

IMLA 2026 Annual Conference Land Use Tours

Tour A:

The land use tour based in Salt Lake City will leave from the hotel and take the participants on a part-bus part-walking tour of 900 South, visiting some of the City's most vibrant neighborhood nodes and discussing form-based zoning changes, redevelopment success and challenges, and state preemption. The tour will start with highlighting one of the most beloved pieces of City public art: full-size sculpture of a humpback whale breaching out from a roundabout. We'll travel west down 900 south (also known as Harvey Milk Blvd) to one of Salt Lake's first and most successful neighborhood nodes called Ninth and Ninth. While there, we'll talk about the recent zoning changes as well as the development of the City's off-street bike path. We'll continue the tour down 900 south, stopping at a recently completed development called the Milk Block, which showcases a unique adaptive reuse development and state law alcohol challenges. We'll continue to travel west down 900 south to another neighborhood node called Central Ninth. Here, we'll get off the bus and explore the area that was largely redeveloped by the City's Community Reinvestment Agency using public money and land to encourage and incentivize certain public benefits in the redevelopment. Once the tour is complete, you can either take the bus back to the hotel or continue to explore the Central Ninth area, where there are plenty of excellent bars and restaurants within a short walking distance.

Tour B:

The Park City land use tour will showcase the former silver mining town's development challenges and successes. Park City is home to about 8,500 full-time residents, two world-class ski resorts, and was a mountain host for the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. The Games will return in 2034.

Park City is about a 35-minute drive from Salt Lake City and sits at 7,000 feet. The tour will include a total of about one mile of walking to four different sites, and there are stairs and hills. We'll first stop at the McPolin Farm, an entry corridor landmark owned by the City and a place to highlight the over 10,000 acres with over 400 miles of dedicated public trails on the protected open space, about half of which is City-owned. We'll then drive to old town and walk to three sites, highlighting issues including environmental remediation, state preemption of land use authority, and the balance between historic preservation and economic development.