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Next Steps for Future Public Safety Buildings Announced *Site Location and Project Manager Named*

SALT LAKE CITY – After careful review of multiple sites and more than eight months of public comment, Mayor Ralph Becker today announced the Barnes Bank Block (the block on the east side of 300 East between 400 and 500 South) as the final site recommendation for the City’s new public safety building and emergency operations center. The Planning Commission and City Council will evaluate the necessary rezoning and master plan amendments for the site in early 2010. The Mayor also selected the construction management firm MOCA Systems to serve as project manager to oversee the job from start to finish.

Since last spring, the City has hosted 11 open houses and three community workshops regarding the location of the proposed public safety buildings. At those meetings, the public evaluated 10 different sites. After a lengthy review of public input and site criteria, the Mayor selected the Barnes Bank Block due to the combination of site availability, cost, space requirements, and proximity to other government facilities.

“The Barnes Bank Block is a site location that will meet the needs of our dedicated police and fire departments,” said Mayor Becker. “The residents of Salt Lake City have entrusted us with this project at significant personal sacrifice and will be rewarded with a state-of-the-art facility to better serve them. I believe that under the current economic climate we will be able to identify additional cost savings once the project enters the bidding process.”

In response to the request for qualifications for a project manager to oversee the planning, designing and building of the public safety buildings, the City awarded a contract to MOCA Systems. MOCA Systems will be represented by David H. Hart, FAIA, the architect who oversaw the recent renovation and base isolation of the Utah State Capitol. The firm will be tasked with outlining the next steps in the planning process, including the selection of the

designer/architect, the development of a detailed timeline for the project, and an exact budget for the project.

“The selection committee was unanimous in recommending MOCA Systems as the project manager for the Public Safety Complex,” stated Joel Harrison, P.E., chair of the selection committee and contract administrator of the City’s Public Services Department. “MOCA is an experienced construction management firm with the skill set and knowledge needed to take on a project of this magnitude on behalf of all of our city residents.”

About the Public Safety Buildings

In November 2009, more than 65% of Salt Lake City voters approved the \$125 million general obligation bond to fund the construction of the new public safety buildings and emergency operations center. The progressive facility will serve Salt Lake City residents as an advanced emergency operations hub to better meet the needs of the growing state’s capital city. Expected to be completed by 2013, project details, timelines, and progress updates can be found online at <http://www.slcgov.com/psb>.

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