

**From:** Sherrie Swensen  
**To:** [Justin Lee \(justinlee@utah.gov\)](mailto:justinlee@utah.gov)  
**Cc:** [Jason Rose](#); [Stephen M. Barnes](#); [Gavin Anderson](#); [Dahnelle Burton-Lee](#)  
**Subject:** Voter Information Pamphlets  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 4:37:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [Community Preservation VIP FINAL1.pdf](#)  
[County Option Sales and Use Tax VIP.pdf](#)

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Hi Justin,

Attached are the voter information pamphlets for Community Preservation and the County Option Sales and Use Tax. Please post these as we discussed. Thank you for your assistance.

Best wishes,

Sherrie Swensen



September 2, 1911

Dear Mr. [Name]

I have pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 29th inst. regarding the [subject].

The [subject] has been referred to the [committee] and they are now [working] on it. I will advise you as soon as a decision has been reached.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
[Name]

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## COMMUNITY PRESERVATION INFORMATION

Website: [slco.org/community-preservation/](http://slco.org/community-preservation/)

Email: [communitypreservation@slco.org](mailto:communitypreservation@slco.org)

Phone (385) 468-7199

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A financial study was conducted to analyze the numbers that apply to the decisions facing township and unincorporated island voters this fall. Salt Lake County, through a competitive bid process, awarded the financial analysis contract to Zions Bank Public Finance. An experienced team collected data from the Utah Tax Commission and other agencies to put together an accurate picture of current costs and revenues for municipal services. That report is available at:

<http://slco.org/community-preservation/financial-information/>.

If you would like to receive this pamphlet in Spanish, please call 385-468-8683, or email [votebymail@slco.org](mailto:votebymail@slco.org).

*(Si desea recibir este panfleto in español, por favor llame a 385-468-8683, o envíe correo electrónico a [votebymail@slco.org](mailto:votebymail@slco.org).)*

In order to comply with Section 203 of the Federal 2006 Voting Rights Act, Salt Lake County is required to offer all election-related materials in both Spanish and English.

## Detailed Comparison Chart: Township Options

This comparison chart displays details about the differences between townships as they currently exist within the structure of Salt Lake County, and what will occur based on the outcome of the November 3, 2015 election. Those two ballot questions are: (1) Vote whether to become a city or a metro township, (2) In ballot question 1, if the metro township prevails, then voters choose whether to be included in the Municipal Services District (MSD).

<b>Question</b>	<b>Currently</b>	<b><u>Starting January 2017, based on vote by the people in November 2016</u></b>	
		<b>Metro Township Option</b>	<b>City Option</b>
<b>Who makes planning &amp; zoning decisions and enacts local ordinances?</b>	County Council	Metro Township Council	City Council
<b>Who makes property tax decisions?</b>	County Council	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes" to be in the MSD, the MSD Board has property tax authority. If residents vote "no" to join the MSD, the Metro Township Council does not have property tax authority.	City Council. If the city remains in the MSD, the MSD Board and the City Council each have property tax authority.
<b>Who makes local sales tax decisions?</b>	County Council	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes" to be in the MSD, the combined areas' sales tax is spent by the MSD Board. If residents vote "no" the local area sales tax is spent by the Metro Township Council.	If the city remains in the MSD, the combined areas' sales tax is spent by the MSD Board. If the City Council opts out of the MSD, the local area sales tax is spent by the City Council.
<b>Who has budgeting authority for local municipal services?</b>	County Council	On ballot question 2, if residents vote "yes" to be in the MSD, the MSD Board has budgeting authority. If residents vote "no" to join the MSD, the Metro Township Council has budgeting authority.	If the city remains in the MSD, the MSD Board has budgeting authority, except for utility franchise taxes and local property taxes. If the City Council opts out of the MSD, the City Council will have full budgeting authority.
<b>Who makes utility franchise tax decisions? *See below</b>	Counties are not authorized to impose a utility franchise tax.	Metro townships are not authorized to impose a utility franchise tax.	City Council

*\*City residents and unincorporated county residents pay a right-of-way franchise fee on their cable bill. The fee is allowed by the federal government, by way of the Cable Communication Act of 1984.*

## Detailed Comparison Chart: Unincorporated Island Options

This comparison chart displays details about the differences between unincorporated islands as they currently exist within the structure of Salt Lake County, and the two options unincorporated island voters will choose between in the November Community Preservation election. Those two options are: (1) Vote to remain an unincorporated island, or (2) Vote to annex to a neighboring city.

<u>Question</u>	<u>Currently</u>	<u>Based on vote by the people in November 2015</u>	
		<b>Unincorporated Island Option</b>	<b>Annex to an Eligible City Option (process and timeline determined by SL County Council and annexing city)</b>
<b>Who makes planning &amp; zoning decisions and enacts local ordinances?</b>	County Council	County Council	City Council
<b>Who makes property tax decisions?</b>	County Council	County Council	City Council
<b>Who makes local sales tax decisions?</b>	County Council	County Council	City Council
<b>Who makes utility franchise tax decisions? *See below</b>	Counties are not authorized to impose a utility franchise tax.	Counties are not authorized to impose a utility franchise tax.	City Council
<b>Who regulates business licenses &amp; permits?</b>	County Council	County Council	City Council
<b>Who provides police services?</b>	Unified Police Department (UPD) - provider (The special service area is SLVLESA)	Unified Police Department (UPD)	Police service will be provided by whichever service the city currently uses.
<b>Who provides fire &amp; emergency services?</b>	Unified Fire Authority (UFA) - provider (The special service area is the UFSA)	Unified Fire Authority (UFA)	Fire service will be provided by whichever service the city currently uses.

*\*City residents and unincorporated county residents pay a right-of-way franchise fee on their cable bill. The fee is allowed by the federal government, by way of the Cable Communication Act of 1984.*

# Explanation of Metro Township and City

## METRO TOWNSHIP

### Government in a Metro Township

A metro township is a new incorporation option for local governance by those currently living in a township.

If township voters choose to become a metro township in November 2015, they will elect a five-member council in November 2016. The council is empowered to enact local ordinances, decide local planning and zoning issues, and oversee local municipal services.

A metro township that chooses to be in the Municipal Services District (MSD) will be represented on the MSD Board of Trustees by its elected council chair and will help oversee the budget.

If the metro township is in the MSD, services will be provided by county or MSD staff. If not, the metro township council will determine whether to contract for those services or self-provide.

