

2022

Utah Valley Chamber Policy Guide



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Utah Valley Chamber of Commerce is to build relationships, advocate principle-based public policy, and promote business and community prosperity.

As the voice of business in Utah Valley, the Chamber leads, convenes and influences to strengthen an already dynamic business climate that supports all sectors of our economy and delivers value to its members.

In short, the Chamber exists to make Utah Valley the best place to do business, live, and raise a family.

OUR LEGISLATIVE TEAM



Craig Bingham
Vice Chair,
Legislative Committee



Steven Wright
Chair, Legislative Committee



Rob Behunin
Chair of the Board



Gary R. Herbert

Former Governor

and Executive Chair



Avanlee Jessop Executive Relations



David Rowley

Community and
Government Relations



Curtis Blair
President & CEO



Reuben Holdaway

Intern - Growth
and Prosperity



Rebecca Whyte
Intern - Legislative
Liaison

UTAH VALLEY



By 2065, Utah Valley will add 1 million people to our community, making this county one of the most populous counties in the State.

The Valley Visioning process explores potential growth models, and at the conclusion of the process, policy makers and leaders will know which goals and planning strategies resonate best with residents and stakeholders as ways to achieve desired outcomes.

Join us in planning for the future to enable you and your family to have healthy and meaningful places to work, live, learn, and play.



6 SUB COMMITTEES

Natural Resources

Housing

Healthcare

Transportation & Infrastructure

Education and Workforce Development

Business Environment

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE



Vision Statement

Quality of life, talent attraction, employee health, and continued economic growth are inextricably linked to the proactive preservation and stewardship of our natural resources. The Utah Valley Chamber of Commerce is a business driven organization that identifies and champions policies and programs that protect the wilderness and wise access thereto, clean air and water, renewable energy, solar and wind with continued sensible support of fossil fuels.

Legislative Priorities

We support the preservation of natural resources, open space, and wilderness access to advance talent and firm recruitment, health and well-being of county residents, tourism, and quality of life.

We encourage the creation of more access to and continued use of, outdoor recreational facilities.

We support policies and programs that promote healthy air quality along the Wasatch Front.

We support policies that advance sustainable water use and conservation, and access to clean water.

We support the preservation of Utah County's wilderness while providing sustainable access.

We encourage the expansion of hiking trails, cycling trails, paths, parks, and outdoor spaces that improve quality of life.

We support increased investments in transit infrastructure and service.

We encourage utilizing the health and biodiversity of Utah Lake as a center for natural beauty and recreation, including any conservation efforts and structures that facilitate the same.

We support common-sense reform of the transportation funding allocation formula.

We support bonding for infrastructure improvements that address future growth needs - particularly the extension of FrontRunner to south Utah County.

Goals and Strategies



HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE



Vision Statement

A strong healthcare system and policies are critical to the well-being of Utah Valley residents and businesses. Healthcare costs in the United States continue to increase, consuming nearly 20% of GDP. Employers in Utah provide access to health insurance for the majority of Utahns and as such have a significant role to play in healthcare reform initiatives. The Chamber supports legislative efforts which improve affordability while maintaining high levels of quality and access for consumers.

Legislative Priorities

We encourage reforms that lower unsustainable costs, foster innovation, and enhance the private market.

We support price transparency to better inform Utah businesses and families about their total health care costs.

We support policies that make access to behavioral health care services simpler and more affordable, reduce our provider shortage, and prevent suicides in our state.

We promote legislative and executive action that supports an effective, expedited, science-based response to Covid-19.

We encourage connecting public agencies that promote effective interoperability between social services that support mental and physical health, prevention, and early intervention."

Goals and Strategies



EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



Vision Statement

Attracting and retaining top talent is a critical factor of all businesses. Education and workforce development are branches of economic development focused on human capital along the workforce continuum.

The Utah Valley Chamber is the primary influencer of Utah County's economy and viability with the development and implementation of a plan that includes key education and workforce development components—public policy, place-based strategies addressing worker skills, and sector-based strategies in specific industries.

Legislative Priorities

We support policies that develop and provide ongoing business incentives to encourage lifelong learning and career development by enabling training and curricula for all workforce segments needed for future employment.

