

APA UT & ID FALL CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

25 Years of Quality Growth



Ari Bruening

President & CEO

ari@envisionutah.org

Utah Faced Serious Challenges in 1997

- A million new residents by 2020
- Air quality at risk
- Doubling urban land by 2020
- New water sources needed by 2010
- Crowding and congestion increasing
- Business and personal costs rising
- Infrastructure needs outstripping resources

Envision Utah — Who We Are

Founded in 1997 by concerned citizens

- Nonprofit, nonpartisan, voluntary
- Partnership of business, government, & community



Traditional Planning Approach

Decide - through analysis and research

Educate – the public about the solution

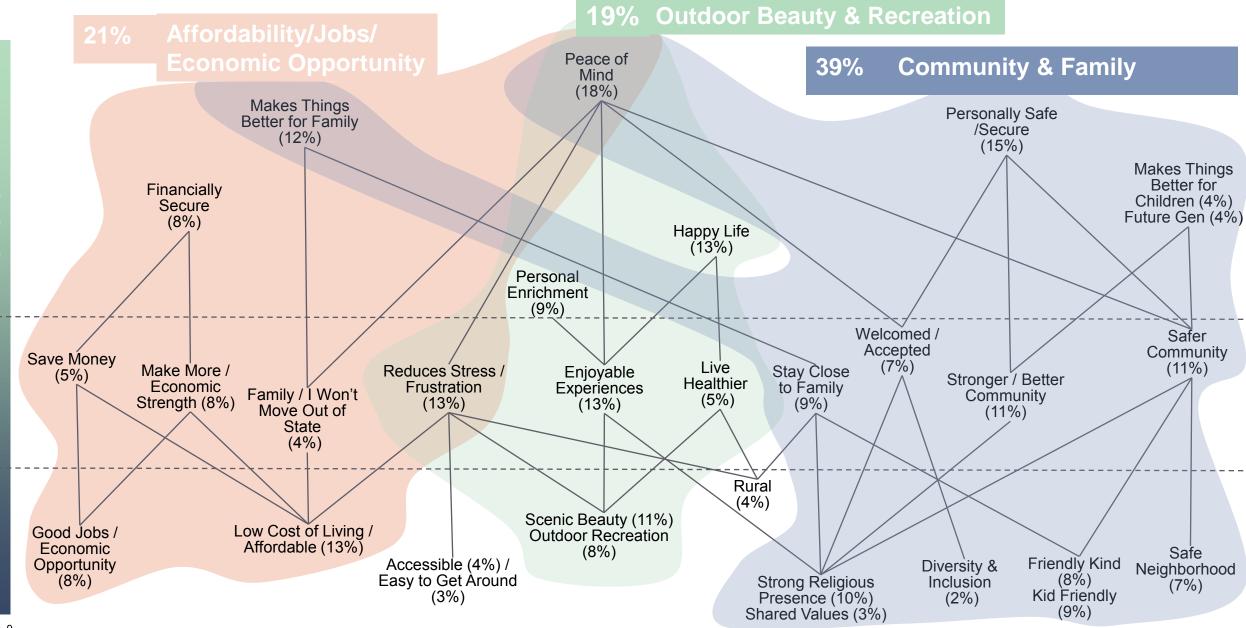
Announce – the plan

Defend – the plan and yourself





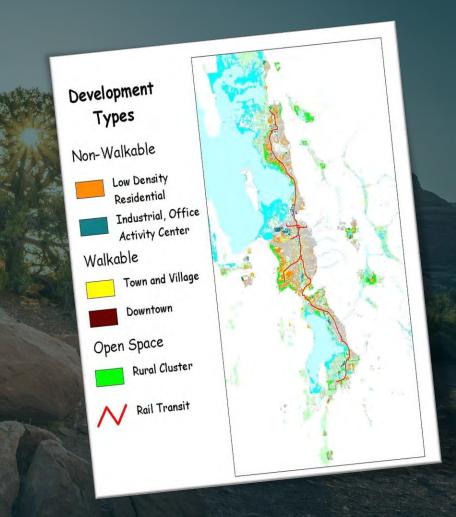
2021: Why do Utahns love Utah?



10-County Quality Growth Strategy

Six Goals, 42 Strategies

- Enhance Air Quality
- Increase Transportation Choices
- Preserve Critical Lands
- Conserve Water Resources
- Provide Housing Opportunities
- Maximize Efficiency in Public Investment



YOUR UTAH, YOUR FUTURE

VISION FOR 2050









VISION FOR THE POINT OF THE MOUNTAIN DRAPER PRISON SITE PLACEMAKING EXAMPLE

STATE OF UTAH POINT OF THE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION





Highly-trained workforce

A strong presence for education, including higher education, trains Utahns for the innovation jobs of the future. Industry, school districts, higher education, and others collaborate to maximize impact. Companies have access to student labor, while students can experience hands on learning in research and industry.

2 Improved air quality & reduced resource use

The place becomes a demonstration site for sustainability. Energy efficiency, on-site energy generation and storage, and low-emission appliances improve air quality, along with electric vehicle charging infrastructure and preferred parking. Public transportation, proximity of housing to jobs and amenities, and walkable design reduce driving. Water-wise landscaping means less water is needed.



ENVIRON

3 Connected trails, parks, and open space

Located near two major mountain ranges, key open space and trail systems, and the Jordan River Parkway, the site is an ideal meeting point for diverse types of recreation. A network of parks, trails, and open spaces provides quality of life and allows travel by foot or bicycle. A portion of the existing prison is preserved to provide historic context and authenticity.

Vibrant urban centers

A vibrant urban area includes jobs, shopping housing, and armenities in a walkable setting close to public transportation. People can travel conveniently with or without a car and enjoy a vibrant environment for living, working, or playing. The prison site offers a diverse range of housing types, transportation opportunities, and armenities without significant disruption of nearby single-family neighborhoods.





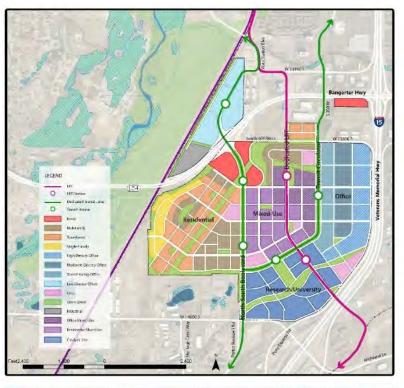
6 Jobs close to where people live

Jobs and housing are close together on the site, and housing in surrounding communities is also proximate and well-connected through roads and public transportation, including existing automobile and FrontRunner corridors and planned TRAL lines.

Variety of community and housing types

A number of housing options are available at the prison site, including urban-style apartments, townhomes in a less intense setting, and single-family neighborhoods. Public transportation and roads provide access from a variety of places. This diversity of housing means people of a variety of backgrounds and incomes can live in places they desire incomes can live in places they desire.







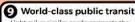
New north-south boulevard

A new boulevard links the Bangerter Highwey 600 West interchange to Porter Rockwell Boulevard and continues south to Lehi 2100 North. The road accommodates bicycles, pedestrians, and public transportation and carries local trips without using freeway capacity. This boulevard connects at the prison site, making the site a gateway for this 'main street' connection between Utah and Salt Lake countries.



Connected street network

A dispersed street network promotes walking, bilking, and public transportation and provides alternative travel routes. A new road across I-15 at 13800 South improves connectivity to the east, and the new north-south boulevard improves connectivity to the south. This plan for the Draper Prison Site prioritizes a well-connected street network that is easy to understand and navigate for residents, employees, and others who travel to and through the site.



Light rail or similar mode connects the site to the TRAX Blue Line, the Draper FrontRunner station, and points north and south. A micro-transit shuttle circulates throughout the site and to the FrontRunner station to provide on-demand, convenient mobility. A vehicle in its own lane runs north and south along the new boulevard.





North-south and east-west throughput

The new north-south boulevard improves throughput by allowing local trips to avoid traveling on a freeway. Access to Bangerter Highway and to I-15 is also excellent.

Catalytic center at the prison site

Incentives and other mechanisms are utilized to locate one or more marquee employers on the site. The marquee employers attract other jobs, as well as employees. Sites are available for jobs in urban, mixed-use settings as well as in more campus-style settings. There are also opportunities for start-ups.



