



City and Community Member Communications Review

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In his 2010 State of the City Address, Mayor Becker stated “We are constantly working at improving, defining and refining methods for public input.” In that spirit, the administration is reviewing how the city interacts with the community. This review includes assessing how the City gives information, and how the City receives feedback. The Mayor’s vision for the city is to develop a process that engages the public in City decision making to ensure that the City makes reasoned, fully-informed decisions.

This review process is still in the early stages and final outcomes have not been determined. Over the next two months, the City will be assessing its current interaction with the public by conducting interviews and small group discussions with a diverse group of people including members of neighborhood-based organizations and businesses. The purpose of these meetings is to help the City get feedback on how the City’s current approach is working, and learn how members of the community want to be engaged in the decision-making process.

Once the City has collected the issues and concerns identified in the interviews and group discussions, we will work with the community to develop and review options to create a meaningful process of public engagement that will enhance the decision making process.

Potential outcomes of this review include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A set of reasonable expectations for the City and neighborhood based organizations outlining what neighborhood based organizations can expect of the City. *The City is not proposing that the current system of community councils be eliminated.*
- A revision of the City website that is easier to navigate.
- The creation of training courses and education made available to help community members understand and participate in the city decision-making process and how Salt Lake City operates.
- An evaluation of Salt Lake City Code Chapters 2.60 and 2.62 regarding the recognition of neighborhood based organizations.

After the initial scoping is complete, and the City has identified the next steps in the process, the Administration is committed to continue to provide updates to all involved parties. If you have any questions or concerns about the process, please contact Michele Straube of Salt Lake Solutions at 801-535-7971 or by email at SLsolutions@slcgov.com.