We support initiatives that foster strategic business/community partnerships by:

- Encouraging educator and workforce diversity—education, demographics, skills, etc.
- Promoting Utah County educational and workforce strengths to external audiences (creating an attractive environment for recruiting educators and other human resources).
- Partnering on data-driven research for educators and policy makers to adapt curriculum to meet future business and workforce needs.
- Educating key audiences on education and workforce development best practices.
- Celebrating success and recognizing strategic partners annually.

We support policies that facilitate 'coopetition' opportunities to increase the possibilities for a Utah County workforce with relevant degrees and/or certifications.

Goals and Strategies



HOUSING GAP COMMITTEE



Vision Statement

Utah County is expecting extraordinary growth because of its continued economic prosperity, reasonable cost of living, and excellent quality of life. Even with the recent global pandemic there are promising indicators that Utah County will double its population in 20 years. This explosive growth is creating housing challenges that will continue to hurt our state unless proper measures are taken.

The Utah Valley Chamber of Commerce supports a diversified mix of housing stock that allows for vibrant, affordable communities. Such communities are possible only when communities have a variety of home inventory and diverse zoning options.

Legislative Priorities

We support policies that encourage reasonably priced, high quality, diversified housing stock that meets the needs of all residents.

We encourage efforts that raise public awareness of the housing crisis and change the narrative on acceptable housing options and preferences.

We support incentives that promote mixed-use housing that align with state and local transportation investments and principles of smart land use.

We encourage public, private and nonprofit partnerships that support the goal of housing attainability and affordability.

Goals and Strategies



TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE



Vision Statement

The year 2022 is a critical juncture for Utah on transportation and infrastructure. With Utah's economic and fi scal health strong, relative to other states and with interest rates at record lows, we stand at a pivotal moment to invest in infrastructure for the future growth of Utah Valley.

We will prioritize infrastructure development for economic growth. We also acknowledge that the UV Chamber Legislative Forum found consensus around the pursuit of additional infrastructure funding focused on Utah County priorities.

Legislative Priorities

We encourage continued discussions about creating an infrastructure bond that will benefit various areas of the state, including sufficient funds to Utah Valley and its priorities.

In support policies that align with what was described in the Utah Valley Visioning to embrace a future with a variety of affordable, convenient, and efficient transportation options that allow easy access to the places where we live, learn, work, and play regardless of social or economic circumstances.

We support legislative action that clearly identifies and justifies the projects and timing for which bond funds will be used.

We support securing necessary funds for critical infrastructure that will benefit the economy for decades to come.

We encourage taking advantage of the low rates that are offered to secure funds for projects that will help prepare Utah Valley for the high population growth expected in the next 20-30 years.

Goals and Strategies



BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT



Vision Statement

To compete successfully, business owners and managers must continuously study the environment, innovate and adapt their businesses accordingly. The Utah Valley Chamber has a mission is to identify, endorse, and advocate for principle-based policies that create an environment in which new and existing businesses can prosper.

Legislative Priorities

We support policies that will positively impact business startup, retention and expansion.

We encourage that our state and local elected officials prioritize the growth of our local businesses and economy, as reflected in its culture, policies and budget.

We endorse strong infrastructure policies that support entrepreneurship and growing our local business economy.

We believe that regulations should be reduced and simplified to facilitate business growth, and support policies that encourage the same.

We support minimizing tax and regulatory fees on businesses, and that increases in such tax and regulatory fees must provide measurable benefits to the economy and local businesses.

We support legislative priorities that create, establish, and support a pipeline of workforce talent sufficient to meet current and future workforce needs, and that is inclusive, diverse and equal to all.

Goals and Strategies



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Pillar of the Valley

The Pillar of the Valley award gala was created to honor individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the business, civic, social, education, and cultural climate of Utah Valley. The gala is one of the distinguished social events in Utah Valley, attracting many key Utah business, civic and religious leaders. Join us on May 17, 2022 at the Utah Valley Convention Center in Provo.



Golf Classic

The Chamber Champions Golf Classic is an annual event that provides excellent exposure for your business while networking and enjoying the outdoors. This event is a great opportunity to join with fellow business professionals and decision makers to support the community and the Chamber. Play golf at Riverside Country Club on September 12, 2022.



Executive Summit

The Utah Valley Chamber Executive Summit is a premier business event where top executives and business professionals learn from other elite executive peers about what is working, key strategies, invaluable insights, and timely topics to help drive your business acumen and company's success. Beyond a conference, the Executive Summit will broaden your community influence and allow you to more fully participate in Utah Valley leadership. Enjoy the day at Sundance Resort on September 26, 2022.