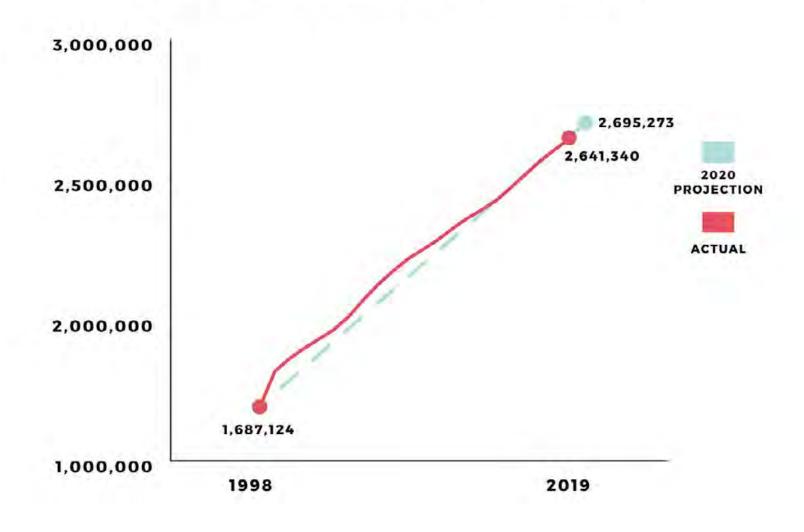
Research and university presence

A nationally-recognized research presence creates a "wow" factor that attracts employers and the same and the same

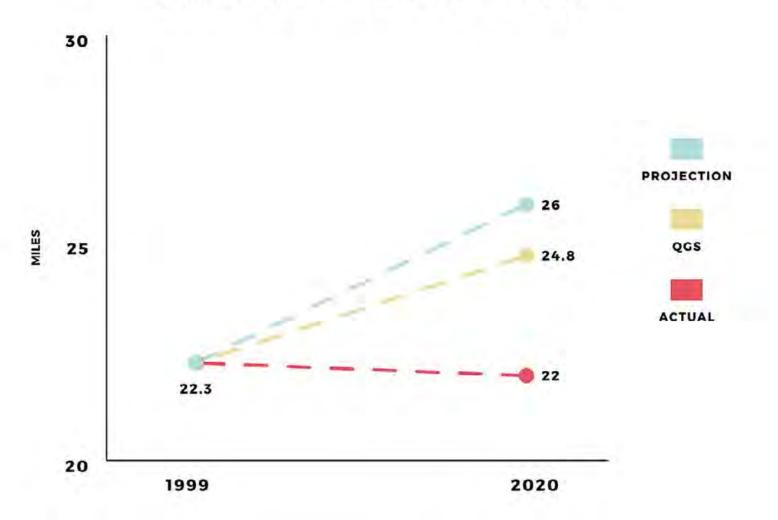
PRISON SITE



POPULATION GROWTH (10 COUNTY WASATCH FRONT + BACK)



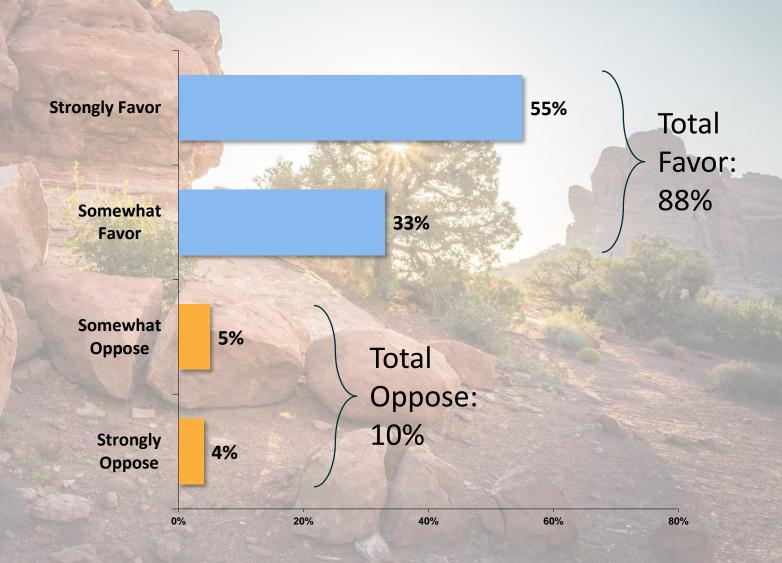
DAILY VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED PER CAPITA (FOUR COUNTY WASATCH FRONT)



*Dashed lines are for illustrative purposes only and do not reflect data points.

Utah's Public Transportation

Do you favor or oppose the EXPANSION of light rail, often referred to as Trax, and other public transportation systems?



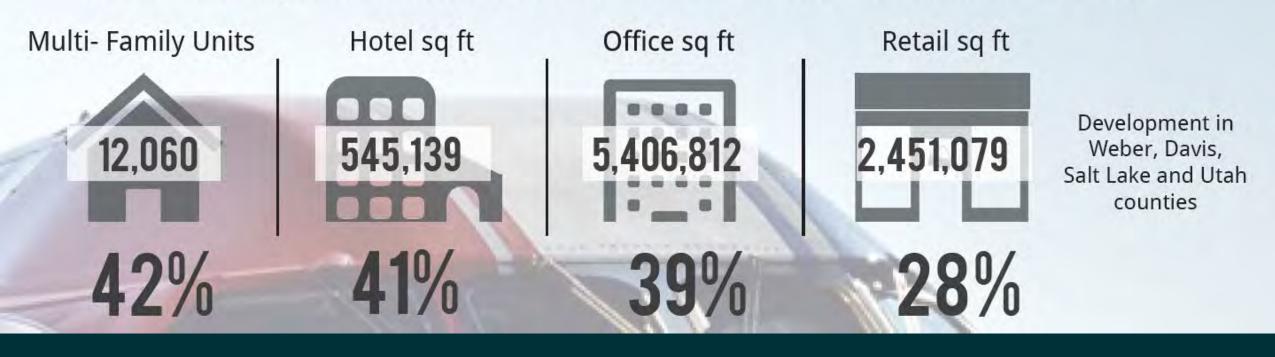
Built 140 miles of rail

70 stations

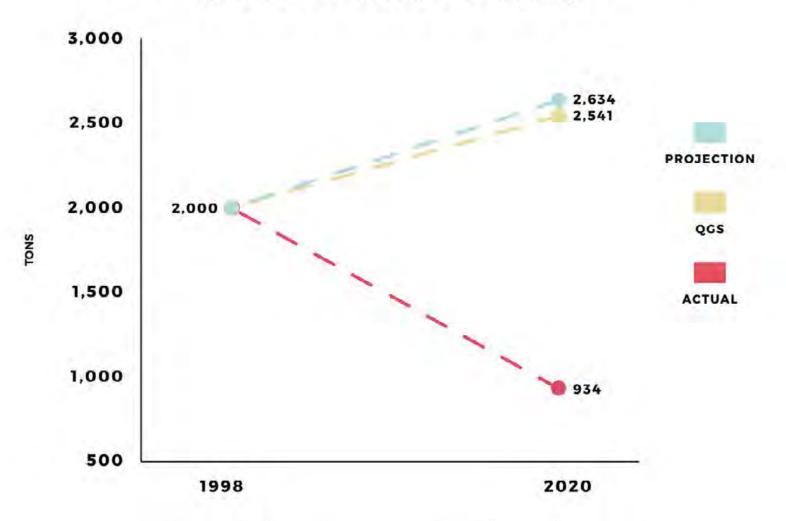
2020 goal: 600,000 people within 1,000 steps of a rail station



