



PRESS RELEASE

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Salt Lake City Elected Officials Take Oath of Office *November victories lead to January swearing-in ceremony*

SALT LAKE CITY – Re-elected City Council Members James Rogers and Erin Mendenhall, and two new Council Members, Chris Wharton and Amy Fowler, were sworn into office at noon on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018 on the east steps of the Salt Lake City & County Building.

“I am humbled to again serve the residents of my District and the City for another term,” said Council Member James Rogers, the District 1 representative sworn into his second four-year term.

“I look ahead with renewed vigor at meeting the needs of my District neighbors and focusing on the many issues before us as a City,” said Council Member Erin Mendenhall, the District 5 representative sworn into her second term.

Rogers was administered the oath by Jon Rogers, a family member. Cindi Mansell, City Recorder administered the oath for Mendenhall.

“District Three is a great place to work, play and live. I am thrilled to tackle the challenges in our path to a better City,” said Chris Wharton, who was sworn into his first term in D3.

“I am proud of all that my District has to offer and of the people who live there. I eagerly assume the responsibility of serving and representing District 7 and our Capital City,” said Amy Fowler, who was sworn into her first term.

Wharton was sworn in by Justice Paige Petersen of the Utah Supreme Court. Fowler was administered the oath by Justice Deno Himonas of the Utah Supreme Court.

The Salt Lake City Fire Department Choir, the Salt Lake City Police Motor Squad, and Young Eagles Rugby also took part in the ceremonies.

Council Bios below

Council Member Rogers

District 1



James Matthew Rogers was elected by neighbors and residents to serve his inaugural term as the representative of Salt Lake City's District One on November 5th, 2013. James was selected by his peers on the City Council to serve as the 2016 City Council Chair, and served as Vice Chair in 2015. He was re-elected to a second term in 2017.

James was born in Salt Lake City and raised by a large family with deep-rooted ties to the Valley. He is a proud alumnus of Salt Lake City's West High School. James, his wife Megan, and their two children, Sadie and Stockton (who are fifth-generation Rose Park residents) are happy to call Salt Lake District One their home.

While performing volunteer service in Brazil from 1999-2001, James developed a deep appreciation for the Latin culture, its family values, and work ethic. James used this opportunity to learn Portuguese and immerse himself in the vibrant culture of the area. Since returning home, James taught himself Spanish and built connections with the Latino and Latina members of the community. James believes the shared core values of this wonderfully diverse community is what makes it so strong.

James has many initiatives he would like to address during his term in office, but chief among these is his desire to focus on the rehabilitation of District One's neglected residential, commercial, and community areas. James has spent the last five years overseeing the redevelopment and revitalization of the Northgate Park on 825 North/ 300 West, in Salt Lake City. He has witnessed firsthand the tremendous benefits that not only come from the beautification of such an area, but the quantifiable impact that such improvement brings to the community in terms of safety, new business, tax revenues, other growth opportunities.

James feels his background, vision for the future, and commitment to represent and work with the diverse District One community, will bring about the change that is needed to make it an even stronger and better community. James is eager to serve District One which includes Rose Park, Morton Meadows, North Redwood, Jordan Meadows, Westpointe, State Fairpark, and Onequa neighborhoods, as well as the Salt Lake City International Airport, Salt Lake International Center Business Park, and the Northwest Quadrant

Council Member Mendenhall

District 5



Elected to her first term in 2013, Erin Mendenhall took the oath of office as the Council Member representing District Five on January 6, 2014. She was re-elected to a second term in 2017.

Erin has a decade of experience working in advocacy, education policy and legislation. She worked at Breathe Utah for six years, a local air-quality non-profit, where she collaborated with policymakers, city and state agencies, schools, and community members to improve air quality along the Wasatch Front. She received a certificate in Non Profit Leadership and Management from the University of Utah Non-Profit Academy for Excellence in 2012. A graduate of the University of Utah with a Bachelor's in Gender Studies. Erin is currently working toward completing a Professional Master of Science and Technology at the University of Utah.

