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Forbes Names Salt Lake City as Best City in America for Commuters

Strong City Infrastructure and Public Transportation Alternatives Cited

Salt Lake City – Forbes Magazine named Salt Lake City as the country’s best city for commuters. Forbes ranked commutes in the nation’s 60 largest metropolitan areas by measuring travel time, traffic delays, and road congestion. The study measured dependability of commute times by comparing delays during rush hour to ideal travel conditions.

Leading the other top ten cities including Buffalo and Rochester, N.Y. , Salt Lake City’s exceptional grade on the “Green Commuter “report card took into account unexpected weather, bus and train delays. Forbes credited Salt Lake City’s commuting experience to the state’s investment in public transit systems and infrastructure and variety of alternative transportation options. Forbes highlighted the city’s 44 miles of carpool lanes and the 20 percent of commuters who get to work by carpooling, or use alternatives to driving such as public transit, walking, or biking.

“Salt Lake City is a large part of the fastest growing metropolitan area in the country last year and we see every promising sign of this trend continuing,” said Mayor Ralph Becker. “We are excited to be recognized nationally for our transportation vision and continue to strive to improve options throughout the City.”

Always striving to improve traffic flow, Salt Lake City will be initiating an independent consultant review of the City’s traffic signal timing efforts through an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant to develop and implement timing plan changes. National signal timing experts will begin reviewing the City’s signal system later this month to offer a report of recommendations for improvements. Results of the report are expected in August 2012 and will then be submitted to the public for review.

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