% of development since 2010 that is <.5 miles from rail station

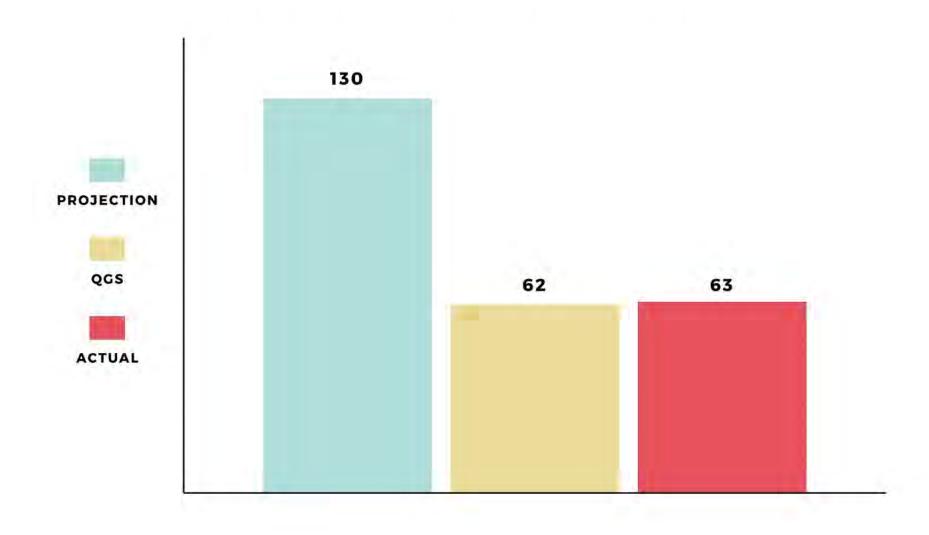


DAILY EMISSIONS: CO, NOX, VOC, PM10, AND SO2 (4 COUNTY WASATCH FRONT)



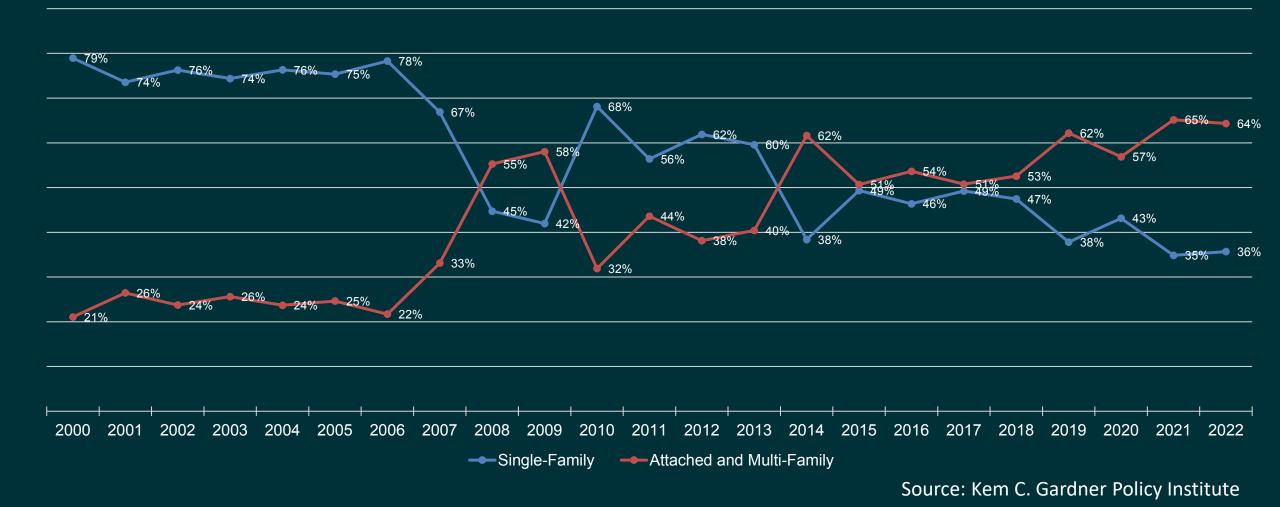
^{*}Dashed lines are for illustrative purposes only and do not reflect data points.

SQUARE MILES DEVELOPED PER DECADE (10 COUNTY WASATCH FRONT + BACK)

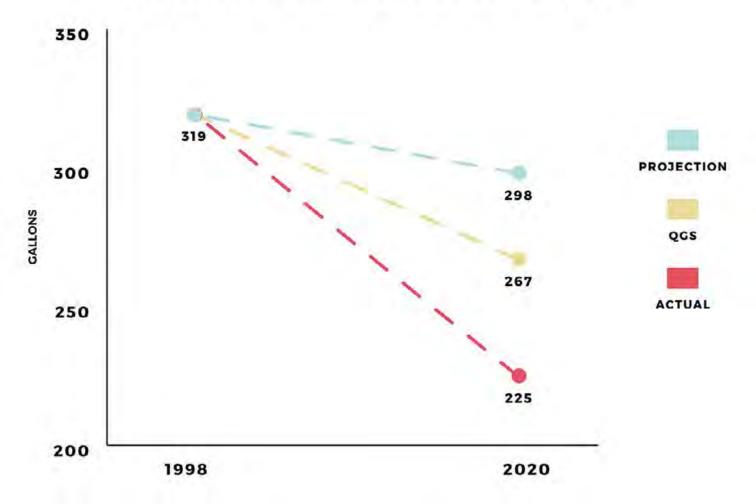


PERMITS FOR DETACHED SINGLE-FAMILY UNITS HAVE DECLINED WHILE PERMITS FOR ATTACHED & MULTI-FAMILY UNITS HAVE INCREASED

Wasatch Front Residential Units Added



WATER USE PER CAPITA PER DAY (10 COUNTY WASATCH FRONT + BACK)



^{*}Dashed lines are for illustrative purposes only and do not reflect data points.

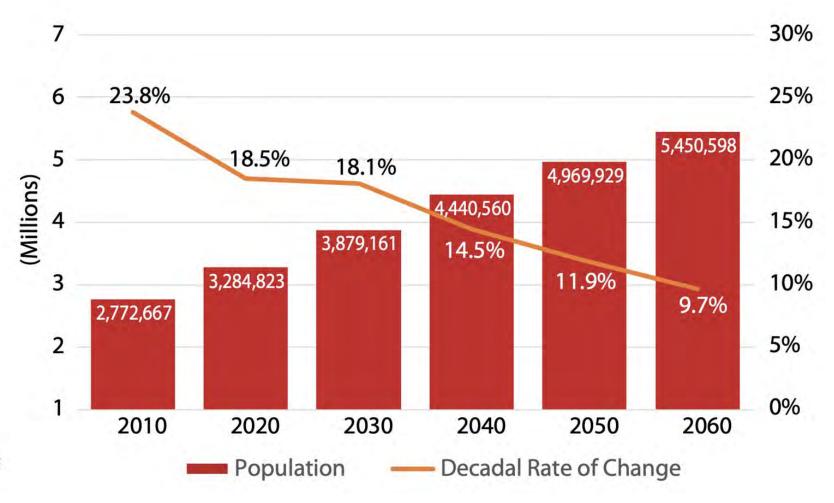


THERE'S SO MUCH TO CELEBRATE ABOUT UTAH



MAKES UTAH GROW



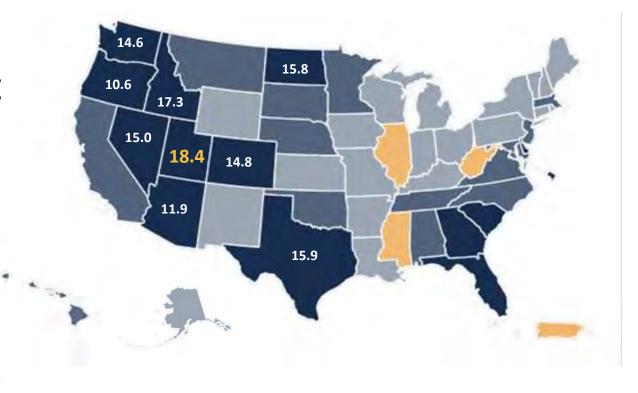




MANY UTAH FAMILIES STAY FOR GENERATIONS

Others recognize all that Utah has to offer and move here

FASTEST
GROWING STATE
IN THE NATION
2010-2020



Source: US Census Bureau

10.0 or more

5.0 to 9.9

Percent increase in population, 2010-2020

Less than 0.0

0.0 to 4.9





It's not so much IF
Utah will continue
to grow, but HOW
Utah will continue
to grow.





