

# **Chris Wharton**

## **Salt Lake City Council Member**

### **District Three**

Chris was elected by District Three residents in November 2017 and began his term in January 2018. His Council colleagues elected Chris to serve as Council Vice-Chair for 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.