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**Envision
Utah** How we grow matters.

Our mission at Envision Utah is to engage people to create and sustain communities that are beautiful, prosperous, healthy, and neighborly for current and future residents.

For 20 years, Envision Utah's unique, collaborative process has brought Utahns together to secure a bright future for our children and grandchildren. Working together, we can ensure that Utah remains an amazing place to live—now and in the future.

CONTENTS

3

ENVISION UTAH'S
CRITICAL ROLE

15

YOUR UTAH,
YOUR FUTURE

5

ENVISIONING UTAH'S FUTURE:
THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

17

YOUR UTAH, YOUR
FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION

7

20 YEARS OF PROJECT
IMPLEMENTATION

19

ENVISIONING MY
UTAH

9

THE ORIGINS OF
ENVISION UTAH

21

REACHING OUT TO
EVERY UTAHN

11

THE QUALITY
GROWTH STRATEGY

23

A UNIQUELY
UTAH PROCESS

13

EARLY IMPLEMENTATION
PROJECTS

25

WHAT WILL THE NEXT 20
YEARS BRING?

ENVISION UTAH'S CRITICAL ROLE



Gary R. Herbert
Governor
Honorary Co-Chair,
Envision Utah

I was a Utah County commissioner when I joined a forward-thinking group of Utah's business leaders, community leaders, and politicians in what would later become Envision Utah. It embodied an approach to our future typical of Utahns: working side-by-side in a voluntary, collaborative way to make a better future for our children and grandchildren.

I ended up as a vice-chair of the effort, and I feel honored to have worked alongside such insightful men and women who shared an inspiring vision for Utah. At the time, I didn't realize that the things I would learn from them would help me one day fulfill my current duties as governor.

I also didn't realize the impact we would have. Utah has the strongest economy in the nation and an enviable quality of life today because we had the foresight then to plan and work together on a common vision for how we would grow.

We were a fast-growing state 20 years ago, and, by the latest count, we are the fastest growing in the country today. So it is even more important today than it was 20 years ago to make sure we deal with this growth in a way that will ensure a high quality of life for us, our children, and our grandchildren.

That's where Envision Utah comes in. It plays a unique role in our community. Few organizations push us to think beyond ourselves like Envision Utah does. Envision Utah recognizes that our individual long-term success depends on the success of people around us.

When we started 20 years ago, too many of us were trying to solve the big problems in Utah in our own individual roles. But when we came together on neutral ground,

we looked at those problems in a different light and learned from each other.

Over the years, Envision Utah has used this formula with great success. We've handled massive growth and improved our exceptional quality of life. One of our greatest triumphs has been the creation of a statewide vision for 2050, called *Your Utah, Your Future*.

The vision is a result of the largest public outreach effort in Utah's history—and likely anywhere in the country—and the input from over 500 experts and stakeholders across the state.

“Few organizations push us to think beyond ourselves like Envision Utah does.”

We know what Utahns want, and we have a strategic plan to make it happen.

Since the kick-off of *Your Utah, Your Future* in 2013, we've been able to establish a Clean Air Action Team with clear strategies for improving our air quality; we've created a 50-year water strategy for the entire state; we've begun to help

Utahns understand the things that will improve education; we've identified important strategies for strengthening our agricultural industry; and we've worked with cities and towns across the state to understand the kinds of communities Utahns want.

All this and more has been done thanks to Envision Utah's ability to bring us together, and thanks to Utahns who are willing to work together.

These and many other strategies are being implemented across the state. They're helping us look towards a brighter future, but that doesn't mean the work is done.

We need to continue to work together to make sure Utah is prosperous, now and in the future.

ENVISIONING UTAH'S FUTURE: THE BEST IS YET TO COME!

If you have ever visited the historic Pack Creek Ranch near Moab, Utah, you'll understand why it was the birthplace of Envision Utah. Sure, it's been a retreat for the likes of Edward Abbey, Stephen Hawking, John Wayne, and many a Hollywood star. But far more important is the role it played in giving life to our unique, innovative future-planning partnership some 30 years ago.

It was there, in that remarkably beautiful spot at the foothills of the LaSal Mountains—once home to Ute Indians, early trappers, and Mormon settlers—that two dozen of us (“young leaders” they called us at the time) gathered in the fall of 1987 to “talk about Utah’s future.”

The ranch’s rustic lodge and cabins were inspiring reminders of our state’s rich and colorful past and they provided the perfect setting to inspire dreams for the state’s future. Thus were planted the “grassroots” of the Coalition for Utah’s Future—destined to become Envision Utah.