Currently township municipal services are provided by Salt Lake County. (Fire, police and trash/recycling services are delivered by, and will stay with, current providers- Unified Police Department, Unified Fire Authority and Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District.)

Townships presently have no authority to impose a utility franchise tax or a municipal telecommunications tax. Metro townships will also not have that authority, nor do they have the authority to impose property taxes.

### How are municipal services currently funded?

Currently, township municipal services are provided from sales taxes, grants and fees from townships, unincorporated areas and from cities that contract with Salt Lake County for those services. Townships do not currently have budget oversight of municipal services, except through their representatives on the Salt Lake County Council and the Salt Lake County Mayor.

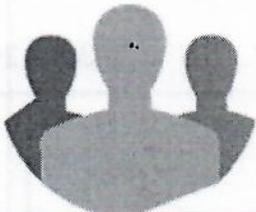
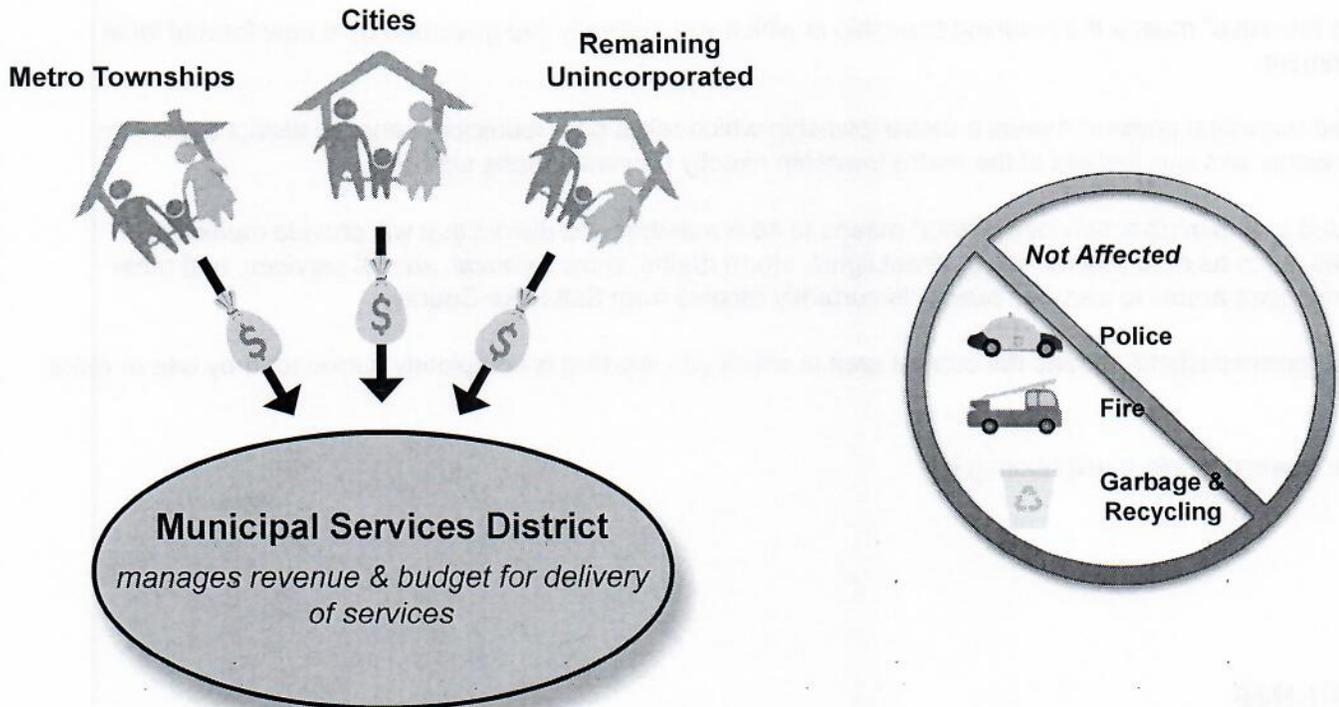
### Funding metro township operations as part of the Municipal Services District (MSD)

Through their elected council representative on the MSD Board, they will review and approve the budget.

### Funding metro township operations if not a member of the Municipal Services District (MSD)

Sales taxes within the metro township will be used to contract for services or self-provide. If the new metro township council chooses to stay in the Municipal Services District, the metro township's sales tax revenue will contribute to the MSD budget.

# What is the Municipal Services District (MSD)?

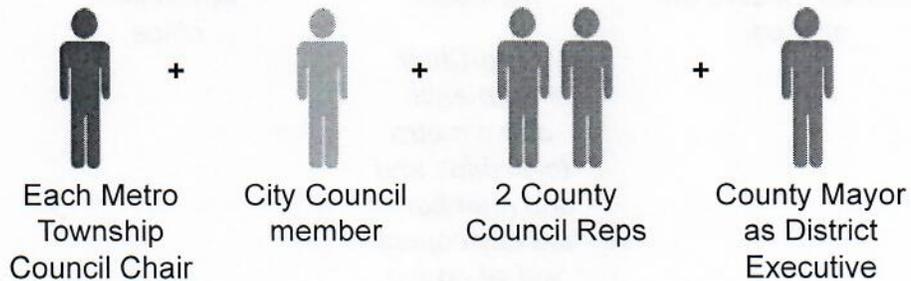


Managed by a **Board of Trustees**, composed of locally elected council members

**Metro Township:** MSD Board has budgeting authority. If metro townships choose to not be in the MSD, the metro township council has budgeting authority.

**Cities:** For those who remain in the MSD, the MSD Board has budgeting authority, except for utility franchise taxes and local property taxes. If the city council opts out of the MSD, the city council will have full budgeting authority.

## Beginning Jan. 2017 the board will consist of:



MSD Board of Trustees members will have weighted votes based on their community's population.

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MILLCREEK

**Question 1:** Shall "Millcreek Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Millcreek Metro Township" or as the city of "Millcreek City?"

- Millcreek Metro Township
- Millcreek City

### ARGUMENT FOR MILLCREEK METRO TOWNSHIP

The clear and compelling choice is to **vote YES for a Metro Township and YES for the MSD**. The "YES" vote to these two questions will ensure we will "remain as we are" and not get gobbled-up in an unnecessary and additional level of government. Most residents like the high quality and efficient municipal services provided by Salt Lake County and want those services to continue. The message again and again is Salt Lake County delivers superior services; thank you and leave us alone. And more important, **our YES vote allows Millcreek to benefit from Kennecott's sales tax revenue**. Voting YES for a Metro Township and the MSD is a simple and smart decision.

