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Salt Lake City Planner Named as Fellow of National Planning Organization

Pat Comarell Joins Mayor Becker as One of Few Utahns to Receive Honor

SALT LAKE CITY – Salt Lake City Assistant Director of Planning and Zoning Pat Comarell has received one of the highest honors the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) bestows upon its members. Comarell has been recommended by the organization as a Fellow of AICP. There are only 461 Fellows nationwide and only six Fellows within the State of Utah, including Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker. Comarell is the first woman in Utah to be named.

Fellows of AICP are honored in recognition of their achievements as individuals, elevating the Fellows before the public and the profession as model planners who have made significant contributions to planning and society. Fellowship is granted to planners who have been members of AICP and have achieved excellence in professional practice, teaching and mentoring, research, public and community service, and leadership. Those chosen become members of the College of Fellows.

Comarell has over 35 years of planning experience in organizational development, intergovernmental relations, long range planning, downtown revitalization, housing, and historic planning. She has held key positions in both the public and private sector, including Senior Planner for Sandy City, Trustee for the Salt Lake City/Sandy Metropolitan Water District, President of the Utah Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration, President of the Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association, and Senior Associate at CityGate Associates.

Comarell has received numerous honors and awards from organizations including the Utah Historical Society, the Utah Heritage Foundation, and the Utah Chapter of American Planning Association. She has been a member of the AICP since 1982.

"Salt Lake City is fortunate to have two of the State's six American Institute of Certified Planners Fellows within our organization," said Salt Lake City's Director of Planning and Zoning Wilf Sommerkorn. "Under Comarell's leadership, the City has seen progressive changes with far reaching and long lasting effects."

Thirty-seven AICP members from throughout the nation will be inducted as Fellows at the National Planning Conference on Saturday, April 10, 2010 in New Orleans.