The consensus at the ranch was this: given Utah’s enormous challenges at the time—a recession that had shaken our traditional economy to its core—we desperately needed a coalition of diverse, dynamic leaders who were willing to put selfish, short-term concerns aside and think and act for the long-term future of our state. And that’s what we did—beginning with the recruitment of 20 more individuals to join us in getting the effort off the ground.

With representative leaders from business, government, education, religious entities, the legal community, and more, we set out to engage thousands of our citizens in determining what Utahns overall hoped for when looking ahead—yes, “far” ahead to the year 2000.

It took a decade, but by January 1997, our efforts had progressed significantly with the involvement of a growing and active board and financial support from the public and private sectors. Goals were being established and some results realized.

It was then we merged the Coalition for Utah’s Future with our ‘Project 2000’ group to officially form Envision Utah, launching the new organization in a more high-profile way.

Today—20 years later—the involvement of state and community leaders side-by-side with the public-at-large has been key to Envision Utah’s success.

The broader community and statewide visions fostered through Envision Utah are now at the forefront in decision-making in areas ranging from water use, air quality, agriculture, and education to energy, housing, public lands, recreation, the economy, and more.

This success has been built on a “bottom up,” collaborative decision-making effort involving thousands and thousands of Utahns and backed by state and private-sector know-how with a “can-do” attitude unmatched anywhere!

Envision Utah’s progress is remarkable and enviable. It’s been an honor and privilege for the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation—carrying on the legacy of my Uncle George and Aunt Dolores “Lolie” Eccles and their commitment to the well-being of all Utahns—to support the efforts of Envision Utah with grants totaling more than \$5.7 million.

Thank you to all who have helped make the first 20 years of Envision Utah so successful. Together, we have made an important, positive difference for our state. But growth

hasn’t stopped, and the challenges ahead are daunting.

As of 2017, Utah is the fastest-growing state in the nation. By 2050, it’s projected that our state will nearly double in population. So, the question we must now ask ourselves is, “Who will lead these continuing efforts for the next 20 years?”

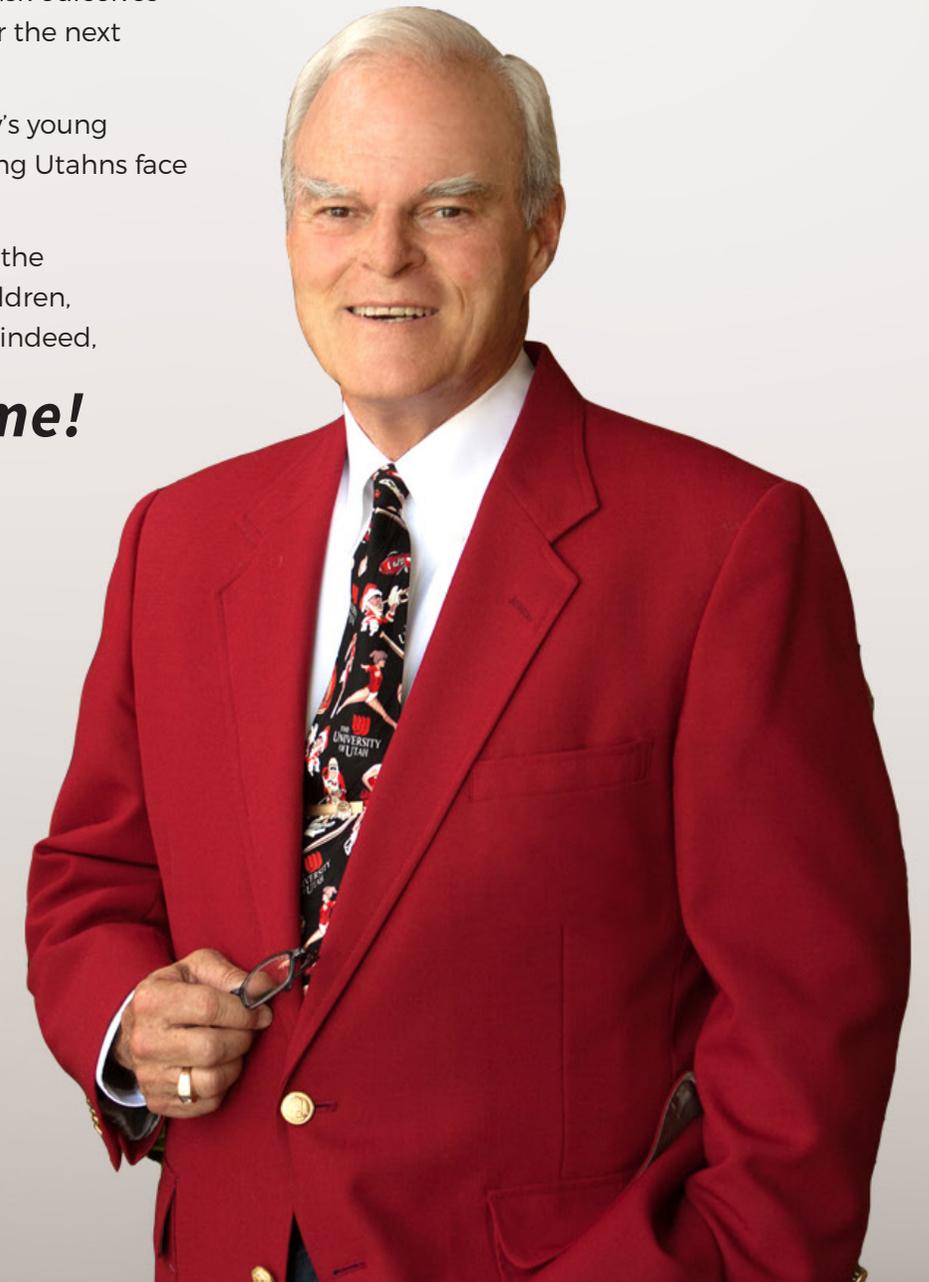
We’re determined to help ensure that today’s young leaders continue this important work, helping Utahns face these challenges head-on.