As federal, state and local governments increasingly become more expensive bureaucracies, the form of government and delivery of municipal services contemplated under SB-199 (the legislation that made this vote) is the genius of simple, fair and effective local government. Specifically, a YES vote for Metro Township and the MSD instead of a "city", is a vote for:

- Retaining our current high quality municipal services provided by Salt Lake County;
- Continues to **provide municipal services with the economies of scale, that a city cannot achieve;**
- Ensures Unified Police Department ("UPD"), the Unified Fire Authority ("UFA") and now the Municipal Services Districts ("MSD") will be managed with consistency with effective local oversight and management—we will have representation on the UPD, UFA and MSD governing boards;
- Provides **local decision making, such as zoning and ordinances specific to Millcreek by representation** →

### ARGUMENT FOR MILLCREEK CITY

Salt Lake County is getting out of the municipal governance business. In 2017, we will start governing ourselves.

Whichever way this vote comes out, the neighborhoods of Canyon Rim, East Millcreek, Millcreek and Mt Olympus will be united as Millcreek. We will be Utah's 11th-largest municipality. The county's independent fiscal analysis shows that our local economy generates more in taxes than we consume in services. We are ready to stand on our own.

In this election, we will decide which kind of municipality we will be: a "metro township" or a "city."

A metro township is a very different kind of township from what we have now. Currently, the Salt Lake County Council makes local government decisions for the 160,000 people who live in unincorporated areas, including Millcreek. But the county's main job is to provide regional government for all 1.2 million residents of Salt Lake County. After this vote, the county will no longer be making our local government decisions. "Status quo" is not an option with either a metro township or a city.

So what's the difference between a city and a metro township?

The metro township is a new form of government created this year. Nobody's tried it yet. Its powers are limited and ambiguous; legal experts from all sides say it needs further clarification and amendment.

Cities, on the other hand, have existed since before Utah began. Their legal status is well settled. The vast majority of Utahns are served by cities.

Metro townships have only one way to fund their services. Prudent financial management calls for diversified income. Many Millcreek residents with strong fiscally conservative beliefs support the traditional city with its more established and dependable fiscal structure as opposed to experimenting with the untested metro township concept.

Another concern about a metro township is the method of selecting its highest officer – the council chairperson. →

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MILLCREEK

**Question 2:** If the majority of voters voting in this election vote to incorporate as a metro township, shall the metro township be a metro township, with limited municipal powers, that is included in a municipal services district?

Yes

No

### ARGUMENT FOR JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

Ballot question #2 asks if your community should be in the Municipal Services District (MSD). Millcreek residents should vote YES on ballot question #2.

The MSD will be using the same employees and providing the same services that you currently enjoy. It will be owned by the entities that vote for inclusion. Without the MSD, Millcreek leaders will be required to secure municipal services shortly after they are elected. The best and least expensive option is to join the MSD. The MSD is a local service district where communities pool sales tax revenue and then make servicing decisions. Millcreek will have an elected official, who lives in Millcreek, on this board to help make decisions. The votes on the MSD will be weighted by population, so Millcreek will have a large representation on the MSD board. Salt Lake County intends to transfer all remaining unincorporated revenues to the MSD. This means that you will still have the economies of scale and revenue that comes from large entities. By voting YES on question #2, you will continue to receive the same great services you are now, and share revenues with other communities.

With the current funding model, 100% of your municipal services are paid by sales tax. Sales tax will continue to pay for all of your services without requiring additional revenues, if you are part of the MSD. According to the Zions Bank fiscal analysis, Millcreek is getting a good deal on municipal services by pooling them with other unincorporated areas. The alternative options for municipal services are to: 1) Contract with the MSD, surrounding cities or private entities- this option will need to be negotiated and Millcreek will be contracting without ownership rights. The cost may be more than your

### ARGUMENT AGAINST JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

First, remember that everyone is supposed to vote on question 2, regardless of how you vote on question 1.

Question 2 is about how Millcreek will provide municipal services in the future.

"Municipal services" are things cities usually provide for their citizens, like snow removal, street repair, animal services, streetlights, storm drains, local parks, planning, zoning, and encouraging the growth of local businesses.

Starting in 2017, Millcreek will have its own local government that will need to provide municipal services. The services will be paid for by local taxes that have previously been going to Salt Lake County's municipal services fund.

The Municipal Services District or "MSD" is one way for new cities and metro townships to provide municipal services. The MSD's member communities will be required to pay all their sales tax revenues over to the MSD, and the MSD will provide the services to those communities.

The MSD will be governed by a board of trustees. Each area that is in the MSD will have a representative on the board. The board members' votes will be weighted in proportion to the population of the area they represent.

If Millcreek joined the MSD, our taxes would be pooled with taxes from the other members (most likely Magna, Kearns, White City, Emigration Canyon, Copperton, plus any remaining unincorporated "islands"). Millcreek would be the largest contributor of taxes, but we would have a minority vote on the board. The MSD would be our only source for municipal services and we would have a minority vote in its management.

We encourage you to vote against the MSD. Voting "no" will allow Millcreek to keep control of how Millcreek's taxes are spent. It will put spending decisions in the hands of representatives elected only by Millcreek voters.

Voting "no" doesn't mean we reject the whole idea of the MSD. Even if we are not a permanent member of the MSD, the

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - KEARNS

**Question 1:** Shall "Kearns Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Kearns Metro Township" or as the city of "Kearns City?"

- Kearns Metro Township
- Kearns City

### ARGUMENT FOR KEARNS METRO TOWNSHIP

This election season voters are asked to choose a new governing option for Salt Lake County's six townships. There have been concerns about why there is no "status quo" option on the ballot. Many residents like the high quality and efficient municipal services that Salt Lake County provides and want those services to continue. The closest thing to "status quo" is to be a Metro Township and join the Municipal Services District.

One of the reasons for this election is because for the last 30 years cities in Salt Lake Valley have been chipping away at the financial stability of unincorporated areas through annexations and incorporations. When a new commercial development is built, with increased sales tax revenues, it usually takes little time for a neighboring city to steal the development away by offering financial and other annexation incentives to the business owners – this takes away an unincorporated community's ability to be economically self-sustaining. Voting for a Metro Township provides unincorporated communities boundary protection and gives them access to Salt Lake County's excellent existing municipal services, through the Municipal Services District, which means established and experienced delivery, adequate vehicles and other resources, and a pool of dedicated public servants.

