

Meeting Outline

October 21, 2020 | Click [here](#) for online streaming, requests to comment, and committee information.

Political Subdivisions Interim Committee

Online Meeting, October 21, 2020

1:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Anchor location for meeting: Room 20 House Building, State Capitol Complex, Salt Lake City, Utah
Due to public health restrictions, members of the public are not permitted to attend the meeting at the anchor location but are invited to participate [online](#).

1. Committee Business

Background

- Call to order
- [Draft minutes of the September 16, 2020, meeting](#)

Potential Action

- Approve draft minutes of the September 16, 2020, meeting.

2. Transmission Index Update

Background

- On October 13, 2020, Governor Herbert announced a new response plan to the COVID-19 pandemic that replaced the previous color-coded guidance with the Transmission Index. The Transmission Index provides statewide guidance based on the calculated amount of infection and transmission in each county. The Department of Health designates each county as low, moderate, or high transmission area. There are different levels of standards and restrictions assigned to each level of transmission risk.
 - [Utah Health Guidance Levels](#)

Issues

- *What is the Transmission Index?*
- *Why did it replace the previous color-coded response plan?*
- *How does it effect cities, towns, counties, and local health departments?*

Presenters

- **Rich Saunders**, Interim Executive Director, Utah Department of Health

Potential Action

- Request additional legislation
- Open a committee bill file

3. Metro Township Challenges

The committee will hear presentations on the challenges that metro townships have with financing municipal services.

Background

- Historically, Salt Lake County provided municipal services to unincorporated areas. In the 1980s, these areas grew dramatically, making Salt Lake County the largest provider of municipal services in Utah. As areas incorporated and cities annexed lucrative commercial land, it became more difficult for Salt Lake County to fund those municipal services. **(Source: [Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District](#); Nathan Bracken, Partner, Smith Hartvigsen PLLC Attorneys at Law)**
- In 2015, the Legislature authorized unincorporated-area voters to choose between incorporating as a city or a metro township to shore of remaining community boundaries and tax base. Metro townships are a new type of municipality with most of a city's powers. Today, Copperton, Emigration Canyon, Kearns, Magna, and White City are all metro townships. Residents in these areas receive their municipal services from the Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District (MSD). The Board of Trustees of the MSD is comprised of the mayor of each metro township along with a council member from Salt Lake County. **(Source: [Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District](#); Nathan Bracken, Partner, Smith Hartvigsen PLLC Attorneys at Law)**
- The MSD's Board of Trustees contracts with Salt Lake County for most services and sets service levels, allocates funding, and establishes policies. The MSD receives funding through sales tax, Class B and C highway funds, fees, grants, and other revenues. However, [Section 10-3c-204](#) prohibits metro townships from imposing municipal energy sales and use taxes and telecommunication's license taxes. As such, metro townships effectively have the same responsibilities as cities and towns but do not have all the same funding authorities. **(Source: [Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District](#); Nathan Bracken, Partner, Smith Hartvigsen PLLC Attorneys at Law)**

Issues

- *How did metro townships come to be?*
- *What is their form of government?*
- *Who provides them with municipal services?*
- *What is their funding source?*
- *What are the challenges they are facing?*
- *What changes, if any, can the Legislature make to help alleviate these challenges?*

Presenters

- **Nathan Bracken**, Partner, Smith Hartvigsen PLLC Attorneys at Law

Potential Action

- Request additional legislation
- Open a committee bill file

4. Love, Listen, Lead Task Force Update

The committee will hear about efforts from the Utah League of Cities and Towns regarding law enforcement policy reform.

Background

- In July of this year, the Utah League of Cities and Towns jointly created the Love, Listen, and Lead Task Force with the Utah Chiefs of Police Association to address local law enforcement concerns and trust in local government. The plan emphasizes the need to create open lines of communication and promote policy reform that acknowledges, respects, and defends freedom and justice for all people. **(Source: Utah League of Cities and Towns)**

Issues

- *Who makes up the Task Force?*
- *Why was the Task Force created?*

- *What are the goals of the Task Force?*
- *Has the Task Force decided on any policy forms or legislation?*

Presenters

- **Cameron Diehl**, Executive Director, Utah League of Cities and Towns

Potential Action

- Request additional information
- Open a committee bill file

5. Interlocal Agreements between Community Reinvestment Agencies and Taxing Entities

The committee will receive presentations that provide a high-level overview of the fiscal relationships between CRAs and Taxing Entities.

Background

- Community Reinvestment Agencies are political subdivisions of the state, created by the legislative body of a county or municipality for the purpose of stimulating redevelopment. The governing board of a CRA are the current members of the legislative body that created the CRA. ([Source: Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel](#))
- A CRA is authorized to create project areas and use property tax increment (tax increment financing or TIF) from a project area to help pay for infrastructure improvements, affordable housing, or other development projects. ([Source: Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel](#))
- A CRA negotiates the amount of foregone tax increment through interlocal agreements with each taxing entity (municipalities, counties, school districts, a water district, a mosquito abatement district, a sewer district, a library, a cemetery, etc.) ([Source: Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel](#))

Issues

- *How do CRAs work?*
- *What are the taxing entities involved?*
- *Are they effective?*

- *What are the benefits of having CRAs?*
- *What are the challenges?*

Presenters

- **Matt Dahl**, Utah Redevelopment Association

Potential Action

- Request additional information

6. Community Reinvestment Agency Amendments

The committee will hear a presentation on Senator Harper's CRA bill for the 2021 General Session.

Background

- This bill would amend Title 17C, Limited Purpose Local Government Entities – Community Reinvestment Agency Act. The bill would allow an agency and certain taxing entities to enter an interlocal agreement for the purpose of transferring project area incremental revenue. The bill would authorize an agency to levy a property tax on property within the agency's boundaries and use the property tax revenue for agency-wide project development.
 - [Community Reinvestment Agency Amendments](#)

Presenters

- **Senator Wayne A. Harper**

Potential Action

- Motion to move to next item on the agenda.
- Motion to amend the draft legislation.
- Motion to favorably recommend the draft legislation.

7. Other items/adjourn