



TRANSPORTATION AND THE WASATCH CHOICE VISION

A well-functioning, multimodal transportation system leads to better mobility, good health, connected communities, and a strong economy—all of which contribute to high quality of life.

As Utah continues to grow, it's critical to provide people with real choices in how they get around—by driving, transit, biking, and walking—so people can easily reach their destinations. The way we design and develop our communities is just as important as the transportation system itself. By coordinating the location of homes, jobs, schools, and other key destinations with the transportation system, we can increase people's access to opportunities.

The [Wasatch Choice Vision](#)—our region's shared blueprint for growth—embodies this approach of transportation and community design working together.

Provide Transportation Choices is one of four key Wasatch Choice strategies. To create these choices we need a well-functioning and safe road, transit, and trail system that gives people real choices to drive, take the train or bus, bike, or walk.

City and Town Centers, another key strategy, means creating and enhancing city and town centers as the hearts of our communities. This means creating opportunities for more growth to occur within centers—new or enhanced downtowns, town centers, or main streets—that are served by major transportation lines. Transportation choices are also easier to use when more people live or work close to the bicycling, transit, and walking options that are part of that system.

When these two strategies are implemented together, people are better able to make real choices on how to move around and our communities are more connected. The benefits really add up:

- **Greater economic opportunity.** Coordinating more jobs and homes near infrastructure means businesses have access to more potential workers or customers within a short commute, and people can more easily reach a broader range of jobs and destinations.
- **Reduced traffic.** When residents choose to bike, walk, or take transit, it reduces traffic. Bringing more jobs and homes closer together in walkable centers also helps reduce the distances Utahns must travel.
- **Fiscal responsibility.** Facilitating new development where transportation facilities already exist helps us better utilize the streets, utilities and other infrastructure we already have, reducing the need to build more.
- **Better air quality.** When people use an array of transportation choices and travel distances shrink, our vehicle emissions drop, leading to better air quality.