

Utah Lieutenant Governor's Office  
801-538-1746

On Wed, Jan 29, 2020 at 9:24 AM Sherrie Swensen <[SSwensen@slco.org](mailto:sswensen@slco.org)> wrote:

Hi Justin,

Our verification of signatures on the Tax Referendum Petitions has now exceeded the number that was required in Salt Lake County (43,211). We have verified over 45,000 signatures at this point and are still working on them.

We heard that there might be a legal requirement for us to finish checking signatures on all the petitions in our possession even though SB 2001 has now been repealed and signed by the Governor. Will you please advise us if that is the case, or if we can cease processing petitions at this point. While I know that some have said they think everyone who signed a petition wants their signature counted, it would be very costly for us to continue if it isn't necessary. This has already significantly impacted our 2020 budget because of the overtime that has been required.

Thank you,



**Sherrie Swensen**

Salt Lake County Clerk

[sswensen@slco.org](mailto:sswensen@slco.org)

385-468-7370



[SLCO Clerk Website](#)

Thank you,

<image001.png> **Sherrie Swensen**

Salt Lake County Clerk

[sswensen@slco.org](mailto:sswensen@slco.org)

385-468-7370

<image002.png>

<image003.jpg>

[SLCO Clerk Website](#)

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Deputy Director of Elections  
Utah Lieutenant Governor's Office  
801-538-1501

## Michelle Blue

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**From:** Adam Trupp <adam@uacnet.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 9, 2015 3:31 PM  
**To:** Bryan Thompson  
**Cc:** Ricky Hatch; Ryan Torgerson; gmcnullin@beaver.utah.gov; myoung@boxeldercounty.org; jill.zollinger@cachecounty.org; seth.oveson@carbon.utah.gov; Curtis Koch (ckoch@co.davis.ut.us); brenda@co.emery.ut.us; pati@co.juab.ut.us; mgillette@co.tooele.ut.us; mwilkins@co.uintah.ut.us; btitcomb@co.wasatch.ut.us; vmckee@daggettcounty.org; dfreston@duchesne.utah.gov; normab@email.utcourts.gov; Lincoln Shurtz (legislative.insight@gmail.com); dcarroll@grandcountyutah.net; slafitte@hotmail.com; valeenb@hotmail.com; david@ironcounty.net; clerkkj@kane.utah.gov; Ilene Roth (recorder@mail.manti.com); gcclerk@mountainwest.net; njohnson@sanjuancounty.org; sneill@sanpetecounty-ut.gov; scwall@sevier.utah.gov; Sherrie Swensen; kentjones@summitcounty.org; Arie Van De Graaff (arie@uacnet.org); dmay@utah.gov; jaclynburt@utah.gov; justinlee@utah.gov; mjthomas@utah.gov; kim.hafen@washco.utah.gov; ryan@wco.state.ut.us  
**Subject:** Re: SB297-Marriage bill impacting Clerks-please provide input ASAP

Great response. We will work to preserve the same structure.

Adam.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 9, 2015, at 14:51, Bryan Thompson <[BryanT@utahcounty.gov](mailto:BryanT@utahcounty.gov)> wrote:

We never have preformed marriages outside of business hours or offsite as a matter of practice. In terms of issuing marriage licenses I have always been and will continue to be very accommodating. If one of the parties is unable to come into the office during business hrs ( usually due to military leave restrictions, or students flying home to get married on the weekend) I will meet that person after hours or on the weekend at an agreed upon location to witnesses the signature and issue the license. I have always left it up to the couple to arrange for their own officiant in these circumstances and so far in 8 years no one has ever complained.

Bryan

>>> Ryan Torgerson <[ryan@wayne.utah.gov](mailto:ryan@wayne.utah.gov)> 3/9/2015 1:33 PM >>>

I would like to see language in the bill to prevent us from having to solemnize marriages on weekends. The bill says that we have to be reasonably available to solemnize a legal marriage for which a marriage license has been issued. A lot of the time people want me to marry them on weekends and away from the office. Is this something that we can establish in our policies? Is it considered unreasonable to be asked to be available on weekends? If we refuse to do marriages on weekends and away from the office are we going to be in trouble? Do any of you perform marriages on weekends and away from the office?

Ryan Torgerson  
Wayne County Clerk/Auditor

On Fri, Mar 6, 2015 at 8:59 PM, Hatch,Ricky <[rhatch@co.weber.ut.us](mailto:rhatch@co.weber.ut.us)> wrote:

Ricky D. Hatch, CPA

Weber County Clerk/Auditor

Office – 801.399.8613

Mobile – 801.668.0909

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Sandy Neill

Sanpete County Clerk



3. If the bill's sponsor insists that an officiant be "on call," and that ceremonies be performed on site, we may wish to point out that many counties do not perform "walk-in" ceremonies, but rather **require appointments**. Weddings are often disruptive to the Clerk's office (and often other office) functions. The Post Office and some counties require appointments for passports (often because of staffing considerations). It seems reasonable to require appointments for weddings, or to designate certain days/times when ceremonies can be solemnized on site.

4. Another option would make the wedding ceremony optional, but that idea seems not to have much traction right now.

One of the sponsor's arguments is that "government has a monopoly on marriage.." This isn't completely accurate. Yes, government has a monopoly on the marriage licensing process, but definitely NOT on the marriage ceremony business. This bill, as currently written, forces Clerks into the marriage ceremony business.

It is important to keep our terminology consistent. I recommend that we refer to heterosexual marriages as "traditional marriages" and same-sex marriages as "same-sex marriages." This is widely accepted terminology.

FYI – this bill seems to be on a fast track, and is viewed as a companion bill to SB296, another anti-discrimination / religious rights bill. The Eagle Forum and Sutherland Institute fully support it. Equality Utah, Alliance for a Better Utah, and the ACLU want it amended more before moving forward, but seem hopeful that it can also become acceptable to them. Here's the link to the bill: <http://le.utah.gov/~2015/bills/static/SB0297.html>

Please share your thoughts. If you'd prefer to call, please do so.

I apologize to those Clerks who have not yet received any emails on this bill. It appears that the county clerks Listserve that I used earlier Friday isn't current.

Sorry for the loooong email!

Thanks,

R.

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On Mar 9, 2015, at 2:03 PM, Sanpete County Clerk <[sanocclerk@gmail.com](mailto:sanocclerk@gmail.com)> wrote:

Our office performs marriages on weekends and away from the office if it fits our schedule. We charge a minimum of \$50 for the ceremony when it is during off hours or away from the office. Some locations in the county (up in the mountains) take more time to get to, so we let them know the fee could be higher. If we perform a ceremony in our building during business hours, we charge \$20.

Couples need to plan in advance. This is just one part of a marriage celebration. They wouldn't expect a bakery to have a cake ready with no notice. They wouldn't want to walk into a jewelry store and grab the first ring they see whether it fits or not. Why should we make a law that says we will always have someone available without notice to perform a ceremony? We have a very small staff, and my full-time deputy clerk and I both perform ceremonies. What happens if we are short-staffed, and have a busy schedule? How many back up people in the community would we need to have to be sure one of them is available?

When people call to see who can perform marriages, we give them the information for our judges, mayors, our office, and explain that the local clergy can also perform ceremonies. Then we have them make their own arrangements.

On Mon, Mar 9, 2015 at 1:33 PM, Ryan Torgerson <[ryan@wayne.utah.gov](mailto:ryan@wayne.utah.gov)> wrote:

I would like to see language in the bill to prevent us from having to solemnize marriages on weekends. The bill says that we have to be reasonably available to solemnize a legal marriage for which a marriage license has been issued. A lot of the time people want me to marry them on weekends and away from the office. Is this something that we can establish in our policies? Is it considered unreasonable to be asked to be available on weekends? If we refuse to do marriages on weekends and away from the office are we going to be in trouble? Do any of you perform marriages on weekends and away from the office?

Ryan Torgerson  
Wayne County Clerk/Auditor

On Fri, Mar 6, 2015 at 8:59 PM, Hatch, Ricky <[rhatch@co.weber.ut.us](mailto:rhatch@co.weber.ut.us)> wrote:

SB297 came out Thursday, passed through Committee on Friday, and will be discussed in the Senate early next week. It addresses anti-discrimination, allowing for some religious exemptions. It also impacts our offices.

**This email summarizes how SB297 impacts Clerks, and suggests some possible amendments. PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR INPUT!**

Here's how it impacts County Clerks:

- County Clerks will be required to provide couples with access to a marriage officiant.



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**COUNTY PROPOSITION #6**  
**UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND NOS. 20 - 34 (GRANITE)**

**ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SANDY CITY, CONT.**

- Work with residents to identify and mark Granite historical sites;
- Create and place waypoint markers or entryway signs to the Granite Community;
- Support and promote existing Granite area community festivals and events.
- We believe that concerns regarding Sandy City seeking annexations to "densify" residential use and/or convert undeveloped property for commercial use are overstated.
  - Annexed properties will retain the same zoning as they currently have in SLCo.
  - Zoning changes on properties in Sandy or SLCo require virtually the same process.
  - Sandy supports the Granite Community Master Plan approved by SLCo. They are willing to work with Granite residents to update the Master Plan.
  - Sandy has proven that it can be trusted to work closely with residents before approving zoning changes.
- 3. **ECONOMIC BENEFITS:** Annexation results in lower cost of residency compared to SLCo.
  - For our home, the annual cost savings of annexation into Sandy is \$400 - \$500. For many homes in the Granite Community, the cost savings could be much greater.
  - Over the long term, we expect Sandy property taxes to remain lower than SLCo taxes due to Sandy's strong commercial tax base.
- 4. **WATER:** Unincorporated Granite residents pay more for Sandy City culinary water. In the case of future water shortages, Granite residents currently have only "residual" water rights after all Sandy resident needs have been met. Annexation will reduce Granite resident water bills and provide equal treatment in any future water rationing.
- 5. **SERVICES:** Over the long-term, we believe that the best service (i.e. highest quality at the lowest cost) will be provided by Sandy City, since it is the municipality closest to where we live. It does not make sense to have two municipalities providing core services to the same geography.

Respectfully,

Ray & Marilyn Anderson  
Granite Residents

**ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA, CONT.**

recognize that the housing density and possibility of commercial development will naturally increase with annexation into Sandy City.

There are many properties in Granite that are developable—do we want to see them developed at the highest density possible or continue to develop at a more reasonable level, in keeping with adjacent properties?

I recently attended a Sandy Planning Commission meeting (June 2015), where a property that was annexed from Granite into Sandy last year was proposed for a rezone. The property is located at 107th S. and 17th E., west of Larkin Cemetery and south of Dimple Dell Park. It is bounded on the other sides by properties zoned ½ and ¾ acre and the three lots were zoned ½ acre. The property now has three houses on 5.72 acres with horse property nearby.

The Sandy Planning Commission recommended approval and the Sandy City Council unanimously approved the plan to put 26 homes on the property, with 10 homes on lots so small that they are called pads, with the property line just barely extended out from the foundation of each home. Do we want more of this kind of development along Dimple Dell and in many other areas of Granite?

These are the reasons why I want to remain in the unincorporated Salt Lake County.

Mary J. Young  
Granite Resident

**COUNTY PROPOSITION #6**  
**UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND NO. 39**

**Question:** Shall the unincorporated island bounded by that portion of unincorporated Salt Lake County located on Four B Lane (3400 South and approximately 1050 West) between the boundaries of West Jordan City on the North, South Jordan City on the West and South, and Sandy City on the East along the Jordan River; excepting any areas already included within the municipal boundaries of Sandy City, West Jordan City, and South Jordan City, Utah labeled as Unincorporated Salt Lake County Island No. 39 on the enclosed map be annexed by South Jordan City or remain unincorporated?