Erin has lived in the 9th & 9th area for over ten years. She began her involvement in community issues as founder of a local neighborhood watch program and member of the school community council at her children's school. Erin cares about education and has worked with educators to create and teach environmental lesson plans that utilize academic disciplines of math, science, art, social and environmental studies for K-12 students. She wrote detailed curriculum about limiting emissions for high school driver education programs that has been implemented statewide. She helped establish the SmartTrips Salt Lake City program, which promotes active and alternative transportation that has reached 5,000 homes in Salt Lake City.

In her capacity on the City Council, Erin has advocated for improving local solutions to homelessness, affordable housing and neighborhood safety. She's interested in expanding transit options for all residents, protecting the health of Salt Lake City's urban forest, and encouraging growth while protecting the character of neighborhoods and business districts. She is focused on creating new paths toward alternative energy for our City and residents, while exploring ways to incentivize energy improvements to existing infrastructure.

Erin represents the Ballpark, Central City, East Central City, East Liberty Park, Liberty Wells, and Wasatch Hollow communities. She serves on the Utah Air Quality Board, Quality Growth Commission, and the Wasatch Front Regional Council's Transportation Coordinating Committee.

Erin, her husband Kyle, sons Cash and Everett and daughter Mila enjoy riding bikes around Liberty Park and to the 9th& 9th business district, baking cakes, and hiking in Southern Utah.

Council Member Wharton

District 3



Chris was elected by District Three residents in November 2017 and began his term in January 2018.

Chris is a dedicated community activist, attorney, and small business owner. As a sixth-generation resident of Salt Lake City, Chris has deep roots in District Three. He has shown his passion for progressive issues as a volunteer for various community organizations and causes.

Most recently, Chris served two terms on the Salt Lake City Human Rights Commission, where he helped establish the state's first non-discrimination ordinances for housing and employment. Chris also served on the Utah Pride Center Board of Directors, where he led a nationwide coalition of organizations in filing an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court calling for equal treatment of LGBTQ families under the law.

Chris graduated from Westminster College with a degree in history before obtaining his law degree from the University of Utah. He won his first jury trial representing the people of Salt Lake City as an intern at the City Prosecutor's Office. After working as an associate attorney for two years, Chris opened his own small firm focusing on offering affordable legal services to clients who could otherwise not afford an attorney.

Chris serves as a court-appointed advocate for children and has donated hundreds of hours of service through organizations like the ACLU of Utah, the Rocky Mountain Innocence Center, Equality Utah, and the Utah State Bar.

In his spare time Chris enjoys independent films, local politics, history, art, Netflix, and food trucks. Chris lives in the lower Avenues with his husband, dog, and two cats.

District Three includes neighborhoods in the lower and upper Avenues, Capitol Hill, West Capitol Hill, Guadalupe and Federal Heights. This north-side district is home to the State Capitol building, City Creek Canyon, the City Cemetery, the world headquarters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, several hospital sites and three historic preservation districts – the Avenues, Capitol Hill and South Temple.

Council Member Fowler

District 7



Amy was elected by District Seven residents in November 2017 and took her oath of office on January 2, 2018.

Amy is a champion and serves as the voice for many who are underrepresented and has spent her career defending the rights of those who end up in the criminal justice system. She believes government should reflect the needs and desires of all people and she is a strong advocate for governmental transparency and accountability.

Amy earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Seattle University with a degree in biology before obtaining her law degree from the University of Utah.

Born and raised in Utah, Amy spent much of her life exploring the mountains, rivers and valleys surrounding Salt Lake City. After living in Guatemala for five years, Amy returned to Utah. In 2013 she co-founded the LGBT and Allied Lawyers of Utah, a non-profit legal organization fighting for the LGBT community's rights. She began working in the Public Defender's office in 2014.

In her spare time Amy enjoys rock climbing, and spending time outdoors. Amy and her wife live in Sugar House with their two dogs.

District Seven encompasses the southeast portion of Salt Lake City and includes the Sugar House, Nibley Park, Forest Dale, Westminster, Highland Park and Country Club neighborhoods, the Sugar House and Brickyard Plaza commercial areas, Westminster College, Highland High School, Sugar House Park and Forest Dale and Nibley Park golf courses.