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# MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** May 7, 2010  
**TO:** City Council Members  
**FROM:** Russell Weeks  
**RE:** Proposed Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Make Recommendations to the Wasatch Front Regional Council about the *Wasatch Choices for 2040 Vision Map*.  
**CC:** Cindy Gust-Jenson, David Everitt, Ed Rutan, Frank Gray, Wilf Sommerkorn, DJ Baxter, Ben McAdams, Tim Harpst

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The proposed resolution would authorize Mayor Ralph Becker to make recommendations germane to Salt Lake City to the Wasatch Front Regional Council. The recommendations would be included in the *Wasatch Choices for 2040 Vision Map*.

According to the Administration transmittal, the Vision Map's "purpose is to guide the development of the *Regional Transportation Plan*." The Regional Council is responsible for developing the regional transportation plan. The Regional Council is made up of elected and appointed officials representing Davis, Morgan, Salt Lake, Tooele and Weber counties and 60 municipalities within those counties. The Regional Council projects that 1.1 million new residents will live in the area encompassed by Weber, Davis, and Salt Lake counties by the year 2040.

Regional Council representatives briefed the City Council at its March 9, 2010, work session on the organization's planned update of the *Vision Map*. (It should be noted that the Regional Council website, the transmittal letter, and the proposed resolution alternate the words "choice" and "choices" in the complete title of the *Vision Map*. This memorandum uses the word "choices" in all references to the complete title.)

## **OPTIONS**

- Adopt the proposed resolution.
- Do not adopt the proposed resolution.

## **POTENTIAL MOTIONS**

- I move that the City Council adopt the resolution authorizing the Mayor to notify the Wasatch Front Regional Council of the City Administration's recommendations for modifications to the *Wasatch Choices for 2040 Vision Map*.
- I move that the City Council consider the next item on the agenda.

## **ISSUES/QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

What effect might the two recommendations proposed by the Administration have on Salt Lake City goals for transportation and planning for the City's future?

## **DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND**

The Administration has made two recommendations pertaining to Wasatch Choices for 2040 Vision Map.

One recommendation is that "the town center designation for the Northwest Quadrant area be removed from the Vision Plan at this time." As the language indicates the current version of the map depicts the Northwest Quadrant area as containing a town center. However, the recommendation goes on to say, "The city is currently in the process of considering adoption of a proposed Northwest Quadrant Plan, and until that process is complete, it would be premature to show this designation (town center) for that area."

The other recommendation involves changing the current map from depicting a single "station community" along the North Temple Corridor between 400 West Street and 2200 West to depicting multiple station communities. The Utah Transit Authority is building a light line between downtown Salt Lake City and the Salt Lake City International Airport. Part of the project involves building five stations between 400 West Street and 2200 West.

Although the Vision Map "is not a general plan map and has no regulatory authority," according to the transmittal letter, the map's purpose "is to serve as a framework for the development of the long-range Regional Transportation Plan for the Wasatch region" and is an attempt ... "to establish a closer link between future desired development patterns for the region, and the future transportation network which should help make that vision come about."

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_ 2010

(Wasatch Front Regional Council, Wasatch Choice for 2040 Vision Map)

WHEREAS, Wasatch Front Regional Council has prepared the Wasatch Choice for 2040 Vision Map, depicting how growth should unfold along the Wasatch Front, and reflecting regional growth principles adopted by the Wasatch Front Regional Council and the Mountain Lands Association of Governments; and

WHEREAS, the City Administration has made recommendations to the City Council for proposed modifications to that Vision Map;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, as follows:

1. The Mayor of Salt Lake City is hereby authorized to notify the Wasatch Front Regional Council of the City Administration's recommendations for modifications to the Wasatch Choice for 2040 Vision Map.
2. This Resolution shall become effective upon publication.

