

# Quality Growth Presentation

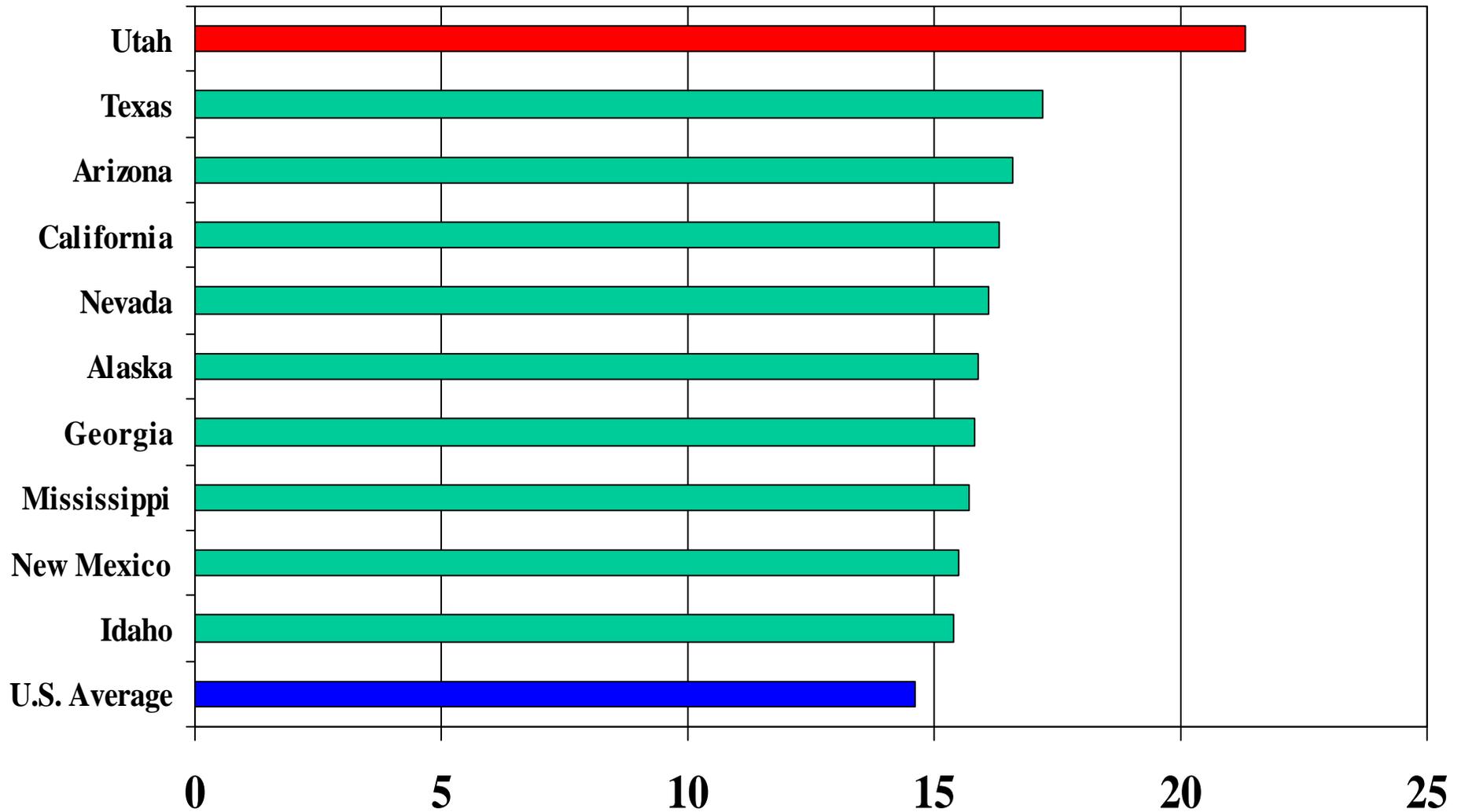
AASHTO Board of Directors

April 10, 2000

*In Utah the issue is not growth, but quality. Stopping or controlling growth is unrealistic. Growth will happen. Our generation's objective is to preserve quality.*