A STATEWIDE CONVERSATION ABOUT UTAH'S FUTURE



GOALS OF THE EFFORT

- Educate Utahns on the effects of growth decisions
- Solicit input on Utahns' growth preferences
- Generate a list of Big Ideas and guidance for decision makers
- Encourage Utahns to support quality growth principles
- Support existing local and regional planning efforts



THE TIMELINE

GUIDING OUR GROWTH - Public Engagement Timeline

PHASE I:

Fall 2022 to Spring 2023

Educate and Invite

PHASE II:

May 11 to August 2023

Invite and Inspire

PHASE III:

Fall 2023

Inspire and Act

Promote Survey & Opportunity to Guide Our Growth

Review Preliminary Responses & Explore Big Moves Finalize list of Big Moves & Budget Devel

2024 General Legislative Session

GUIDING OUR GROWTH - Decision-making Timeline

PHASE I ACTIVITIES

- 15 Workshops
- Many interactive presentations
- Phase I survey about values and key issues

4 Key Issues:

- Housing
- Water
- Transportation
- Open Space





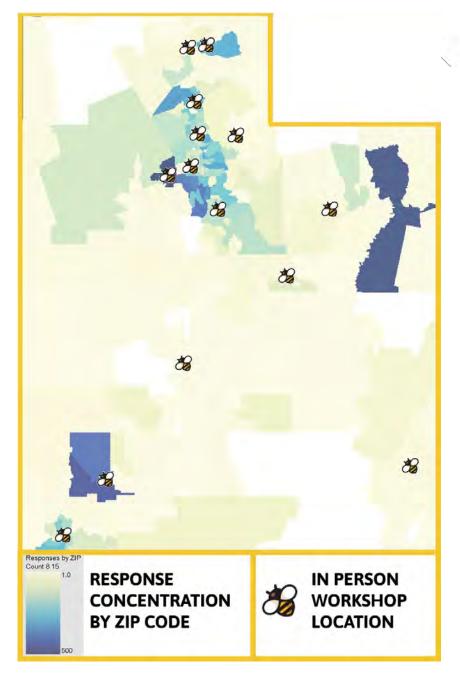


GUIDING OUR GROWTH: PHASE 2 SURVEY

ADMINISTERED BY: Envision Utah

FOR: Utah Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

DATES OPEN: May 11th – August 31st 2023





29/29 Counties Represented

21 Community Presentations

15 In-person Workshops

1.7 M Online Engagements

68 K Ad Campaign Clicks

19K Survey Responses (28K engagements)







Minority and "Hard-to-Reach" Population Outreach Efforts

- In-person outreach at community and cultural events
- Spanish language promotional and educational videos
- Spanish language paid advertising
- Interview with Telemundo
- Stipends to community oriented nonprofits for survey promotion
- Engagement with Ethnic Chambers of Commerce
- Alternative news outlets: SLUG, Utah Stories, Catalyst



SURVEY OVERVIEW

GUIDING OUR GROWTH 2023



What was the survey like?

Utahns shared four topics as top priorities for managing growth; we want your opinion on them





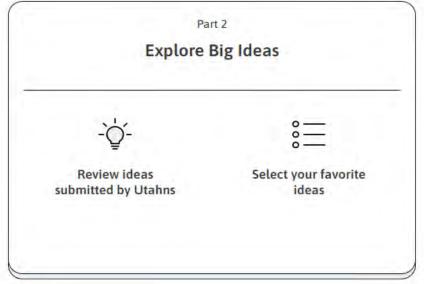






Open Space & Recreation



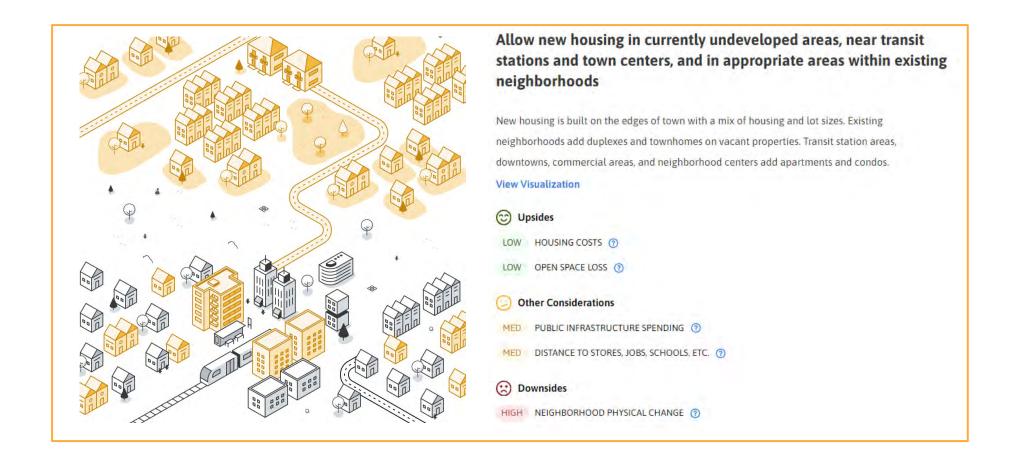




What was the survey like?

4 options of growth were presented for each of the 4 topics

- Tradeoffs were listed for each of the options
- Local experts weighed in to help explain costs and benefits, which were represented in text and images

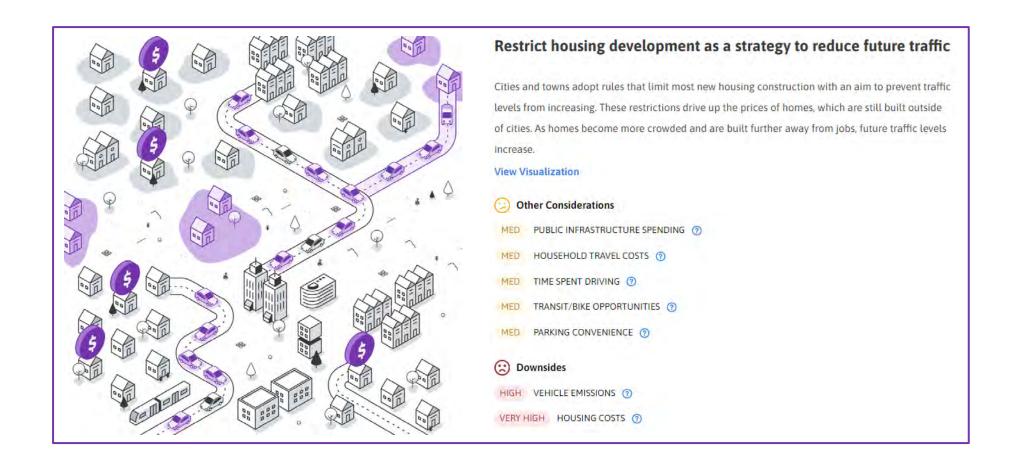




What was the survey like?

A "Stop Growth" option included for each topic

realistic concerns about stopping growth with that topic were explained

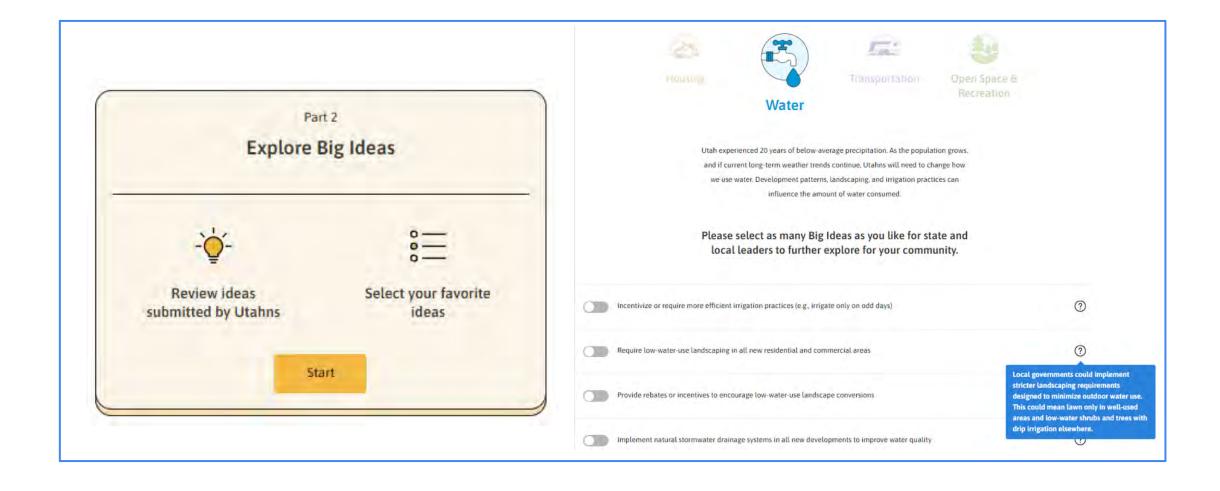




What was the survey like?