Let’s keep our “eyes on the ball,” focused on the all-important goal to ensure that for our children, grandchildren, and future generations—yes, indeed,

the best is yet to come!

Spencer F. Eccles

Chairman & CEO, George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation
Chairman Emeritus, Wells Fargo Intermountain Banking Region
Honorary Co-Chair,
Envision Utah



20 YEARS OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

In 1997, Envision Utah was founded to ensure that as our population grew, Utahns could still enjoy a high quality of life.

Through a groundbreaking collaborative effort, the Quality Growth Strategy was born. The strategy is a vision for the future, developed by Utahns, for Utahns.

Over the last two decades Envision Utah has facilitated more than 50 projects using the same collaborative process.

AN AWARD-WINNING ORGANIZATION

Envision Utah is an award-winning national model for collaborative, bottom-up, values-driven visioning.

American Planning Association: The Daniel Burnham Award

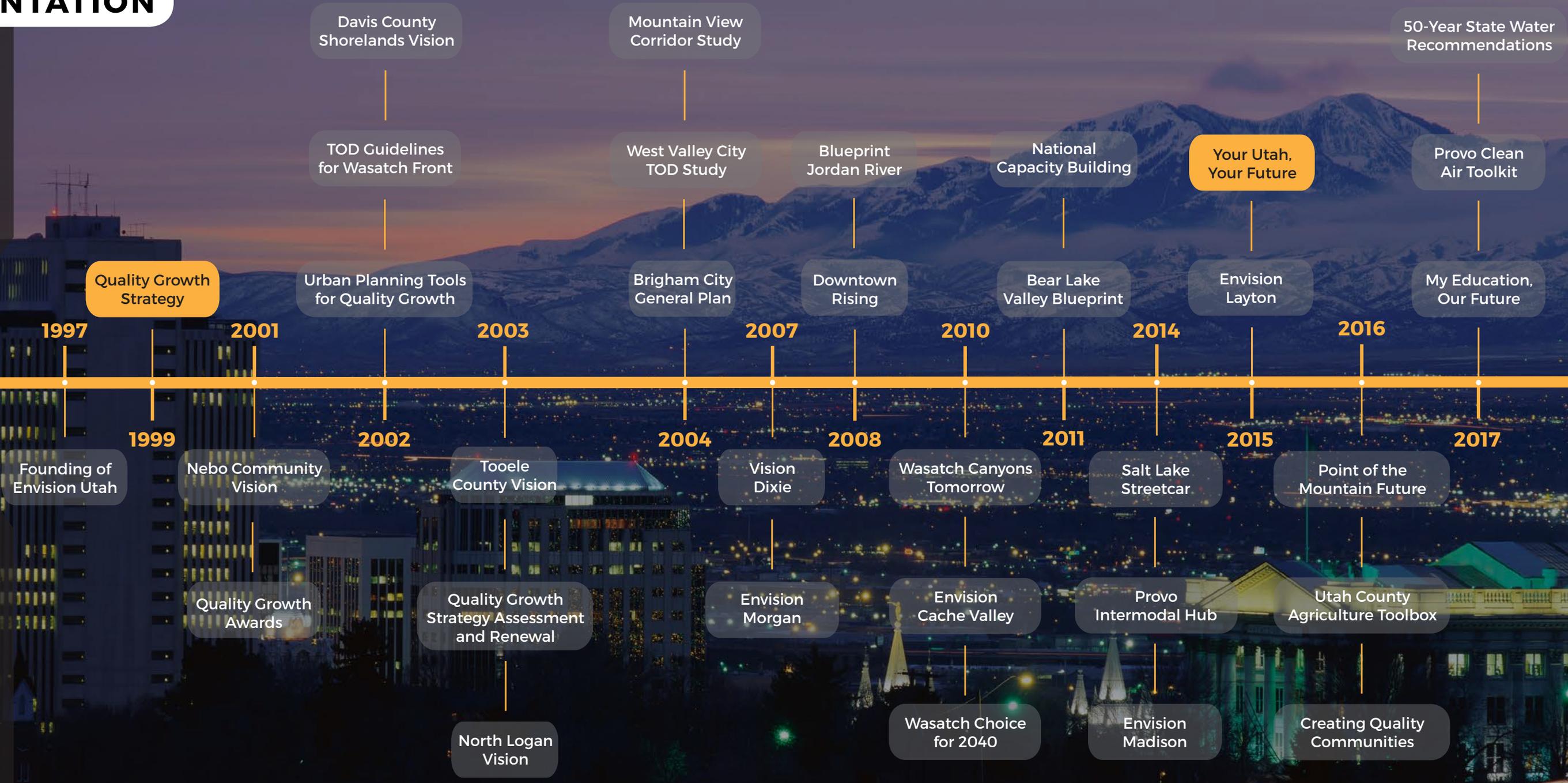
Likely the most prestigious planning award in the nation, it is reserved for projects that achieve true excellence.