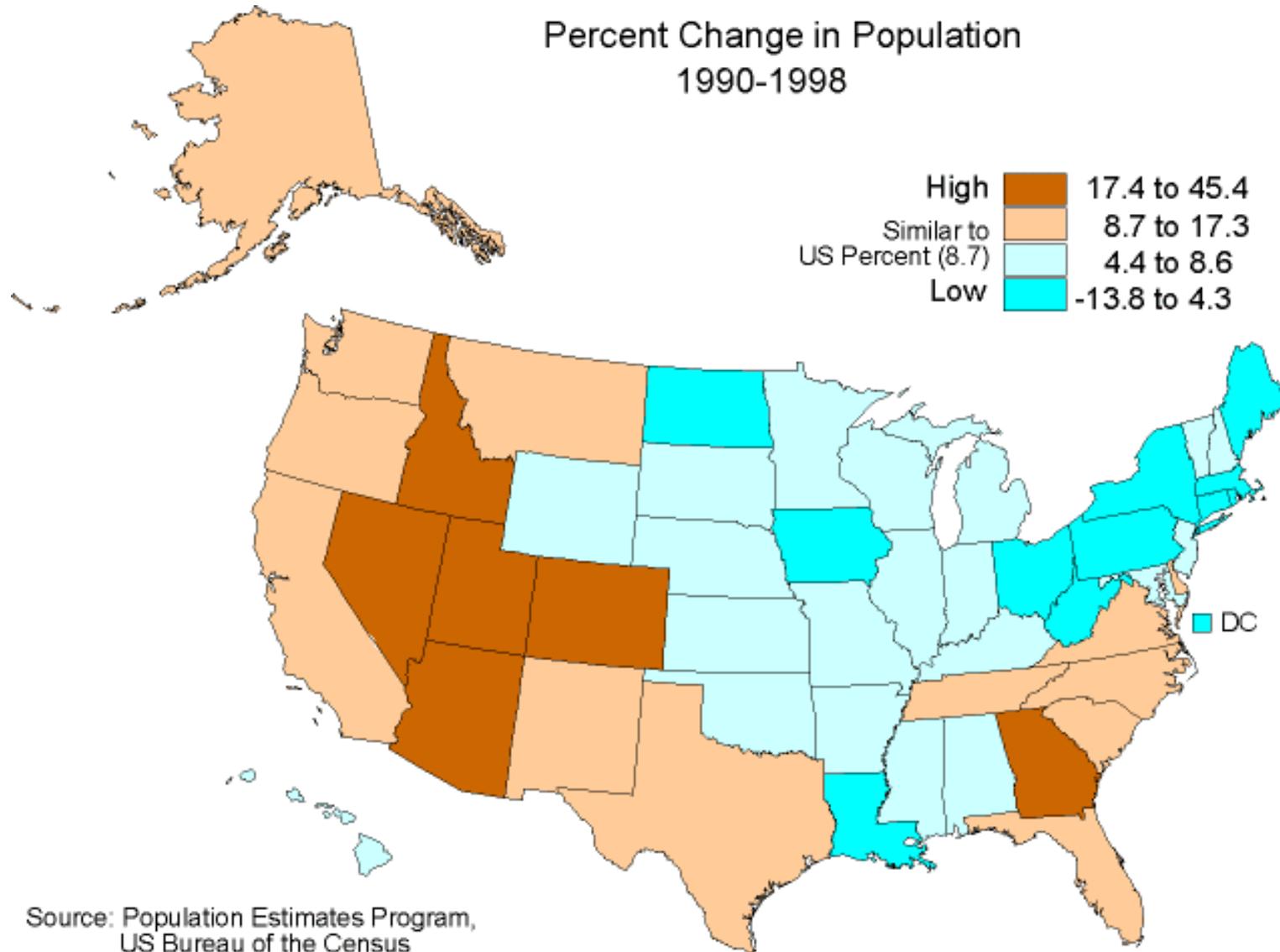


# *Utah has the Highest Birth Rate in the Nation*



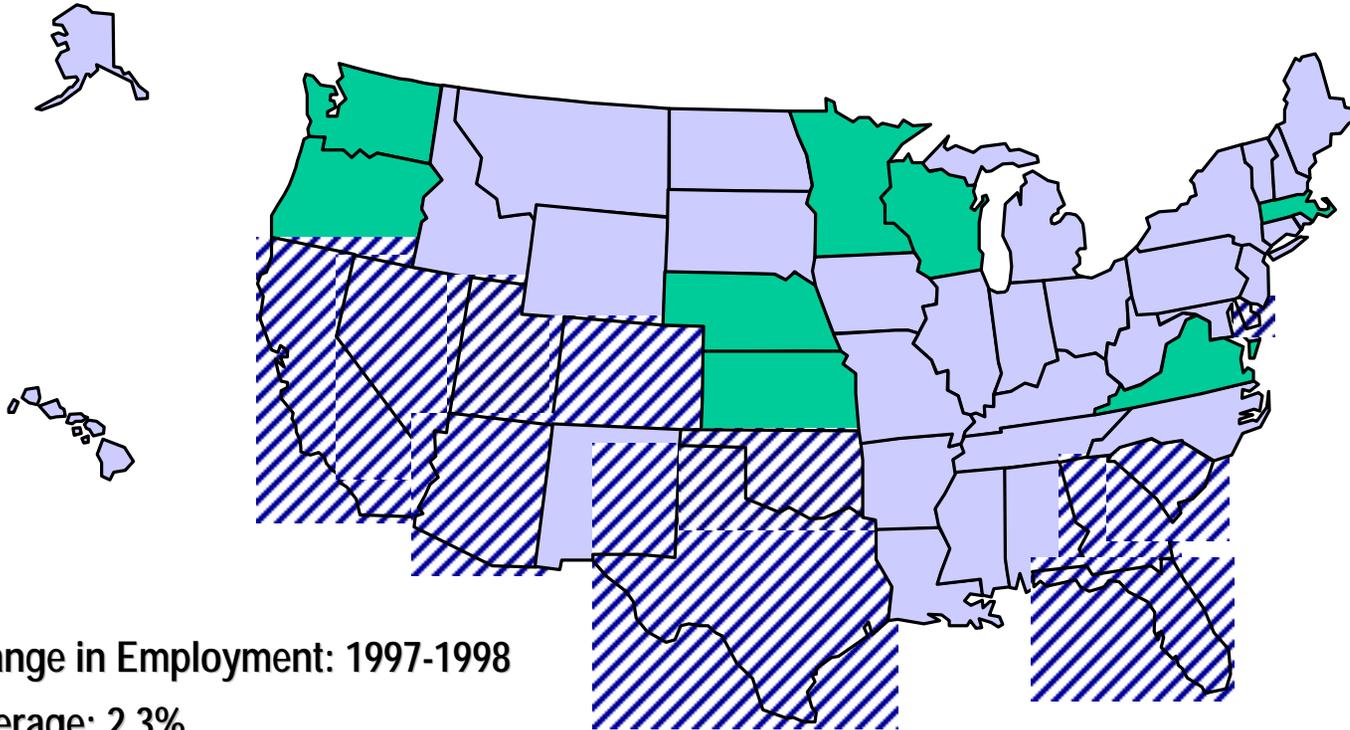
**Births per 1,000 Population: Top 10 States 1997**

# *Utah is Right in the Center of the Nation's Fastest Growing Area*



# Utah's Economy is Performing Well

Job Growth Rates by State: 1998



Percent Change in Employment: 1997-1998

National Average: 2.3%

- Below National Average
- At or Above National Average
- Above National Average and 3% and Above

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics





# Quality of Life Issues

- Rapid population and economic growth
- Treasured customs and cultures
- Spectacular natural environment
- Planning for the next million people
  - Congestion
  - Water Availability
  - Air Quality
  - Infrastructure Costs
  - Critical Lands
  - Coordinating Multiple Jurisdictions

# What are we doing in Utah?

- **Hosted a Growth Summit in 1995**
  - Over 60 proposals submitted suggesting ways to manage growth in a way that preserves our quality of life
  - Resulted in financing plan for a 10-year transportation improvement plan
- **Partnered with Envision Utah**
  - A public-private partnership striving to develop a publicly supported growth strategy for the next 50 years
- **Created the Utah Quality Growth Commission**
  - \$3 million fund for the preservation of critical lands
  - Commission to recommend principles of quality growth to frame future legislation

# *Growth Summit Helped Lay the Foundation for Badly Needed Transportation Infrastructure Investment*



# *Envision Utah: Working to Keep Utah Beautiful, Prosperous, and Neighborly*

- Public/private community partnership
- Striving to create a publicly supported growth strategy for the next 50 years
- Partnership includes 100+ partners from all facets of Utah life



# Greater Wasatch Area



*Envision Utah has Sponsored Over 150 Public Meetings and Workshops To Obtain Meaningful Public Input on Growth Issues*