- ☐ Annex into South Jordan City
- ☐ Remain an Unincorporated

**ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SOUTH JORDAN CITY**

South Jordan City is anxious to have the 10-acre section of unincorporated property located in and around Four B Lane approximately between 1100 West and the Jordan River annexed into South Jordan. The South Jordan City Council affirmed their desire to annex this 10-acre section on May 19, 2015, when they approved resolution R2015-39 agreeing to annex this 10-acre section of unincorporated island. By annexing this section of property into South Jordan, residents will formally receive the quality services that immediate adjacent South Jordan City neighbors currently receive and by default Bank Public Finance (The full report is located at: <http://www.slco.org/community-preservation/financial-information/>) show that residents in the area may realize a net average reduction in taxes of approximately \$46.22 annually (based on a property valued at \$360,000), primarily as a result of not being subject to property taxes applied by Salt Lake County Municipal Service, Unified Fire and Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement. We hope that residents in this section will vote to be annexed and look forward to having them as official South Jordan City residents.

Respectfully,

Dave Alvord, Mayor  
South Jordan City

**ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA**

No argument submitted.



## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6

### UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND NOS. 2-14, 16-18, 35-38, 46

**Question:** Shall the unincorporated island bounded by [streets forming boundaries], excepting any areas already included within the municipal boundaries of Sandy City, Utah labeled as Unincorporated Salt Lake County Island No. \* on the enclosed map to be annexed by Sandy City or remain unincorporated?

- ☐ Annex into Sandy City  
☐ Remain an Unincorporated Area

\*Note: Voters residing in these unincorporated islands should refer to the ballot they receive in the mail for the number of the unincorporated island in which they reside, the description of the island and a map of that island. Maps and descriptions of the thirty nine islands may also be found at [www.slco.org/community-preservation/Maps](http://www.slco.org/community-preservation/Maps).

#### ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SANDY CITY

Salt Lake County has grown rapidly over the past thirty years. It has changed from large areas of open space and pockets of population, to cities growing into each other and the unincorporated areas shrinking into small islands and townships.

That development pattern has led to a patchwork of laws and a host of governance challenges. Community Preservation is the result of an unprecedented, yearlong effort by residents from across the Salt Lake Valley to create a stronger future for Salt Lake County. It will help put an end to a debate that pits neighbor against neighbor and it will help all communities within the County have stability. It will also help position Salt Lake County to deal more effectively with regional service and economic development issues that affect us all.

An important element to Community Preservation is self-determination. Residents of existing townships will decide their own local government by choosing to become either a city or a metro township. They will also choose whether to join a Municipal Services District, which will manage the budget, revenue and expenses, and the delivery of municipal services for the metro townships and unincorporated areas of Salt Lake County. There are pros and cons to both the metro township model and incorporation. It is my strong recommendation that residents of current townships seriously consider their options.

Residents in unincorporated islands will choose whether to annex into an adjacent city or retain their current unincorporated status. Each island will vote on its own. I strongly urge residents of unincorporated islands to annex into their adjacent city. These areas are surrounded entirely by one or more municipalities, which creates major challenges for the delivery of municipal services. It is not efficient for a snow plow to travel across the County to plow only a few blocks. Unfortunately, this is currently the case for most of these small islands. The numbers show that residents of the islands that vote to join an adjacent city will actually experience a tax decrease. Moreover, the patchwork of islands poses many accountability challenges. Decisions made by the municipal leaders surrounding these communities affect these residents. These residents have a right to have a say in their own community.

I am optimistic that Community Preservation will move our valley forward and prepare us for the next stage of development. I encourage you to seriously consider your options and mail-in your ballot by November 2nd.

Senator Wayne Niederhauser  
President of the Utah Senate

#### ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA

No argument submitted.

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6

### UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND NO. 15 (WILLOW CREEK)

**Question:** Shall the unincorporated island bounded by that portion of unincorporated Salt Lake County located between approximately Creek Road (8200 South) and Willow Bend Drive (8830 South) and between approximately Highland Drive (2000 East) and Danish Road (3300 East) bounded by Cottonwood Heights City on the North and East and Sandy City on the South and West, excepting any areas already included within the municipal boundaries of Cottonwood Heights City and Sandy City, Utah labeled as Unincorporated Salt Lake County Island No. 15 on the enclosed map be annexed by Sandy City or remain unincorporated?

- ☐ Annex into Sandy City  
☐ Remain an Unincorporated Area

#### ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SANDY CITY

Self-determination has long been the guiding principle in Salt Lake County. How can one argue against a process that allows neighbors to analyze, debate, and collectively choose a path that best fits their shared desires, criteria, and vision?

Since 1994 alone, the process of self-determination has directly led to the incorporation of 4 new cities (Herriman, Holladay, Cottonwood Heights and Taylorsville), and the annexation of numerous neighborhoods. In 2014, approximately 5,000 more county residents invoked their right to annex via 18 separate annexations to 3 different cities. The effect of these incorporations and annexations in the past 20 years is that the population of unincorporated Salt Lake County has declined by about 50%.

Those who have lived in an unincorporated island for more than 20 years certainly remember the times when it was a "sweet deal" to be unincorporated. The property tax savings alone were something to be appreciated. But the progressive reduction in population has placed a greater financial burden on those remaining. Over time, the tax savings once enjoyed has morphed into a tax liability. For a \$400,000 home in Willow Creek as an example, it costs about 50% more for municipal services (snow plow, street maintenance, police, fire, ambulance, storm drainage, sidewalk repair, streetlights,

#### ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA

"KEEP WILLOW CREEK UNIQUE"

Why would any informed voter living in Willow Creek want to leave the protection of a prosperous county?

1. We live in a beautiful & unique neighborhood. Our home values reflect that fact. A study was performed as to whether and how to split the Jordan School District. It showed that the Willow Creek Neighborhood was unique in the United States for our children wanting to move back in, settle and raise their families here. We would lose part of our identity if we lived in Sandy City.
2. We have a beautiful Country Club at our fingertips with water wells of its own.
3. We have NO duplication of services such as police.
4. Sandy City has a AA+ while the County has a AAA rating. Salt Lake County is just one of 30 counties in the U.S. with a AAA credit rating out of 3,140 counties or county type entities. It is just one of 22 counties rated "strong" by the Financial Management Assessment. Our "per person average debt" being a member of the county is much lower than Sandy's per person average debt.
5. The County has more "clout" with the Utah Legislature
6. We have more power through our neighborhood associations in Salt Lake County than we would have in Sandy City. Sandy's population is 87,461 whereas SL County is 1,029,655.



## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - COPPERTON

**Question 1:** Shall "Copperton Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Copperton Metro Township" or as the "Town of Copperton?"

- ☐ Copperton Metro Township
- ☐ Town of Copperton

### ARGUMENT FOR COPPERTON METRO TOWNSHIP

Of the six Townships affected by this, Copperton is unique. Because of our size and lack of a commercial tax base becoming a city in my opinion is not an option.

If the choice is made to become a Metro Township, Copperton will elect a board of 5 members of the community. They will have the legal authority to establish local ordinances and regulations, including planning and zoning. This will give our community the power to decide our town's future. As it currently stands our Township boundary to the North extends to the "fence line" of Kennecott. In the future there will be applications to develop the open area that includes the old Bingham High School land and the rest of the undeveloped land to the "fence line". There is also the possibility that when Kennecott does choose to develop their land that was originally part of the Copperton Township they can choose to rejoin Copperton which would vastly increase the opportunity to incorporate an educated and well designed Master Plan that can allow responsible development while maintaining the close knit community that we have come to love so much.

Voting for a Metro Township gives voters a chance to test-drive a more formal kind of local government, without taking the plunge to a full city status. If it works, and there is good reason in the future to become a city or town, that option will be available to Metro Township residents.

The biggest advantage in my opinion to voting for a Metro Township comes with the second question on the ballot in November: Shall the Metro Township be included in the Municipal Services District? Here's where I feel the Metro concept really shines. Several areas across the valley, including cities and other Metro Townships, will band together

### ARGUMENT FOR TOWN OF COPPERTON

"All politics are local."

Your community will choose to incorporate either as a Metro Township or as a traditional city/town. Either choice is a change from "unincorporated county" status quo. We urge you to incorporate as a city/town to ensure local accountability, local control over services, and the full measure of time-tested tools to preserve and enhance your community.

First, the locally elected mayor and city council in a city/town will make all of the decisions. Your elected mayor and council will be your neighbors. They will serve you and be accountable to you.

Conversely in a Metro Township, an elected township council will only have some influence to advocate for county decisions. Instead, the county mayor and county officials will still perform administrative functions. Consequently, a metro township will have only limited local control.

Second, by incorporating as a city or town, you ensure that your community resources will be spent in your community. Utah cities each provide a variety of planning and zoning, utility, cemetery, recreation, traffic and public safety services. Each city approaches these services differently—in the way that works best for them. Some cities provide these services themselves while others contract with other governments and private companies to provide services. Regardless, local officials determine what is best for their communities.

Third, what is a Metro Township? It is an experiment fraught with uncertainty. While a Metro Township will have a Metro Township council, they will not have the same authority that a true city council would have. By state law, Metro Townships will have fewer financial options than cities and towns. As such, Metro Townships will be more reliant on property taxes than cities and towns are. State law requires Metro Townships to hire County officials to perform specified services; cities

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - COPPERTON

### ARGUMENT FOR COPPERTON METRO TOWNSHIP, CONT.

to share municipal services, with no need to create six new public works departments with all the duplication of administration and the resulting multiplication of costs. The biggest advantages are economies of scale and sharing a much larger revenue pool. This could increase exponentially with the development of the West Bench and benefit all of the Townships. This is something that I feel the Townships without the possibility of future growth, really need to take into consideration.

The Municipal Services District from what I see would operate much like Unified Fire and Unified Police. These models combine and share the resources across many communities to provide a higher level of service at a cost that the individual communities would be unable to achieve themselves. I personally have spoken to police and fire employees about their feelings as to whether becoming part of UPD or UFA improved the level of service and resources that they had before. The responses from everyone I have talked to have been overwhelmingly positive. I see the Municipal Services District offering the same benefits to the communities involved.

In my experience, my opinion is that becoming a Metro Township and joining the Municipal Services District would be in the best interest of all of the Townships and especially Copperton.

Chris Drent  
Copperton Resident

### ARGUMENT FOR TOWN OF COPPERTON, CONT.

and towns have discretion to decide the best way to provide those services.

Some argue that your area has insufficient revenue to provide city services or that forming a city/town will just impose another layer of government. Logic dictates that regardless of how you receive services—service district, city, or county—the costs are borne by the service recipients. Municipal tax burdens in cities that have incorporated within Salt Lake County in the last 40 years (ie. Taylorsville, Cottonwood Heights) are lower than the tax burdens on residents of the unincorporated county. The imposition of discreet taxes by multiple taxing districts (ie. UPD, UFA, the new Municipal Services District) exceed what those same services would be in a city/town. Instead of combining resources across the county for services, your locally elected mayor and council can focus on local service priorities in your neighborhood.

In conclusion, incorporating as a city/town best provides accountability by electing local officials who are vested in the community to make decisions about how to utilize local taxes. Incorporating as a city also provides the opportunity to identify the best way to provide municipal services, to control local planning and zoning, and preserve your sense of identity.

Vote to incorporate as a city/town.

Lynn Pace, ULCT 1st Vice President, Holladay City Council  
Mayor JoAnn Seghini, ULCT Treasurer, Midvale City  
Mayor Ted Eyre, ULCT Board Member, Murray City



### COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - WHITE CITY

**Question 2:** If the majority of voters voting in this election vote to incorporate as a metro township, shall the metro township be a metro township, with limited municipal powers, that is included in a municipal services district?

☐ Yes

☐ No

#### ARGUMENT FOR JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

No Argument Submitted

#### ARGUMENT AGAINST JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

No Argument Submitted

### COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - EMIGRATION CANYON

**Question 1:** Shall "Emigration Canyon Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Emigration Canyon Metro Township" or as the city of "Emigration Canyon City?"

☐ Emigration Canyon Metro Township

☐ Emigration Canyon City

#### ARGUMENT FOR EMIGRATION CANYON METRO TOWNSHIP

This election is a historic opportunity to cast your vote and choose the type of government for Emigration Canyon's future. Both Metro Township and City provide strong models for local governance, protection from piecemeal annexation, local zoning control, and the ability to enact local ordinances. Neither will change the fire and police protection or the trash pickup.