Urban Land Institute Award of Excellence

Widely recognized as the development community's most prestigious award, it honors outstanding development projects throughout the world.

U.S Environmental Protection Agency's Achievement Award

Awarded to Envision Utah for building a public consensus on the Quality Growth Strategy for Utah's Wasatch Front.



...and many more.

THE ORIGINS OF ENVISION UTAH

Innovation born from crisis

Envision Utah can trace its origins back to a massive recession that shook Utah during the mid-1980s.

The state was suffering, and Utahns found their biggest export was their own well-educated children, who were leaving the state to find jobs.

From this crisis, the Coalition for Utah's Future was born. Comprised of a diverse group of community leaders, the coalition used its influence to affect economic growth and attract new business to the state.

By 1995, just seven years after the coalition's founding, the situation in the state had taken a 180-degree turn. Utah was experiencing tremendous growth, and Utahns were beginning to worry about how this growth could affect their high quality of life.

A Utah approach

Addressing this growth proved to be a complicated issue. Utahns prefer local autonomy to a "top-down" approach to solving

problems. They are, however, eager to collaborate on important issues.

In addition, Utahns place families high on their priorities list—they're willing to do what it takes to ensure their children have a great future.

These factors led to the innovation that would become the framework for Envision Utah: a bottom-up, nonpartisan, collaborative decision-making process that engages the public to develop and implement a vision for the future.

The best minds in the state

With this framework in mind, the coalition got to work recruiting community leaders from across the Wasatch Front. Coalition board member Robert Grow, President of Geneva Steel, became chair, and Governor Mike Leavitt and Larry H. Miller became honorary co-chairs of the Envision Utah effort.

By early 1997, the coalition had gathered over 100 highly influential board members from across all sectors.

Envisioning the future

A kickoff meeting in 1997 formally defined Envision Utah's initial role: help residents of the 10-county Wasatch Front and Back create a vision for 2020 to effectively deal with adding a million new people while preserving their high quality of life.

Envision Utah was designed to serve only as a facilitator for discussion and strategic analysis of Utahns' choices for meeting that challenge.

Because Envision Utah had no legal authority, implementation ultimately relied on the voluntary actions of the public and stakeholders.

With an actor playing Brigham Young as a special guest, the kickoff meeting served as a reminder of Utah's planning heritage and an opportunity for Envision Utah to pledge to local officials, the media, and residents of the Greater Wasatch Area to engage the public and honor local authority.

It was time to envision Utah's future together like never before.



“Our purpose is not to lead somewhere, our purpose is to let the public see their choices and let them lead.”
—Robert Grow
President,
Geneva Steel, 1997



THE QUALITY GROWTH STRATEGY



“Doing nothing—sitting on our hands and letting growth go its own way—will make us look back sometime in the future, as soon as even five or ten years, and cause us to ask, ‘Why didn’t we try?’”

– Larry H. Miller, Utah Jazz owner and Honorary Founding Co-Chair of Envision Utah, 1997

A UNIQUE APPROACH TO UTAH’S FUTURE: THE ENVISION UTAH PROCESS

To preserve Utah’s high quality of life for future generations, Envision Utah had to develop an effective process that would help Utahns look ahead to solve future challenges and create the communities they wanted.

From 1997 to 1999, Envision Utah created that process and used it to develop a Quality Growth Strategy for 2020.