Voting for a Metro Township gives voters a chance to test-drive a more formal kind of local government – like putting a toe in the water – without taking the plunge with a full city status. If it works, and there is good reason in the future to become a city or town, that option will be available to Metro Township residents. A Metro Township, unlike a city, cannot charge

### ARGUMENT FOR KEARNS CITY

On November 3rd, county voters will face a perplexing option on the ballot – as an unincorporated area township resident, do you want to belong to a new city or to a "metro township?" Everyone is asking, "What in the world is a metro township?" A metro township is trying to be a city, but it only grants to local residents local powers over planning, zoning and ordinances and no power over revenues. Truly the only real difference between a metro township and a city, is that a city can levy utility franchise taxes and property taxes, if leaders so choose.

Cities have been around for thousands of years. They are the oldest form of local government. Townships have not been around in Utah – it is a new political concept created seven months ago, modeled on township laws in states back east, but there is not an example of one in Utah. Cities, in comparison, have an established track record of local responsiveness, efficient provision of municipal services, and a minimized tax burden (assuming we local citizens are willing to keep city leaders responsive).

Five council members will govern the city – four districted council members and one council chair/mayor. All offices will be part time. The mayor is a member of the legislative body (council), and does not run the day-to-day affairs, much like city governments in Cottonwood Heights and Herriman. The city relies on professionals (whether through the MSD or otherwise) to run the city. City officials will be elected directly by you and your neighbors, and be responsible for the quality of local services. If you become a city, you can still be part of the Municipal Services District (MSD) to pool revenue and share services to take advantage of economies of scale. Newly-elected city council members will have six months to decide whether to stay in the MSD or not. Becoming a city will not limit joining in regional service delivery either through the MSD or contracting for service. Voting to become a city gives you ultimate flexibility for services – leaders can stay in the MSD and pool revenues/share services; leaders can opt out of the MSD, but contract back with the MSD or another entity; or leaders can self-provide services.

This election gives us a unique opportunity to vote to become a city without having to jump through all the hoops normally

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - KEARNS

**Question 2:** If the majority of voters voting in this election vote to incorporate as a metro township, shall the metro township be a metro township, with limited municipal powers, that is included in a municipal services district?

Yes

No

### ARGUMENT FOR JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

Ballot question #2 asks if your community should be in the Municipal Services District (MSD). Kearns residents need to vote YES on ballot question #2.

The MSD will be using the same employees and providing the same services that you currently enjoy. It will be owned by the entities that vote for inclusion. Without the MSD, Kearns leaders will be required to secure municipal services shortly after they are elected. The best and least expensive option is to join the MSD. The MSD is a local service district where communities pool sales tax revenue and then make servicing decisions. Kearns will have an elected official, who lives in Kearns, on this board to help make decisions. Salt Lake County intends to transfer all remaining unincorporated revenues to the MSD. This means that you will still have the economies of scale and revenue that comes from large entities. By voting YES on question #2, you will continue to receive the same great services you are now, and share revenues with other communities.

With the current funding model, 100% of your municipal services are paid by sales tax. Sales tax will continue to pay for all of your services without requiring additional revenues, if you are part of the MSD. If you decide not to belong to the MSD, your only option to match the revenues to expenditures would be to cut services. The great thing about the MSD is that you get the advantages of large entities within the remaining unincorporated areas. You will not need to cut services if you join the MSD. The alternative options for municipal services are to: 1) Contract with the MSD, surrounding cities or private entities- this option will need to be negotiated and Kearns will be contracting without ownership rights. The cost may be more than your current sales tax revenues. 2) Self-provide municipal services – Kearns could hire employees, maintain assets, and assume liability. The cost would likely be more than your current sales tax revenues.

Whether you vote to become a city or a metro township on question #1, Kearns can still be in the MSD and pool revenues and share services, just like you are doing now with Salt Lake County. This includes the benefits of economies of scale, shared staff, and better purchasing power from a large service provider. You will have local control and representation, as well as having ownership in the MSD. No matter your vote on question #1, you can still vote YES on question #2.

Michael Jensen, Salt Lake County Council

Aimee Winder Newton, Salt Lake County Council

### ARGUMENT AGAINST JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

No argument submitted.

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - MAGNA

### ARGUMENT FOR MAGNA METRO TOWNSHIP, CONT.

a city or town, that option will be available to Metro Township residents. A Metro Township, unlike a city, cannot charge utility franchise taxes.

The biggest advantage to voting for a Metro Township comes with the second question on the ballot in November: Shall the Metro Township be included in the Municipal Services District? Here's where the Metro concept really shines. Several areas across the valley, including cities and other Metro Townships, will band together to share municipal services, with no need to create six new public works departments with all the duplication of administration and the resulting multiplication of costs. The biggest advantages are economies of scale and sharing a much larger revenue pool.

Voting for a Metro Township will also permit the creation of a responsive local governing body, the Metro Township Council. Five persons will be elected from your neighborhood and they're required to run for office and solicit political power from you, the local voters. They will have the legal authority to establish local ordinances and regulations, including local planning and zoning. The government closest to the people governs best.

There's no need to take a plunge directly into full city status this fall. The Metro Township will rely on pooled staff assistance and service providers. Vote for maintaining our unique status in unincorporated Salt Lake County. Vote for the Metro Township option on November 3rd!

Mick Sudbury  
*Magna Resident*

### ARGUMENT FOR MAGNA CITY, CONT.

What form of government we did have at one time has been changed little by little every legislative session for several years back. Also with other larger cities taking little pieces of other communities, something needed to happen.

LaDell Bishop  
*Magna Resident*

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - WHITE CITY

**Question 1:** Shall "White City Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "White City Metro Township" or as the city of "White City?"

- White City Metro Township
- White City

### ARGUMENT FOR WHITE CITY METRO TOWNSHIP

This election season voters are asked to choose a new governing option for Salt Lake County's six townships. There have been concerns about why there is no "status quo" option on the ballot. Many residents like the high quality and efficient municipal services that Salt Lake County provides and want those services to continue. The closest thing to "status quo" is to be a Metro Township and join the Municipal Services District (MSD).

