



Executive Appropriations Request: Utah Solutions

Request: \$200,000 Ongoing

Purpose: Capacity-building to support volunteer-driven policy leadership and advocacy

What the requested appropriation would be used **exclusively** for:

- **An Executive Director**, responsible for coordinating volunteers, managing legislative engagement, ensuring accountability, and sustaining organizational effectiveness.
- **Policy and Media specialists**, supporting research, policy analysis, communications, and civic engagement.
- **Technology upgrades and equipment.**

No funds would be used for board compensation or unnecessary overhead.

Documented Accomplishments and Legislative Impact

- Drove the policy framework and public support surrounding **Operation Rio Grande**, improving safety and restoring public confidence in downtown Salt Lake City.
- Donated \$500,000 for **new lighting in Pioneer Park** as an anti-camping tool.
- Spearheaded policy decisions requiring **drug-sniffing dogs in shelters**.
- Led efforts for **shelters to release annual reports** required in their Conditional Use Permits. Reversed 4 years of non-compliance.
- Played mayor role in **shaping homeless legislation such as HB298**, addressing homelessness systems, treatment models, operations, funding alignment, and accountability measures.
- **Convened diverse coalitions** to elevate data-driven solutions and communicate complex policy tradeoffs to the public and decision-makers.
- **Sponsored annual conferences** that attract hundreds and showcase national and local influential thinkers and leaders who have articulated key issues about homelessness.
- Worked closely with the legislature to **pass bills like SB195 that examined traffic policies** in Salt Lake City, ensuring mobility and wise policy decisions about our roadways.
- **Held quarterly Town Halls** for the public featuring key opinion leaders on topics vital to the state of Utah.

Overview

Established in 2014, Utah Solutions is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization providing policy leadership, coalition-building, and advocacy on some of Utah's most complex and high-cost challenges, including homelessness, public safety, and system accountability. The organization has a demonstrated track record of influencing meaningful policy reforms while operating with exceptional fiscal discipline.

Utah Solutions operates as an **all-volunteer organization**. Board members and policy leaders receive no compensation. This structure has allowed the organization to achieve outsized impact with minimal financial resources.