



UTAH PLANNER

A PUBLICATION OF THE UTAH CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION



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2025 APA UT FALL CONFERENCE RECAP

More than 400 planners, students, and community leaders convened on October 9–10, 2025, in Salt Lake City for the American Planning Association Utah Chapter Fall Conference, held at The Gateway's Depot and Megaplex Theatres. The conference theme—Utah: The State of Planning—focused on how the planning profession is responding to rapid growth, technological change, and evolving community needs across the state. These attendees were welcomed by Salt Lake City Mayor Erin Mendenhall and heard keynote speeches from Mitchell Silver and Corrin Wendell. Each spoke about their experiences working on various projects and emphasized the importance of accessibility and looking for areas where we can use planning to help broad swaths of community interests.

See full recap article at [this link](#).



HOLIDAY GREETINGS

Wishing you a joyful holiday season filled with love, laughter, and cherished moments. May this Christmas bring peace and happiness to you and your family.

2025 APA UT AWARD WINNERS

The American Planning Association's Utah Chapter recognizes individuals, cities, and projects that further the .

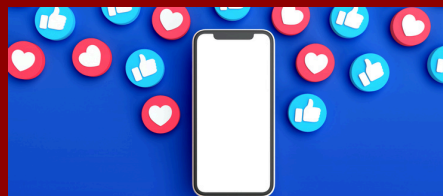
- [2025 APA Utah - Planning Tool Award: Santa Clara Historic District Design Guidelines, Santa Clara City](#)
- [2025 APA Utah - George Smeath Planning Student Award - Hannah Kalantari](#)
- [2025 APA Utah - Gene Carr Award - Meg Ryan](#)
- [2025 APA Utah - Morris Johnson Award - Mark McGrath, AICP](#)
- [2025 APA Utah Ted Knowlton Leadership Award - Scott Browning](#)
- [2025 Outstanding Plan - Rural Award: Park City's Bonanza Park Small Area Plan](#)
- [2025 Utah Beehive Award of Excellence - GNAR Academy](#)

CALL FOR CONTENT

As you read this, know that any APA Utah member can contribute. If you have ideas for an article or are willing to write one yourself just reach out to Ted (ted@wfr.org) and Nicole (admin@apautah.org).

To be great planners we need to share our stories not just with each other but also with the broader community.

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REMEMBERING TODD BLACK

Written By Brandon Larsen



Todd Black was Eagle Mountain City's Wildlife Biologist & Open Space Manager for four (4) years, until his untimely passing on September 12, 2025. It is obviously not common for a city to have a staff wildlife biologist, but in his relatively short time with the city, he accomplished so much. He carefully managed Eagle Mountain's vast amounts of open space. He was instrumental in the establishment of the 2025 Eagle Mountain City Natural Open Space & Wildlife Habitat Management Plan. He was responsible for erecting hundreds and likely thousands of feet of fencing to protect open space.

Read the full article at [this link](#).

Obituary and Funeral Services:
[Todd Adamson Black's Obituary](#)

RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOURCES FOR U.S. TOWNS AND COUNTIES - CENTER FOR LARGE LANDSCAPES

Todd was an outstanding employee of Eagle Mountain City who did nationally recognized work on the City's wildlife migration corridor. The link below is to a publication that highlights some of his and the City's work.

["Integrating Wildlife Habitat Connectivity into Local Government Planning" – August 2025](#)
(the Eagle Mountain portion is found on pages 78-80)

UTAH PLANNER

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR UTAH PLANNERS

PLANNING WEBCAST SERIES

The live webcasts are held every Friday from 1:00–2:30 PM ET, and recordings are also available. Session recordings are available here:

Planning Webcast Series YouTube Channel

- Jan 16– Local and Global Perspective on Extreme Urban Heat
- Jan 30– Breaking Bread, Breaking Tradition: A Masterclass in Collaborative Planning



Utah Legislative Timelines and Deadlines Affecting Land Use

Existing Deadlines from Prior Years' Bills

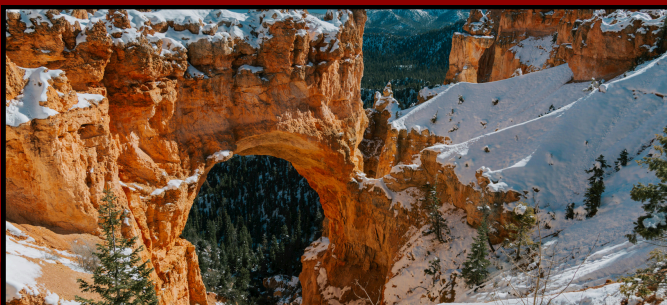
- December 31, 2025: Station area plans due for existing public transit stations (2022 HB 462)
- December 31, 2025: Add water use & Conservation element to General Plan (2024 SB 110)
- July 1, 2030: Secondary water meters must be installed or else fined (2022 HB 242)

New Deadlines from 2025 Bills

- December 31, 2025: GOPB will adopt a state housing plan (HB 58)
- January 1, 2026: Building officials must meet new qualifications (HB 58)
- July 1, 2027: Certain Cities must include water conservation as element in determining water rate charged for at least the highest usage block (HB 274)
- July 1, 2027: All cities in MPOs must update General Plan traffic circulation impediments (SB 195)
- July 1, 2030: Secondary water provider must charge lowest rate to those growing food (HB 274)



Calling ALL APA Utah Volunteers!
Interested in getting more involved
with APA Utah in 2026?
[Sign Up HERE](#)



2026 APA UT Spring Conference
Ruby's Inn, Bryce Canyon City, UT
April 8-10, 2026
Registration is Open!