The major difference between the Township and City models is who makes the decision about the budget and (tax) funding for municipal and public works services like storm drains, snow removal, code enforcement, street lights, and building permits. Today these services are provided by Salt Lake County Public Works (whose name is changing to 'Municipal Services District or MSD'). Currently, the County Council decides how these services will be provided and what their budget will be. They levy local sales tax that fund these services.

Emigration Canyon benefits greatly from the economy of scale and subsidization from being part of a county-wide MSD. The recent financial assessment shows that canyon revenues pay only about 59% of the costs of providing these services in the canyon. Our expenses are almost three times the average, plus we have a lower sales tax base. The least expensive option for us is to remain in the MSD (which is a 'Yes' vote on Question 2 on this ballot).

#### ARGUMENT FOR EMIGRATION CANYON CITY

"All politics are local."

Your community will choose to incorporate either as a Metro Township or as a traditional city/town. Either choice is a change from "unincorporated county" status quo. We urge you to incorporate as a city/town to ensure local accountability, local control over services, and the full measure of time-tested tools to preserve and enhance your community.

First, the locally elected mayor and city council in a city/town will make all of the decisions. Your elected mayor and council will be your neighbors. They will serve you and be accountable to you.

Conversely in a Metro Township, an elected township council will only have some influence to advocate for county decisions. Instead, the county mayor and county officials will still perform administrative functions. Consequently, a metro township will have only limited local control.

Second, by incorporating as a city or town, you ensure that your community resources will be spent in your community. Utah cities each provide a variety of planning and zoning, utility, cemetery, recreation, traffic and public safety services. Each city approaches these services differently—in the way that works best for them. Some cities provide these services themselves while others contract with other governments and private companies to provide services. Regardless, local officials determine what is best for their communities.

Third, what is a Metro Township? It is an experiment fraught with uncertainty. While a Metro Township will have a Metro Township council, they will not have the same authority that a true city council would have. By state law, Metro Townships will have fewer financial options than cities and towns. As such, Metro Townships will be more reliant on property taxes than cities and towns are. State law requires Metro Townships to hire County officials to perform specified services; cities and towns have discretion to decide the best way to provide those services.

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MAGNA

### ARGUMENT FOR MAGNA METRO TOWNSHIP, CONT.

a city or town, that option will be available to Metro Township residents. A Metro Township, unlike a city, cannot charge utility franchise taxes.

The biggest advantage to voting for a Metro Township comes with the second question on the ballot in November: Shall the Metro Township be included in the Municipal Services District? Here's where the Metro concept really shines. Several areas across the valley, including cities and other Metro Townships, will band together to share municipal services, with no need to create six new public works departments with all the duplication of administration and the resulting multiplication of costs. The biggest advantages are economies of scale and sharing a much larger revenue pool.

Voting for a Metro Township will also permit the creation of a responsive local governing body, the Metro Township Council. Five persons will be elected from your neighborhood and they're required to run for office and solicit political power from you, the local voters. They will have the legal authority to establish local ordinances and regulations, including local planning and zoning. The government closest to the people governs best.

There's no need to take a plunge directly into full city status this fall. The Metro Township will rely on pooled staff assistance and service providers. Vote for maintaining our unique status in unincorporated Salt Lake County. Vote for the Metro Township option on November 3rd.

Mick Sudbury  
Magna Resident

### ARGUMENT FOR MAGNA CITY, CONT.

What form of government we did have at one time has been changed little by little every legislative session for several years back. Also with other larger cities taking little pieces of other communities, something needed to happen.

LaDell Bishop  
Magna Resident

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MAGNA

**Question 2:** If the majority of voters voting in this election vote to incorporate as a metro township, shall the metro township be a metro township, with limited municipal powers, that is included in a municipal services district?

☐ Yes

☐ No

### ARGUMENT FOR JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

Ballot question #2 asks if your community should be in the Municipal Services District (MSD). Magna residents need to vote YES on ballot question #2.

The MSD will be using the same employees and providing the same services that you currently enjoy. It will be owned by the entities that vote for inclusion. Without the MSD, Magna leaders will be required to secure municipal services shortly after they are elected. The best and least expensive option is to join the MSD. The MSD is a local service district where communities pool sales tax revenue and then make servicing decisions. Magna will have an elected official, who lives in Magna, on this board to help make decisions. Salt Lake County intends to transfer all remaining unincorporated revenues to the MSD. This means that you will still have the economies of scale and revenue that comes from large entities. By voting YES on question #2, you will continue to receive the same great services you are now, and share revenues with other communities.

With the current funding model, 100% of your municipal services are paid by sales tax. Sales tax will continue to pay for all of your services without requiring additional revenues. If you are part of the MSD, if you decide not to belong to the MSD, your only option to match the revenues to expenditures would be to cut services. The great thing about the MSD is that you get the advantages of large entities within the remaining unincorporated areas. You will not need to cut services if you join the MSD. The alternative options for municipal services are to: 1) Contract with the MSD, surrounding cities or private entities- this option will need to be negotiated and Magna will be contracting without ownership rights. The cost may be more than your current sales tax revenues. 2) Self-provide municipal services - Magna could hire employees, maintain assets, and assume liability. The cost would likely be more than your current sales tax revenues.

Whether you vote to become a city or a metro township on question #1, Magna can still be in the MSD and pool revenues and share services, just like you are doing now with Salt Lake County. This includes the benefits of economies of scale, shared staff, and better purchasing power from a large service provider. You will have local control and representation, as well as having ownership in the MSD. No matter your vote on question #1, you can still vote YES on question #2.

Michael Jensen, Salt Lake County Council  
Aimee Winder Newton, Salt Lake County Council

### ARGUMENT AGAINST JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

No argument submitted.



## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - KEARNS

**Question 1:** Shall "Kearns Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Kearns Metro Township" or as the city of "Kearns City?"

- ☐ Kearns Metro Township
- ☐ Kearns City

### ARGUMENT FOR KEARNS METRO TOWNSHIP

This election season voters are asked to choose a new governing option for Salt Lake County's six townships. There have been concerns about why there is no "status quo" option on the ballot. Many residents like the high quality and efficient municipal services that Salt Lake County provides and want those services to continue. The closest thing to "status quo" is to be a Metro Township and join the Municipal Services District.

One of the reasons for this election is because for the last 30 years cities in Salt Lake Valley have been chipping away at the financial stability of unincorporated areas through annexations and incorporations. When a new commercial development is built, with increased sales tax revenues, it usually takes little time for a neighboring city to steal the development away by offering financial and other annexation incentives to the business owners – this takes away an unincorporated community's ability to be economically self-sustaining. Voting for a Metro Township provides unincorporated communities boundary protection and gives them access to Salt Lake County's excellent existing municipal services, through the Municipal Services District, which means established and experienced delivery, adequate vehicles and other resources, and a pool of dedicated public servants.

Voting for a Metro Township gives voters a chance to test-drive a more formal kind of local government – like putting a toe in the water – without taking the plunge with a full city status. If it works, and there is good reason in the future to become a city or town, that option will be available to Metro Township residents. A Metro Township, unlike a city, cannot charge

### ARGUMENT FOR KEARNS CITY

On November 3rd, county voters will face a perplexing option on the ballot – as an unincorporated area township resident, do you want to belong to a new city or to a "metro township?" Everyone is asking, "What in the world is a metro township?" A metro township is trying to be a city, but it only grants to local residents local powers over planning, zoning and ordinances and no power over revenues. Truly the only real difference between a metro township and a city, is that a city can levy utility franchise taxes and property taxes, if leaders so choose.

Cities have been around for thousands of years. They are the oldest form of local government. Townships have not been around in Utah – it is a new political concept created seven months ago, modeled on township laws in states back east, but there is not an example of one in Utah. Cities, in comparison, have an established track record of local responsiveness, efficient provision of municipal services, and a minimized tax burden (assuming we local citizens are willing to keep city leaders responsive).

Five council members will govern the city – four districted council members and one council chair/mayor. All offices will be part time. The mayor is a member of the legislative body (council), and does not run the day-to-day affairs, much like city governments in Cottonwood Heights and Herriman. The city relies on professionals (whether through the MSD or otherwise) to run the city. City officials will be elected directly by you and your neighbors, and be responsible for the quality of local services. If you become a city, you can still be part of the Municipal Services District (MSD) to pool revenue and share services to take advantage of economies of scale. Newly-elected city council members will have six months to decide whether to stay in the MSD or not. Becoming a city will not limit joining in regional service delivery either through the MSD or contracting for service. Voting to become a city gives you ultimate flexibility for services – leaders can stay in the MSD and pool revenues/share services; leaders can opt out of the MSD, but contract back with the MSD or another entity; or leaders can self-provide services.

This election gives us a unique opportunity to vote to become a city without having to jump through all the hoops normally

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - KEARNS

### ARGUMENT FOR KEARNS METRO TOWNSHIP, CONT.

utility franchise taxes.

The biggest advantage to voting for a Metro Township comes with the second question on the ballot in November: Shall the Metro Township be included in the Municipal Services District? Here's where the Metro concept really shines. Several areas across the valley, including cities and other Metro Townships, will band together to share municipal services, with no need to create six new public works departments with all the duplication of administration and the resulting multiplication of costs. The biggest advantages are economies of scale and sharing a much larger revenue pool.

Voting for a Metro Township will also permit the creation of a responsive local governing body, the Metro Township Council. Five persons will be elected from your neighborhood and they're required to run for office and solicit political power from you, the local voters. They will have the legal authority to establish local ordinances and regulations, including local planning and zoning. The government closest to the people governs best.

There's no need to take a plunge directly into full city status this fall. The Metro Township will rely on pooled staff assistance and service providers. Vote for maintaining our unique status in unincorporated Salt Lake County. Vote for the Metro Township option on November 3rd!

David Taylor  
Kearns Resident

### ARGUMENT FOR KEARNS CITY, CONT.

associated with becoming a city. Look at the financial information and see if you think that we can become a city without having to raise taxes or fees. Remaining with the Municipal Services District is the key to having the financial ability to become a city. Becoming a city puts us on the same standing as the cities around us. It allows us to compete to bring businesses into our community and grow our tax base.

Vote for a proven form of local government, vote city!

Brett Helsten  
Kearns Resident



## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MILLCREEK

**Question 1:** Shall "Millcreek Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Millcreek Metro Township" or as the city of "Millcreek City?"

- ☐ Millcreek Metro Township
- ☐ Millcreek City

### ARGUMENT FOR MILLCREEK METRO TOWNSHIP

The clear and compelling choice is to **vote YES for a Metro Township and YES for the MSD**. The "YES" vote to these two questions will ensure we will "remain as we are" and not get gobbled-up in an unnecessary and additional level of government. Most residents like the high quality and efficient municipal services provided by Salt Lake County and want those services to continue. The message again and again is Salt Lake County delivers superior services; thank you and leave us alone. And more important, our **YES vote allows Millcreek to benefit from Kennecott's sales tax revenue**. Voting YES for a Metro Township and the MSD is a simple and smart decision.

As federal, state and local governments increasingly become more expensive bureaucracies, the form of government and delivery of municipal services contemplated under SB-199 (the legislation that made this vote) is the genius of simple, fair and effective local government. Specifically, a YES vote for Metro Township and the MSD instead of a "city," is a vote for:

- Retaining our current high quality municipal services provided by Salt Lake County;
- Continues to **provide municipal services with the economies of scale, that a city cannot achieve;**
- Ensures Unified Police Department ("UPD"), the Unified Fire Authority ("UFA") and now the Municipal Services Districts ("MSD") will be managed with consistency with effective local oversight and management—we will have representation on the UPD, UFA and MSD governing boards;
- Provides local decision making, such as zoning and ordinances specific to Millcreek by representation

### ARGUMENT FOR MILLCREEK CITY

Salt Lake County is getting out of the municipal governance business. In 2017, we will start governing ourselves.