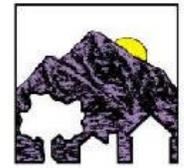
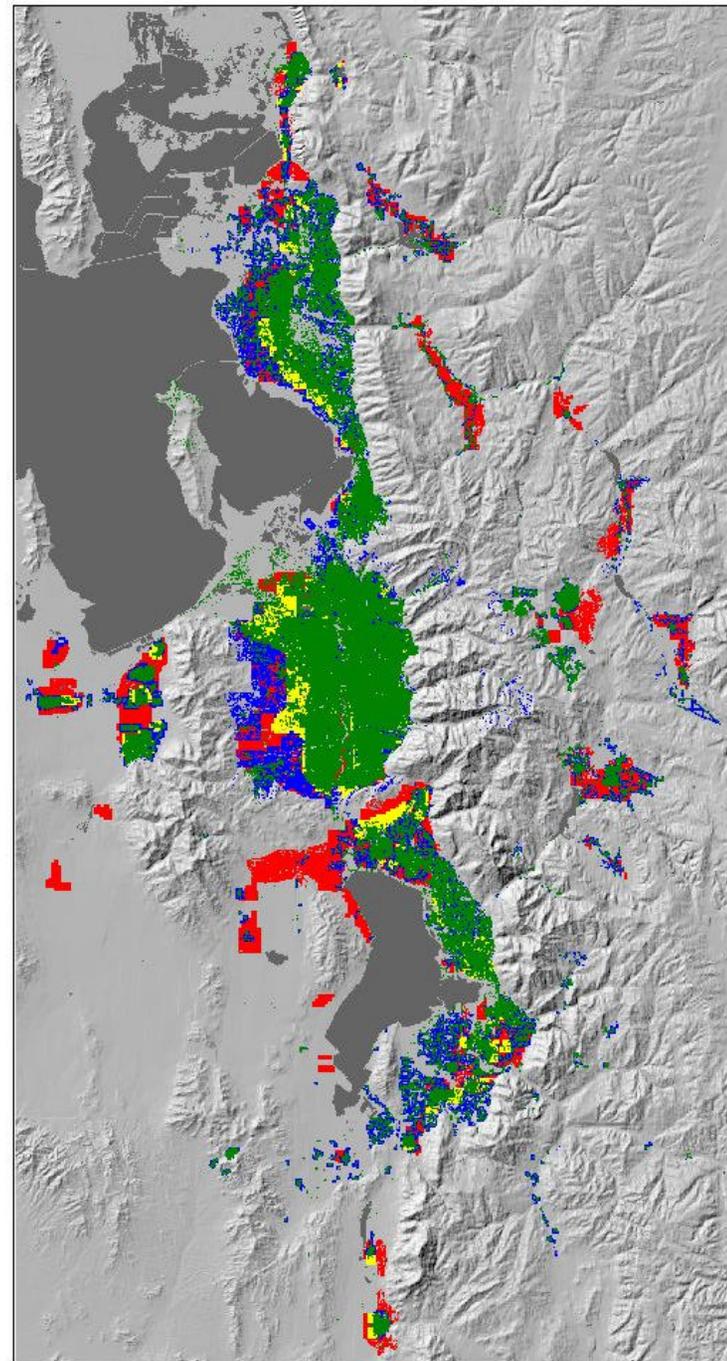


*These Workshops Have Utilized Innovative Mapping Tools to Solicit Feedback on How and Where to Grow*



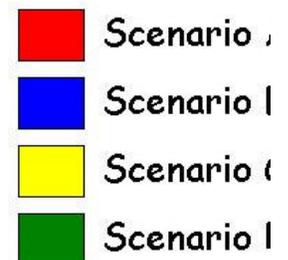
# *Envision Utah Designed Four Future Growth Scenarios for Public Review*

- Each scenario used the same 2020 future population, but varied the location and type of development
- The result was varying levels of traffic congestion, land consumption, air pollution, water demand, infrastructure costs, and housing types