"Big Ideas" were refined from ideas received during the Phase 1 Tour

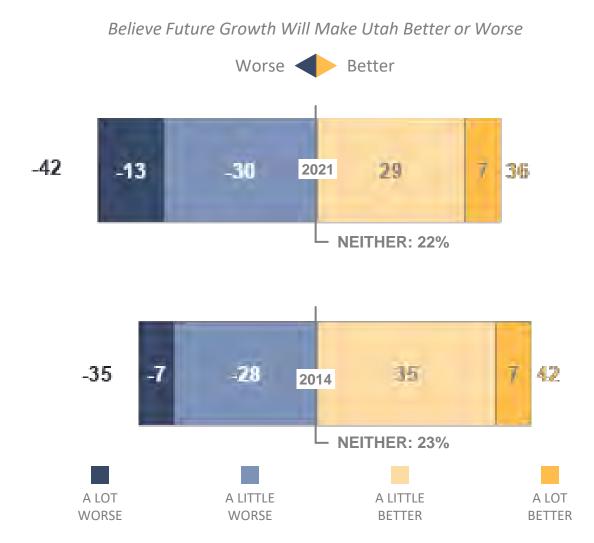
■ Participants were asked to select Big Ideas they would support in their community





UTAHNS ARE FEELING THE PRESSURES OF GROWTH, BUT MOST DON'T THINK WE **SHOULD TRY TO STOP IT**

Two in five believe that future growth will make Utah worse, up significantly since 2014.



...BUT *HOW* WE GROW MATTERS



UTAHNS WANT A
VARIETY OF
HOUSING
PRODUCTS AND
PRICE POINTS







Urban Utahns want to allow more housing, and a greater variety of housing types, throughout urban areas.

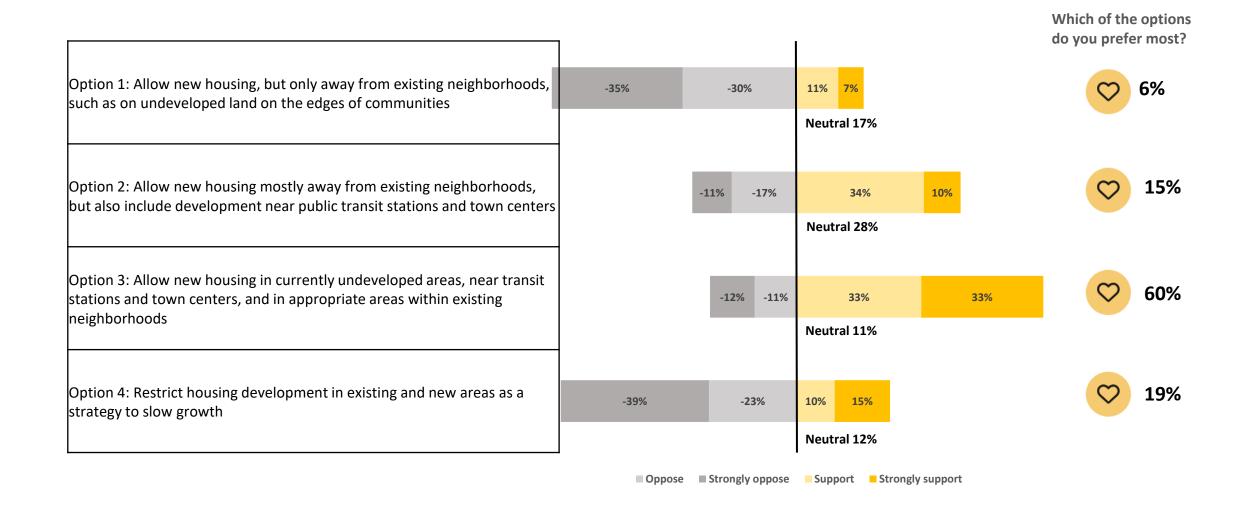
- 59% choose the housing option that allows the most new housing: in centers and TODs, existing neighborhoods, and new greenfield development.
 - O Younger Utahns and renters are particularly likely to choose this option.
- 58–60% want to allow more small lots, townhomes, duplexes, and accessory dwelling units.
- o They also want to allow more strip malls, big box stores, and parking lots to be redeveloped into housing.

Rural Utahns want much of the state's rural growth to focus around existing town centers and main streets.

- A majority support focusing new development along main streets to create a lively town center and maintain country roads outside of town.
- 63% disagree with building new housing on large, spread-out lots.

URBAN HOUSING OPTIONS (STATEWIDE)







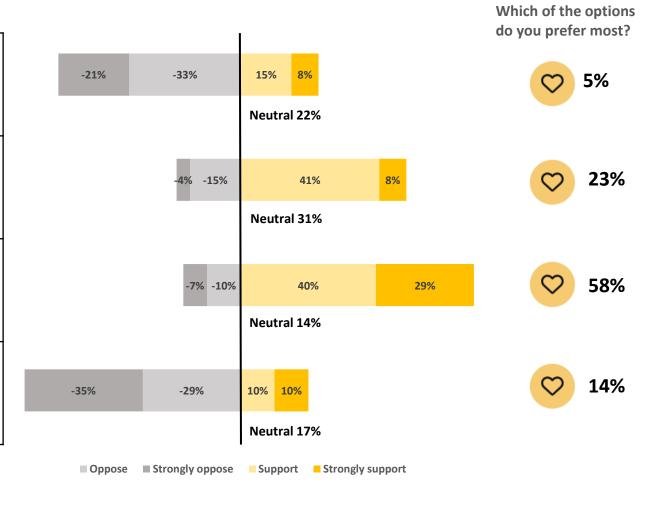


Option 1: Allow new housing, but only away from existing neighborhoods, such as on undeveloped land on the edges of communities

Option 2: Allow new housing mostly away from existing neighborhoods, but also include development near public transit stations and town centers

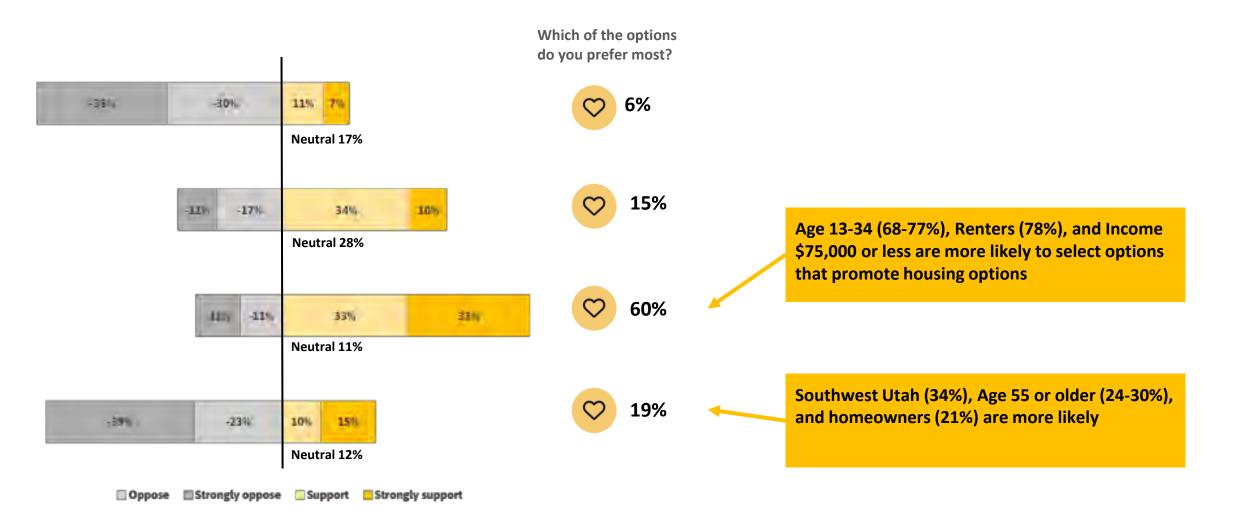
Option 3: Allow new housing in currently undeveloped areas, near transit stations and town centers, and in appropriate areas within existing neighborhoods

Option 4: Restrict housing development in existing and new areas as a strategy to slow growth