STEP 1: UTAHNS’ VALUES

Finding out what residents love about living in Utah—and why—is the foundation of the process. A vision must be built on what Utahns want most for their future.



STEP 2: STAKEHOLDERS

Envision Utah brings in key stakeholders from businesses, government, and the community to lead, empower, create momentum, and explore how growth could occur.



STEP 3: SCENARIOS

With input from key stakeholders, values research, workshops, public surveys, and other public outreach, Envision Utah compiles data, analyzes choices, and creates multiple scenarios for how growth might occur.



STEP 4: PUBLIC INPUT

After the scenarios are created, they are presented to the public. Utahns review and compare scenarios, then select the future they want and the strategies to create that future.



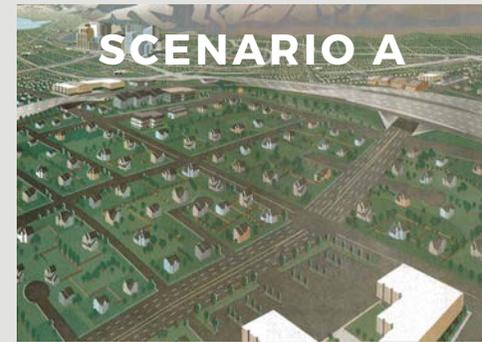
STEP 5: A VISION

A preferred scenario for the future is created from the public’s choices. That preferred scenario becomes a vision for the future with goals and strategies for implementation.

The Quality Growth Strategy process presented four scenarios to Utahns who gave their input. They chose a future with an expanded transit system, less water usage, smaller lot sizes, more housing choices, and improved air quality.

Publicly preferred strategies and outcomes from Scenarios C and D became the key components of the Quality Growth Strategy Vision for 2020.

However, the question remained: how do we make this vision a reality?



Worst air quality Larger lot sizes Expensive housing



Baseline scenario Lot sizes remain the same High demand for water



Expanded transit system Slightly smaller lot sizes Best air quality



Major transit system Smallest lot sizes Lowest water consumption

EARLY IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

It was time for Envision Utah to pivot from blueprint creation to implementation. Excited, influential board members took the publicly supported vision for 2020 to cities, counties, and other agencies to make the Quality Growth Strategy a reality.

These are just a few examples of the first efforts to implement the Quality Growth Strategy for 2020.

“Now is the time for the state and citizens to focus on growth. If we don’t, we will suffer the consequences. As quality of life goes—so goes our overall viability as a state.”

– Jon Huntsman Jr., Huntsman Corp. Vice Chairman and Envision Utah Chair, 1999



TOD Guidelines for the Wasatch Front—2002

In addition to extensive public outreach and education on public transportation, Envision Utah developed a set of guidelines to help communities plan transit-oriented development.

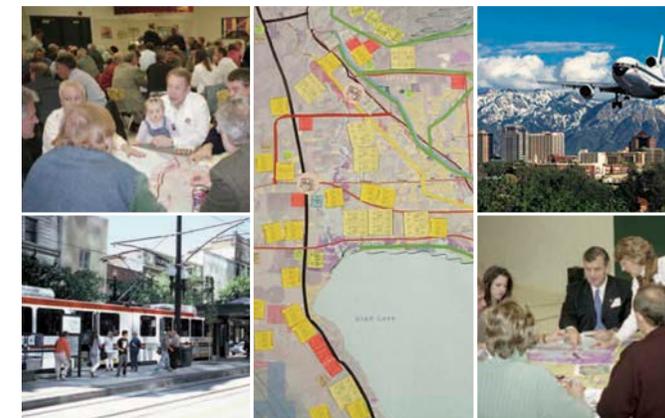
Released after the Salt Lake Olympics in 2002, the guidelines came at a time when Utahns were starting to see the potential of a light-rail system. With a single TRAX line as a foundation and example, the guidelines showed how communities could create an expanded transit system in a way that would maximize quality of life.



Mountain View Corridor—2004

In the first effort of its kind in Utah, community members and government and business leaders came together across jurisdictional boundaries to identify and study options for a multi-modal transportation corridor and the land use to support it.

Envision Utah partnered with residents, local jurisdictions, UDOT, Mountainland Association of Governments, Wasatch Front Regional Council, and Utah Transit Authority to develop growth scenarios that evaluated both transportation and land use issues for approximately 40 miles in western Salt Lake County and northern Utah County.



Wasatch Choice—2005

Envision Utah worked with its partner transportation planning agencies to engage Wasatch Front residents in fourteen community workshops. The result was a groundbreaking vision for the Wasatch Front that integrated land use planning with transportation planning. Local elected officials unanimously adopted the vision’s Growth Principles. This vision, as it has evolved, has been guiding transportation investments for years.

