



AIR QUALITY AND THE WASATCH CHOICE VISION

The choices we make in building our infrastructure and designing our communities have a direct impact on Utah's air quality. By giving people more transportation choices to take transit, bike, and walk, we reduce auto emissions. By designing walkable communities with a mix of housing types, jobs, and shopping - bringing key destinations together in neighborhood centers - we reduce the length and need for auto trips, and reduce per capita emissions.

As Utah continues to grow, if we coordinate the location of development with transportation facilities, we can provide real choices for residents to travel differently, reducing emissions and improving our air quality. The [Wasatch Choice Vision](#) – our region's blueprint for growth – embodies this coordinated approach.

THE WASATCH CHOICE VISION IMPROVES AIR QUALITY BY:

- **Providing transportation choices.** When Utahns have quality walking, bicycling, and transit options, they can make transportation decisions that in turn reduce our vehicle emissions.
 - In the Vision, the percentage of people who live within walking distance to a frequent bus route or rail/bus rapid transit (BRT) station grows from 16% today to 33% in 2050.
- **Placing housing, transportation, and job and educational opportunities closer together in city and town centers results in more walking and biking, more transit use, and, as a result, fewer vehicle trips.** Fewer vehicle trips improves our air.
 - A large part of our transportation pollution comes from simply starting our cars, so a short trip by biking or walking rather than driving matters a lot!
 - In the Vision, the percentage of people who are close to a family-friendly bike route grows from 58% today to 83%.

If we work to implement the Wasatch Choice Vision, and anticipated improvements to emission reduction technology in vehicles continue, we expect a 28% decrease in vehicle emissions over the next 30 years. This reduction can happen even as our population increases.

- This reduction comes from improved technology in our vehicle fleet, the transportation choices we make, and the way we develop our communities.