Ballot question #2 asks if your community should be in the Municipal Services District (MSD). White City residents need to vote YES on ballot question #2.

The MSD will be using the same employees and providing the same services that you currently enjoy. It will be owned by the entities that vote for inclusion. Without the MSD, White City leaders will be required to secure municipal services shortly after they are elected. The best and least expensive option is to join the MSD. The MSD is a local service district where communities pool sales tax revenue and then make servicing decisions. White City will have an elected official, who lives in White City, on this board to help make decisions. Salt Lake County intends to transfer all remaining unincorporated revenues to the MSD. This means that you will still have the economies of scale and revenue that comes from large entities. By voting YES on question #2, you will continue to receive the same great services you are now, and share revenues with other communities.

With the current funding model, 100% of your municipal services are paid by sales tax. Sales tax will continue to pay for



### ARGUMENT FOR WHITE CITY

"All politics are local."

Your community will choose to incorporate either as a Metro Township or as a traditional city/town. Either choice is a change from "unincorporated county" status quo. We urge you to incorporate as a city/town to ensure local accountability, local control over services, and the full measure of time-tested tools to preserve and enhance your community.

First, the locally elected mayor and city council in a city/town will make all of the decisions. Your elected mayor and council will be your neighbors. They will serve you and be accountable to you.

Conversely in a Metro Township, an elected township council will only have some influence to advocate for county decisions. Instead, the county mayor and county officials will still perform administrative functions. Consequently, a metro township will have only limited local control.

Second, by incorporating as a city or town, you ensure that your community resources will be spent in your community. Utah cities each provide a variety of planning and zoning, utility, cemetery, recreation, traffic and public safety services. Each city approaches these services differently—in the way that works best for them. Some cities provide these services themselves while others contract with other governments and private companies to provide services. Regardless, local officials determine what is best for their communities.

Third, what is a Metro Township? It is an experiment fraught with uncertainty. While a Metro Township will have a Metro Township council, they will not have the same authority that a true city council would have. By state law, Metro Townships will have fewer financial options than cities and towns. As such, Metro Townships will be more reliant on property taxes than cities and towns are. State law requires Metro Townships to hire County officials to perform specified services; cities and towns have discretion to decide the best way to provide those services.



## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - WHITE CITY

**Question 2:** If the majority of voters voting in this election vote to incorporate as a metro township, shall the metro township be a metro township, with limited municipal powers, that is included in a municipal services district?

Yes

No

### ARGUMENT FOR JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

No Argument Submitted

### ARGUMENT AGAINST JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

No Argument Submitted

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - EMIGRATION CANYON

### ARGUMENT FOR EMIGRATION CANYON METRO TOWNSHIP, CONT.

The choice between the City and Metro Township models is a choice between two levels of local government. The City Council has more authority to tax (property and sales tax plus utilities and telecommunications), and to opt out of the MSD in 2017 if it makes more sense for the canyon to self-provide or subcontract for these services. In the Township model, the Township Council can levy sales tax, but not utility or telecommunications taxes. If the voters decide to stay with the MSD, that is the body that can levy property taxes for services (and the chair of the Council is on the MSD board). A Metro Township Council does not have property tax authority. The City model gives more power and flexibility to the local government. The Metro Township limits that power. I support the more limited form of local government and the voter decision on the MSD. This would be a 'Metro Township' vote on Question 1 and a 'Yes' vote on Question 2 on this ballot.

Dr. Cynthia Furse  
*Emigration Canyon Resident*

### ARGUMENT FOR EMIGRATION CANYON CITY, CONT.

Some argue that your area has insufficient revenue to provide city services or that forming a city/town will just impose another layer of government. Logic dictates that regardless of how you receive services—service district, city, or county—the costs are borne by the service recipients. Municipal tax burdens in cities that have incorporated within Salt Lake County in the last 40 years (ie. Taylorsville, Cottonwood Heights) are lower than the tax burdens on residents of the unincorporated county. The imposition of discreet taxes by multiple taxing districts (ie. UPD, UFA, the new Municipal Services District) exceed what those same services would be in a city/town. Instead of combining resources across the county for services, your locally elected mayor and council can focus on local service priorities in your neighborhood.

In conclusion, incorporating as a city/town best provides accountability by electing local officials who are vested in the community to make decisions about how to utilize local taxes. Incorporating as a city also provides the opportunity to identify the best way to provide municipal services, to control local planning and zoning, and preserve your sense of identity.

Vote to incorporate as a city/town.

Lynn Pace, ULCT 1st Vice President, Holladay City Council  
Mayor JoAnn Seghini, ULCT Treasurer, Midvale City  
Mayor Ted Eyre, ULCT Board Member, Murray City

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - COPPERTON

**Question 1:** Shall "Copperton Planning Township" be incorporated as a metro township "Copperton Metro Township" or as the "Town of Copperton?"

- Copperton Metro Township
- Town of Copperton

### ARGUMENT FOR COPPERTON METRO TOWNSHIP

Of the six Townships affected by this, Copperton is unique. Because of our size and lack of a commercial tax base becoming a city in my opinion is not an option.

If the choice is made to become a Metro Township, Copperton will elect a board of 5 members of the community. They will have the legal authority to establish local ordinances and regulations, including planning and zoning. This will give our community the power to decide our town's future. As it currently stands our Township boundary to the North extends to the "fence line" of Kennecott. In the future there will be applications to develop the open area that includes the old Bingham High School land and the rest of the undeveloped land to the "fence line". There is also the possibility that when Kennecott does choose to develop their land that was originally part of the Copperton Township they can choose to rejoin Copperton which would vastly increase the opportunity to incorporate an educated and well designed Master Plan that can allow responsible development while maintaining the close knit community that we have come to love so much.

Voting for a Metro Township gives voters a chance to test-drive a more formal kind of local government, without taking the plunge to a full city status. If it works, and there is good reason in the future to become a city or town, that option will be available to Metro Township residents.

The biggest advantage in my opinion to voting for a Metro Township comes with the second question on the ballot in November: Shall the Metro Township be included in the Municipal Services District? Here's where I feel the Metro concept really shines. Several areas across the valley, including cities and other Metro Townships, will band together

### ARGUMENT FOR TOWN OF COPPERTON

"All politics are local."

Your community will choose to incorporate either as a Metro Township or as a traditional city/town. Either choice is a change from "unincorporated county" status quo. We urge you to incorporate as a city/town to ensure local accountability, local control over services, and the full measure of time-tested tools to preserve and enhance your community.