Whichever way this vote comes out, the neighborhoods of Canyon Rim, East Millcreek, Millcreek and Mt Olympus will be united as Millcreek. We will be Utah's 11th-largest municipality. The county's independent fiscal analysis shows that our local economy generates more in taxes than we consume in services. We are ready to stand on our own.

In this election, we will decide which kind of municipality we will be: a "metro township" or a "city."

A metro township is a very different kind of township from what we have now. Currently, the Salt Lake County Council makes local government decisions for the 160,000 people who live in unincorporated areas, including Millcreek. But the county's main job is to provide regional government for all 1.2 million residents of Salt Lake County. After this vote, the county will no longer be making our local government decisions. "Status quo" is not an option with either a metro township or a city.

So what's the difference between a city and a metro township?

The metro township is a new form of government created this year. Nobody's tried it yet. Its powers are limited and ambiguous; legal experts from all sides say it needs further clarification and amendment.

Cities, on the other hand, have existed since before Utah began. Their legal status is well settled. The vast majority of Utahns are served by cities.

Metro townships have only one way to fund their services. Prudent financial management calls for diversified income. Many Millcreek residents with strong fiscally conservative beliefs support the traditional city with its more established and dependable fiscal structure as opposed to experimenting with the untested metro township concept.

Another concern about a metro township is the method of selecting its highest officer – the council chairperson.

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MILLCREEK

### ARGUMENT FOR MILLCREEK METRO TOWNSHIP, CONT.

from citizens within Millcreek Township. The Millcreek Township will elect a local Council from citizens from our neighborhoods;

- The Township Council, with the MSD in place oversees our municipal services, will have budgetary responsibility, and limited taxing authority;
- As Millcreek Township, we will benefit from the sales tax revenue generated by Kennecott. A "city of Millcreek" will not.
- A majority of Millcreek residents from Mount Olympus, East Mill Creek, and Canyon Rim and Millcreek communities have rejected a city form of government; this election is no different.
- No Franchise taxes on phones, water, gas and power.

Another city is another layer of costly, redundant government that is not needed or required. The "city of Millcreek" approach is a trap for a few to influence government services and increasingly drive tax assessments for projects or services that benefits only a few.

A YES vote for Metro Township and MSD will once-and-for-all stop the annexation of our neighborhoods and keep our services with proven, peaceful and mature governance. We don't need a "City" mayor and city council, new salaries, building and staff costs only to contract with Salt Lake County MSD, or worse, try to create their own municipal services; e.g. remember Cottonwood Heights snow removal.

This election, with mail-in ballots, vote YES for Metro Township and YES to join the MSD.

Max Worthington  
Tom Love  
Dina Blaas  
Nancy Carlson-Gotts  
Bill Boyd  
Millcreek Residents

### ARGUMENT FOR MILLCREEK CITY, CONT.

The metro township would divide Millcreek into five council districts. A majority of three council members can then elect one council member as the council chair and top representative of Millcreek.

We believe our top leader should be elected by everyone, not just a small handful of people. As Millcreek City, we will have four council districts, similar to our four current community council areas (Canyon Rim, East Millcreek, Millcreek and Mt Olympus). The fifth council member – the council chair with the title of "mayor" – will be elected by *all voters city-wide*. This is the most representative and accountable way to select our highest-ranking official.

Utahns believe in holding their elected officials to high standards. Cities are the tried-and-true structure for holding local leaders accountable. 88% of Utahns live in fully empowered cities and towns – that's the highest percentage in the nation. It's the right choice for Millcreek, too.

The metro township is untested and unrepresentative. It has limited powers and a narrow tax base. Millcreek is a first-rate community. Let's not settle for a second-rate form of government.

For a fully independent Millcreek with representative government, vote for Millcreek City.

Fred Healey  
Susan Lawrence  
Hugh Matheson  
Aimee McConkie  
Jeff Silvestrini  
Millcreek Residents



## Explanation of Metro Township and City

### METRO TOWNSHIP

#### Government in a Metro Township

A metro township is a new incorporation option for local governance by those currently living in a township.

If township voters choose to become a metro township in November 2015, they will elect a five-member council in November 2016. The council is empowered to enact local ordinances, decide local planning and zoning issues, and oversee local municipal services.

A metro township that chooses to be in the Municipal Services District (MSD) will be represented on the MSD Board of Trustees by its elected council chair and will help oversee the budget.

If the metro township is in the MSD, services will be provided by county or MSD staff. If not, the metro township council will determine whether to contract for those services or self-provide.

Currently township municipal services are provided by Salt Lake County. (Fire, police and trash/recycling services are delivered by, and will stay with, current providers- Unified Police Department, Unified Fire Authority and Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District.)

Townships presently have no authority to impose a utility franchise tax or a municipal telecommunications tax. Metro townships will also not have that authority, nor do they have the authority to impose property taxes.

#### How are municipal services currently funded?

Currently, township municipal services are provided from sales taxes, grants and fees from townships, unincorporated areas and from cities that contract with Salt Lake County for those services. Townships do not currently have budget oversight of municipal services, except through their representatives on the Salt Lake County Council and the Salt Lake County Mayor.

#### Funding metro township operations as part of the Municipal Services District (MSD)

Through their elected council representative on the MSD Board, they will review and approve the budget.

#### Funding metro township operations if not a member of the Municipal Services District (MSD)

Sales taxes within the metro township will be used to contract for services or self-provide. If the new metro township council chooses to stay in the Municipal Services District, the metro township's sales tax revenue will contribute to the MSD budget.

### CITY

#### Government in a City

A city is an incorporation option for those currently living in a township with a population of more than 1,000 people. (Copperton Township's option is to become a town.)

If township voters choose to become a city in November 2015, they'll vote in November 2016 for five council members, one of whom will run at-large for mayor. City councils are empowered to enact local ordinances and oversee local municipal services.

The first city council and mayor will be elected in November 2016 and take office in January 2017. The city will automatically be in the Municipal Services District (MSD). Services will be provided by the county or MSD staff. A city elected official will have a seat on the MSD Board of Trustees. The city council would then have six months to decide whether to opt out of the MSD.

Current townships receive police, fire and trash/recycling services from Unified Police Department (UPD), Unified Fire Authority (UFA) and Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District (WFWRD). That will continue for the new city.

Cities have authority to assess property, sales, utility franchise, and municipal telecommunications taxes, and to bond.

#### How are municipal services currently funded?

Currently, township municipal services are provided from sales taxes, grants and fees from townships, unincorporated areas and from cities that contract with Salt Lake County for those services. Townships do not currently have budget oversight of municipal services, except through their representatives on the Salt Lake County Council and the County Mayor.

#### Funding city operations if the city remains in the Municipal Services District (MSD)

If the new city council chooses to stay in the Municipal Services District, the city's sales tax revenue will contribute to the MSD budget. Through their elected representative on the MSD Board, they'll review and approve the budget.

#### Funding city operations if the city council opts out of the Municipal Services District (MSD)

A city that opts out of the MSD will use its sales, utility franchise and/or municipal communications taxes (if the last two are assessed) and property tax revenues to contract for some/all of its municipal services or to self-provide.

### Detailed Comparison Chart: Township Options

This comparison chart displays details about the differences between townships as they currently exist within the structure of Salt Lake County, and what will occur based on the outcome of the November 3, 2015 election. Those two ballot questions are: (1) Vote whether to become a city or a metro township, (2) In ballot question 1, if the metro township prevails, then voters choose whether to be included in the Municipal Services District (MSD).

Question	Currently	Starting January 2017, based on vote by the people in November 2016	
		Metro Township Option	City Option
Who makes planning & zoning decisions and enacts local ordinances?	County Council	Metro Township Council	City Council
Who makes property tax decisions?	County Council	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes" to be in the MSD, the MSD Board has property tax authority. If residents vote "no" to join the MSD, the Metro Township Council does not have property tax authority.	City Council. If the city remains in the MSD, the MSD Board and the City Council each have property tax authority.
Who makes local sales tax decisions?	County Council	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes" to be in the MSD, the combined areas' sales tax is spent by the MSD Board. If residents vote "no" the local area sales tax is spent by the Metro Township Council.	If the city remains in the MSD, the combined areas' sales tax is spent by the MSD Board. If the City Council opts out of the MSD, the local area sales tax is spent by the City Council.
Who has budgeting authority for local municipal services?	County Council	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes" to be in the MSD, the MSD Board has budgeting authority. If residents vote "no" to join the MSD, the Metro Township Council has budgeting authority.	If the city remains in the MSD, the MSD Board has budgeting authority, except for utility franchise taxes and local property taxes. If the City Council opts out of the MSD, the City Council will have full budgeting authority.
Who makes utility franchise tax decisions? *See below	Counties are not authorized to impose a utility franchise tax.	Metro townships are not authorized to impose a utility franchise tax.	City Council

\*City residents and unincorporated county residents pay a right-of-way franchise fee on their cable bill. The fee is allowed by the federal government, by way of the Cable Communication Act of 1984.

Question	Currently	Starting January 2017, based on vote by the people in November 2016	
		Metro Township Option	City Option
Who regulates business licenses & permits?	County Council	Metro Township Council	City Council
Who provides police services?	Unified Police Department (UPD) - provider (The special service area is SLVLESA)	Unified Police Department (UPD) - The special service area is the Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement Service Area (SLVLESA), withdrawal from SLVLESA would require a ballot vote.	Unified Police Department (UPD) - The special service area is the Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement Service Area (SLVLESA), withdrawal from SLVLESA would require a ballot vote.
Who provides fire & emergency services?	Unified Fire Authority (UFA) - provider (The special service area is the UFA)	Unified Fire Authority (UFA) - The special service area is Unified Fire Service Area (UFA), withdrawal from UFA would require a ballot vote.	Unified Fire Authority (UFA) - The special service area is Unified Fire Service Area (UFA), withdrawal from UFA would require a ballot vote.
Who provides trash/recycling pick up services?	Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District	Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District - Withdrawal from this district to have trash/recycling services provided by another entity is only possible through Salt Lake County Council resolution.	Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District - Withdrawal from this district to have trash/recycling services provided by another entity is only possible through Salt Lake County Council resolution.
Part of the Municipal Services District (MSD)?	Services are currently provided by Salt Lake County, soon to be the MSD	Voter choice, effective on date determined by the SL County Council	Yes. New City Council may opt out in 2017.
Who provides municipal and public works services like storm drains, snow removal, code enforcement, street lights, building permitting? (Currently provided by SL County)	Salt Lake County Township Services and Public Works	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes", Municipal Services District. If residents vote "no", Municipal Services District will provide until Metro Township Council is elected into office in 2017, then they will decide how these services will be provided.	Municipal Services District. New City Council may opt out in 2017 and either self-provide or contract for services with the MSD or other service providers.
Are local boundaries protected from annexations?	Historically, no permanent boundary protections	Yes	Yes
Who is our local mayor and legislative council?	County Mayor and County Council	County Mayor and Metro Township Council	City Mayor and City Council





September 22, 2015

Dear Salt Lake County Voter:

A historic election is before you this November, one that puts you in control of how your community is governed at the local level.

The reason for the change evolved over several decades. For years, the county's unincorporated areas have been chipped away through annexations. Neighboring cities have "cherry-picked" revenue-producing areas, adding tax money to their city coffers. This has resulted in a lot of uncertainty and instability.

Senate Bill 199, or "Community Preservation," offers residents a better option for local government. It is about giving residents local representation and self-determination so communities retain their unique character and yet receive quality, cost-effective services.

Ballots will be mailed to voters the first week of October. Five townships (Emigration Canyon, Kearns, Magna, Millcreek and White City) will vote on whether to become a city or a metro township. Copperton Township will decide whether to become a town or a metro township. All townships will also vote whether or not to stay in the Municipal Services District. Unincorporated "islands" will decide if they want to remain unincorporated or annex into an adjacent city.

We understand that this is a new and somewhat complicated issue for many citizens. We applaud your diligence in studying this voter information guide to learn as much as possible before casting your vote, in order to make your decision on the future of your community.