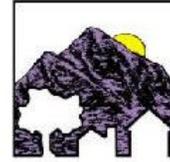
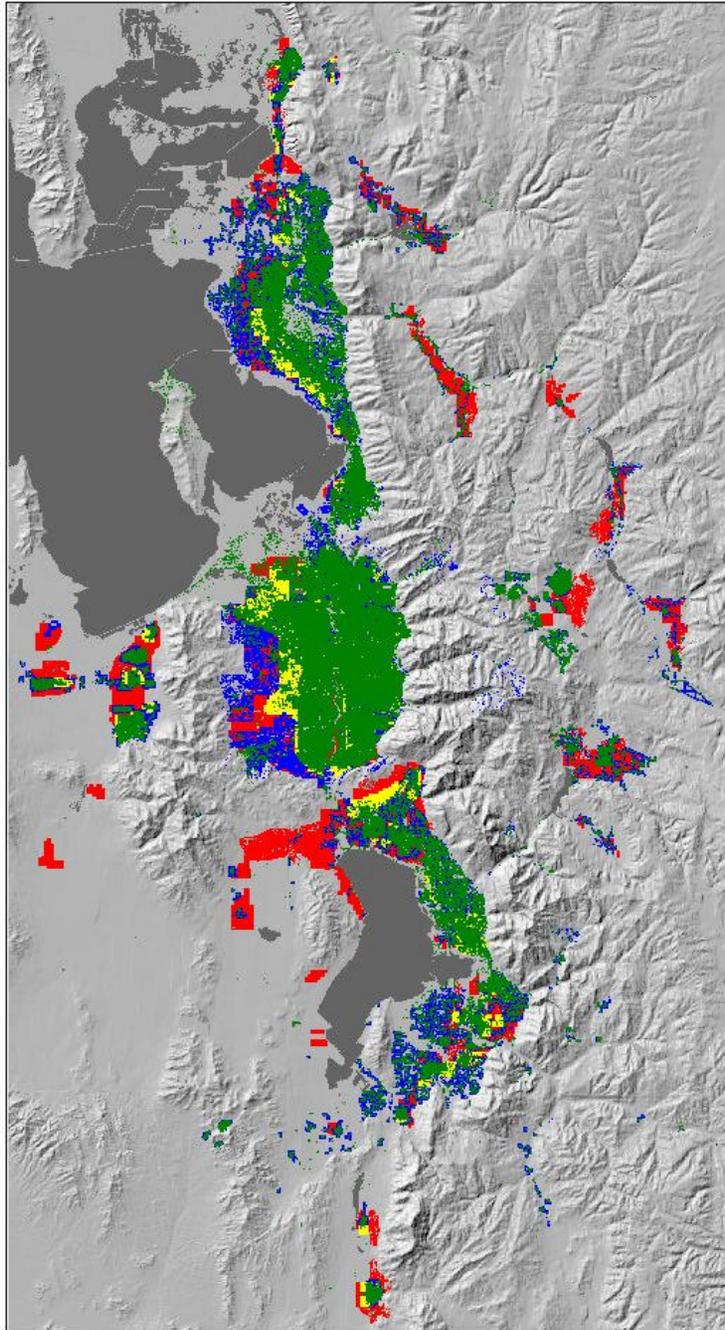
ENVISION UTA  
A Partnership for Quality Growth

Developed  
Area



Fregonese  
Calthorpe  
Associates  
Regional and Urban Planning





ENVISION UTAH  
A Partnership for Quality Growth

### Developed Area

- Scenario A
- Scenario B
- Scenario C
- Scenario D

**Overall, A wide range of options were modeled, ranging from 400 square miles of expansion in Scenario A to less than 100 in Scenario D - a range of 400%.**

**All the options are considered possible, realistic choices we could make.**

Fregonese  
Calthorpe  
Associates  
Regional and Urban Planning



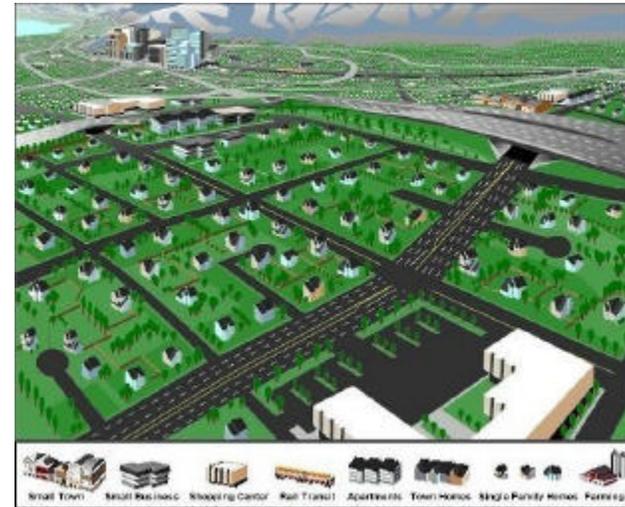


# Envision Utah: Newsletter Illustrations

A



B



C



D



*Nearly 18,000 People Responded to a Newspaper  
Questionnaire Seeking Input on the 4 Growth Scenarios*

# **HELP DECIDE THE FUTURE OF THE GREATER WASATCH AREA.**

**Review our choices for 2020. Then fill out and mail the questionnaire,  
or respond on-line at: [www.envisionutah.org](http://www.envisionutah.org).**

**B**y the year 2020, the Greater Wasatch Area will add a million more residents – two-thirds of whom will be our own children and grandchildren.