Five years later, in 2010, the vision was again updated, and in 2011 Envision Utah and its various partner organizations received a “sustainable communities” grant from HUD to create implementation tools used in regions across the nation today.

As Utah approached the 2020 horizon for the Quality Growth Strategy, the successes of that strategy became increasingly evident, as did the necessity for a renewed vision looking to 2050.

YOUR UTAH, YOUR FUTURE

Using the process developed for the Quality Growth Strategy, Envision Utah facilitated the creation of the *Your Utah, Your Future Vision for 2050*.

The *Your Utah, Your Future* vision resulted from more than two years of effort, engaged more people than any other similar effort in the nation, and establishes statewide goals and strategies across 11 topics.

This vision, created by Utahns, for Utahns provides a clear context, framework, and direction for policy decisions and actions to achieve the future Utahns want.

USING THE ENVISION UTAH PROCESS



Utahns' values and priorities served as the foundation for the *Your Utah, Your Future* effort. Through surveys, focus groups, and values studies, Envision Utah identified what Utahns want for the future.



Governor Gary R. Herbert helped kick off *Your Utah, Your Future* with an invitation for experts and stakeholders around the state to contribute to the vision. Eleven topics—identified by Utahns as critical to the future of the state—were selected, and action teams were established around each topic.



Over 400 experts and stakeholders came together in these action teams to create three to five scenarios for each of the 11 topics. These scenarios examined choices Utahns could make today and their projected outcomes by 2050.



The scenarios were presented to the public in an online survey. In all, *Your Utah, Your Future* was the largest public outreach effort of this kind in U.S. history, resulting in nearly 53,000 responses from Utahns across the state.



Utahns' choices formed the basis of a vision in which Utah is safe, secure, and resilient; prosperous; neighborly, fair, and caring; and healthy, beautiful, and clean. The vision includes strategies to achieve these outcomes.



YOUR UTAH, YOUR FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION

These projects, and many more, are helping Utah grow the way that Utahns want it to grow. Envision Utah is committed to making the vision for 2050 a reality and will continue to work towards that goal.



PROJECTS



Envision Utah established the Clean Air Action Team, which includes representatives from all sectors of Utah. The team issued a set of broadly supported recommendations to improve our air quality, many of which are being implemented today. Envision Utah also created the Provo Clean Air Toolkit, available at provocleanair.org.



Education is among Utahns' top priorities. Together with key stakeholders throughout the state, Envision Utah is working to ensure that Utahns know what can be done—individually and together—to improve education in our state.



Envision Utah facilitated the State Water Strategy Advisory Team in the creation of a 50-year recommended water strategy that was presented to Governor Gary Herbert in 2017. This strategy tackles the challenge of providing water for a population that is projected to nearly double by 2060, while maintaining a healthy environment, a strong economy, and thriving agriculture.



On behalf of the Point of the Mountain Development Commission, Envision Utah is working with key stakeholders and the public to create a vision that will maximize the potential of the rapidly growing Point of the Mountain area, home to much of Utah's high-tech industry, in a way that will benefit Utahns for generations to come.



Envision Utah is meeting with communities across the state to help create mixed-use centers that improve walkability, housing affordability, transportation efficiency, and overall quality of life. Communities also learn about strategies for quality growth through Envision Utah's implementation toolkit and quality communities academy.

ENVISIONING MY UTAH



Envision Utah has successfully brought together tens of thousands of Utahns to help plan a vision for the future of our wonderful state. They have done so in a way that is nonpartisan and inclusive of the viewpoints of all who call Utah home. Much of the planning success of Utah today is due to past efforts of Envision Utah. Much of our future success will be determined by how closely we follow the principles and goals of our Envision Utah process.

– Mike Mower
Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert
Former State Planning Coordinator



Thanks to Envision Utah and its revolutionary approach to facilitate a statewide vision for the future, I can look ahead with optimism knowing that my grandchildren will be able to enjoy a Utah with a high quality of life, thriving economy, job opportunities, beautiful healthy neighborhoods, and enough natural resources. Envision Utah is an inspiring collaborative effort—created by Utahns from all walks of life—that will benefit future generations.

– Gladys Gonzalez
Former President, Hispanic Marketing & Consulting



There are populations in Utah that are struggling—some on the streets, some right next door. Efforts like smart planning of quality community centers, providing access to affordable housing and transportation, and carrying out broad educational initiatives aren't easy feats. They require a great deal of collaboration, supporters and visionaries. The fact that Utah has this special planning organization is what makes this state different, and it's no wonder that other states and countries have come to Envision Utah for advice.