First, the locally elected mayor and city council in a city/town will make all of the decisions. Your elected mayor and council will be your neighbors. They will serve you and be accountable to you.

Conversely in a Metro Township, an elected township council will only have some influence to advocate for county decisions. Instead, the county mayor and county officials will still perform administrative functions. Consequently, a metro township will have only limited local control.

Second, by incorporating as a city or town, you ensure that your community resources will be spent in your community. Utah cities each provide a variety of planning and zoning, utility, cemetery, recreation, traffic and public safety services. Each city approaches these services differently—in the way that works best for them. Some cities provide these services themselves while others contract with other governments and private companies to provide services. Regardless, local officials determine what is best for their communities.

Third, what is a Metro Township? It is an experiment fraught with uncertainty. While a Metro Township will have a Metro Township council, they will not have the same authority that a true city council would have. By state law, Metro Townships will have fewer financial options than cities and towns. As such, Metro Townships will be more reliant on property taxes than cities and towns are. State law requires Metro Townships to hire County officials to perform specified services; cities

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6 - COPPERTON

**Question 2:** If the majority of voters voting in this election vote to incorporate as a metro township, shall the metro township be a metro township, with limited municipal powers, that is included in a municipal services district?

Yes

No

### ARGUMENT FOR JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

Ballot question #2 asks if your community should be in the Municipal Services District (MSD). Copperton residents need to vote YES on ballot question #2.

The MSD will be using the same employees and providing the same services that you currently enjoy. It will be owned by the entities that vote for inclusion. Without the MSD, Copperton leaders will be required to secure municipal services shortly after they are elected. The best and least expensive option is to join the MSD. The MSD is a local service district where communities pool sales tax revenue and then make servicing decisions. Copperton will have an elected official, who lives in Copperton, on this board to help make decisions. Salt Lake County intends to transfer all remaining unincorporated revenues to the MSD. This means that you will still have the economies of scale and revenue that comes from large entities. By voting YES on question #2, you will continue to receive the same great services you are now, and share revenues with other communities.

With the current funding model, 100% of your municipal services are paid by sales tax. Sales tax will continue to pay for all of your services without requiring additional revenues, if you are part of the MSD. If you decide not to belong to the MSD, your only option to match the revenues to expenditures would be to cut services. The great thing about the MSD is that you get the advantages of large entities within the remaining unincorporated areas. You will not need to cut services if you join the MSD. The alternative options for municipal services are to: 1) Contract with the MSD, surrounding cities or private entities- this option will need to be negotiated and Copperton will be contracting without ownership rights. The cost may be more than your current sales tax revenues. 2) Self-provide municipal services – Copperton could hire employees, maintain assets, and assume liability. The cost would likely be more than your current sales tax revenues.

Whether you vote to become a town or a metro township on question #1, Copperton can still be in the MSD and pool revenues and share services, just like you are doing now with Salt Lake County. This includes the benefits of economies of scale, shared staff, and better purchasing power from a large service provider. You will have local control and representation, as well as having ownership in the MSD. No matter your vote on question #1, you can still vote YES on question #2.

Michael Jensen, Salt Lake County Council  
Aimee Winder Newton, Salt Lake County Council

### ARGUMENT AGAINST JOINING MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

No argument submitted.

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6

### UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND NOS. 2-14, 16-18, 35-38, 46

**Question:** Shall the unincorporated island bounded by [streets forming boundaries], excepting any areas already included within the municipal boundaries of Sandy City, Utah labeled as Unincorporated Salt Lake County Island No.\* on the enclosed map to be annexed by Sandy City or remain unincorporated?

- Annex into Sandy City
- Remain an Unincorporated Area

**\*Note:** Voters residing in these unincorporated islands should refer to the ballot they receive in the mail for the number of the unincorporated island in which they reside, the description of the island and a map of that island. Maps and descriptions of the thirty nine islands may also be found at [www.slco.org/community-preservation/Maps](http://www.slco.org/community-preservation/Maps).

#### ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SANDY CITY

Salt Lake County has grown rapidly over the past thirty years. It has changed from large areas of open space and pockets of population, to cities growing into each other and the unincorporated areas shrinking into small islands and townships.

That development pattern has led to a patchwork of laws and a host of governance challenges. Community Preservation is the result of an unprecedented, yearlong effort by residents from across the Salt Lake Valley to create a stronger future for Salt Lake County. It will help put an end to a debate that pits neighbor against neighbor and it will help all communities within the County have stability. It will also help position Salt Lake County to deal more effectively with regional service and economic development issues that affect us all.

An important element to Community Preservation is self-determination. Residents of existing townships will decide their own local government by choosing to become either a city or a metro township. They will also choose whether to join a Municipal Services District, which will manage the budget, revenue and expenses, and the delivery of municipal services for the metro townships and unincorporated areas of Salt Lake County. There are pros and cons to both the metro township model and incorporation. It is my strong recommendation that residents of current townships seriously consider their options.

Residents in unincorporated islands will choose whether to annex into an adjacent city or retain their current unincorporated status. Each island will vote on its own. I strongly urge residents of unincorporated islands to annex into their adjacent city. These areas are surrounded entirely by one or more municipalities, which creates major challenges for the delivery of municipal services. It is not efficient for a snow plow to travel across the County to plow only a few blocks. Unfortunately, this is currently the case for most of these small islands. The numbers show that residents of the islands that vote to join an adjacent city will actually experience a tax decrease. Moreover, the patchwork of islands poses many accountability challenges. Decisions made by the municipal leaders surrounding these communities affect these residents. These residents have a right to have a say in their own community.

I am optimistic that Community Preservation will move our valley forward and prepare us for the next stage of development. I encourage you to seriously consider your options and mail-in your ballot by November 2nd.

Senator Wayne Niederhauser  
President of the Utah Senate

#### ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA

No argument submitted.

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6

### UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND No. 15 (WILLOW CREEK)

#### ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SANDY CITY, CONT.

etc.) than if you lived in either of the neighboring cities of Sandy or Cottonwood Heights. This includes all property taxes, franchise taxes, and fees. Since the formation of the UFA, UPD, and now MSD beginning 10 years ago, costs of municipal services in the unincorporated islands have risen substantially.