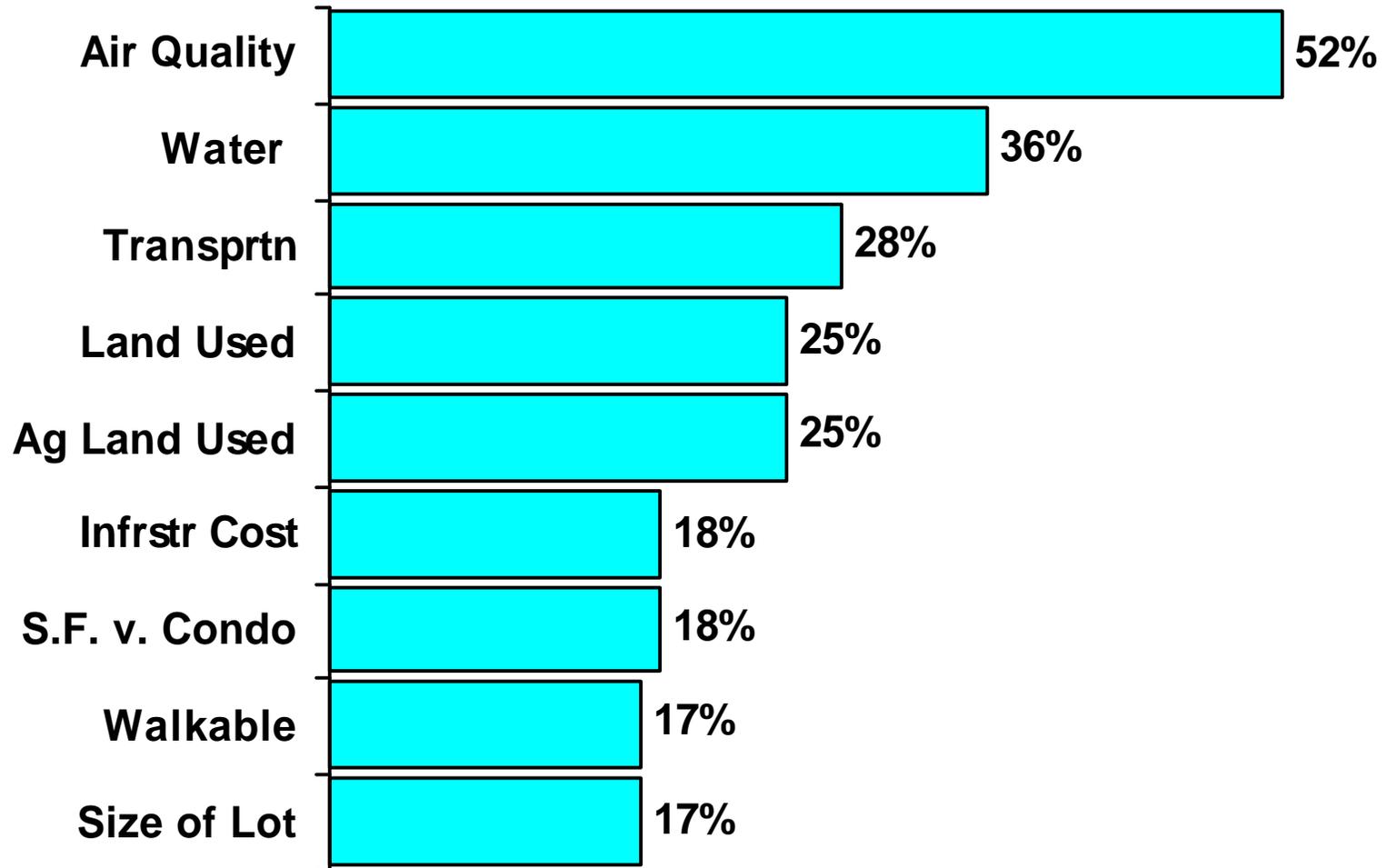
How will we ensure that Utah remains beautiful.

Now we want to be sure to hear from you. It's your turn to tell us what you think.

Please evaluate the growth options outlined on the following pages. As you do so, you will notice that

# How important is the topic of ...to you?

% Mention as #1 or #2 Topic



“The Envision Utah Scenarios forced people to make choices they didn’t want to make.”

**Dan Lofgren, Envision Utah Partner**

# What is a Quality Growth Strategy?

- Goals that express the desires of most Utahns for this area
- Strategies - actions we should take to implement the goals
- A map to show important concepts - where investments should be made, or open space preserved.

Collaborative  
approach preferred  
over mandates



# State Responsibilities

- Air quality
- Regional Transportation
- Water Infrastructure



# Local Actions, Regional Benefits

- Better air quality
- More open lands for recreation, wildlife, agriculture
- Lower infrastructure costs
- Wider array of choices
- Communities that are more cohesive, diverse, affordable, and attractive



