

A Resolution in Support of the Goals and Initiatives of "Blueprint Jordan River"

WHEREAS, the Jordan River is an urban waterway bordering no less than 15 municipalities in Salt Lake County, with the potential to be a wonderful asset to the residents and visitors of Salt Lake County and all municipalities located therein;

WHEREAS, the Jordan River has been sadly neglected and abused over many years through pollution and loss of natural habitat;

WHEREAS, many communities in the United States have recognized the valuable recreational asset urban waterways present to their residents and visitors, and have implemented plans to maximize the benefits these waterways provide to their urban residents;

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County is an expanding urban area, in which open spaces for parks, trails and recreation are rapidly disappearing;

WHEREAS, residents of Salt Lake City have shown overwhelming support for preservation of open spaces through passage of a \$5.4 million bond in the 2003 election;

WHEREAS, "Blueprint Jordan River: A Lake to Lake Vision," was facilitated by Envision Utah as a comprehensive three-county visioning process to restore a healthier and more attractive Jordan River corridor;

WHEREAS, Blueprint Jordan River has solicited and included research and information from experts in water quality, erosion, wildlife habitat, open space, urban design, economic development, and recreation;

WHEREAS, the vision of Blueprint Jordan River includes restoration of natural habitat along the Jordan River corridor to include open spaces and trails, allowing residents and visitors the opportunity to appreciate and observe the wildlife and vegetation native to the area;

WHEREAS, the vision of Blueprint Jordan River also includes creation of boating and water activities for the enjoyment of residents and visitors;

WHEREAS, the vision of Blueprint Jordan River also includes plans for integration of urban development in ways which are more compatible with the natural habitat of the Jordan River;

WHEREAS, realization of the goals and visions of Blueprint Jordan River will improve the quality of life for all Salt Lake City residents and visitors by restoring natural habitat and providing recreational opportunities for many years to come, all in a centralized and easily accessible area of Salt Lake City;

WHEREAS, much of the Jordan River corridor has already been developed with homes and businesses, and failure to act immediately to preserve remaining open spaces could lead to further development of thousands of additional acres which would encroach further on the Jordan River corridor and jeopardize the goals and visions of Blueprint Jordan River;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Salt Lake City Mayor and City Council, hereby commit to support the goals and visions of Blueprint Jordan River, and to become active participants in the plans of Blueprint Jordan River by:

1. Permanently preserving as open space all land within the Jordan River corridor which is currently zoned as open space;
2. Enacting or modifying zoning ordinances to assure that any development within the Jordan River corridor is compatible with Blueprint recommendations;
3. Considering participation in cooperative efforts to fund open space acquisition, trail development, and habitat restoration where practical;
4. Selecting representatives to serve as members of a commission or board to oversee continued progress toward realization of all goals and visions of Blueprint Jordan River.

Ralph Becker
Salt Lake City Mayor

Carlton J. Christensen, District One
Salt Lake City Council Member, Chair

JT Martin, District Six
Salt Lake City Council Member, Vice Chair

Van Blair Turner, District Two
Salt Lake City Council Member

K. Eric Jergensen, District Three
Salt Lake City Council Member

Luke Garrott, District Four
Salt Lake City Council Member

Jill Remington Love, District Five
Salt Lake City Council Member

Søren D. Simonsen, District Seven
Salt Lake City Council Member