Emotional Prosperity Summit

In its second year, the annual Emotional Prosperity Summit brings speakers and guests together to share mental health and wellness best practices, timely data, and relevant insights to the public. Our first year welcomed over 700 attendees and 40+ exhibitors. Additionally, a task force was formed to create a compact on Emotional Prosperity in Utah County.



Small Business Golf Tourney

The UV Chamber Small Business golf tournament is a great way to build your business community and network with other small business professionals. This year's golf tournament will be held at the newly re-designed Timpanogos Golf Course located in south Provo on June 6, 2022. For more details go to our website, www.thechamber.com



Job Fair

Network, connect and build relationships! The Utah Valley Job Fair is FREE for Job Seekers and anyone looking to obtain employment or upgrade their current job situation. Bring copies of your resume and prepare for informal interviews with over 100 employers looking to hire hard working people like yourself. The Utah Valley Job Fair will be held on Tuesday, March 22nd, 2022 from 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM at the Utah Valley Convention Center: 220 W Center St, Provo.

GROWTH AND PROSPERITY COMPACT OF UTAH VALLEY

Utah Valley is experiencing unprecedented growth as it continues to evolve into a more diverse business and family-friendly environment with high job growth and low unemployment. Our existing economic prosperity provides a higher income base for many and will provide even more opportunities in the future. In 2017, economists predicted that Utah Valley's population would double in 25 years and triple in 45 years. We are trending well ahead of that projection.

Our united commitment to plan for and manage growth — guiding our future economic prosperity, ensuring environmental sustainability, and preserving our quality of life — is critical to enriching the distinctive nature of Utah Valley where current and future generations will thrive.

We must collaborate on a common valley vision and coordinate our community planning efforts. We call upon residents, businesses, city leaders, county leaders, state leaders, and our federal delegation to adopt and endorse the following principles of this Growth and Prosperity Compact of Utah Valley. Together, we will engage in building and implementing innovative solutions.

Now is the time to act! A multidisciplinary task force will also be established to develop meaningful metrics to assess and evaluate our collaborative, principles-based efforts to affect desired outcomes in each of the focus areas:

- **Business Environment** Prioritize and promote policy that benefits employers, employees and families. Encourage innovation and adaptation while finding and removing regulations that hinder business growth.
- Education and Workforce Development Adjust and adapt K-12 curriculum regularly to better prepare our children to seek higher or technical education to meet workforce needs and instill value in lifelong learning in the workplace.
- **Healthcare** Promote healthy physical and mental wellness while simultaneously reforming healthcare systems to improve affordability, transparency, and access to quality care by all in our growing communities.
- **Natural Resources** Advocate policies and programs that support responsible use, preservation, and protection of public lands, rivers, lakes, reservoirs, clean air, open spaces, and renewable energy in conjunction with continued sensible support of fossil fuels.
- **Attainable Housing** Provide a diversified supply of affordable and accessible housing that meets the needs and dignity of all people in our vibrant, growing communities.
- **Transportation and Infrastructure** Support a variety of affordable, convenient, and efficient transportation and technological options that allow all people, regardless of social or economic circumstances, to easily access the places where they live, learn, work, and play.

Scan this QR code to access, review and sign the Compact.



GET ENGAGED

To set up a time to discuss membership opportunities, please call John Whittaker at (801) 717-7933 or email us at: **JohnW@thechamber.org**

OUR MISSION

To serve as wise stewards of growth and prosperity in Utah Valley by advocating for the business community, fostering meaningful area development as well as maintaining and improving the quality of life in the region.

STEPS TO BECOMING A MEMBER

Step 1: Decide Level of Engagement

Transform

Trustee & Executive Roundtable

- Sit on the Board of Directors
- Participate on the Executive Roundtable
- Lead a Sub-committee

Connect

Gold & Silver

- Network at Chamber lunches
- Serve as committee member on a Sub-committee
- Connect at Chamber events

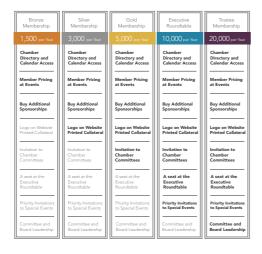
Support

Bronze & Donation

- Attend Chamber events at member price
- Meet new community members
- Donate to assist us in our mission

Step 2: Choose Membership level

Membership Levels





Step 3: Fill Out the Member Application

