

Gov. Cox's FY24 Homelessness Budget

The Governor's FY24 Homelessness Budget is **tough on crime, big on accountability, and delivers generational investments** that will strengthen cities, counties, and businesses statewide. The budget supports Utah's comprehensive statewide Plan to Address Homelessness and was developed in collaboration with state agencies and the support of hundreds of community leaders, including the Utah Impact Partnership.



Public Safety

- Street camping is unacceptable – it creates an unsafe environment for both the public and unsheltered
- For municipalities to enforce camping ordinances, we must have adequate shelter space for those who need it



Behavioral Health

- Mental and behavioral health issues increase the risk of becoming and remaining homeless
- We must fund enhanced services and expand educational opportunities to address our severe workforce shortage in the behavioral health system



Prevention

- Existing civil commitment measures allow individuals to slip through the cracks
- We must give families the tools to access care for those with mental and behavioral health issues – major precursors to homelessness; the proposed Utah HOME Court pilot is one such pathway



Accountability

- Funding is attached to specific, measurable outcomes
- Goals and measurable outcomes are established by the Utah Homeless Council and laid out in the statewide plan
- State agencies are accountable for every dollar

What's been accomplished since 2020

- 8,000 homeless individuals moved from shelter into permanent housing in the past four years, and most remain successfully housed
- The Legislature funded thousands of new, deeply affordable housing units
- Served 30,000 Utahns in homelessness and housing across the state in SFY23, more than ever before

What's at stake

- 850 Utahns are spending winter nights in overflow and code blue beds that will close April 15, 2024
- Without additional shelter funding, most will have nowhere to go except back to the streets

The bottom line

- The governor's budget supports a comprehensive, collaborative approach to provide shelter with wrap-around services, behavioral health support and housing with trackable success measures



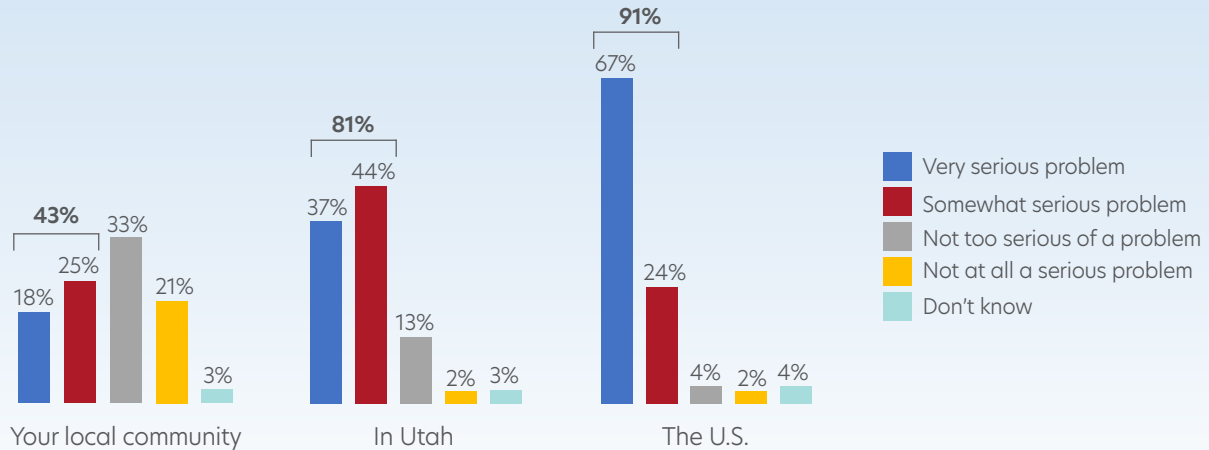
Local enforcement is a major piece of the puzzle. For example, since Oct. 2023, Salt Lake City has:

- **12,000 officer hours**
- **21,000 unsheltered contacts**
- **5,000 service referrals**
- **170 citations**
- **220 arrests**



Your constituents are concerned about homelessness. In a December 2023 poll, homelessness was named as the **#3 issue facing the state of Utah**, only after inflation and housing affordability. The Governor’s FY24 Homelessness Budget provides an opportunity to address these concerns for the short-term and long-term.

How serious of a problem, if at all, is homelessness in these areas?



Dec. 2023, Morning Consult statewide poll

Where does the budget go?

State funding is an integral part of a solution that involves cities, counties, business, faith-based organizations and the philanthropic community. The administration has worked with each of these groups to gain support for future contributions and spending.

Public Safety



- Public safety, emergency services and other mitigation for cities (Funded in 2024: Cedar City, Logan, Midvale, Ogden, Richfield, Salt Lake City, South Salt Lake, St. George)
- Low-barrier shelter development to serve 600-800 people
- Non-congregate shelter operations that provide private spaces to serve families, medically vulnerable and seniors
- Create a permanent, robust winter response system throughout the year
- Homeless prevention, permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing, street outreach, and transitional housing programs

Behavioral Health



- Paid internships, loan forgiveness and incentive programs for behavioral health care students
- Reduce unnecessary barriers to licensing for mental health providers
- Rural receiving center and two additional mobile crisis outreach teams (MCOTs)
- Atherton Community Treatment Center staffing

Prevention



- Deeply Affordable Housing Grants
- Deeply Affordable Stabilization Grants
- Utah Housing Preservation Fund
- HOME Court Pilot support
- Expand Medicaid coverage for housing supports