Thank you for the privilege of representing you as Salt Lake County elected officials.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ben McAdams

**Council Members:**

Richard Snelgrove, Chair, At Large B	Jenny Wilson, At Large A
Jim Bradley, At Large C	Arlyn Bradshaw, District 1
Michael Jensen, District 2	Aimee Winder Newton, District 3
Sam Granato, District 4	Steve DeBry, District 5
Max Burdick, District 6	

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## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6

### UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND NOS. 20 - 34 (GRANITE)

#### ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SANDY CITY, CONT.

- Work with residents to identify and mark Granite historical sites;
- Create and place waypoint markers or entryway signs to the Granite Community;
- Support and promote existing Granite area community festivals and events.
- We believe that concerns regarding Sandy City seeking annexations to "densify" residential use and/or convert undeveloped property for commercial use are overstated.
  - Annexed properties will retain the same zoning as they currently have in SLCo.
  - Zoning changes on properties in Sandy or SLCo require virtually the same process.
  - Sandy supports the Granite Community Master Plan approved by SLCo. They are willing to work with Granite residents to update the Master Plan.
  - Sandy has proven that it can be trusted to work closely with residents before approving zoning changes.
- 3. **ECONOMIC BENEFITS:** Annexation results in lower cost of residency compared to SLCo.
  - For our home, the annual cost savings of annexation into Sandy is \$400 - \$500. For many homes in the Granite Community, the cost savings could be much greater.
  - Over the long term, we expect Sandy property taxes to remain lower than SLCo taxes due to Sandy's strong commercial tax base.
- 4. **WATER:** Unincorporated Granite residents pay more for Sandy City culinary water. In the case of future water shortages, Granite residents currently have only "residual" water rights after all Sandy resident needs have been met. Annexation will reduce Granite resident water bills and provide equal treatment in any future water rationing.
- 5. **SERVICES:** Over the long-term, we believe that the best service (i.e. highest quality at the lowest cost) will be provided by Sandy City, since it is the municipality closest to where we live. It does not make sense to have two municipalities providing core services to the same geography.

Respectfully,

Ray & Marilyn Anderson  
Granite Residents

#### ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA, CONT.

recognize that the housing density and possibility of commercial development will naturally increase with annexation into Sandy City.

There are many properties in Granite that are developable—do we want to see them developed at the highest density possible or continue to develop at a more reasonable level, in keeping with adjacent properties? I recently attended a Sandy Planning Commission meeting (June 2015), where a property that was annexed from Granite into Sandy last year was proposed for a rezone. The property is located at 107th S. and 17th E., west of Larkin Cemetery and south of Dimple Dell Park. It is bounded on the other sides by properties zoned ½ and ¾ acre and the three lots were zoned ½ acre. The property now has three houses on 5.72 acres with horse property nearby.

The Sandy Planning Commission recommended approval and the Sandy City Council unanimously approved the plan to put 26 homes on the property, with 10 homes on lots so small that they are called pads, with the property line just barely extended out from the foundation of each home. Do we want more of this kind of development along Dimple Dell and in many other areas of Granite?

These are the reasons why I want to remain in the unincorporated Salt Lake County.

Mary J. Young  
Granite Resident

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6

### UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND No. 39

**Question:** Shall the unincorporated island bounded by that portion of unincorporated Salt Lake County located on Four B Lane (9400 South and approximately 1050 West) between the boundaries of West Jordan City on the North, South Jordan City on the West and South, and Sandy City on the East along the Jordan River; excepting any areas already included within the municipal boundaries of Sandy City, West Jordan City, and South Jordan City, Utah labeled as Unincorporated Salt Lake County Island No. 39 on the enclosed map be annexed by South Jordan City or remain unincorporated?

- ☐ Annex into South Jordan City
- ☐ Remain an Unincorporated

#### ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SOUTH JORDAN CITY

South Jordan City is anxious to have the 10-acre section of unincorporated property located in and around Four B Lane approximately between 1100 West and the Jordan River annexed into South Jordan. The South Jordan City Council affirmed their desire to annex this 10-acre section on May 19, 2015, when they approved resolution R2015-39 agreeing to annex this 10-acre section of unincorporated island. By annexing this section of property into South Jordan, residents will formally receive the quality services that immediate adjacent South Jordan City neighbors currently receive and by default in many cases residents in this section already receive. As an immediate benefit, fiscal evaluations conducted by Zions Bank Public Finance (The full report is located at: <http://www.slco.org/community-preservation/financial-information/>) show that residents in the area may realize a net average reduction in taxes of approximately \$46.22 annually (based on a property valued at \$360,000), primarily as a result of not being subject to property taxes applied by Salt Lake County Municipal Service, Unified Fire and Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement. We hope that residents in this section will vote to be annexed and look forward to having them as official South Jordan City residents.

Respectfully,

Dave Alvord, Mayor  
South Jordan City

#### ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA

No argument submitted.



## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6

### UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND NOS. 2-14, 16-18, 35-38, 46

**Question:** Shall the unincorporated island bounded by [streets forming boundaries], excepting any areas already included within the municipal boundaries of Sandy City, Utah labeled as Unincorporated Salt Lake County Island No. \* on the enclosed map to be annexed by Sandy City or remain unincorporated?

- ☐ Annex into Sandy City
- ☐ Remain an Unincorporated Area

\*Note: Voters residing in these unincorporated islands should refer to the ballot they receive in the mail for the number of the unincorporated island in which they reside, the description of the island and a map of that island. Maps and descriptions of the thirty nine islands may also be found at [www.slco.org/community-preservation/Maps](http://www.slco.org/community-preservation/Maps).

#### ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SANDY CITY

Salt Lake County has grown rapidly over the past thirty years. It has changed from large areas of open space and pockets of population, to cities growing into each other and the unincorporated areas shrinking into small islands and townships.

That development pattern has led to a patchwork of laws and a host of governance challenges. Community Preservation is the result of an unprecedented, yearlong effort by residents from across the Salt Lake Valley to create a stronger future for Salt Lake County. It will help put an end to a debate that pits neighbor against neighbor and it will help all communities within the County have stability. It will also help position Salt Lake County to deal more effectively with regional service and economic development issues that affect us all.

An important element to Community Preservation is self-determination. Residents of existing townships will decide their own local government by choosing to become either a city or a metro township. They will also choose whether to join a Municipal Services District, which will manage the budget, revenue and expenses, and the delivery of municipal services for the metro townships and unincorporated areas of Salt Lake County. There are pros and cons to both the metro township model and incorporation. It is my strong recommendation that residents of current townships seriously consider their options.

Residents in unincorporated islands will choose whether to annex into an adjacent city or retain their current unincorporated status. Each island will vote on its own. I strongly urge residents of unincorporated islands to annex into their adjacent city. These areas are surrounded entirely by one or more municipalities, which creates major challenges for the delivery of municipal services. It is not efficient for a snow plow to travel across the County to plow only a few blocks. Unfortunately, this is currently the case for most of these small islands. The numbers show that residents of the islands that vote to join an adjacent city will actually experience a tax decrease. Moreover, the patchwork of islands poses many accountability challenges. Decisions made by the municipal leaders surrounding these communities affect these residents. These residents have a right to have a say in their own community.

I am optimistic that Community Preservation will move our valley forward and prepare us for the next stage of development. I encourage you to seriously consider your options and mail-in your ballot by November 2nd.

Senator Wayne Niederhauser  
President of the Utah Senate

#### ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA

No argument submitted.

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6

### UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND NO. 15 (WILLOW CREEK)

**Question:** Shall the unincorporated island bounded by that portion of unincorporated Salt Lake County located between approximately Creek Road (8200 South) and Willow Bend Drive (8830 South) and between approximately Highland Drive (2000 East) and Danish Road (3300 East) bounded by Cottonwood Heights City on the North and East and Sandy City on the South and West; excepting any areas already included within the municipal boundaries of Cottonwood Heights City and Sandy City, Utah labeled as Unincorporated Salt Lake County Island No. 15 on the enclosed map be annexed by Sandy City or remain unincorporated?

- ☐ Annex into Sandy City
- ☐ Remain an Unincorporated Area

#### ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SANDY CITY

Self-determination has long been the guiding principle in Salt Lake County. How can one argue against a process that allows neighbors to analyze, debate, and collectively choose a path that best fits their shared desires, criteria, and vision? Since 1994 alone, the process of self-determination has directly led to the incorporation of 4 new cities (Herriman, Holladay, Cottonwood Heights and Taylorsville), and the annexation of numerous neighborhoods. In 2014, approximately 5,000 more county residents invoked their right to annex via 18 separate annexations to 3 different cities. The effect of these incorporations and annexations in the past 20 years is that the population of unincorporated Salt Lake County has declined by about 50%.

Those who have lived in an unincorporated island for more than 20 years certainly remember the times when it was a "sweet deal" to be unincorporated. The property tax savings alone were something to be appreciated. But the progressive reduction in population has placed a greater financial burden on those remaining. Over time, the tax savings once enjoyed has morphed into a tax liability. For a \$400,000 home in Willow Creek as an example, it costs about 50% more for municipal services (snow plow, street maintenance, police, fire, ambulance, storm drainage, sidewalk repair, streetlights,

#### ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA

##### "KEEP WILLOW CREEK UNIQUE"

Why would any informed voter living in Willow Creek want to leave the protection of a prosperous county?

1. We live in a beautiful & unique neighborhood. Our home values reflect that fact. A study was performed as to whether and how to split the Jordan School District. It showed that the Willow Creek Neighborhood was unique in the United States for our children wanting to move back in, settle and raise their families here. We would lose part of our identity if we lived in Sandy, City.
2. We have a beautiful Country Club at our fingertips with water wells of its own.
3. We have NO duplication of services such as police.
4. Sandy City has a AA+ while the County has a AAA rating. Salt Lake County is just one of 30 counties in the U.S. with a AAA credit rating out of 3,140 counties or county type entities. It is just one of 22 counties rated "strong" by the Financial Management Assessment. Our "per person average debt" being a member of the county is much lower than Sandy's per person average debt.
5. The County has more "clout" with the Utah Legislature
6. We have more power through our neighborhood associations in Salt Lake County than we would have in Sandy City. Sandy's population is 87,461 whereas SL County is 1,029,655.



## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - COPPERTON

**Question 1:** Shall "Copperton Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Copperton Metro Township" or as the "Town of Copperton?"

- ☐ Copperton Metro Township
- ☐ Town of Copperton

### ARGUMENT FOR COPPERTON METRO TOWNSHIP

Of the six Townships affected by this, Copperton is unique. Because of our size and lack of a commercial tax base becoming a city in my opinion is not an option.

If the choice is made to become a Metro Township, Copperton will elect a board of 5 members of the community. They will have the legal authority to establish local ordinances and regulations, including planning and zoning. This will give our community the power to decide our town's future. As it currently stands our Township boundary to the North extends to the "fence line" of Kennecott. In the future there will be applications to develop the open area that includes the old Bingham High School land and the rest of the undeveloped land to the "fence line". There is also the possibility that when Kennecott does choose to develop their land that was originally part of the Copperton Township they can choose to rejoin Copperton which would vastly increase the opportunity to incorporate an educated and well designed Master Plan that can allow responsible development while maintaining the close knit community that we have come to love so much.

Voting for a Metro Township gives voters a chance to test-drive a more formal kind of local government, without taking the plunge to a full city status. If it works, and there is good reason in the future to become a city or town, that option will be available to Metro Township residents.

The biggest advantage in my opinion to voting for a Metro Township comes with the second question on the ballot in November: Shall the Metro Township be included in the Municipal Services District? Here's where I feel the Metro concept really shines. Several areas across the valley, including cities and other Metro Townships, will band together

### ARGUMENT FOR TOWN OF COPPERTON

"All politics are local."

Your community will choose to incorporate either as a Metro Township or as a traditional city/town. Either choice is a change from "unincorporated county" status quo. We urge you to incorporate as a city/town to ensure local accountability, local control over services, and the full measure of time-tested tools to preserve and enhance your community.

First, the locally elected mayor and city council in a city/town will make all of the decisions. Your elected mayor and council will be your neighbors. They will serve you and be accountable to you.

Conversely in a Metro Township, an elected township council will only have some influence to advocate for county decisions. Instead, the county mayor and county officials will still perform administrative functions. Consequently, a metro township will have only limited local control.

