

Integrating Economic Development with Transportation and Land Use

THREE KEY STRATEGIES

The Wasatch Front Regional Council builds consensus and enhances quality of life by developing and implementing visions and plans for a well-functioning multi-modal transportation system, livable communities, a strong economy, and a healthy environment.

Utah is growing rapidly. Rapid growth within a limited geography necessitates an integrated approach to transportation, land use, and economic development planning. To help our economy thrive, the Wasatch Front Regional Council, a Metropolitan Planning Organization and Economic Development District, prioritizes the following three key strategies in the Wasatch Choice 2050 Vision, Regional Transportation Plan, Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, and other long- and short-range efforts.

		<h3>ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY</h3>		<p>STRATEGY: Coordinate transportation investments and land-use decisions to enhance households' access to jobs and educational opportunities and employers' access to workforce and customers.</p>
OBJECTIVES	1 Improve households' access to jobs and educational institutions.	COLLABORATIVE ACTIONS	1a Support developments and infrastructure investments that maximize the number of jobs and educational institutions that households can access within a 20-min car or 30-min transit trip.	
	2 Improve employers' access to workforce and customers.		2a Support developments and infrastructure investments that maximize the number of households that employers and educational institutions can access within a 20-min car or 30-min transit trip.	
	3 Ensure households within vulnerable communities have access to opportunities that meet their needs.		3a Identify and target enhancements to improve vulnerable communities' access to jobs and educational opportunities.	
		<h3>ECONOMIC CLUSTERS</h3>		<p>STRATEGY: Consider the needs of Utah's economic clusters when planning and investing in transportation and community development.</p>
OBJECTIVES	1 Support one or more of Utah's economic clusters.	COLLABORATIVE ACTIONS	1a Identify the transportation infrastructure needs of clusters.	
	2 Aid cluster based workforce access.		1b Evaluate road, transit, and active transportation projects that best serve clusters; monitor growth via employment, wages, jobs, or firm size.	
	3 Reduce freight-based travel time.		2a Support projects that provide workforce access to cluster-based employment centers.	
			2b Assess the number of households cluster-based employment centers can access.	
			3a Assess regional freight center connections.	
			3b Assess dock-to-dock travel times.	
		<h3>FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY</h3>		<p>STRATEGY: Facilitate opportunities for centered development, infill and redevelopment and maximize the use of existing infrastructure.</p>
OBJECTIVES	1 Facilitate opportunities for centered growth and infill development.	COLLABORATIVE ACTIONS	1a Align planning and programming decisions to maximize existing infrastructure and growth in Wasatch Choice centers and infill areas.	
	2 Work with local governments to foster efficient growth.		2a Consider and monitor longer-term revenue impacts and cost burden of development and infrastructure decisions.	
	3 Collaborate to reduce travel demand.		3a Reduce travel demand and driving distances.	
			3b Support alternate modes of transportation.	