I hope that more Utahns will learn about Envision Utah's efforts and support their efforts, because they work tirelessly for the good of all present and future residents, which is really a special mission. Envision Utah is an important part of maintaining, and for many obtaining, the high quality of life we so enjoy in Utah, and I'm proud to have been a part of this group for many years.

– Pamela Atkinson
Community Advocate



We have found the values-based research and collaborative process employed by Envision Utah to be invaluable in uncovering effective strategies for building better communities, many of which we have been able to successfully incorporate into Daybreak.

– Ty McCutcheon
President and CEO, Daybreak Communities



From my involvement with Envision Utah, I've learned how much public perceptions, investments and policies can change in just a few short years. We truly are architects of our future. When we realize the future is not a gift, but an achievement, it changes everything.

– Natalie Gochmour
Director, Kem Gardner Policy Institute
University of Utah



Government tends to be reactionary—we focus on the political issues of the day, with little thought for the future. It is essential to long-term thinking and planning to have organizations that help concentrate public policy discussions with an eye toward tomorrow. Envision Utah effectively brings people together to collaboratively seek strategies that insure a prosperous Utah for today and for the future.

– Wayne Niederhauser
President, Utah State Senate



Planning that considers the diversity of values, resources, and needs of all stakeholders: that is the Envision Utah brand. Our community reaps the benefit, and is the envy of many other communities who have not weathered their growing pains well, because of Envision Utah.

– Rebecca Chavez-Houck
State Representative, Utah House of Representatives



Envision Utah is not afraid to bring everyone to the table, even though a diverse stakeholder group may lead to challenging discussions. Anyone who has been a part of the Envision Utah process knows that despite these differences, our stakeholders always come away with a greater understanding of the issue at hand, and a spectrum of strategies to address it.

I've been in countless meetings where the discussion wasn't easy at first, but we've been able to put our differences aside and collaborate to bring about real change. That's the Utah way.

– Lonnie Bullard
Chairman, Jacobsen Construction



Envision Utah has a history of strong planning efforts. These efforts have been designed with the inclusion of proven leadership and expertise. Moreover, this organization has served as a catalyst for coalescing sound judgment, creative ideas, and legitimate data into a whole that has formed foundations for projects, structures, and designs.

Organizations like this one CAN make a difference.

– Lucille Stoddard
Former Academic Vice President, Utah Valley University

REACHING OUT TO EVERY UTAHN

The Envision Utah process succeeds because of the participation of Utahns statewide. Since the beginning, we've worked diligently to make sure everyone can share their voice.

Each and every Envision Utah project—from the **Quality Growth Strategy** to **Your Utah, Your Future** and beyond—relies on public outreach and input to create a vision.

Over the last 20 years, our outreach process has grown and evolved to take advantage of the newest technologies.

YOUR UTAH, YOUR FUTURE 2015

52,845
Utahns answered
a detailed online
survey



Award-Winning Online Survey

5 Scenarios
11 Topics
Over 10 million
permutations

Partner Outreach

More than 500 partners or
affiliates shared the survey
with people in their
networks

School Outreach

Over 18,000 people
responded to the survey in behalf
of more than 400 schools

News Stories

99 Print Stories
Print Circulation Reach: 1,647,453
Monthly Web Visitor Reach: 31,954,567
Broadcast News Audience: 308,016

Digital Ads

7 Celebrity Ads

Radio Spots

38 Stations
3,940 Spots
Pandora Radio Ads
Heard at least 1 million times

Values Study

15 Different Topics

2015

THE QUALITY GROWTH STRATEGY 1999

20,000

Utahns shared
their voice for
2020

Newspaper Inserts to
600,000 Households

30-Minute
TV Special

Radio and
TV Ads



Press Conference
and Tour

Over 100
Public Meetings

1999

Values
Study

91% of all adult
Utahns saw an ad an
average of 20 times



A UNIQUELY UTAH PROCESS



Robert Grow
President & CEO
Founding Chair Emeritus,
Envision Utah

Envision Utah was a grand experiment. Would Utahns make wise decisions about the future when presented with clear choices? To date, that experiment has been wildly successful. For the last 20 years, we have seen Utahns' deeply-held values guide our growth and create a better place for everyone.

From our research, we know that those values include:

- Every child should have a great education.
- Every adult should have access to productive and rewarding work.
- Every family should be able to afford a decent place to live.
- Every neighborhood should be safe and secure.
- Every person should feel welcome.
- And Utah should be clean, healthy, and beautiful.

Envision Utah's process is an outgrowth of Utahns' deeply-held values and our commitment to treat each other and others' ideas with kindness, civility, and respect.

Utah's penchant for collaboration does not grow out of some esoteric notion but from very personal beliefs about how we should treat one another and the legacy we want to leave our children and grandchildren.