Second, by incorporating as a city or town, you ensure that your community resources will be spent in your community. Utah cities each provide a variety of planning and zoning, utility, cemetery, recreation, traffic and public safety services. Each city approaches these services differently—in the way that works best for them. Some cities provide these services themselves while others contract with other governments and private companies to provide services. Regardless, local officials determine what is best for their communities.

Third, what is a Metro Township? It is an experiment fraught with uncertainty. While a Metro Township will have a Metro Township council, they will not have the same authority that a true city council would have. By state law, Metro Townships will have fewer financial options than cities and towns. As such, Metro Townships will be more reliant on property taxes than cities and towns are. State law requires Metro Townships to hire County officials to perform specified services; cities

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - COPPERTON

### ARGUMENT FOR COPPERTON METRO TOWNSHIP, CONT.

to share municipal services, with no need to create six new public works departments with all the duplication of administration and the resulting multiplication of costs. The biggest advantages are economies of scale and sharing a much larger revenue pool. This could increase exponentially with the development of the West Bench and benefit all of the Townships. This is something that I feel the Townships without the possibility of future growth, really need to take into consideration.

The Municipal Services District from what I see would operate much like Unified Fire and Unified Police. These models combine and share the resources across many communities to provide a higher level of service at a cost that the individual communities would be unable to achieve themselves. I personally have spoken to police and fire employees about their feelings as to whether becoming part of UPD or UFA improved the level of service and resources that they had before. The responses from everyone I have talked to have been overwhelmingly positive. I see the Municipal Services District offering the same benefits to the communities involved.

In my experience, my opinion is that becoming a Metro Township and joining the Municipal Services District would be in the best interest of all of the Townships and especially Copperton.

Chris Drent  
Copperton Resident

### ARGUMENT FOR TOWN OF COPPERTON, CONT.

and towns have discretion to decide the best way to provide those services.

Some argue that your area has insufficient revenue to provide city services or that forming a city/town will just impose another layer of government. Logic dictates that regardless of how you receive services—service district, city, or county—the costs are borne by the service recipients. Municipal tax burdens in cities that have incorporated within Salt Lake County in the last 40 years (ie. Taylorsville, Cottonwood Heights) are lower than the tax burdens on residents of the unincorporated county. The imposition of discreet taxes by multiple taxing districts (ie. UPD, UFA, the new Municipal Services District) exceed what those same services would be in a city/town. Instead of combining resources across the county for services, your locally elected mayor and council can focus on local service priorities in your neighborhood.

In conclusion, incorporating as a city/town best provides accountability by electing local officials who are vested in the community to make decisions about how to utilize local taxes. Incorporating as a city also provides the opportunity to identify the best way to provide municipal services, to control local planning and zoning, and preserve your sense of identity.

Vote to incorporate as a city/town.

Lynn Pace, ULCT 1st Vice President, Holladay City Council  
Mayor JoAnn Seghini, ULCT Treasurer, Midvale City  
Mayor Ted Eyre, ULCT Board Member, Murray City

#### COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - WHITE CITY

**Question 2:** If the majority of voters voting in this election vote to incorporate as a metro township, shall the metro township be a metro township, with limited municipal powers, that is included in a municipal services district?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

#### ARGUMENT FOR JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

No Argument Submitted

#### ARGUMENT AGAINST JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

No Argument Submitted

#### COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - EMIGRATION CANYON

**Question 1:** Shall "Emigration Canyon Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Emigration Canyon Metro Township" or as the city of "Emigration Canyon City?"

- ☐ Emigration Canyon Metro Township  
☐ Emigration Canyon City

#### ARGUMENT FOR EMIGRATION CANYON METRO TOWNSHIP

This election is a historic opportunity to cast your vote and choose the type of government for Emigration Canyon's future. Both Metro Township and City provide strong models for local governance, protection from piecemeal annexation, local zoning control, and the ability to enact local ordinances. Neither will change the fire and police protection or the trash pickup.

The major difference between the Township and City models is who makes the decision about the budget and (tax) funding for municipal and public works services like storm drains, snow removal, code enforcement, street lights, and building permits. Today these services are provided by Salt Lake County Public Works (whose name is changing to 'Municipal Services District or MSD'). Currently, the County Council decides how these services will be provided and what their budget will be. They levy local sales tax that fund these services.

Emigration Canyon benefits greatly from the economy of scale and subsidization from being part of a county-wide MSD. The recent financial assessment shows that canyon revenues pay only about 59% of the costs of providing these services in the canyon. Our expenses are almost three times the average, plus we have a lower sales tax base. The least expensive option for us is to remain in the MSD (which is a 'Yes' vote on Question 2 on this ballot).

#### ARGUMENT FOR EMIGRATION CANYON CITY

"All politics are local."

Your community will choose to incorporate either as a Metro Township or as a traditional city/town. Either choice is a change from "unincorporated county" status quo. We urge you to incorporate as a city/town to ensure local accountability, local control over services, and the full measure of time-tested tools to preserve and enhance your community.

First, the locally elected mayor and city council in a city/town will make all of the decisions. Your elected mayor and council will be your neighbors. They will serve you and be accountable to you.

Conversely in a Metro Township, an elected township council will only have some influence to advocate for county decisions. Instead, the county mayor and county officials will still perform administrative functions. Consequently, a metro township will have only limited local control.

Second, by incorporating as a city or town, you ensure that your community resources will be spent in your community. Utah cities each provide a variety of planning and zoning, utility, cemetery, recreation, traffic and public safety services. Each city approaches these services differently—in the way that works best for them. Some cities provide these services themselves while others contract with other governments and private companies to provide services. Regardless, local officials determine what is best for their communities.

Third, what is a Metro Township? It is an experiment fraught with uncertainty. While a Metro Township will have a Metro Township council, they will not have the same authority that a true city council would have. By state law, Metro Townships will have fewer financial options than cities and towns. As such, Metro Townships will be more reliant on property taxes than cities and towns are. State law requires Metro Townships to hire County officials to perform specified services; cities and towns have discretion to decide the best way to provide those services.



## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MAGNA

### ARGUMENT FOR MAGNA METRO TOWNSHIP, CONT.

a city or town, that option will be available to Metro Township residents. A Metro Township, unlike a city, cannot charge utility franchise taxes.

The biggest advantage to voting for a Metro Township comes with the second question on the ballot in November: Shall the Metro Township be included in the Municipal Services District? Here's where the Metro concept really shines. Several areas across the valley, including cities and other Metro Townships, will band together to share municipal services, with no need to create six new public works departments with all the duplication of administration and the resulting multiplication of costs. The biggest advantages are economies of scale and sharing a much larger revenue pool.

Voting for a Metro Township will also permit the creation of a responsive local governing body, the Metro Township Council. Five persons will be elected from your neighborhood and they're required to run for office and solicit political power from you, the local voters. They will have the legal authority to establish local ordinances and regulations, including local planning and zoning. The government closest to the people governs best.

There's no need to take a plunge directly into full city status this fall. The Metro Township will rely on pooled staff assistance and service providers. Vote for maintaining our unique status in unincorporated Salt Lake County. Vote for the Metro Township option on November 3rd!

Mick Sudbury  
Magna Resident

### ARGUMENT FOR MAGNA CITY, CONT.

What form of government we did have at one time has been changed little by little every legislative session for several years back. Also with other larger cities taking little pieces of other communities, something needed to happen.

LaDell Bishop  
Magna Resident

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MAGNA

**Question 2:** If the majority of voters voting in this election vote to incorporate as a metro township, shall the metro township be a metro township, with limited municipal powers, that is included in a municipal services district?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

### ARGUMENT FOR JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

Ballot question #2 asks if your community should be in the Municipal Services District (MSD). Magna residents need to vote YES on ballot question #2.

The MSD will be using the same employees and providing the same services that you currently enjoy. It will be owned by the entities that vote for inclusion. Without the MSD, Magna leaders will be required to secure municipal services shortly after they are elected. The best and least expensive option is to join the MSD. The MSD is a local service district where communities pool sales tax revenue and then make servicing decisions. Magna will have an elected official, who lives in Magna, on this board to help make decisions. Salt Lake County intends to transfer all remaining unincorporated revenues to the MSD. This means that you will still have the economies of scale and revenue that comes from large entities. By voting YES on question #2, you will continue to receive the same great services you are now, and share revenues with other communities.

With the current funding model, 100% of your municipal services are paid by sales tax. Sales tax will continue to pay for all of your services without requiring additional revenues, if you are part of the MSD. If you decide not to belong to the MSD, your only option to match the revenues to expenditures would be to cut services. The great thing about the MSD is that you get the advantages of large entities within the remaining unincorporated areas. You will not need to cut services if you join the MSD. The alternative options for municipal services are to: 1) Contract with the MSD, surrounding cities or private entities- this option will need to be negotiated and Magna will be contracting without ownership rights. The cost may be more than your current sales tax revenues. 2) Self-provide municipal services - Magna could hire employees, maintain assets, and assume liability. The cost would likely be more than your current sales tax revenues.

Whether you vote to become a city or a metro township on question #1, Magna can still be in the MSD and pool revenues and share services, just like you are doing now with Salt Lake County. This includes the benefits of economies of scale, shared staff, and better purchasing power from a large service provider. You will have local control and representation, as well as having ownership in the MSD. No matter your vote on question #1, you can still vote YES on question #2.

Michael Jensen, Salt Lake County Council  
Aimee Winder Newton, Salt Lake County Council

### ARGUMENT AGAINST JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

No argument submitted.



## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - KEARNS

**Question 1:** Shall "Kearns Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Kearns Metro Township" or as the city of "Kearns City?"

- ☐ Kearns Metro Township
- ☐ Kearns City

### ARGUMENT FOR KEARNS METRO TOWNSHIP

This election season voters are asked to choose a new governing option for Salt Lake County's six townships. There have been concerns about why there is no "status quo" option on the ballot. Many residents like the high quality and efficient municipal services that Salt Lake County provides and want those services to continue. The closest thing to "status quo" is to be a Metro Township and join the Municipal Services District.

One of the reasons for this election is because for the last 30 years cities in Salt Lake Valley have been chipping away at the financial stability of unincorporated areas through annexations and incorporations. When a new commercial development is built, with increased sales tax revenues, it usually takes little time for a neighboring city to steal the development away by offering financial and other annexation incentives to the business owners – this takes away an unincorporated community's ability to be economically self-sustaining. Voting for a Metro Township provides unincorporated communities boundary protection and gives them access to Salt Lake County's excellent existing municipal services, through the Municipal Services District, which means established and experienced delivery, adequate vehicles and other resources, and a pool of dedicated public servants.

Voting for a Metro Township gives voters a chance to test-drive a more formal kind of local government – like putting a toe in the water – without taking the plunge with a full city status. If it works, and there is good reason in the future to become a city or town, that option will be available to Metro Township residents. A Metro Township, unlike a city, cannot charge

### ARGUMENT FOR KEARNS CITY

On November 3rd, county voters will face a perplexing option on the ballot – as an unincorporated area township resident, do you want to belong to a new city or to a "metro township?" Everyone is asking, "What in the world is a metro township?" A metro township is trying to be a city, but it only grants to local residents local powers over planning, zoning and ordinances and no power over revenues. Truly the only real difference between a metro township and a city, is that a city can levy utility franchise taxes and property taxes, if leaders so choose.

Cities have been around for thousands of years. They are the oldest form of local government. Townships have not been around in Utah – it is a new political concept created seven months ago, modeled on township laws in states back east, but there is not an example of one in Utah. Cities, in comparison, have an established track record of local responsiveness, efficient provision of municipal services, and a minimized tax burden (assuming we local citizens are willing to keep city leaders responsive).