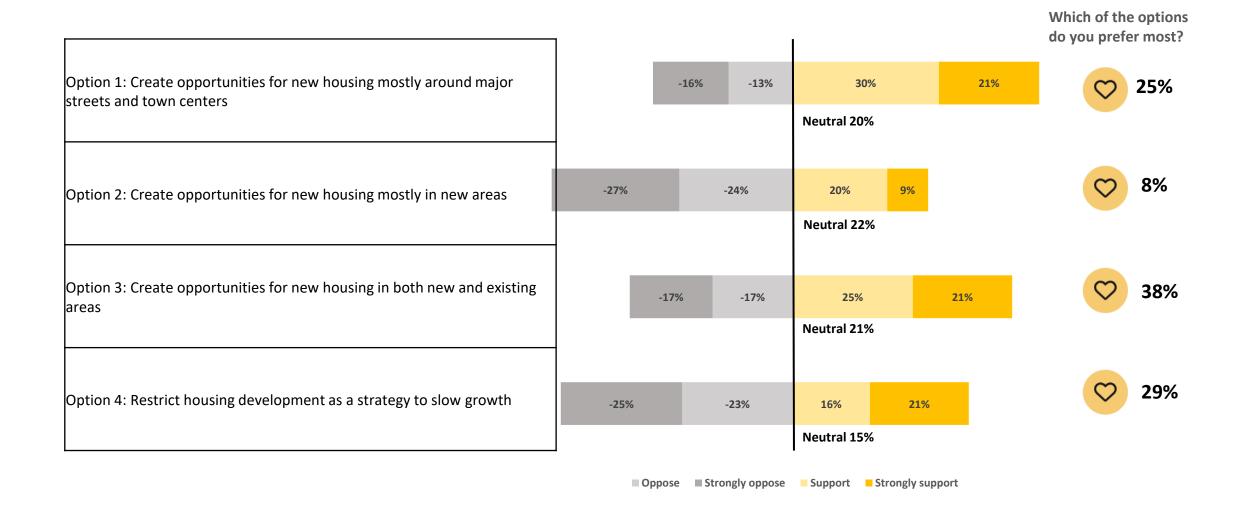












HOUSING COMMENTS



URBAN

The overarching theme from these comments is the urgent need for housing solutions.

"Fighting growth is a sure way of turning us into high-cost, poorly planned markets. Let's be intentional about how we grow and take charge of that growth before it overwhelms us."

"...Housing affordability is critical as the cost of living has increased dramatically."

RURAL

Commentors acknowledge the need for additional housing due to a growing population, but they also want to take steps to prevent uncontrolled and unsustainable growth

"Many of us have lived in Utah for a long time and hate the growth. I choose to live rural so that my kids have more opportunities and don't get lost in the crowds. Low crime rates, knowing our neighbors, walking distance to so many things (schools, stores, work). Growth changes all of this. Our quality of life suffers with too much growth too fast."

HOUSING-TOP 5 BIG IDEAS



URBAN

- 59% Allow more strip malls, big box stores, and parking lots to be redeveloped into housing
- 59% Allow more townhomes, duplexes, and accessory dwelling units (e.g., basement or mother-in-law apartments)
- 58% Allow more new houses to be built on smaller lots
 and incentivize the construction of smaller homes
- 56% Increase the number of housing units with the potential for owner occupancy (single family house, condos, townhomes)
- 52% Be more selective about the types of new businesses or development we seek to attract to Utah

RURAL

- 54% Allow new houses to be built on smaller lots
- 52% Proactively invest in or establish frameworks for financing new infrastructure (roads, utilities) to support the construction of new housing
- 46% Limit short-term rentals through regulation
- 44% Expand sweat equity home-building programs
- 41% Invest in local government- or nonprofit-owned subsidized housing for workers and full time residents

UTAHNS WANT
AGGRESSIVE
WATER
CONSERVATION
EFFORTS







Urban Utahns support aggressive water conservation efforts.

- 61% choose the most aggressive conservation option, with waterwise landscaping and more compact development, along with conversion of existing landscaping.
- More than 66% support rebates/incentives for landscape conversions, requiring low-water
 landscaping in all new development, and incentivizing/requiring more efficient irrigation practices.

Rural Utahns support residential and commercial water conservation efforts as well as agricultural irrigation optimization.

- 60% support investing in optimized agricultural irrigation as well as residential and commercial water conservation.
- 70% support rebates/incentives for landscape conversions.
- 54% support requiring low-water landscaping in all new development.

URBAN WATER OPTIONS (STATEWIDE)

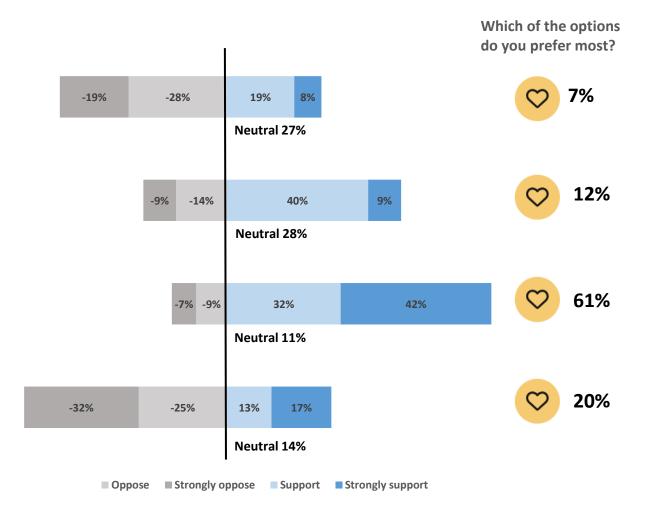


Option 1: Conserve water in new development by building on large lots with water-wise landscaping

Option 2: Conserve water in new development by building on small or shared lots with water-wise landscaping

Option 3: Conserve water in both new development and existing communities with water-wise landscaping

Option 4: Restrict housing development as a strategy to reduce future water demand



RURAL WATER OPTIONS (STATEWIDE)

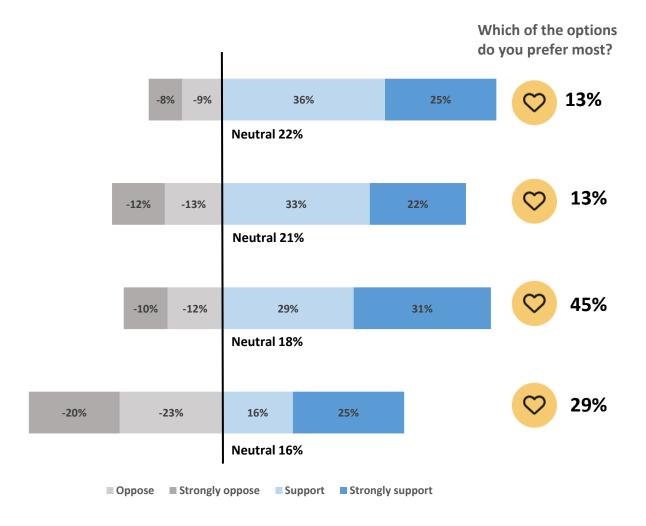


Option 1: Invest in optimized agricultural irrigation to conserve water

Option 2: Invest in residential and commercial water conservation

Option 3: Invest in optimized agricultural irrigation as well as residential and commercial water conservation

Option 4: Restrict housing development as a strategy to reduce future water demand







URBAN

Discussions typically revolve around the critical importance of water conservation in Utah, such as:

- Portion of the water supply is used for agricultural irrigation
- Environmental impact of technology production
- Need to reconsider landscaping choices: commenters suggest transitioning from grass lawns to alternatives

"We've given up our privilege to waste water. If we want to continue to live and thrive here in Utah, we need to do our part to conserve."

"I'm between Option 3 and Option 4. I like the idea of restricting housing when we don't have enough water but fear that it will harm low-income people the most."

RURAL

Many comments focus on the agricultural sector's water needs, suggesting that optimizing water usage in farming practices is essential. Key ideas include:

- Call for more efficient irrigation and water capture
- Essential need for water in agriculture and cattle
- Concerns about desert regions and lawns or golf courses

"I think it's ridiculous to only conserve water with new developments; that's not a strong water conservation tactic at all."

