

**Mayor Becker Praises Immediate, Tangible Impact of American Recovery and
Reinvestment Plan's Benefit to Utah**
Mayor Becker Will Meet with President Obama Tomorrow

SALT LAKE CITY – Mayor Ralph Becker praised the quick work of the Obama Administration and the U.S. Congress in passing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan (ARRP) and emphasized the immediate, tangible and positive impact it will have in Utah.

“The economic recovery is going to take a long time and it’s important to be realistic about that fact,” explained Becker. “The ARRP will lay the foundation for economic recovery in Utah by creating jobs, jumpstarting growth and transforming our economy as we move forward.”

In Utah specifically, the ARRP will benefit residents in the following ways:

- Approximately 33,300 jobs in Utah will be created or saved over the next two years. These jobs will range in industries from health care to clean energy, with over 90% in the private sector. [Source: White House Estimate based on Romer and Bernstein, “The Job Impact of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan.” January 9, 2009]
- For 890,000 Utah workers and their families, the ARRP will provide a “making work pay” tax cut of up to \$1,000, designed to pay out immediately into workers’ paychecks. [Source: White House Estimate based on IRS Statistics of Income]
- In terms of making college affordable in Utah, 24,000 families will be eligible for a new American Opportunity Tax Credit. By creating a new \$2,500 partially refundable tax credit for four years of college, this will give Utah families new assistance to put a college education within their reach. [Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of U.S. Census data]
- For 74,000 workers in Utah who have lost their jobs in the recession, the ARRP will offer them an additional \$100 per month in unemployment insurance benefits and provide extended unemployment benefits to an additional 14,000 laid-off workers. [Source: National Employment Law Project]
- The ARRP will provide funding to sufficiently modernize at least 43 schools in Utah, so children can have the labs, classrooms and libraries they need to compete. [Source: White House Estimate.]

Mayor Becker will be in Washington, D.C. tomorrow to meet with President Obama about the implementation of the plan in Salt Lake City and other communities nationwide. Becker has been part of a small group of mayors who have been consulting with the Obama Administration for several months on the capability of cities in helping stimulate the economy through the rapid implementation of public works projects.

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