

PROVO MAYOR'S SUSTAINABILITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

REPORT FOR 2015



Draft 6 January 2015

PROVO SUSTAINABILITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE 2015

AIR QUALITY

Promotion of Tier 3 gasoline: This low-sulfur fuel will dramatically reduce air pollution when it becomes widely used in Utah. To lobby for timely production of Tier 3 gasoline and to promote Provo's 2014 joint resolution on it, Committee members met on 24 February with Sen. Curt Bramble, Rep. Dean Sanpei, and others at the Legislature. Despite the Utah County delegation's usual reluctance to support environmental bills, they voted 14 to 4 to support SB 216, which provided incentives for producing Tier 3 fuels.

Clean-air publicity: Continuing our annual campaign, Mayor Curtis participated in a well-publicized "Clean Air Blitz" at Dixon Middle School on 5 October organized by the Committee. Principal Jared Sites and student leaders participated in handing out anti-idling literature.



Dixon Middle School Principal Jared Sites, Mayor Curtis, and student leaders participated in a "Clean Air Blitz" 5 October 2015

Later in October Janelle Jarvis distributed air-quality posters to all Provo Schools and, with Provo PTA leaders, provided electronic or hard-copy handouts to all Provo school pupils (over 15,000). She broke new ground by recruiting Breathe Utah representatives from Salt Lake City to present air-quality lessons and activities in classrooms in Provost and Wasatch Elementary Schools. Breathe Utah representatives provided visual aids and lesson plans for



Janelle and volunteers to continue conducting air-quality lessons and activities in other Provo elementary schools next year.

Resident Susan Famulary distributed clean-air posters to local schools and hundreds of Utah Valley Clean Air Task Force pledge cards to cars in parking lots. She also acquired permission for the Committee to post outdoor anti-idling signs in several businesses in the north half of Provo.



I am making a conscious decision to improve the air quality by promoting simple changes in my daily habits that reduce pollution.

Provo Clean Air Tool Kit: City Council member Harold Miller acquired \$70,000 in funding from Utah Clean Air Partners (UCAIR) and Provo City to devise exemplary policies to promote better air quality in Provo. To devise and publicize such policies, he selected Envision Utah, whose president Robert Grow with staffers Ari Bruening and Shane Woods organized stakeholder meetings on 20 August and 12 November and met with all City department heads on 6 October. Committee members advised and participated in all these meetings.

Building Code Update: Houses and buildings cost a great deal to heat and cool and will become the primary source of pollution in Utah unless its building code is updated. Accordingly, the Sustainability Committee drafted a resolution to be sent to the Legislature urging that our building code be updated to the standards of the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code. The resolution was accepted by the Provo Municipal Council and Mayor Curtis on 1 December. (See Appendix 1) The Committee helped advocate a nearly identical resolution at the Orem City Council work meeting on 8 December.

Electric Vehicle Recharging Stations: Electric vehicles emit no local air pollution and are growing in popularity. Because Provo now has only one public e-vehicle charging station, the Committee encouraged the administration to install several and found sources for charging equipment. Mayor Curtis directed that two be installed south of the City Center, and Provo Energy will install two high-speed chargers at their new campus, both in the near future.

LAND USE AND FOOD ACCESS

Food access: In late 2014, Committee member and city planner Dustin Wright created a map showing all grocery stores and convenience stores in Provo (See appendix 2). This showed significant areas, especially west Provo, which lack convenient access to full-service grocery stores. Erik Watkins compiled a report showing what other government entities are doing to facilitate food access (see Appendix 3). This information was forwarded to the Municipal Council and helped build support for the Zoning Summit held in December of this year.

Zoning reform: To plan for Provo's projected growth, City Council member Harold Miller, Mayor Curtis, and Don Jarvis organized a day-long Zoning Summit on 3 December attended by about fifty stakeholders, including all city council members, many neighborhood chairs, Community Development employees, other city employees, and Sustainability Committee members. Community Development Director Gary McGinn promised to compile comments from participants and propose steps toward reform of Provo's zoning.