"...Water for food production must be re-prioritized about all other "beneficial" uses of water, because it produces essential food... "





URBAN

- 80% Provide rebates or incentives to encourage lowwater-use landscape conversions
- 73% Implement natural stormwater drainage systems in all new developments to improve water quality
- 71% Require low-water-use landscaping in all new residential and commercial areas
- 71% Invest in municipal-scale water recycling and reuse systems
- 67% Incentivize or require more efficient irrigation practices (e.g., irrigate only on odd days)

RURAL

- 74% Provide rebates or incentives to encourage lowwater-use landscape conversions
- 69% Invest in new water infrastructure projects (reservoirs, wells, pipelines, aquifer storage)
- 62% Increase investments in agricultural wateroptimization project
- 61% Require low-water-use landscaping in all new residential and commercial areas
- 60% Invest in municipal-scale water recycling and reuse systems



UTAHNS WANT TO USE PUBLIC TRANSIT, TRAILS, BICYCLES, AND CARS TO GET AROUND.



TRANSPORTATION SUMMARY

Urban Utahns want significant investments in public and active transportation.

- 78% support a transportation option that focuses new development in town centers,
 with convenient walking, biking, and public transportation.
- Almost 66% support more funding for public transportation and bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, as well as zero-fare public transportation.

Rural Utahns want better transportation connections.

- 57% want public transportation service connecting smaller towns to larger cities.
- 53% support statewide passenger rail.
- 54% support public transit for peak usage of tourism areas.
- 53% want to invest in improving high-use state highways and main streets.

URBAN TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS (STATEWIDE)

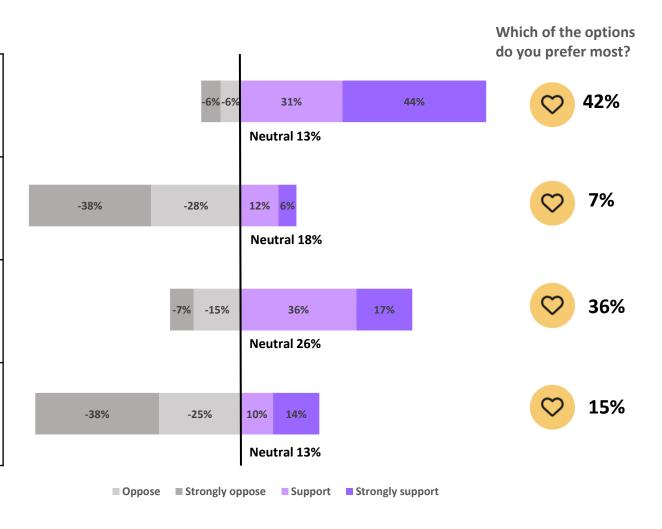


Option 1: Prioritize convenient walking, biking, and public transportation in many town centers

Option 2: Prioritize new and expanded highways and roads in new suburbs

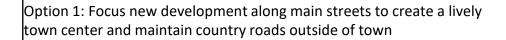
Option 3: Balance investments in walking, biking, and transit in existing cities with additional roads and highways to serve new suburbs

Option 4: Restrict housing development as a strategy to reduce future traffic





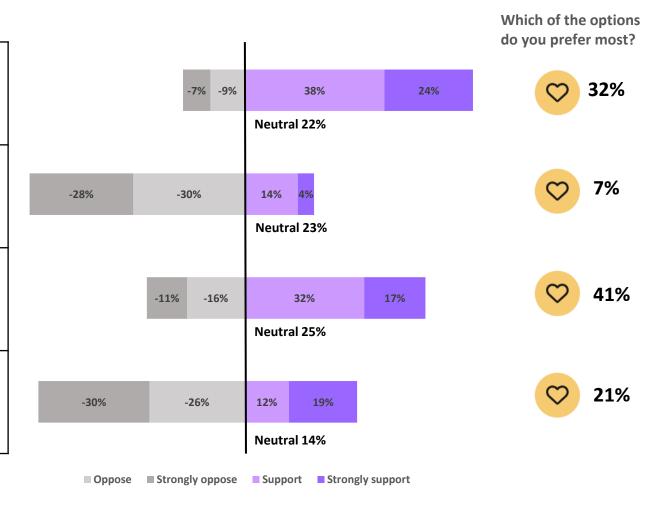




Option 2: Spread development and new streets out on the edge of town

Option 3: Balance new development and road upgrades between a lively main street and country roads on the edge of town

Option 4: Restrict housing development as a strategy to reduce transportation infrastructure costs



TRANSPORTATION COMMENTS



URBAN

The overarching focus is on creating walkable and bikeable cities, along with improving urban transit systems. There is a desire for creating bike- and walk-friendly environments, with calls to encourage exercise and reduce car dependency. There's a consensus that public transit should be a viable alternative, and its expansion is encouraged.

"Urban sprawl makes traffic and mobility issues worse. Walkability, bikeability, and urban transit are the way to go."

"Public transportation needs to be more convenient than driving and parking. We've prioritized freeways for long enough. Now we need to prioritize public transportation."

RURAL

Maintaining roads in rural areas and concern over addition housing are frequent themes. There is support bike trails, improved sidewalks, impact fees, financial tools access, and conservation requirements.

"We need more bike and walking routes."

"...Encourage affordable housing to counter high housing costs. Enact conservation requirements to fend off the day we run out of water. And don't build too many roads. I favor mixed, in-town and out-of-town solutions, so people have choices based on personal preference and what they can afford."

TRANSPORTATION- TOP 5 BIG IDEAS



URBAN

- 66% Provide zero-fare public transportation
- 66% Invest in more bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure
- 65% Invest more funding in public transportation to serve urban areas
- 65% Allow more apartments, condos, and townhomes
 near transit stations and downtowns
- 64% Invest in public transportation for peak usage of tourism areas

RURAL

- 64% Implement public transportation service to connect smaller towns to larger cities
- 60% Invest in statewide passenger rail
- 60% Invest in improvement or expansion of high-use state highways and main streets (e.g. Highways 6, 189, 191)
- 59% Invest in public transit for peak usage of tourism areas
- 57% Implement a statewide trails network to connect communities across Utah

UTAHNS WANT
OPEN SPACES
PRESERVED
WITHIN AND ON
THE EDGES OF
THEIR
COMMUNITIES





OPEN SPACE SUMMARY

Urban Utahns want new development on "the edge" to focus on master-planned communities with extensive open space and a variety of housing types.

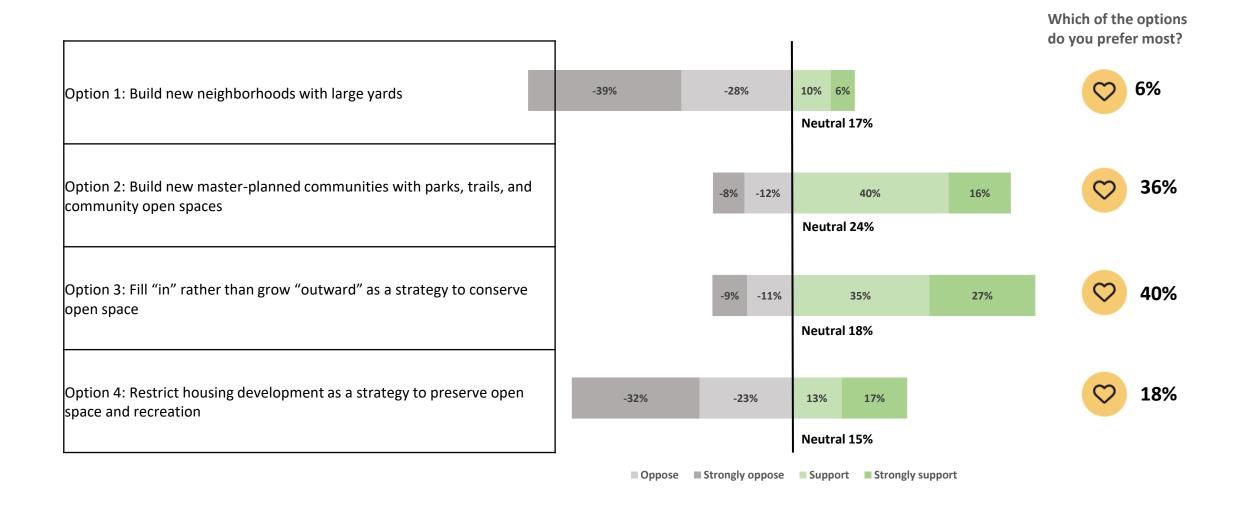
- 56% support building new master-planned communities with parks, trails, and community open spaces.
- Nearly 75% want to invest in recreational amenities in both natural areas (trailheads, campgrounds, etc.) and in urban areas (parkways, river trails, etc.).

