradshaw, attended the meeting to participate in discussions regarding a upcoming regional Growth Summit and to strengthen collaboration with local governments throughout Tooele County. Mayor Bradshaw introduced herself and shared that she is serving her first year as Mayor of Bountiful after previously serving on the City Council. She discussed the value of her involvement with the Utah League of Cities and Towns, noting that it provides opportunities to learn from communities across the state, share best practices, and bring innovative ideas back to her municipality. She emphasized the importance of collaboration among local governments and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to meet with leaders in Tooele County.

   Council members welcomed the representatives and expressed appreciation for the ongoing partnership and support provided by the Utah League of Cities and Towns. Discussion followed regarding regional cooperation, transportation planning, and the importance of coordinating efforts among municipalities as Tooele County continues to experience growth and development.

9. Adjournment

   Chairman Wardle motioned to adjourn the meeting. John Olson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 Pm