

Derek Kitchen
Salt Lake City Council Member
District Four

Council Member Derek Kitchen was elected by residents to serve as their District Four representative in 2015.

Derek, a South Jordan native, made Downtown Salt Lake City his home in 2006 when he attended the University of Utah studying political science and Spanish. In 2012 Derek started his own business Laziz, an environmentally friendly and financially sustainable business focusing on Middle Eastern food production. Derek takes great pride in his success of converting Laziz into a zero waste business. Derek draws on his small business experience to build connections between the City and small business owners and developers to foster economic development. He also values the importance of social justice and equality, having served as a plaintiff in Kitchen v Herbert, a lawsuit that brought marriage equality to Utah.

Derek's desire to improve livability for all members of society guides his public policy decision making on affordable housing and transit. With growth comes greater density, and with that must come affordable and accessible housing opportunities to ensure the viability of downtown for everyone in our community. Despite the need for increased affordable housing, Derek greatly values the character and history of District Four's single family neighborhoods. Derek believes accessibility to all modes of affordable transit are essential to a growing economy and healthy population. Moving residents and the City's daytime population between neighborhoods, business nodes, and our urban downtown are necessary for a thriving Salt Lake City.

Derek is determined to work collaboratively with his colleagues on the City Council to address the unique needs of District Four and Salt Lake City. District Four includes the Depot District, Downtown, East Central, Granary, Pioneer Park, Central City, Trolley Square, Douglas, and University neighborhoods.