Agricultural Land Preservation: Utah County has the state's best soil and climate for agriculture but that is threatened by the County's explosive population growth and urban sprawl. The Sustainability Committee invited Envision Utah President Robert Grow to contact the Utah County Commission to propose a visioning process to promote smart growth and protect agricultural land in the County. With the extensive encouragement of Committee consultant LaDonn Christensen, the County Commission agreed to foster the project and help raise \$163,000 to engage Envision Utah for this. Committee member George Handley negotiated with The Nature Conservancy to acquire \$50,000 to fund the visioning process. On the evening of 23 September, Envision Utah convened a first stakeholders' meeting in the County Convention Center. It was attended by about 50 participants, including good representation from Utah County's legislative delegation, local farmers, and Committee members. EU President Robert Grow presented, aided by Ryan Beck and other EU staffers. Small participant groups discussed problems and options for preserving agricultural land.

Rock Canyon Preservation: Committee members led by Ginger Woolley and Ned Hill late in the year helped raise \$120,000 to match the city's matching \$120,000 so that Provo could acquire seventeen acres at the mouth of Rock Canyon. This purchase will protect this priceless natural resource from commercial development.

RECYCLING

Apartment complexes: Committee member Ginger Woolley, Provo Information Officer Whitney Booth, and Public Works Sanitation Director Bryce Rolph designed a brochure listing companies that handle recycling in local apartments. Mayor Curtis wrote a letter advocating recycling in such complexes and then convinced Public Works to fund printing and mailing of the brochure and his letter to most of the major landlords in the city. (See appendix 4)

Gas-can replacement: Committee members Steve Alder, Erik Watkins, and Kim Jones participated in gas-can recycling at the County hazardous waste recycling event on 11 April.

DISPLAYS

To inform Provo residents of Mayor Curtis' environmental priorities and our activities, Committee members staffed displays featuring air quality, recycling, local food, and purchase of renewable power (Renew Choice) at Provo's Spring Fest on 11 April, at Provo's Rooftop Concert 3 July, and at the Latin-American Festival 27-31 August.



Sustainability Committee display staffed by Rick Cox, Janelle Jarvis, Rachel Whipple and others at Provo Spring Festival, 20 April 2015

COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION AND NETWORKING

Reporting: The Committee reported monthly to Mayor Curtis, every quarter to the Municipal Council, and monthly to the Utah Valley Clean Air Task Force and Utah Clean Air Partners.

Sub-committees: Zoning—Ned Hill, Rick Cox; Open space preservation—Don Jarvis, George Handley, Kim Jones; Displays—Kim Jones, Nancy Evenson; Air quality—Janelle Jarvis, Steve Alder; Building codes—Nancy Evenson, Steve Cox, Don Jarvis; Recycling—Ginger Woolley

Membership: New members this year included Ned Hill, Janelle Jarvis, Matthew Jelalian, Kimberly Jones, and Sabina Safsten. See Appendix 5 for the complete roster.

Networking: Committee members worked with Orem City to establish its own sustainability committee and pass a resolution to upgrade the state building code. They also participated actively with BYU's EcoResponse Club, Provo City's Interdepartmental Sustainability Committee, P3 Utah (an environmental business group), Rock Canyon Preservation Alliance, Utah Clean Air Partners (UCAIR), Utah Valley Clean Air Task Force, and Utah Valley Earth Forum. Members attended the Governor's Air and Energy Symposium on 27 October and meetings of Utah Municipal Power Association and Provo Energy Board.

APPENDIX 1
Resolution on updating the state building code

RESOLUTION 2015-67.

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE PROVO CITY MAYOR AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OUTLINING THEIR SUPPORT FOR ADOPTION OF THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE (IECC) AND OTHER POSSIBLE AIR QUALITY ENHANCEMENTS FOR UTAH. (15-146)

WHEREAS, the Utah Governor's Office of Energy Development reports that adoption of the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) would save each new Utah homeowner \$297 per year; and

WHEREAS, analysis conducted by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory finds that the 2015 IECC is cost-effective for new commercial buildings and homes, resulting in positive cash flow within two years for new home buyers; and

WHEREAS, air pollution gravely threatens the health of the people of Utah County as well as economic development; and

WHEREAS, homes and buildings now account for 39% of air pollution in Utah according to the Utah Division of Air Quality; and

WHEREAS, energy-efficient new homes and commercial buildings represent an important long-term air pollution reduction strategy by reducing energy consumption and resulting pollution emissions over the 100+ year life of building structures; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the 2015 IECC would reduce CO₂ pollution in Utah by an estimated 5.06 million metric tons by 2040, the equivalent of taking over 84,000 cars off of the road every year; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the 2015 IECC would reduce by 1,502 tons Utah's emissions of direct pollution and precursors of PM_{2.5} and ozone, both grave health threats, by 2050; and