No one who supports or has exercised their right to annex has made that choice based on dissatisfaction with Salt Lake County. The County has been in a difficult spot and may have made the best possible decisions to contain costs. But the fact remains that one pays a significant tax premium to live in an unincorporated island. Voting for Status Quo means opting to pay much more for municipal services. Some may feel it's worth it. But let's not forget that a resident choosing annexation still lives in Salt Lake County and still receives the generous benefits of certain County-wide services (like libraries and senior centers) and representation. One isn't seceding from Salt Lake County.

Wherever you live in the islands, chances are good that you may know or live close to someone who annexed to a city over the past year. Annexations took place widely throughout the Granite, Willow Creek, and Sandy areas. Why not reach out to your neighbors and discuss their experiences? In many ways, they probably haven't noticed any change at all. Their neighborhood cohesiveness and character is surely unchanged. But if they annexed prior to December 31st last year, they received a welcome reduction in taxes on the Property Tax Notice they received in July, and many residents report a noticeable increase in the services they receive. Lower taxes, better services, and responsive local governance combined with continued county representation and key services equals a good deal for the islands.

Cyndi Sharkey

*Willow Creek resident who participated in the annexation of 190 homes to Sandy City in 2014*

#### ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA, CONT.

7. Sandy City already has a debt I do not want to take on. (Plus a pending new "Sales Tax Revenue Bond" to build the new Hale Center Theater of \$46.5 million. Hale Theater would lease it from Sandy.)
8. We have excellent public services from the county, and the county workers I have dealt with are friendly, helpful and efficient. We wouldn't benefit from a change.

I have lived in Willow Creek since 1971 and have NO complaints about services. I have enjoyed my neighborhood and schools--So where is the necessity to change?

**THE GRASS IS NOT GREENER ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD!!**

**KEEP WILLOW CREEK UNIQUE!**

Cindy Dechart

*Willow Creek Resident*

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #6

### UNINCORPORATED SALT LAKE COUNTY ISLAND NOS. 20 - 34 (GRANITE)

#### ARGUMENT FOR ANNEXATION INTO SANDY CITY, CONT.

- Work with residents to identify and mark Granite historical sites;
  - Create and place waypoint markers or entryway signs to the Granite Community;
  - Support and promote existing Granite area community festivals and events.
  - We believe that concerns regarding Sandy City seeking annexations to “densify” residential use and/or convert undeveloped property for commercial use are overstated.
    - Annexed properties will retain the same zoning as they currently have in SLCo.
    - Zoning changes on properties in Sandy or SLCo require virtually the same process.
    - Sandy supports the Granite Community Master Plan approved by SLCo. They are willing to work with Granite residents to update the Master Plan.
    - Sandy has proven that it can be trusted to work closely with residents before approving zoning changes.
3. **ECONOMIC BENEFITS:** Annexation results in lower cost of residency compared to SLCo.
- For our home, the annual cost savings of annexation into Sandy is \$400 - \$500. For many homes in the Granite Community, the cost savings could be much greater.
  - Over the long term, we expect Sandy property taxes to remain lower than SLCo taxes due to Sandy’s strong commercial tax base.
4. **WATER:** Unincorporated Granite residents pay more for Sandy City culinary water. In the case of future water shortages, Granite residents currently have only “residual” water rights after all Sandy resident needs have been met. Annexation will reduce Granite resident water bills and provide equal treatment in any future water rationing.
5. **SERVICES:** Over the long-term, we believe that the best service (i.e. highest quality at the lowest cost) will be provided by Sandy City, since it is the municipality closest to where we live. It does not make sense to have two municipalities providing core services to the same geography.

Respectfully,

Ray & Marilyn Anderson  
*Granite Residents*

#### ARGUMENT TO REMAIN AN UNINCORPORATED AREA, CONT.

recognize that the housing density and possibility of commercial development will naturally increase with annexation into Sandy City.

There are many properties in Granite that are developable—do we want to see them developed at the highest density possible or continue to develop at a more reasonable level, in keeping with adjacent properties?

I recently attended a Sandy Planning Commission meeting (June 2015), where a property that was annexed from Granite into Sandy last year was proposed for a rezone. The property is located at 107th S. and 17th E., west of Larkin Cemetery and south of Dimple Dell Park. It is bounded on the other sides by properties zoned  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre and the three lots were zoned  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre. The property now has three houses on 5.72 acres with horse property nearby.

The Sandy Planning Commission recommended approval and the Sandy City Council unanimously approved the plan to put 26 homes on the property, with 10 homes on lots so small that they are called pads, with the property line just barely extended out from the foundation of each home. Do we want more of this kind of development along Dimple Dell and in many other areas of Granite?

These are the reasons why I want to remain in the unincorporated Salt Lake County.

Mary J. Young  
*Granite Resident*

**NOTES:**

NOTES:

# NOTES:



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE

## COUNTY PROPOSITION #1

**Question:** AN OPINION QUESTION TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS SUCH AS ROADS, SIDEWALKS, TRAILS, MAINTENANCE, BUS AND RAIL SERVICE, AND SAFETY FEATURES

Shall Salt Lake County, Utah, be authorized to impose a quarter-of-one-percent (0.25% or the equivalent of 1 cent for every \$4 spent) sales and use tax for the specific purpose of transportation improvements such as roads, trails, sidewalks, maintenance, bus and rail service, and traffic and pedestrian safety features, with the revenues divided among the county, cities and towns, and the public transit provider within the County?

FOR THE TAX

AGAINST THE TAX

### Argument for the tax:

We all want our children and grandchildren to enjoy a wonderful quality of life now and in the future. Utah's cities and counties face a growing population, deteriorating roads, and local budgets that fail to keep up with mounting maintenance costs. The need is visible on our streets and sidewalks. Our transportation choices are limited by gaps in transit service and incomplete bike paths and trails. The result: longer commutes, more wear and tear on our cars, hampered economic prosperity, and a diminished quality of life.

With new funding through Proposition 1 (a sales tax for local transportation), local elected leaders can prepare for population growth, take better care of our roadways and sidewalks, and promote economic prosperity in our community.

Prop 1 will provide a substantial piece of the local transportation puzzle. For just one cent of every four dollars spent—excluding food purchases—we can maintain our local roads, keep our economy moving, improve our air quality, and reduce our traffic so that we spend more time with our families and less time in our cars.

