



# Transportation Division Director

## SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH



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## THE COMMUNITY

Encircled by the majestic Wasatch Mountains on the east and the Oquirrh mountains on the west, Salt Lake City, Utah, (pop. 192,672) is one of the most scenic and vibrant cities in the West. Since its founding in July, 1847, by Brigham Young and a party of 148 pioneers, Salt Lake City has been the social, economic and cultural center of Utah. This progressive City is the state capitol and encompasses 111 square miles, with its namesake Great Salt Lake, the largest salt water lake in the Western Hemisphere, only 20 miles away. The population in the greater metropolitan area exceeds 1.3 million.

Salt Lake City residents enjoy an enviable quality of life with a low crime rate, affordable homes, easy commuting, and a friendly, welcoming vibe. In fact, *Travel & Leisure* recently named Salt Lake City the No. 2 Friendliest City in America. Cultural amenities abound, including theatre, dance, music, opera, visual arts, sports, and annual festivals of all kinds. The bustling downtown district features two large shopping malls, museums, nearly 200 restaurants, brew pubs, and nightspots, as well as Historic Temple Square, which offers numerous admission-free cultural attractions, including the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

In winter, the snow-covered Wasatch Mountains draw skiers and snowboarders to seven resorts all within 45 minutes of downtown, including Park City. During summer, outdoor enthusiasts enjoy hiking, biking, and rock climbing in the gorgeous trails and canyons nearby. On-road lanes and off-road trails are an embarrassment of riches for every cyclist. In addition, travelers can visit 70% of America’s officially designated national parks and monuments within a day’s drive of the city, including Bryce Canyon, Zion, and Grand Canyon National Parks.

The Salt Lake City School District provides excellent public education. Sixth largest in the state, the school district includes 27 elementary, six middle, and four high schools. Several universities and colleges are located in the City, including the University of Utah, Westminster College of Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Community College, and LDS Business College. Four other universities (Utah State University, Weber State University, Brigham Young University, and Utah Valley University) are all within a two-hour drive from Salt Lake City.

Salt Lake City is an open, diverse, and progressive city, an ideal blend of natural beauty, warm hospitality, and all the amenities of a large metropolitan area. With all that the city offers, it’s no surprise that *U.S. News* and *World Report* named Salt Lake City No. 10 of the top 100 Best Places to Live in the nation, and *Forbes* ranked the City No. 7 for business and careers.

To learn more about Salt Lake City, please visit: <http://www.slccgov.com>.

## THE ORGANIZATION

Incorporated in January, 1851, Salt Lake City is an ambitious, progressive city, which has operated under the Mayor/Council form of government

since 1980. Under this system the Mayor is the chief executive, elected by the Citizens of Salt Lake City, and the City Council is the legislative body, also elected by the Citizens. Mayor is a full-time, paid position here, with significant administrative and budgetary authority.

Council Members are part-time, paid positions. Their legislative powers include approving the City budget, setting the Council agenda, introducing legislation, setting City policy, veto override authority, and giving advice and consent on appointments made by the Mayor to City boards and commissions.

The City is divided into seven Council districts of substantially equal population. Each Council Member is elected to serve a four-year term in a nonpartisan election. From these seven Members, the Council elects a new chair and vice chair each year.

From the gorgeous, historical City and County Building, the City provides a full range of municipal services including police, fire, recreational activities, including seven municipal golf courses, libraries, water, sewer, storm water, airports, public improvements, highways and streets, planning and zoning, and general administrative services. Sustainability is a priority for the City, which has also adopted aggressive carbon reduction goals. The City has approximately 2,700 FTE’s, and the general fund budget for FY 2017-18 is \$273 million.

## THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Community and Neighborhoods guides and promotes the physical and economic development of Salt Lake City. The Department is made up of five divisions: Building Services, Engineering, Housing and Neighborhood Development, Planning, and Transportation, as well as a Civic Engagement Team. Community and Neighborhoods provides leadership, policies, and programming that promote a culturally vibrant, diverse, and economically vital community through livable growth and development practices, and strong community partnerships. The Department’s Mission Statement requires that its members: 1) Drive Innovation; 2) Communicate; 3) Support the City’s Leadership; and 4) Operate Responsibly.

## THE DIVISION

The Transportation Division is responsible for the planning, design, and operation of Salt Lake City’s transportation system, providing safe, efficient multi-modal movement of people and goods throughout the City. Uniquely, the Division effectively blends transportation and transit operations with planning and programs, as well as permitting, design, signals, and safety. With 21 FTE’s (Director included), the Transportation Division has a FY 2017-18 budget of \$2.3 million, plus funding for capital projects. Salt Lake City considers itself to be on the leading edge of transportation issues and very much in the national spotlight. The City was one of the first in the country, for example, to offer a fully protected intersection for its bike system.