WHEREAS, improved energy efficiency will also buffer against spikes in utility rates by reducing demand for energy by 7.57 trillion BTU, consequently mitigating the need for utility companies to build new energy infrastructure and pass those costs on to consumers; and

WHEREAS, it is far more cost-effective to build-in energy efficient, air pollution reduction technologies during construction, rather than retrofitting a home after it is constructed; and

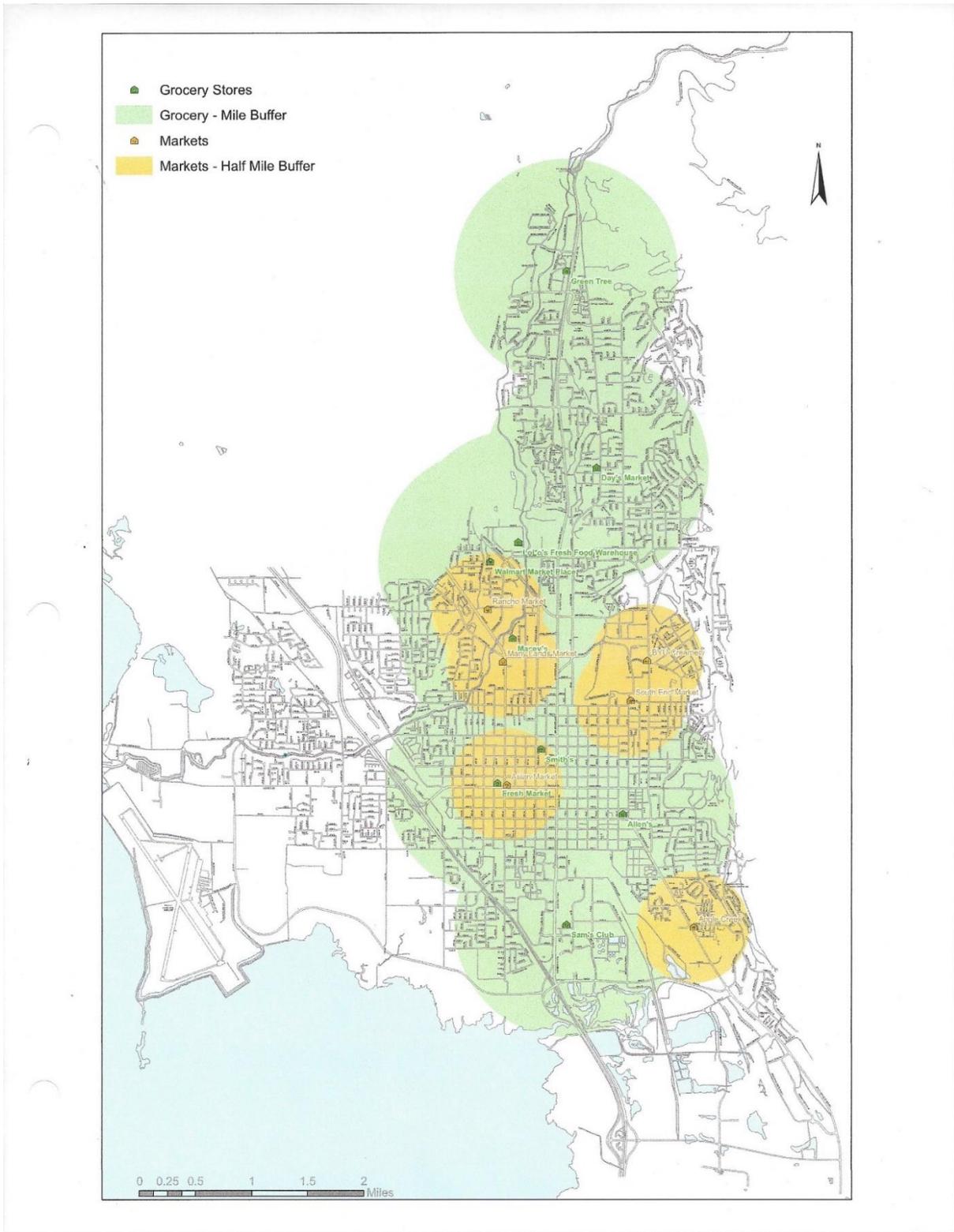
WHEREAS, after considering the facts presented to the Municipal Council, the Council finds that (i) Provo City should adopt a resolution stating its interest in state legislators adopting the 2015 IECC for Utah, and (ii) such action reasonably furthers the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Provo City.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that we, the members of the Provo City Municipal Council and jointly with the Mayor of Provo City are interested in state legislators adopting the 2015 IECC for Utah with appropriate consideration for Utah's needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of Provo City transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the President of the Utah Senate, to the Speaker of the Utah House of Representatives, to the Clerk of the Legislature, and to the news media of Utah.

