

May 2022

UTAH LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Monthly Newsletter of RRJ Consulting
Utah's Leading Lobbying Firm



MAY 2022

May interim is in the books and study items have been set for the interim session. Each committee will spend the summer and fall discussing important items and opening committee bill files to run in the '23 legislative session.

Administration reports will be given and audit findings will be heard.



TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT

In the last two budget cycles, Utah policymakers have invested more than \$2.1 billion from the General Fund in transit, rail, road, and trail projects. This is in addition to the more than \$800 million in sales taxes and \$725 million in gas taxes and registration fees going directly to transportation annually.

While they initially authorized debt for some of the \$2.1 billion, appropriators ultimately replaced the borrowing with cash. Their investments leverage windfall state tax revenue generated by temporary federal government economic stimulus.

GOVERNOR'S FIRST 500 DAYS

Earlier this month, the Cox-Henderson administration marked its 500th day in office and highlighted a few accomplishments and goals.

“The past 500 days have been exhilarating – full of challenges and rewards – and we’ve worked hard to invest tax dollars wisely, expand opportunities for all Utahns, improve quality of life, and plan for the future,”

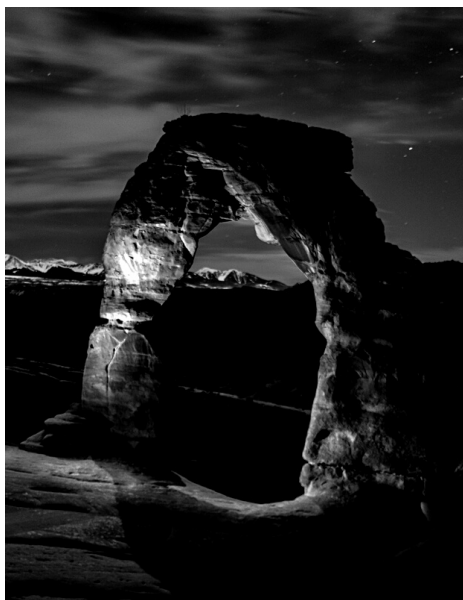
– Governor Cox

A full list of milestones can be found at:

<https://governor.utah.gov/2022/05/19/cox-henderson-administration-first-500-days/>

UTAH'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

On May 20 the Utah Department of Workforce Services reported Utah's unemployment rate had fallen to a new low of 1.9% — one of the lowest recorded in state history. In addition - Utah's job growth had grown an estimated 3.9% across the past 12 months. The national unemployment rate held steady at 3.6%.



CONGRATS TO OUR GRADUATES

The month of May marks the end of another school year. Graduation ceremonies across the state return to normal with graduates walking across stages to receive their well-earned diplomas. From all of us at RRJ - **“Congratulations on your graduation and best wishes for your next adventure!”**

Looking Ahead

JUNE – INTERIM - JUNE 14 AND 15TH -
APPROPRIATIONS AND INTERIM MEETINGS

Thanks for continuing to follow along. We will continue sending out monthly newsletters and hope you'll follow us on social media! We love working with each of you and look forward to continuing to do so. Please reach out at any time!

Sincerely,

Rob, Jodi, and Chris