## THE POSITION

The Transportation Division has had only two directors in the last 30 years. This opportunity is created by the advancement of former Director Robin Hutcheson, who accepted a position as Public Works Director for the City of Minneapolis about a year ago. Deputy Director Kevin Young has capably led the Division ever since, and the City is committed to taking the time and all necessary steps to find its next Division Director.

The Transportation Division Director manages the Division, under the general administrative direction of the Director of the Community and Neighborhoods Department. Responsibilities include the study and implementation of transportation programs and facilities, to continually improve mobility throughout

the City regarding all transportation modes. The Director researches, develops and implements innovative transportation engineering and planning methods, including plans and programs for auto, bicycle, pedestrian, transit, and parking systems, and infrastructure improvements.

Because of the City’s fast growth and density, the new Director’s top priority will be revision of the Transportation Master Plan, and implementation of the Transit Plan, recently completed and under consideration by City Council. The Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan was adopted in 2015, the Downtown Plan in 2016.

The Director helps maintain the established, collaborative, and positive working relationships the City enjoys at all levels of government, as well as with all regional and local transportation partners including UDOT; the Wasatch Front Regional Council; the Utah Transit Authority, which operates the bus system, the TRAX Light Rail system, the City’s streetcars, and the FrontRunner commuter rail service along the Wasatch Range; and GREENbike, the City’s nonprofit bike share partner; among others.

## THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate is a strong, skilled, and articulate leader, with excellent written and oral communications skills, and a visionary capable of developing and implementing Salt Lake City’s future transportation system. In addition, the successful candidate:

- Has a true, demonstrated passion for transportation and all related issues.
- Embraces transparency and community engagement as essential to all transportation planning.
- Must understand the Mayor’s policy priorities, as delegated to and executed by the Director of the Community and Neighborhoods Department, and is committed to carrying them out.
- Has expert-level presentation skills, to be used in briefings to the Mayor and City Council, and in engagement with all Community Councils and citizen groups.







- Is thick-skinned and savvy, embracing the management of complex and controversial issues, like intermodal transit and bus systems.
- Is a skilled diplomat, able to work collaboratively with all Divisions within and outside the Department of Community and Neighborhoods.
- Is knowledgeable about, and open to, all modes of transportation.
- Is committed to ensuring the Division completes development application and permit review quickly and efficiently.
- Is well-rounded and personable, a competent, confident decision-maker.
- Is politically astute without being political.
- Is emotionally intelligent and able to listen.
- Is an effective manager with the ability to delegate.



While a Bachelor's degree in Urban Planning, Transportation Planning, Civil Engineering, or a closely related field is required, a Master's degree is preferred, along with five years of directly-related experience in Transportation Engineering or Planning.

Previous experience in the administration and management of a municipal or county transportation or planning division is highly desired. Also preferred is knowledge of Salt Lake City transportation planning issues and challenges as well as experience in planning for alternative modes of transportation and innovative approaches to improving mobility.

This is an appointed, at-will position without tenure and exempt from the career service system.

### COMPENSATION

The annual salary range for this position is \$91,300 to \$115,000, and appointment will be made depending upon the qualifications of the selected candidate. In addition, the following benefits are provided: medical, dental, vision, long-term disability, and term life/AD&D insurances; access to the Employee Midtown Clinic; and multiple pretax health accounts (health savings account, flexible/limited flexible health care account, flexible daycare spending account). The City utilizes a Tier 2 Public Employees Retirement System, a choice between two retirement plan options. The first option combines a pension and a 401(k) plan, and the second is a defined contribution 401(k) plan only. The employer contribution is 10% under both options, with four-year vesting as to the 401(k) portion. This position enjoys paid time off (vacation, sick, plus one personal day), and eleven paid holidays.

## SEARCH SCHEDULE

- Filing Deadline ..... August 15, 2017
- Preliminary Interviews.....August 18 – 25, 2017
- Recommendation of Candidates ..... August 30, 2017
- Finalist Interview Process ..... September 12, 2017

These dates have been confirmed, and it is recommended that you plan your calendar accordingly.

## THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS

To apply for this exciting career opportunity, please send your resume and cover letter electronically to:

**Peckham & McKenney**  
[apply@peckhamandmckenney.com](mailto:apply@peckhamandmckenney.com)

Please do not hesitate to contact Andrew Gorgey toll-free at (866) 912-1919, or direct at (970) 987-1238, if you have any questions regarding this position or the recruitment process.



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