

Economic Development Responsibilities

In an effort to become as efficient and as effective as possible, I am combining Community Development and Economic Development into one single department. This takes a function that has been contracted out with Randy Sant and brings it back in-house. No new employees will be hired. Mike Florence will be appointed as the Director of Community and Economic Development, and Frank Lilly as the Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development.

Adding Economic Development responsibilities to the Community Development Department enables Mike to proactively work with business recruitment and retention. Randy Sant will continue to focus on RDAs and work with the RDA Board, and continue toward the development of Central Pointe and downtown. Mike Florence will focus on remaining areas of the City for potential redevelopment, including State Street, 3300 South and the industrial areas. His responsibilities will include increasing the sales tax base of the City, providing good businesses for the residents to enjoy as an amenity while living in the City, and increasing the City's employment base. Mike will be able to market the value of South Salt Lake as a business location, and to target specific businesses to meet the economic development objectives of the City.

The next fiscal year Mike and Frank will be working on an Economic Development Plan. As with the General Plan, Mike will be responsible for implementing the economic development goals and objectives found in the plan. The Community Development Department is already acting as a "one stop shop" for businesses and development. Adding economic development to the department is a natural fit.

Mike Florence and the Community Development Department are familiar with and have good relationships with top real estate agents, landowners and developers who are looking for redevelopment opportunities. While the business licensing division continues to perform outreach to many of the businesses in the City, Mike Florence will focus on meeting with the top sales tax producing businesses and employers to retain them as businesses in the City.

If you would like further clarification or have questions before giving your advice and consent, please contact Charee Peck, Chief of Staff, or Mayor Cherie Wood.