The cost of doing nothing is far higher for the average Utah family than the local option sales tax. Prop 1 would cost the average person \$40 a year, but our current road disrepair costs the average driver over \$600 more a year in added fuel use, tire wear, and extra car maintenance. In addition, for every dollar we invest now in infrastructure, we save \$6 in repair and \$10 in reconstruction work. We know that roads cost more taxpayer dollars when they are not maintained. Things like slurry seals, chip seals and overlays, that help keep roads in good shape cost money, but are far less expensive than going without maintenance and having to rebuild a road years later. Choosing to maintain our roads today is the financially responsible and fiscally conservative approach for families.

Prop 1 is dedicated exclusively to local transportation. Prop 1 is not for the construction of major highways and rail lines, nor will it fund the overhead of large agencies. Prop 1 will fund things that are close to home – the transportation options you use and need the most. It will fill a nasty pothole on your local street, finish a sidewalk between your house and your children's school, or add to bus service, trails, and bike paths so you have more transportation choices.

More than 110 cities and towns across Utah passed resolutions supporting Prop 1. The business community solidly supports the measure because business leaders know that investing in transportation today will save taxpayer dollars tomorrow. This is a historic moment to join our local government officials and the business community in support of Prop 1.

Voting YES will save Utah families money, protect the local businesses, improve our air quality, and preserve our quality of life.

Jenny Wilson, Salt Lake County, Council Member at Large  
Representative Johnny Anderson, District 34  
Mayor Tom Dolan, Sandy City  
Lane Beattie, President and CEO Salt Lake Chamber  
Ron Jibson, President and CEO of Questar Corp.

### Rebuttal against the tax:

Proposition 1 proponents argue that raising our sales taxes would improve our daily lives. The best way for our lives to be improved is to keep the majority of the proceeds of our own labors, not to be taxed.

According to the Utah Taxpayers Association, we currently pay on average \$3304 a year in taxes in exchange for the services that we are told this tax increase will pay for; roads, local budgets and maintenance. Before we should even consider a tax increase, we must verify that our government has done a thorough audit and has cut back on all waste and unaccountable spending. Waste is intrinsic in any budget of this size and must be constantly checked and corrected.

The proponents of Proposition 1 make mention that the money will go towards bus service but fail to mention that 40% of this sales tax increase is slated to go to the Utah Transit Authority. The Utah Transit Authority has a history of fraud, waste and abuse with our tax dollars. From lavish trips and bonuses for top executives to \$10 million parking lots that are never built, the Utah Transit Authority has not earned the public trust and should not be given more funding.

Government doesn't need more money—it needs to better prioritize where it spends the taxes we already pay. Please vote no on Proposition 1.

Evelyn Everton  
Sandy Resident - State Director Americans for Prosperity - UT

### Argument against the tax:

Say NO to Proposition 1

If approved, the combined state and local sales tax in Salt Lake County will increase from 6.85% to 7.1% -- a change that will increase taxes, on average, by \$50 per person or \$200 for an average family of four. This could mean the difference between a week or more worth of groceries for most families.

Utah families have had enough new taxes this year as it is. The local option sales tax would be the third tax increase Utah residents have faced this year. In March, the legislature voted to approve a 5-cent-per-gallon increase in the gas tax, which now means that Utah drivers will pay over 48-cents-per-gallon just in taxes every time they fill up the tank. The state legislature also raised homeowner's property taxes in the valley an average of \$50 per home.

Considered separately, these tax increases may not sound like much, but for lower-income and middle-class families, every dollar counts and higher local sales taxes would only make their financial struggles worse.

Supporters say that the proposed tax increase is, in part, for road and infrastructure improvement. But 40% of the tax increase – almost \$20 million dollars worth – will actually be diverted to help fund the Utah Transit Authority. The Utah Transit Authority already receives \$139.2 million in Salt Lake County alone.

UTA executives receive six figure salaries and tens of thousands of dollars in bonuses and perks. The agency's CEO traveled out of state on agency-funded trips 42 times in 28 months, traveling internationally nearly as often as the President of the United States.

It's about stewardship. If the UTA can afford to pay such high salaries and award such benefits, then they probably can also afford to better shepherd the resources taxpayers have given them.

The Utah Transit Authority doesn't need another \$20 million in extra revenue. Instead, the agency should be looking toward reducing executive pay, cutting down on travel costs, and reducing inefficiencies wherever they find them.

Finally, this sales tax will fall hardest on those who have little or nothing left at the end of the month. According to the Utah Taxpayers Association, the average Utahn already pays \$720 in sales taxes every year, and \$3,304 in combined state and local taxes. The local option tax would add a few cents to most purchases, which quickly adds up.

If the sales tax increase is passed, Utahns would pay a quarter of a cent more for all purchases. In Salt Lake County, this increased sales tax would scrape \$50 million out of our checkbooks, according to the state's own analysis.

Government doesn't need more money—it needs to better prioritize where it spends the taxes we already pay. Please vote NO on Proposition 1.

Evelyn Everton  
Sandy Resident - State Director Americans for Prosperity - UT

### Rebuttal for the tax:

Salt Lake County is a trusted steward of public funds. Investment in our community is prioritized so that funds are used wisely and efficiently. This fiscally conservative approach has paid significant dividends to residents. Our economy is thriving and employment is strong.

But the population of Salt Lake County – and the State of Utah – is projected to double in the next few decades. The current mechanisms for meeting growing transportation needs are insufficient. We can't let traffic keep building and air pollution worsen. We need to invest in transportation to keep people moving, keep the economy strong and strengthen our quality of life.

At the same time, we have to prudently take care of our current roads rather than let them fall into disrepair. When that happens, the cost to taxpayers of deferred maintenance is much higher: \$1 invested to preserve our roads saves residents \$10-\$25 in costly repair or replacement later.

For the transit portion of Proposition 1, UTA has committed to utilize the new funds to improve and enhance transit service, with complete accountability and clear reporting of how funds are spent. There will be more bus service, more places, more often. This is a significant benefit to Utah's families who rely on affordable transportation choices.

Proposition 1 is funding for your local communities and nothing is more local than the condition of local roads, sidewalks and trails. We encourage you, the voter, to make an informed decision regarding Proposition 1.

Jenny Wilson, Salt Lake County, Council Member at Large  
Representative Johnny Anderson, District 34  
Mayor Tom Dolan, Sandy City  
Lane Beattie, President and CEO Salt Lake Chamber  
Ron Jibson, President and CEO of Questar Corp.

The arguments for or against a ballot proposition are the opinions of the authors.