END OF RESOLUTION.

APPENDIX 2 Grocery Stores & Convenience Stores in Provo



APPENDIX 3 FOOD DESERT MITIGATION

Erik Watkins

DEFINITION-Lack of access to healthy, affordable nutritious food, specifically lack of fresh fruits and vegetables but excess canned and processed foods that increase obesity in children and the elderly.

MITIGATION-Grants, tax breaks, redevelopment agency funding, non-profits, State economic development involvement can be acquired to help combat food deserts, and community gardens can be developed, potentially in parks.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES--among the grants are federal government CED grants and other funding totaling \$275 million through the Department of Health and Human Services and various other federal agencies.

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/resource/healthy-food-financing-initiative-0>

(HHS may commit up to \$20 million in Community Economic Development (CED) program funds for community-based efforts to improve the economic and physical health of people in distressed areas:

- Through the CED program, HHS will award competitive grants to Community Development Corporations to support projects that finance grocery stores, farmers markets, and other sources of fresh nutritious food. These projects will serve the dual purposes of facilitating access to healthy food options while creating job and business development opportunities in low-income communities, particularly since grocery stores often serve as anchor institutions in commercial centers.

-Breakdown by county and state of access and proximity to grocery stores

http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-environment-atlas/go-to-the-atlas.aspx#.VFgNwvNF_Ec

-Local example of Economic Development attracting stores (not in a food desert, but Spanish Fork gave tax breaks, paid utilities, etc... for Costco) http://www.heraldextra.com/news/local/south/spanish-fork/spanish-fork-approves-economic-incentives-for-costco/article_ee65e066-af28-5a51-83c8-b93b10982f17.html

-What is being done in other places: Several states and cities within the United States are also implementing comprehensive programs that involve public-private partnership and a combination of financing initiatives and community-level interventions. The Pennsylvania Fresh Food Financing Initiative, for example, is a public-private partnership aimed at encouraging the development of new supermarkets by providing grants of up to \$250,000 or loans of up to \$2.5 million per store to defray the infrastructure costs of developing a new store. So far, \$41.8 million in grants and loans have funded 58 stores

People not only need access to food, but access to affordable healthy food, and training in cooking it.

Helpful links

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Food_desert#Barriers_and_proposed_solutions_in_the_United_States

<http://ced.sog.unc.edu/?p=4783>

<http://www.foodispower.org/food-deserts/>

**APPENDIX 4
APARTMENT RECYCLING BROCHURE**



85% OF BYU STUDENTS CONSIDER RECYCLING IMPORTANT TO HAVE IN THEIR STUDENT HOUSING.*

RECYCLOPS

NEW PLAYER WITH ADVANTAGES FOR MULTI-UNIT PROPERTIES

- » 10% discount to anyone who mentions this brochure.
- » Does not require complexes to sacrifice a parking space for a recycling bin.
- » No need for the Recyclops truck to enter the parking lot during disposal.
- » Windy weather will not cause recyclables to blow around parking lot.
- » Free extra pick-ups during cleaning checks and during the end of semester.
- » All apartment residents receive a magnet with a list of what can be recycled.

WEBSITE || recyclops.com
PHONE || (801) 709-1509

ACE RECYCLING & DISPOSAL

- » Family- owned, est. 1980.
- » Request a free consultation.

WEBSITE || acedisposal.com
PHONE || (800) 724-9995

"WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO OFFER RECYCLING, SELECTING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS"

-MAYOR JOHN CURTIS

REPUBLIC SERVICES

- » Discount on recycling if owner contracts with RS for garbage disposal.
- » Requires space and enclosure for an additional dumpster.
- » Established business, founded in 1998.
- » Various sizes and costs - will send a graph of pricing, if requested.