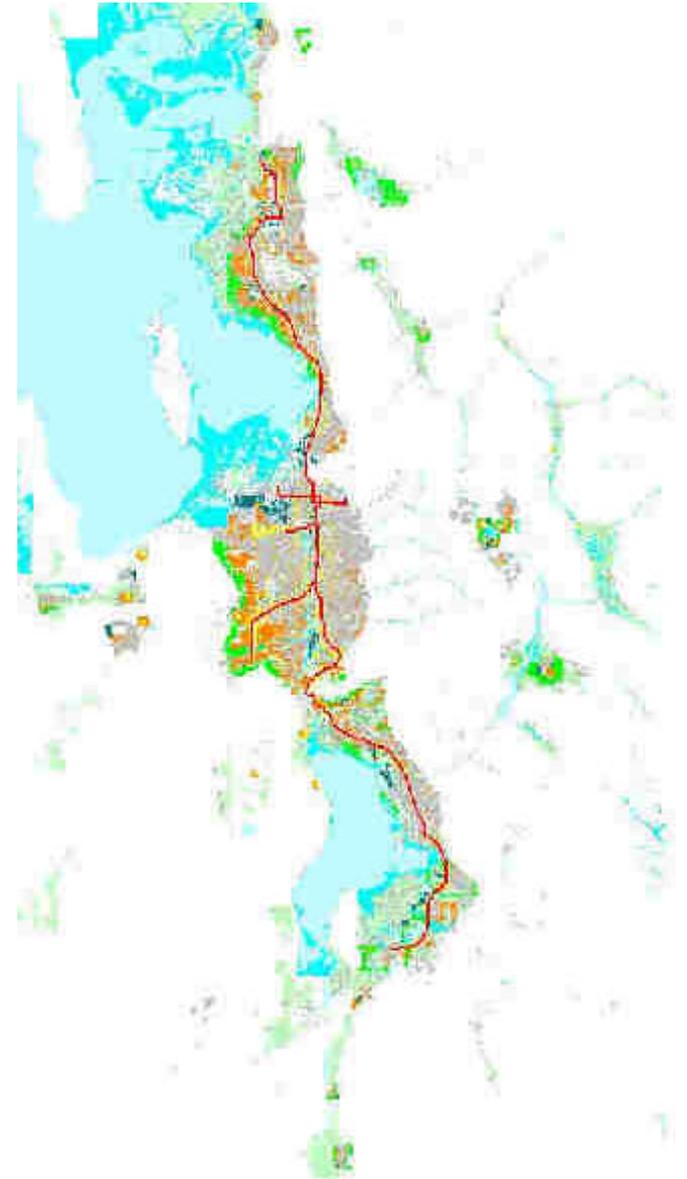
# Create More Walkable Communities

- improves air quality
- provides more transportation choices
- provides a greater mixture of housing type and cost
- promotes and maximizes benefits of mixed-use areas



# Develop a Region-wide Transit System

- more transportation choices
- reduces cost of infrastructure and services
- lowers personal transportation costs
- improves air quality
- reduces traffic congestion
- reduced stress for commuters who choose to use transit



# Foster Transit-oriented Development

- more transportation choices
- increases transit ridership by improving access to transit
- reduces long-term cost of infrastructure and services





# Preserve Critical Lands And Park Space

- slows land consumption, eases pressure on existing open lands
- more affordable housing options with more amenities
- open areas within communities that can be used for agriculture or outdoor recreation





# Restructure Water Bills to Encourage Conservation

- provides a financial reward to customers who reduce water consumption
- allows water providers to encourage conservation without jeopardizing ability to cover costs



# Create a Network of Bikeways And Trails

- improves air quality
- health benefits to those who walk or bike regularly
- more transportation choices
- lowers infrastructure costs
- lowers personal transportation costs



# Create More Mixed-use And Walkable Neighborhood Zoning to Encourage a Mix of Housing Types

- single-family attached products
- town homes
- condominiums
- single-family detached homes
- small-lot detached condominiums (drip-line ownership)
- Apartments
- Single-room occupancy residences







# These are just 7 of 32 total strategies

- Strategies to reduce ozone and save energy
- Promote telework
- Advocate increase in capacity of east-west transportation links
- Encourage use of reversible lanes
- Pursue public land trades
- Provide information regarding xeriscaping and low-water landscaping





