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PRESS RELEASE

After 30 Years, Zook Announces Retirement from Public Service

Logan, UT – Cache County Executive David Zook today announced that he plans to retire from public service on September 8, 2025.

“I will forever be grateful for the opportunities I’ve had to serve my community - entering public service was one of the best choices I ever made,” said Executive Zook. “I will always cherish the many relationships built along the way - I love the people I’ve been able to serve and serve with.”

Zook was twice elected to his current role of Cache County Executive, where he serves as CEO of the county. Prior to being elected to lead the County, he was City Manager for Nibley for a decade. His public service career began in California, where he served for 15 years with San Bernardino County, ending his career there in the role of Chief of Staff, after having served in multiple law enforcement and economic development roles there.

“I’m thankful for all we have been able to accomplish together,” added Zook. “We could never have accomplished this much without the teamwork, collaboration and creativity that so many partners brought to the table - this kind of progress only happens when you have an amazing team like the one I’ve been blessed to work with.”

In his time at Cache County, Zook focused on multiple policy areas, especially public safety, open space preservation, mental health/suicide prevention, housing, transportation and economic development, including advocating for, leading or establishing the following:

Public Safety

- \$20 million for Cell Towers in Logan Canyon
- Reorganizing the Cache County Fire District
- Establishing a County EMS/Paramedic Program
- Establishing the first Public Defender department in the state

Open Space & Recreation

- Gaining voter approval of a \$20 Million Open Space Bond and establishing a County open space preservation program
- Preserving nearly 1,400 acres of open space in Sardine Canyon and Smithfield
- Supporting Elkhorn Ranch as the first Cache Open Space Farm Preservation Project
- Beginning efforts to establish new indoor recreation centers and a senior center
- Initiating efforts to establish new fairgrounds

Mental Health/Suicide Prevention

- Securing \$3 million to build the first mental health receiving center in Cache Valley
- Establishing a suicide fatality review board
- Serving on the NACO Familiar Faces Initiative - a national effort to improve county mental health services

- Organizing five Suicide Prevention Concerts and multiple other mental health events
- Overseeing the distribution of \$25 million in grants to local non-profits
- Proposing and securing funding for Resource Integration Coaches at BRAG (Bear River Association of Governments)
- Bringing the 9/11 Project to Cache Valley
- Reorganizing Public Health and Mental Health organizations to integrate substance abuse and mental health services

Transportation

- Initiating efforts to build a western bypass and south valley corridor
- Securing \$2 million from Congressman Moore for the Western Bypass, \$52 million from the Transportation Commission to Improve Main Street and millions for multiple road, bridge and trail projects

Economic Development

- Establishing the award-winning Housing Crisis Task force
- Implementing a Regional Economic Development Program
- Initiating plans for significant airport improvement
- Hosting non-profit trainings

Administrative

- Establishing an appeals hearing officer position to review citizen appeals of Land Use decisions
- Creating a Code Enforcement program
- Proposing creation of new Civil Attorney positions
- Proposing creation of Council policy analyst position
- Proposing and implementing a fleet/risk management program
- Establishing formal lobbying efforts
- Updating the County's General Plan

The public is invited to a retirement open house scheduled for Friday, September 5, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Cache County Historic Courthouse at 199 North Main Street, Logan, UT, 84321.

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