

Memorandum

Planning Division Community & Economic Development Department

To: Planning Commission

From: Nick Britton, Principal Planner

Date: November 9, 2011

Re: West Salt Lake Master Plan Status Update

This past January, the Salt Lake City Planning Division began the process of updating the *West Salt Lake Master Plan* (a map showing the area covered by the Master Plan is attached). The current area master plan was adopted in 1995 and a prior update was initiated in 2005 but not finished.

Staff has held four public meetings over the past ten months to gather input for the plan. The first meeting was held on January 25th, where people identified a number of issues and locations they wanted to see the plan address. On April 28th, a second public meeting was held to get more information and input on nine specific sites/corridors that were the most frequently identified during January's meeting. On June 1st, staff presented a summary of what had been heard at previous meeintgs. Staff also organized a series of smaller meetings with business owners and managers in the West Salt Lake area to identify issues that may be particular to them, especially those operating west of Redwood Road.

A summary of the draft plan was presented to the community on September 27th. The draft was based on the comments received from the community and other stakeholders. Since then staff has been working through modifications and edits to the document as well as visuals and maps. It is expected that a second draft will be ready and posted for the public by the end of this month. At that time, staff will schedule an open house for stakeholders to meet with staff and discuss the plan. The second draft of the *West Salt Lake Master Plan* will identify potential priority projects that the Planning Division believes will be key for implementation of the plan's policies, goals and strategies.

In general, the West Salt Lake Master Plan is divided up into two parts: specific planning areas or topics (identified through the public meetings as notable and worthy of attention) and general topics. Each topic area has policies, goals and strategies as you would normally find in a master plan document.

The specific areas are as follows:

- **Community Identity:** How West Salt Lake residents perceive their own neighborhoods and how those outside of West Salt Lake perceive the community.
- 900 West/900 South District: An emerging recreational and commercial center that ties together the Jordan River, 9 Line trail and 900 West.
- 900 West: The key north-south neighborhood road that connects Glendale and Poplar Grove.
- **Jordan River:** A regional connector for outdoor enthusiasts, bicyclists and pedestrians that ties West Salt Lake's green space network together.
- **Redwood Road:** A major commercial thoroughfare that is the boundary between residential and industrial land use areas.
- **Surplus Canal:** A potential recreational pathway that ties the neighborhoods to points north and west.
- Far West Salt Lake: The largest concentration of industrial businesses in Salt Lake City.
- **Community Gateways:** The entrances to the community and neighborhoods that provide a first impression to visitors.

The general topics (and their policies) are as follows:

- **Residential land uses:** Maintaining the stability of the area's residential neighborhoods while exploring opportunities for housing options.
- **Commercial land uses:** Concentrate new commercial development at specific centers and corridors; create a sense of place at commercial centers through identifiable design standards.
- **Industrial land uses:** Encourage growth of the industrial sector of West Salt Lake where appropriate while protecting residential uses.
- Recreation, parks and public spaces: Provide additional recreation opportunities in existing
 parks and with new parks; recognize the importance of natural open space; connect schools to
 parks and public spaces.
- **History and architecture:** Continue to further awareness and recognition of the West Salt Lake Community's historic and architectural assets.
- Transportation networks: Create a safer environment for pedestrians and bicyclists; explore
 future public transit options to better serve the West Salt Lake Community; examine the
 requirements for complete streets in Far West Salt Lake; establish a better network of streets
 that help travelers bypass train delays.
- **Sustainability:** Continue to incorporate sustainability strategies into the development of the West Salt Lake Community.

A copy of the first draft is available at **www.westsaltlake.com**.

Thank you.