Five council members will govern the city – four districted council members and one council chair/mayor. All offices will be part time. The mayor is a member of the legislative body (council), and does not run the day-to-day affairs, much like city governments in Cottonwood Heights and Herriman. The city relies on professionals (whether through the MSD or otherwise) to run the city. City officials will be elected directly by you and your neighbors, and be responsible for the quality of local services. If you become a city, you can still be part of the Municipal Services District (MSD) to pool revenue and share services to take advantage of economies of scale. Newly-elected city council members will have six months to decide whether to stay in the MSD or not. Becoming a city will not limit joining in regional service delivery either through the MSD or contracting for service. Voting to become a city gives you ultimate flexibility for services – leaders can stay in the MSD and pool revenues/share services; leaders can opt out of the MSD, but contract back with the MSD or another entity; or leaders can self-provide services.

This election gives us a unique opportunity to vote to become a city without having to jump through all the hoops normally

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - KEARNS

### ARGUMENT FOR KEARNS METRO TOWNSHIP, CONT.

utility franchise taxes.

The biggest advantage to voting for a Metro Township comes with the second question on the ballot in November: Shall the Metro Township be included in the Municipal Services District? Here's where the Metro concept really shines. Several areas across the valley, including cities and other Metro Townships, will band together to share municipal services, with no need to create six new public works departments with all the duplication of administration and the resulting multiplication of costs. The biggest advantages are economies of scale and sharing a much larger revenue pool.

Voting for a Metro Township will also permit the creation of a responsive local governing body, the Metro Township Council. Five persons will be elected from your neighborhood and they're required to run for office and solicit political power from you, the local voters. They will have the legal authority to establish local ordinances and regulations, including local planning and zoning. The government closest to the people governs best.

There's no need to take a plunge directly into full city status this fall. The Metro Township will rely on pooled staff assistance and service providers. Vote for maintaining our unique status in unincorporated Salt Lake County. Vote for the Metro Township option on November 3rd!

David Taylor  
Kearns Resident

### ARGUMENT FOR KEARNS CITY, CONT.

associated with becoming a city. Look at the financial information and see if you think that we can become a city without having to raise taxes or fees. Remaining with the Municipal Services District is the key to having the financial ability to becoming a city. Becoming a city puts us on the same standing as the cities around us. It allows us to compete to bring businesses into our community and grow our tax base.

Vote for a proven form of local government, vote city!

Brett Helsten  
Kearns Resident



## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MILLCREEK

**Question 1:** Shall "Millcreek Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Millcreek Metro Township" or as the city of "Millcreek City?"

- ☐ Millcreek Metro Township
- ☐ Millcreek City

### ARGUMENT FOR MILLCREEK METRO TOWNSHIP

The clear and compelling choice is to **vote YES for a Metro Township and YES for the MSD**. The "YES" vote to these two questions will ensure we will "remain as we are" and not get gobbled-up in an unnecessary and additional level of government. Most residents like the high quality and efficient municipal services provided by Salt Lake County and want those services to continue. The message again and again is Salt Lake County delivers superior services; thank you and leave us alone. And more important, our **YES vote allows Millcreek to benefit from Kennecott's sales tax revenue**. Voting YES for a Metro Township and the MSD is a simple and smart decision.

As federal, state and local governments increasingly become more expensive bureaucracies, the form of government and delivery of municipal services contemplated under SB-199 (the legislation that made this vote) is the genius of simple, fair and effective local government. Specifically, a YES vote for Metro Township and the MSD instead of a "city", is a vote for:

- Retaining our current high quality municipal services provided by Salt Lake County;
- Continuing to **provide municipal services with the economies of scale, that a city cannot achieve;**
- Ensures Unified Police Department ("UPD"), the Unified Fire Authority ("UFA") and now the Municipal Services Districts ("MSD") will be managed with consistency with effective local oversight and management—we will have representation on the UPD, UFA and MSD governing boards;
- Provides local decision making, such as zoning and ordinances specific to Millcreek by representation

### ARGUMENT FOR MILLCREEK CITY

Salt Lake County is getting out of the municipal governance business. In 2017, we will start governing ourselves.

Whichever way this vote comes out, the neighborhoods of Canyon Rim, East Millcreek, Millcreek and Mt Olympus will be united as Millcreek. We will be Utah's 11th-largest municipality. The county's independent fiscal analysis shows that our local economy generates more in taxes than we consume in services. We are ready to stand on our own.

In this election, we will decide which kind of municipality we will be: a "metro township" or a "city."

A metro township is a very different kind of township from what we have now. Currently, the Salt Lake County Council makes local government decisions for the 160,000 people who live in unincorporated areas, including Millcreek. But the county's main job is to provide regional government for all 1.2 million residents of Salt Lake County. After this vote, the county will no longer be making our local government decisions. "Status quo" is not an option with either a metro township or a city.

So what's the difference between a city and a metro township?

The metro township is a new form of government created this year. Nobody's tried it yet. Its powers are limited and ambiguous; legal experts from all sides say it needs further clarification and amendment.

Cities, on the other hand, have existed since before Utah began. Their legal status is well settled. The vast majority of Utahns are served by cities.

Metro townships have only one way to fund their services. Prudent financial management calls for diversified income. Many Millcreek residents with strong fiscally conservative beliefs support the traditional city with its more established and dependable fiscal structure as opposed to experimenting with the untested metro township concept.

Another concern about a metro township is the method of selecting its highest officer – the council chairperson.

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MILLCREEK

### ARGUMENT FOR MILLCREEK METRO TOWNSHIP, CONT.

from citizens within Millcreek Township. The Millcreek Township will elect a local Council from citizens from our neighborhoods;

- The Township Council, with the MSD in place oversees our municipal services, will have budgetary responsibility, and limited taxing authority;
- As Millcreek Township, we will benefit from the sales tax revenue generated by Kennecott. A "city of Millcreek" will not.
- A majority of Millcreek residents from Mount Olympus, East Mill Creek, and Canyon Rim and Millcreek communities have rejected a city form of government; this election is no different.
- No Franchise taxes on phones, water, gas and power.

Another city is another layer of costly, redundant government that is not needed or required. The "city of Millcreek" approach is a trap for a few to influence government services and increasingly drive tax assessments for projects or services that benefits only a few.

A YES vote for Metro Township and MSD will once-and-for-all stop the annexation of our neighborhoods and keep our services with proven, peaceful and mature governance. We don't need a "City" mayor and city council, new salaries, building and staff costs only to contract with Salt Lake County MSD, or worse, try to create their own municipal services; e.g. remember Cottonwood Heights snow removal.

This election, with mail-in ballots, vote YES for Metro Township and YES to join the MSD.

Max Worthington  
Tom Love  
Dina Blaes  
Nancy Carlson-Gotts  
Bill Boyd  
Millcreek Residents

### ARGUMENT FOR MILLCREEK CITY, CONT.

The metro township would divide Millcreek into five council districts. A majority of three council members can then elect one council member as the council chair and top representative of Millcreek.

We believe our top leader should be elected by everyone, not just a small handful of people. As Millcreek City, we will have four council districts, similar to our four current community council areas (Canyon Rim, East Millcreek, Millcreek and Mt Olympus). The fifth council member – the council chair with the title of "mayor" – will be elected by *all voters city-wide*. This is the most representative and accountable way to select our highest-ranking official.

Utahns believe in holding their elected officials to high standards. Cities are the tried-and-true structure for holding local leaders accountable. 88% of Utahns live in fully empowered cities and towns – that's the highest percentage in the nation. It's the right choice for Millcreek, too.

The metro township is untested and unrepresentative. It has limited powers and a narrow tax base. Millcreek is a first-rate community. Let's not settle for a second-rate form of government.

For a fully independent Millcreek with representative government, vote for Millcreek City.

Fred Healey  
Susan Lawrence  
Hugh Matheson  
Aimee McConkie  
Jeff Silvestrini  
Millcreek Residents



## Explanation of Metro Township and City

### METRO TOWNSHIP

#### Government in a Metro Township

A metro township is a new incorporation option for local governance by those currently living in a township.

If township voters choose to become a metro township in November 2015, they will elect a five-member council in November 2016. The council is empowered to enact local ordinances, decide local planning and zoning issues, and oversee local municipal services.

A metro township that chooses to be in the Municipal Services District (MSD) will be represented on the MSD Board of Trustees by its elected council chair and will help oversee the budget.

If the metro township is in the MSD, services will be provided by county or MSD staff. If not, the metro township council will determine whether to contract for those services or self-provide.

Currently township municipal services are provided by Salt Lake County. (Fire, police and trash/recycling services are delivered by, and will stay with, current providers- Unified Police Department, Unified Fire Authority and Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District.)

Townships presently have no authority to impose a utility franchise tax or a municipal telecommunications tax. Metro townships will also not have that authority, nor do they have the authority to impose property taxes.

#### How are municipal services currently funded?

Currently, township municipal services are provided from sales taxes, grants and fees from townships, unincorporated areas and from cities that contract with Salt Lake County for those services. Townships do not currently have budget oversight of municipal services, except through their representatives on the Salt Lake County Council and the Salt Lake County Mayor.

#### Funding metro township operations as part of the Municipal Services District (MSD)

Through their elected council representative on the MSD Board, they will review and approve the budget.

#### Funding metro township operations if not a member of the Municipal Services District (MSD)

Sales taxes within the metro township will be used to contract for services or self-provide. If the new metro township council chooses to stay in the Municipal Services District, the metro township's sales tax revenue will contribute to the MSD budget.

### CITY

#### Government in a City

A city is an incorporation option for those currently living in a township with a population of more than 1,000 people. (Copperton Township's option is to become a town.)

If township voters choose to become a city in November 2015, they'll vote in November 2016 for five council members, one of whom will run at-large for mayor. City councils are empowered to enact local ordinances and oversee local municipal services.

The first city council and mayor will be elected in November 2016 and take office in January 2017. The city will automatically be in the Municipal Services District (MSD). Services will be provided by the county or MSD staff. A city elected official will have a seat on the MSD Board of Trustees. The city council would then have six months to decide whether to opt out of the MSD.

Current townships receive police, fire and trash/recycling services from Unified Police Department (UPD), Unified Fire Authority (UFA) and Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District (WFRD). That will continue for the new city.

Cities have authority to assess property, sales, utility franchise, and municipal telecommunications taxes, and to bond.

#### How are municipal services currently funded?

Currently, township municipal services are provided from sales taxes, grants and fees from townships, unincorporated areas and from cities that contract with Salt Lake County for those services. Townships do not currently have budget oversight of municipal services, except through their representatives on the Salt Lake County Council and the County Mayor.

#### Funding city operations if the city remains in the Municipal Services District (MSD)

If the new city council chooses to stay in the Municipal Services District, the city's sales tax revenue will contribute to the MSD budget. Through their elected representative on the MSD Board, they'll review and approve the budget.

#### Funding city operations if the city council opts out of the Municipal Services District (MSD)

A city that opts out of the MSD will use its sales, utility franchise and/or municipal communications taxes (if the last two are assessed) and property tax revenues to contract for some/all of its municipal services or to self-provide.

### Detailed Comparison Chart: Township Options

This comparison chart displays details about the differences between townships as they currently exist within the structure of Salt Lake County, and what will occur based on the outcome of the November 3, 2015 election. Those two ballot questions are: (1) Vote whether to become a city or a metro township, (2) In ballot question 1, if the metro township prevails, then voters choose whether to be included in the Municipal Services District (MSD).

Question	Currently	Starting January 2017, based on vote by the people in November 2016	
		Metro Township Option	City Option
Who makes planning & zoning decisions and enacts local ordinances?	County Council	Metro Township Council	City Council
Who makes property tax decisions?	County Council	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes" to be in the MSD, the MSD Board has property tax authority. If residents vote "no" to join the MSD, the Metro Township Council does not have property tax authority.	City Council. If the city remains in the MSD, the MSD Board and the City Council each have property tax authority.
Who makes local sales tax decisions?	County Council	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes" to be in the MSD, the combined areas' sales tax is spent by the MSD Board. If residents vote "no" the local area sales tax is spent by the Metro Township Council.	If the city remains in the MSD, the combined areas' sales tax is spent by the MSD Board. If the City Council opts out of the MSD, the local area sales tax is spent by the City Council.
Who has budgeting authority for local municipal services?	County Council	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes" to be in the MSD, the MSD Board has budgeting authority. If residents vote "no" to join the MSD, the Metro Township Council has budgeting authority.	If the city remains in the MSD, the MSD Board has budgeting authority, except for utility franchise taxes and local property taxes. If the City Council opts out of the MSD, the City Council will have full budgeting authority.
Who makes utility franchise tax decisions? *See below	Counties are not authorized to impose a utility franchise tax.	Metro townships are not authorized to impose a utility franchise tax.	City Council

\*City residents and unincorporated county residents pay a right-of-way franchise fee on their cable bill. The fee is allowed by the federal government, by way of the Cable Communication Act of 1984.