Passed by the City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL

By \_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY RECORDER

HB\_ATTYY-#12774-v1-Resolution\_rc\_Wasatch\_Front\_2040\_Vision\_Map

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
Salt Lake City Attorney's Office  
Date 5/6/10  
By [Signature]

## CITY COUNCIL TRANSMITTAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Everitt, Chief of Staff

**Date Received:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date sent to Council:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TO:** Salt Lake City Council  
JT Martin, Chair

**DATE:** April 22, 2010

**FROM:** Frank Gray, CED Director  
Wilf Sommerkorn, Planning Director

**SUBJECT:** WRFC Wasatch Choice for 2040 Vision Map

**STAFF CONTACT:** Frank Gray, CED Director  
Wilf Sommerkorn, Planning Director

**DOCUMENT TYPE:** Briefing – Information only

**RECOMMENDATION:** No action necessary

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

#### **What is the Vision Map?**

The Wasatch Choice for 2040 is a vision for how growth should unfold along the Wasatch Front. The map's purpose is to guide the development of the Regional Transportation Plan, which Wasatch Front Regional Council is responsible for, and updates every 4 years. The concept behind the RTP plan update just beginning is that land use and transportation are closely tied together, and that the region's transportation network should be guided by the desires of the region's residents for future patterns of development.

The 2040 vision map reflects the Regional Growth Principles adopted by the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) and the Mountainlands Association of Governments (MAG). The Regional Growth Principles were developed with the assistance of Envision Utah two years ago, based upon the scenarios for future growth and the preferences indicated by the region's residents. WFRC staff also contacted the planning staff and officials in each of the region's communities to obtain copies of community general plans, and discussed pending plan updates and modifications to help them arrive at the draft Vision Map.

The 2040 vision map is not a general plan map and has no regulatory authority. The WFRC encourages cities and counties to consider the Growth Principles and the Vision Map as local plans are updated.

### **How was the Vision Map created?**

WFRC staff initiated this refinement as part of the Wasatch Choices 2040 planning process and the Growth Principles that were adopted by the Regional Council. This effort was initiated in October 2009 with the help of Envision Utah and the Planning Center consultants. A series of outreach meetings and workshops were held with regional planners and engineers. Their input helped provide information on the amount and location of anticipated growth within their jurisdictions, and also identified potential areas for mixed use development, transit oriented development, and locations for higher density development.

The update to the Wasatch Choices Vision map was guided by the following process:

- Determine if the local city or county jurisdictions are currently or shortly planning to update their general plan, relevant zoning ordinance, or redevelopment areas
- Conduct an inventory of all relevant land use changes by jurisdiction and determine the following: transit oriented developments, mixed-use boulevards, planned higher density locations, and potential redevelopment areas
- Determine what, if any, differences exist between local general plans and the 2040 Vision
- Identify all regional centers, urban centers, town centers, commercial centers, office/industrial centers, and all highway and transit facilities
- Adjust the 2040 Vision to meet the reality on the ground
- Identify means of “post processing” the revised 2040 Vision to check socioeconomic data and assumptions

### **What does the Vision Map show for Salt Lake City?**

The Wasatch Choice for 2040 (Vision Map) shows generalized areas of growth and development throughout the region. In addition to showing broad areas for residential, commercial, industrial use and green space, it also shows a variety of centers of concentrated development and boulevard communities.

For Salt Lake City, the Vision Map shows, first and foremost, downtown Salt Lake City as region’s only Metropolitan Center. Then plan also shows two town centers, one for Sugar House, and one for the Northwest Quadrant. Additionally, it shows a Main Street style development

corridor along Main Street from downtown to about I-80, and Boulevard Communities along 21<sup>st</sup> South from I-15 to 1300 East, and along Foothill Drive from the University of Utah to I-80.

The Vision Map also shows a Station Community along the Airport Light Rail line on North Temple.

### **What will the Vision Map be used for?**

As noted previously, the purpose for the Vision Map is to serve as a framework for the development of the long-range Regional Transportation Plan for the Wasatch Front region. It is the latest attempt by the planners at WFRC to establish a closer link between future desired development patterns for the region, and the future transportation network which should help make that vision come about.

The Vision Map will also serve to show the overall general development pattern for the region, as contemplated by the general plans of the various individual communities. It can help each community see how it fits into the broader regional pattern.

The Vision Map is in no way intended to be proscriptive or regulatory – it is simply intended to generally reflect the future growth plans of the region's communities.

### **Salt Lake City Recommendations**

We would recommend that the town center designation for the Northwest Quadrant area be removed from the Vision Plan at this time. The city is currently in the process of considering adoption of a proposed Northwest Quadrant Plan, and until that process is complete, it would be premature to show this designation for that area.

The North Temple corridor from 400 West to about 2200 West will be multiple station areas. The city is currently considering adoption of a new North Temple Corridor Plan, which, once it is adopted, would suggest that the Vision Plan should show multiple Station Communities along its length.