WEBSITE || republicservices.com
PHONE || Must obtain a bid by an online request for an appointment.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

- » Discount on recycling if owner contracts with WM for garbage disposal.
- » Requires space and enclosure for an additional dumpster.
- » Established business, founded in 1971.

WEBSITE || wm.com

PHONE || Must obtain a bid by an online request for an appointment.

PROVO CITY

- » Contract with Provo City to obtain blue residential recycling bins for \$4.75 each per month.
- » Bins must be rolled to the curb on recycling days.

WEBSITE || provo.org/city-services/city-utilities
PHONE || (801) 852-6000

*Results from a 2013 random survey of 500 students by BYU's EcoResponse Club.

APPENDIX 5

SUSTAINABILITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE ROSTER, DECEMBER 2015

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PROVO CITY SUSTAINABILITY and NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

12/23/2015

Name	Email	Phone	Other Phone	Address	Expertise, assignment	Term ends
Alder, Steve	stevea@utahcounty.gov	801-851-7601	801-225-3367	Utah Co. Health Dpt, 151 S Univ. Ave #2600, Provo UT 84601	Air quality, vehicle pollution	2017
Allen, Jason	jlallen@utah.gov	801-420-1259		Utah Lake State Park, 4400 W Center St Provo UT 84601-9715	Head Ranger, Utah Lake State Park	2016
Cox, Rick	rick_cox@urscorp.com	801-235-9202	801-885-1924	4190 Scenic Dr., Provo UT 84601	Water use, Air quality	2015
Evenson, Nancy	nancy@evenson.ch	801-375-3180		711 E 3100 N, Provo UT 84604	Energy efficient buildings	2017
Handley, George	georgebhandley@gmail.com	801-356-3718	801-616-6441	1801 N Oak Ln., Provo UT 84604	Land use, Provo River	2015
Hill, Ned	ned_hill@byu.edu	801-375-2417		2867 Foothill Dr., Provo UT 84604	Zoning reform	2018
Jarvis, Don	jarvisdk@gmail.com	801-318-6274		1256 N Locust Ln Provo UT 84604	Chair & Mayor's Adviser	2015
Jarvis, Janelle	jarvisjanelle@gmail.com	801-358-8100		1256 N Locust Ln Provo UT 84604	School air quality campaigns	2018
Jelalian, Matthew	matthew.jelalian@gmail.com	801-850-3048		1276 W 320 N Provo UT 84601	Publicity	2018
Jones, Kimberly	jones@ucas-edu.net	801-400-1710	801-377-1417	1101 W 1460 N Provo UT 84604	Land use, Provo River	2018
Mills, Mike	Mikem@cuwcd.com	801-226-7132		Central Ut Water Conservancy Distr. 355 W University Pkwy, Orem 84058	CUWCD; Water use, Provo River	2015
Safsten, Sabina	ssafsten@gmail.com	208-553-5181		686 E 700 N #5, Provo, UT 84606	Local food marketing	2017
Watkins, Erik	ewatkins18@hotmail.com	385-375-9527	801-805-4865	259 S 1050 W #74, Provo UT 84604	Urban planning, air quality	2017
Whipple, Rachel	denebug@yahoo.com	801-341.0348		206 E 300 S, Provo UT 84606	Exhibits	2016
Woolley, Ginger	RockCanyonPreservationAlliance@gmail.com	801-375-0434		2145 N Oak Ln, Provo UT 84604	Rock Canyon; Recycling	2016
Wright, Dustin	dwright@provo.utah.gov	801-852-6414		Provo City Planning, 330 W 100 S, Provo UT 84603	Support & liason with City Planning Division	
Other contacts						
Peperone, Bill	bpeperone@provo.utah.gov	801-852-6429	801-471-5605	Provo City Planning, 330 W 100 S, Provo UT 84603	Head, Provo Planning Division	
Booth, Whitney	wbooth@provo.org	801-852-6104		Mayor's Office, 351 W Center St., Provo UT 84601	Provo Public Information Coordinator	
Daley, Alisha	ADailey@republicservices.com	801-680-6583	801-924-8471	Republic Services	Recycling, Provo City	
Utah Asthma Program		801-530-6259		Lori Mau and Holly Uphold, State Dept of Health	Air quality effects info	