Rural Utahns want to preserve open space by focusing growth in master-planned communities or growing on smaller lots close to town.

- 38% prefer new development to be in master-planned communities with community open space, parks, and trails, more than any other open space option.
- 51% support a **statewide trails network** to connect communities across Utah.

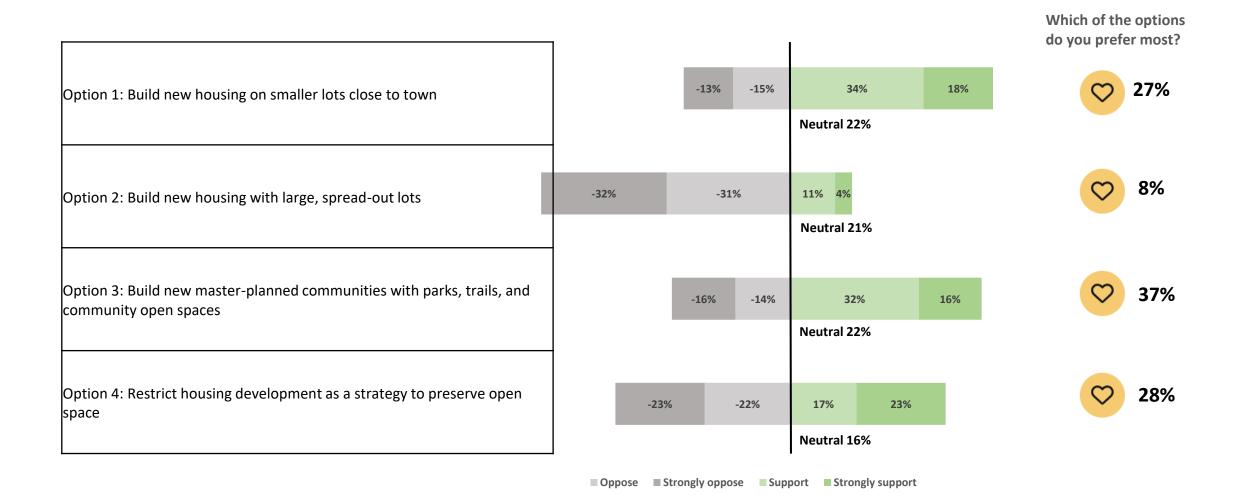
URBAN OPEN SPACE OPTIONS (STATEWIDE)











OPEN SPACE COMMENTS



URBAN

Option 3, which involves responsible housing and water conservation while preserving open spaces, resonates with most commenters as the path forward for Utah. Comments suggest there should be a focus on using existing spaces and limiting new construction. They emphasize the importance of adding more recreational opportunities within both new and existing communities.

"I live in a development in Taylorsville where HOA manages three parks, a great trail system, tennis court and pool. They are great!"

"Let's be good stewards of our land by taking up less of it."

RURAL

While commenters recognize that in larger cities, there's a desire for a denser population with smaller lots, rural residents advocate for slow and controlled growth while keeping lots large to preserve the open, country feel.

"I'd love to find a way to merge options 2 and 3. See, the plan needs to be for the communities to fill in, not the government. Allow the market to determine what's desirable."

"option #3. but just require an open space park in every community. And NOT under power lines."

OPEN SPACE- TOP 5 BIG IDEAS



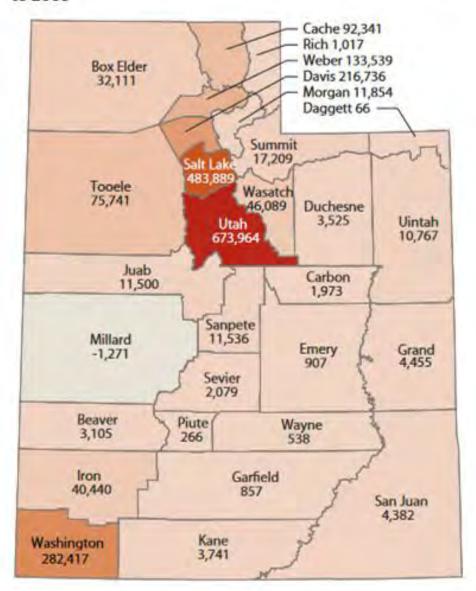
URBAN

- 73% Invest more in natural-area recreational amenities (trailheads, campgrounds, mountain bike/hiking/equestrian/OHV trails, parking, restrooms) on state or county lands
- 72% Invest more in urban trails and trailheads (e.g.,
 Jordan River Parkway, Virgin River Trail, Murdock Canal)
- 64% Design new libraries, recreation centers, or senior centers to also provide multipurpose outdoor recreation space
- 63% Partner with schools and churches to provide recreation space and allow community access
- 63% Construct more public park spaces, plazas, and community-gathering places as communities grow

RURAL

- 72% Invest more in natural-area recreational amenities (trailheads, campgrounds, mountain bike/hiking/equestrian/OHV trails, parking, restrooms) on state or county lands
- 64% Encourage ongoing agricultural uses by prioritizing prime farmlands in long-range planning efforts
- 60% Invest in the preservation of open space through conservation easements or purchases
- 60% Utilize agricultural zoning in areas desired for agricultural preservation
- 53% Allow for clustering homes on smaller lots to set aside areas for open space

Figure 8: Utah Projected County Population Change, 2020 to 2060





WHILE GROWTH IS PROJECTED STATEWIDE, EXPECTATIONS VARY BY COUNTY

SLOW/NO GROWTH SUMMARY



Utahns living in rural areas that are not experiencing growth do not support significant growth and change.

- 51% prefer to add some job opportunities.
- 37% want their community to stay the same, even though this might mean jobs for current and future generations are hard to come by.
- Only 12% want to add a lot of job opportunities.
- Improving agricultural prosperity and supporting/expanding existing local businesses are
 the economic development strategies that generate the most support.
 - Attracting new businesses is not popular.



Join at slido.com #3246882



How surprised are you by these survey results?



What about these survey results surprised you?



What do you need as Planners to implement these ideas?



What kind data would be useful for your community?

SLOW/NO GROWTH



Q1. It looks like you live in a place that's not experiencing much economic growth. Would you prefer the area where you live...

- 50% Add some job opportunities, even though this may mean a little population growth and some changes to my community.
- 38% Stay the same, even though this might mean jobs for current and future generations are hard to come by.
- 12% Add a lot of new job opportunities, even though this may mean more significant population growth and changes to my community.

Q2. What strategies would you like to pursue to improve economic prosperity in your area? Choose as many as you'd like. (TOP 5)

- 77% Improve agricultural prosperity (this could include investments in water efficiency, food processing facilities, farm-to-table programs, and agritourism)
- 71% Support and expand existing local businesses
- 65% Attract remote workers (this could include improving broadband, improving main street/downtown, adding/improving housing, and adding outdoor recreation amenities)
- 59% Promote more start-ups and entrepreneurs (this could include creating/expanding innovation centers)
- 56% Make my area attractive to logistics and manufacturing companies (this could include adding energy, water, and transportation infrastructure; adding/improving housing; training residents to work in targeted industries; improving broadband; and expanding business recruitment incentives)



THE TIMELINE

GUIDING OUR GROWTH - Public Engagement Timeline

PHASE I:

Fall 2022 to Spring 2023

Educate and Invite

PHASE II:

May 11 to August 2023

Invite and Inspire

PHASE III: Fall 2023

Inspire and Act

Promote Survey & Opportunity to Guide Our Growth

Review Preliminary Responses & Explore Big Moves Finalize list of Big Moves & Budget Devel

2024 General Legislative Session

GUIDING OUR GROWTH - Decision-making Timeline

WE HAVE TO TAKE ACTION TO MAINTAIN OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

- 1. Share the survey results widely!
- 2. Facilitate a series of solution-development workshops
- 3. Explore how well the survey results match our existing plans
- 4. Deliver a list of recommendations to policy makers
- 5. Develop a set of performance metrics to evaluate our progress