In his book, *Democracy as Problem Solving*, Xavier de Souza Briggs, a former MIT professor and a vice president at the

Ford Foundation, showcases Envision Utah as one of ten international models for change. He calls Envision Utah a "civic intermediary," a place where diverse Utahns come together to solve complex problems. In a personal conversation with me, he remarked that Envision Utah is the Golden Rule put into action.

A personal commitment to Envision Utah's unique, values-based process for quality growth—with its expanding network of visionary community leaders—is the taproot of Envision Utah's success. To the following early and current believers in this process, I express my personal deep and heart-felt gratitude on behalf of Envision Utah and all Utahns:

- The generous funders who have made it all possible, with special gratitude to our longest and most committed funder, the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation, and to Spencer F. Eccles, who has served as honorary co-chair for most of the last two decades
- All of Utah's governors, from Mike Leavitt to Gary Herbert, who have championed the process as honorary co-chairs
- The thousands of community leaders—including business and religious leaders, elected officials, and many others—who have served on Envision Utah's boards, as project stakeholders, and in other ways
- The tens of thousands of Utahns who have shared their voices through our projects and who have rolled up their sleeves to implement the vision
- The dedicated staff of Envision Utah who have worked tirelessly to make Utahns' vision a reality

“Envision Utah’s process is an outgrowth of Utahns’ deeply-held values and our commitment to treat each other and others’ ideas with kindness, civility, and respect.”

Thanks to your support, the Envision Utah process has become a national model helping many regions of America improve their quality of life.

Looking back over two decades, Manuel Pastor, Professor at the University of Southern California and co-author of the book *Equity, Growth, and Community*, observed that Utah has a “remarkable track record of inclusive growth” with upward mobility among the highest in the nation.

He concluded that Envision Utah's unique approach has created a diverse and dynamic “epistemic community”—a knowledge or learning community, where we really listen to each other, learn together, and solve problems together.

Governor Huntsman once remarked to me that wherever he went in Utah, people told him they needed “an Envision-like process” to solve their biggest challenges.

As we look to the future at this 20-year milestone of the Envision Utah process, it is clear our work isn't finished. We need to constantly look towards the future and make sure our decisions are based on what matters most to Utahns.

Above all, we need “Envision-like processes” through which all Utahns can work together to create the vision that guides our path.

WHAT WILL THE NEXT 20 YEARS BRING?

In the next 20 years, my children will need quality education, good jobs, and an affordable place to live. Will Utah be the place that offers those things? Will they have clean air, uncrowded access to outdoor recreation, and the ability to get around without spending their lives in traffic?

The answers to those questions are up to us.

Utah has a history of planning and growing together. The Mormon pioneers who settled Utah were planners, laying out towns and streets and planting crops for those who came later.

They worked together for the common good and for future generations, and that unique culture of collaboration and of caring about our children and grandchildren is something that persists in Utah today.

Envision Utah's process and projects bring people together to think about how our decisions today will affect those who come after us. In one of our stakeholder groups, one participant pointed to another and said, "I came here thinking you were the problem, but now I understand we're all the problem. We can't fix this without all of us." That's what we do at Envision Utah—we facilitate the dialogue that allows all of us to create a better future together.

The impact of one small not-for-profit entity in just 20 years is startling, but we haven't done it

alone. We've been the place where thousands of Utahns come together and become something that's greater than the sum of its parts.

So what will the next 20 years bring? If we work together like we did during the last twenty, the results will be remarkable.

We know we're growing fast. We're the fastest-growing state, with projections that we'll double in population by roughly 2065. Most of that growth is our own children and grandchildren. What will life be like for them? Will growth bring high housing prices, polluted air, unbearable traffic, and water shortages?

It doesn't have to be that way. We have a vision across 11 topics—everything from education to energy—that includes key strategies that will make Utah an even greater place to live than it is today. The vision was the work of tens of thousands of Utahns who shared their hopes and desires. Implementing it will take the effort of even more Utahns.

I invite you to be part of implementing the vision. Sign up for our newsletter. Join us in a stakeholder group. Donate to our operations.

But, above all, study the vision and ponder how you can do your part to make it happen.

Maybe that means thinking twice about what kind of car to buy. Maybe it means contacting your mayor or city councilor and asking them how they're accommodating a mix of housing

that matches what Utahns want and can afford. Maybe it means encouraging your neighbors to talk to and interact with their baby to maximize that child's brain development. Or maybe it means simply talking to a friend about key issues.

Your part is up to you.

In the same way, the future is up to us.

Working together, we can ensure our children can live in a place that is the envy of the world.



Ari Bruening
Chief Operating Officer
Envision Utah



Envision
Utah How we grow matters.

20th Anniversary