Question	Currently	Starting January 2017, based on vote by the people in November 2016	
		Metro Township Option	City Option
Who regulates business licenses & permits?	County Council	Metro Township Council	City Council
Who provides police services?	Unified Police Department (UPD) - provider (The special service area is SLVLESA)	Unified Police Department (UPD) - The special service area is the Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement Service Area (SLVLESA), withdrawal from SLVLESA would require a ballot vote.	Unified Police Department (UPD) - The special service area is the Salt Lake Valley Law Enforcement Service Area (SLVLESA), withdrawal from SLVLESA would require a ballot vote.
Who provides fire & emergency services?	Unified Fire Authority (UFA) - provider (The special service area is the UFSA)	Unified Fire Authority (UFA) - The special service area is Unified Fire Service Area (UFSA), withdrawal from UFSA would require a ballot vote.	Unified Fire Authority (UFA) - The special service area is Unified Fire Service Area (UFSA), withdrawal from UFSA would require a ballot vote.
Who provides trash/recycling pick up services?	Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District	Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District - Withdrawal from this district to have trash/recycling services provided by another entity is only possible through Salt Lake County Council resolution.	Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District - Withdrawal from this district to have trash/recycling services provided by another entity is only possible through Salt Lake County Council resolution.
Part of the Municipal Services District (MSD)?	Services are currently provided by Salt Lake County, soon to be the MSD	Voter choice, effective on date determined by the SL County Council	Yes. New City Council may opt out in 2017.
Who provides municipal and public works services like storm drains, snow removal, code enforcement, street lights, building permitting? (Currently provided by SL County)	Salt Lake County Township Services and Public Works	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes", Municipal Services District. If residents vote "no", Municipal Services District will provide until Metro Township Council is elected into office in 2017, then they will decide how these services will be provided.	Municipal Services District. New City Council may opt out in 2017 and either self-provide or contract for services with the MSD or other service providers.
Are local boundaries protected from annexations?	Historically, no permanent boundary protections	Yes	Yes
Who is our local mayor and legislative council?	County Mayor and County Council	County Mayor and Metro Township Council	City Mayor and City Council





September 22, 2015

Dear Salt Lake County Voter:

A historic election is before you this November, one that puts you in control of how your community is governed at the local level.

The reason for the change evolved over several decades. For years, the county's unincorporated areas have been chipped away through annexations. Neighboring cities have "cherry-picked" revenue-producing areas, adding tax money to their city coffers. This has resulted in a lot of uncertainty and instability.

Senate Bill 199, or "Community Preservation," offers residents a better option for local government. It is about giving residents local representation and self-determination so communities retain their unique character and yet receive quality, cost-effective services.

Ballots will be mailed to voters the first week of October. Five townships (Emigration Canyon, Kearns, Magna, Millcreek and White City) will vote on whether to become a city or a metro township. Copperton Township will decide whether to become a town or a metro township. All townships will also vote whether or not to stay in the Municipal Services District. Unincorporated "islands" will decide if they want to remain unincorporated or annex into an adjacent city.

We understand that this is a new and somewhat complicated issue for many citizens. We applaud your diligence in studying this voter information guide to learn as much as possible before casting your vote, in order to make your decision on the future of your community.

Thank you for the privilege of representing you as Salt Lake County elected officials.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ben McAdams

Council Members:

Richard Snelgrove, Chair, At Large B	Jenny Wilson, At Large A
Jim Bradley, At Large C	Arlyn Bradshaw, District 1
Michael Jensen, District 2	Aimee Winder Newton, District 3
Sam Granato, District 4	Steve DeBry, District 5
Max Burdick, District 6	

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## COUNTY PROPOSITION #1

**Question:** AN OPINION QUESTION TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS SUCH AS ROADS, SIDEWALKS, TRAILS, MAINTENANCE, BUS AND RAIL SERVICE, AND SAFETY FEATURES

Shall Salt Lake County, Utah, be authorized to impose a quarter-of-one-percent (0.25% or the equivalent of 1 cent for every \$4 spent) sales and use tax for the specific purpose of transportation improvements such as roads, trails, sidewalks, maintenance, bus and rail service, and traffic and pedestrian safety features, with the revenues divided among the county, cities and towns, and the public transit provider within the County?

☐ FOR THE TAX

☐ AGAINST THE TAX

### Argument for the tax:

We all want our children and grandchildren to enjoy a wonderful quality of life now and in the future. Utah's cities and counties face a growing population, deteriorating roads, and local budgets that fail to keep up with mounting maintenance costs. The need is visible on our streets and sidewalks. Our transportation choices are limited by gaps in transit service and incomplete bike paths and trails. The result: longer commutes, more wear and tear on our cars, hampered economic prosperity, and a diminished quality of life.

With new funding through Proposition 1 (a sales tax for local transportation), local elected leaders can prepare for population growth, take better care of our roadways and sidewalks, and promote economic prosperity in our community.

Prop 1 will provide a substantial piece of the local transportation puzzle. For just one cent of every four dollars spent—excluding food purchases—we can maintain our local roads, keep our economy moving, improve our air quality, and reduce our traffic so that we spend more time with our families and less time in our cars.

The cost of doing nothing is far higher for the average Utah family than the local option sales tax. Prop 1 would cost the average person \$40 a year, but our current road disrepair costs the average driver over \$600 more a year in added fuel use, tire wear, and extra car maintenance. In addition, for every dollar we invest now in infrastructure, we save \$6 in repair and \$10 in reconstruction work. We know that roads cost more taxpayer dollars when they are not maintained. Things like slurry seals, chip seals and overlays, that help keep roads in good shape cost money, but are far less expensive than going without maintenance and having to rebuild a road years later. Choosing to maintain our roads today is the financially responsible and fiscally conservative approach for families.

Prop 1 is dedicated exclusively to local transportation. Prop 1 is not for the construction of major highways and rail lines, nor will it fund the overhead of large agencies. Prop 1 will fund things that are close to home—the transportation options you use and need the most. It will fill a nasty pothole on your local street, finish a sidewalk between your house and your children's school, or add to bus service, trails, and bike paths so you have more transportation choices.

More than 110 cities and towns across Utah passed resolutions supporting Prop 1. The business community solidly supports the measure because business leaders know that investing in transportation today will save taxpayer dollars tomorrow. This is a historic moment to join our local government officials and the business community in support of Prop 1.

Voting YES will save Utah families money, protect the local businesses, improve our air quality, and preserve our quality of life.

Jenny Wilson, Salt Lake County, Council Member at Large  
Representative Johnny Anderson, District 34  
Mayor Tom Dolan, Sandy City  
Lane Beattie, President and CEO Salt Lake Chamber  
Ron Jibson, President and CEO of Questar Corp.

### Rebuttal against the tax:

Proposition 1 proponents argue that raising our sales taxes would improve our daily lives. The best way for our lives to be improved is to keep the majority of the proceeds of our own labors, not to be taxed.

According to the Utah Taxpayers Association, we currently pay on average \$3304 a year in taxes in exchange for the services that we are told this tax increase will pay for: roads, local budgets and maintenance. Before we should even consider a tax increase, we must verify that our government has done a thorough audit and has cut back on all waste and unaccountable spending. Waste is intrinsic in any budget of this size and must be constantly checked and corrected.

The proponents of Proposition 1 make mention that the money will go towards bus service but fail to mention that 40% of this sales tax increase is slated to go to the Utah Transit Authority. The Utah Transit Authority has a history of fraud, waste and abuse with our tax dollars. From lavish trips and bonuses for top executives to \$10 million parking lots that are never built, the Utah Transit Authority has not earned the public trust and should not be given more funding.

Government doesn't need more money—it needs to better prioritize where it spends the taxes we already pay. Please vote no on Proposition 1.

Evelyn Everton  
Sandy Resident - State Director Americans for Prosperity - UT

### Argument against the tax:

Say NO to Proposition 1

If approved, the combined state and local sales tax in Salt Lake County will increase from 6.85% to 7.1%—a change that will increase taxes, on average, by \$50 per person or \$200 for an average family of four. This could mean the difference between a week or more worth of groceries for most families.

Utah families have had enough new taxes this year as it is. The local option sales tax would be the third tax increase Utah residents have faced this year. In March, the legislature voted to approve a 5-cent-per-gallon increase in the gas tax, which now means that Utah drivers will pay over 48-cents-per-gallon just in taxes every time they fill up the tank. The state legislature also raised homeowner's property taxes in the valley an average of \$50 per home.

Considered separately, these tax increases may not sound like much, but for lower-income and middle-class families, every dollar counts and higher local sales taxes would only make their financial struggles worse.

Supporters say that the proposed tax increase is, in part, for road and infrastructure improvement. But 40% of the tax increase—almost \$20 million dollars worth—will actually be diverted to help fund the Utah Transit Authority. The Utah Transit Authority already receives \$139.2 million in Salt Lake County alone.

UTA executives receive six figure salaries and tens of thousands of dollars in bonuses and perks. The agency's CEO traveled out of state on agency-funded trips 42 times in 28 months, traveling internationally nearly as often as the President of the United States.

It's about stewardship. If the UTA can afford to pay such high salaries and award such benefits, then they probably can also afford to better shepherd the resources taxpayers have given them.

The Utah Transit Authority doesn't need another \$20 million in extra revenue. Instead, the agency should be looking toward reducing executive pay, cutting down on travel costs, and reducing inefficiencies wherever they find them.

Finally, this sales tax will fall hardest on those who have little or nothing left at the end of the month. According to the Utah Taxpayers Association, the average Utahn already pays \$720 in sales taxes every year, and \$3,304 in combined state and local taxes. The local option tax would add a few cents to most purchases, which quickly adds up.

If the sales tax increase is passed, Utahns would pay a quarter of a cent more for all purchases. In Salt Lake County, this increased sales tax would scrape \$50 million out of our checkbooks, according to the state's own analysis.

Government doesn't need more money—it needs to better prioritize where it spends the taxes we already pay. Please vote NO on Proposition 1.

Evelyn Everton  
Sandy Resident - State Director Americans for Prosperity - UT

### Rebuttal for the tax:

Salt Lake County is a trusted steward of public funds. Investment in our community is prioritized so that funds are used wisely and efficiently. This fiscally conservative approach has paid significant dividends to residents. Our economy is thriving and employment is strong.

But the population of Salt Lake County—and the State of Utah—is projected to double in the next few decades. The current mechanisms for meeting growing transportation needs are insufficient. We can't let traffic keep building and air pollution worsen. We need to invest in transportation to keep people moving, keep the economy strong and strengthen our quality of life.

At the same time, we have to prudently take care of our current roads rather than let them fall into disrepair. When that happens, the cost to taxpayers of deferred maintenance is much higher: \$1 invested to preserve our roads saves residents \$10-\$25 in costly repair or replacement later.

For the transit portion of Proposition 1, UTA has committed to utilize the new funds to improve and enhance transit service, with complete accountability and clear reporting of how funds are spent. There will be more bus service, more places, more often. This is a significant benefit to Utah's families who rely on affordable transportation choices.

Proposition 1 is funding for your local communities and nothing is more local than the condition of local roads, sidewalks and trails. We encourage you, the voter, to make an informed decision regarding Proposition 1.

Jenny Wilson, Salt Lake County, Council Member at Large  
Representative Johnny Anderson, District 34  
Mayor Tom Dolan, Sandy City  
Lane Beattie, President and CEO Salt Lake Chamber  
Ron Jibson, President and CEO of Questar Corp.

The arguments for or against a ballot proposition are the opinions of the authors.