

Mayors Becker and Corroon Announce Signing of Joint Sustainability Commitment

SALT LAKE CITY - Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker and Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon have announced the joint signing of a Memo of Understanding (MOU) which will permit the city and county governments to work together to promote sustainability. Both mayors have been working to meet ambitious sustainability goals and today's announcement reflects a new level of collaboration on sustainability initiatives at the City and County levels.

In recent months, the City and County have both engaged in developing sustainability programs. The MOU put into action today will encourage joint efforts to benefit the lives of Salt Lake City and Salt Lake County residents.

The MOU will promote the development of new sustainability programs and work to improve those that are already intact. Some of these efforts will include air quality initiatives, renewable energy programs, and advanced recycling programs.

"Both Mayor Becker and I are working hard on sustainability issues. This MOU is simply making formal something that our staffs have been closely coordinating for some time," remarked Mayor Peter Corroon.

Mayor Becker added, "Working with Salt Lake County to achieve our sustainability goals is something that makes a lot of sense. I am looking forward to the results that will be achieved in the coming years, thanks to this new collaboration."

The City and County are already partnering on a number of projects. They have jointly received a Solar America grant to investigate ways to promote investment in solar power in the region; they are working together with two energy performance contractors to find energy reduction opportunities in their buildings; and, along with the Department of Environmental Quality, will be promoting air quality initiatives such as the Idle Free Utah campaign. Additionally, the City and County collaborate on Open Space land projects and projects to improve the Jordan River Parkway.

The goal of the MOU is not to spend additional funds, but rather to allow both government entities to use existing resources for sustainability measures more effectively. Both mayors are entering this agreement with the hope it will more clearly define the areas in which the city and county can assist one another.