

From: [Alicia Miller](#)
To: [housingoptions](#)
Cc: [Peter Wetzel](#)
Subject: (EXTERNAL) Expanding housing options
Date: Sunday, June 7, 2026 6:41:58 PM

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I have recently become aware of a proposal being considered for small lot dwellings.

Unfortunately I was not made aware of this through usual channels such as mailers and emails. I was made aware of it by a local concerned citizen. This in and of itself is distressing and doesn't feel above-board.

In attending one of the information sessions, I noted that it was poorly attended. I am sure this is due in part two the above reason that the information has not been widely dispersed. In checking with friends and neighbors, none of them were aware of this proposal. Additionally, none of them were in favor of this proposal.

I have lived in Salt Lake, my entire life and have seen many changes to the city, some good some bad. The good changes have invited broad public input and have encouraged back-and-forth dialogue to come to the best options. The bad changes have occurred through not well advertised means and feel like they represent the interest of the few rather than the many.

This proposal feels like it falls into the latter category. In speaking with a member of the planning committee at the session that I attended, the rationale for this proposal was cited as a "housing shortage". In recent years, seeing the landscape of the city, torn apart and reconstructed with massive apartment and townhouse complexes, it is inconceivable that there is an actual housing shortage.

The vacancy rate in Salt Lake is currently around 5.3%. A generally established "healthy" vacancy rate for a city is in the neighborhood of 5 to 8%. The beauty of the city is one of the things that draws people there. If city officials continue to allow the destruction of the landscape of our city, it will become a less desirable place for people to move and even less desirable for those of us who already live here.

If in fact, more affordable houses are needed for individuals wishing to purchase a home, the normal route is to purchase a home slightly outside of the center of the city, in other words, buying a home in the surrounding suburbs. This is the model that has occurred for hundreds of years, here as well as everywhere.

Incorporating this proposal will decrease the beauty of the city and reduce the value of the current homes for current homeowners.

At any rate, this proposal must have more consideration and a broader representation of input from current citizens and homeowners. It is incumbent upon those individuals who are in a position of representation of the public to ensure that more of the public is made aware of this proposal.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS PROPOSAL. As a current homeowner in Salt Lake City, current citizen of the city and registered voter, my interests are NOT being represented and I demand that further research be done to come up with a solution if in fact this is a problem that needs to be solved. Rather than irreversibly change the landscape in anticipation of solving a problem that may not exist, city officials must consider more options and get more input of representative citizens.

Sincerely,

Alicia Miller
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