



PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE of the MAYOR | RALPH BECKER



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Mayors Becker and Corroon Join In Opposing Watershed Land Deal

Bishop proposal lacks public input, appropriate vetting

SALT LAKE CITY –Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker and Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon today announced opposition to a plan that would result in the sale of federal land for private development in the Wasatch Mountains.

Mayor Becker testified in Washington, D.C. Friday on the issue before the House Natural Resources subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands. The subcommittee is chaired by Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah), sponsor of HR 3452, the bill that would authorize the land sale.

In a joint statement, Mayors Becker and Corroon said the plan to sell the land “violates our current policies, developed over decades of public processes, fails to acknowledge important resources and uses in the Wasatch Canyons, and would damage our prized environment and balance of public uses and users.”

“This piece of legislation lacks the necessary thoughtfulness, public process and environmental vetting that our residents deserve,” said Mayor Becker. “Ignoring the importance of our sensitive watershed areas is unacceptable and sets a perilous precedent for the future of this resource for the entire Salt Lake Valley.”

“I support policies, programs, and studies all in the name of good environmental stewardship,” says Mayor Corroon. “However, I will not support measures which compromise our environment, watersheds, or protected wilderness.”

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