QGET

## Contributors

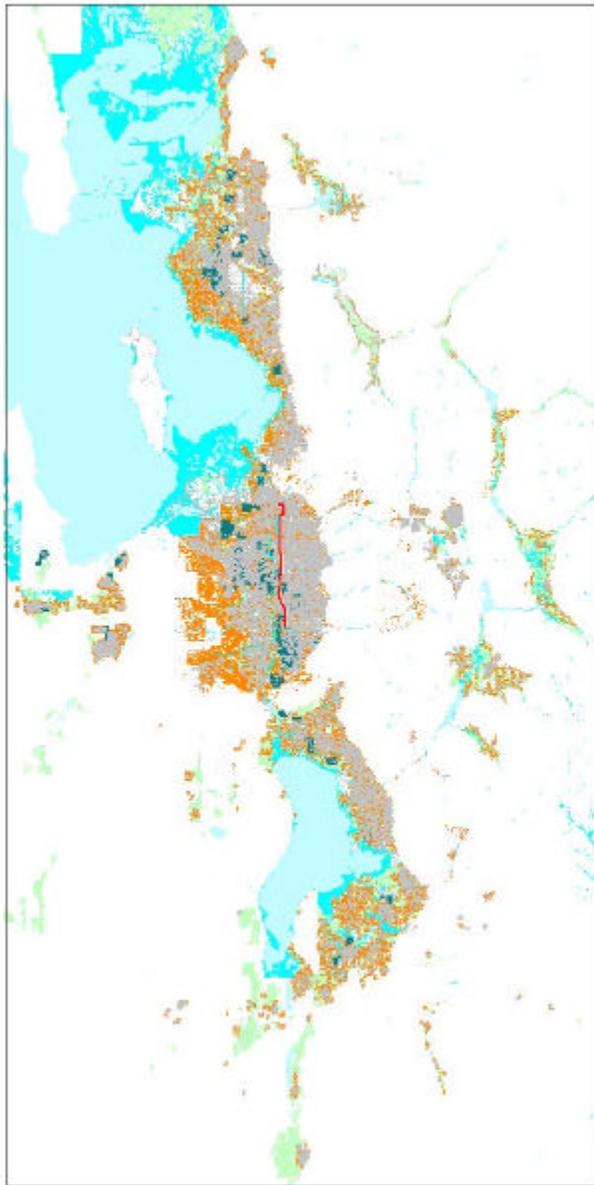
- 88 Cities
- 10 Counties
- 2 Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- 5 State Agencies
- Psomas Engineering
- Fregonese Calthorpe Associates



QGET

## Improving Our Tools

- Developing data
- Integrating models
- Developing new models
  - Urban Systems Model
  - Infrastructure Cost Assessment Model
- Improving state and local government interface



**Baseline Scenario**

## Development Types

### Non-Walkable

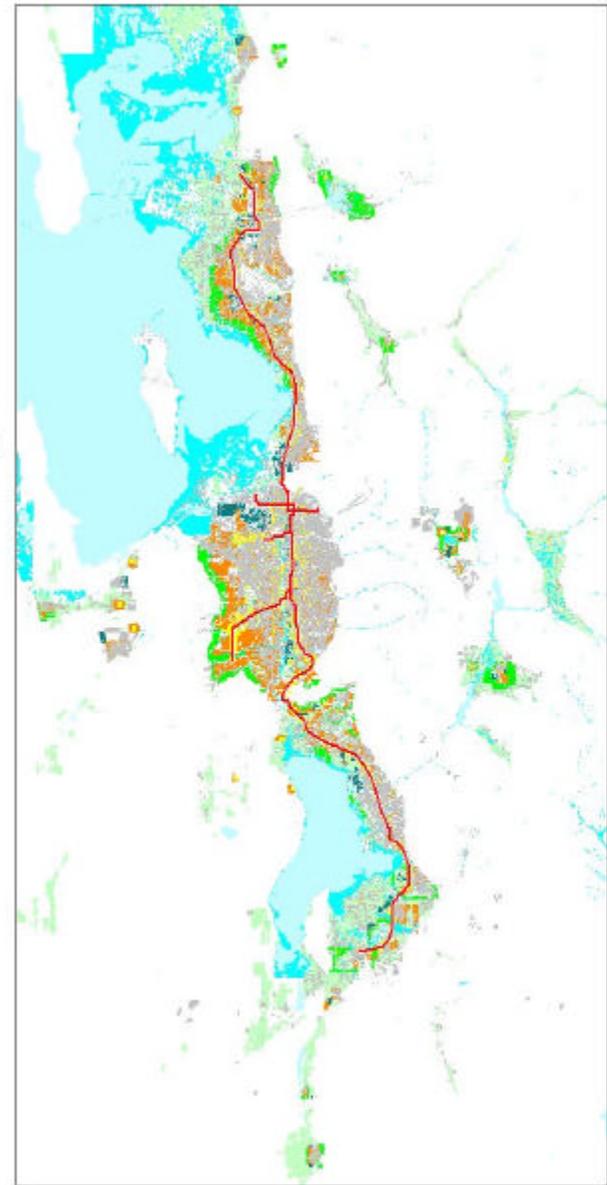
- Low Density Residential
- Industrial, Office Activity Center

### Walkable

- Town and Village
- Downtown

### Open Space

- Rural Cluster
- Rail Transit



**Quality Growth Strategy**

# Baseline

***Depicts how the region is likely to develop based on recent plans***

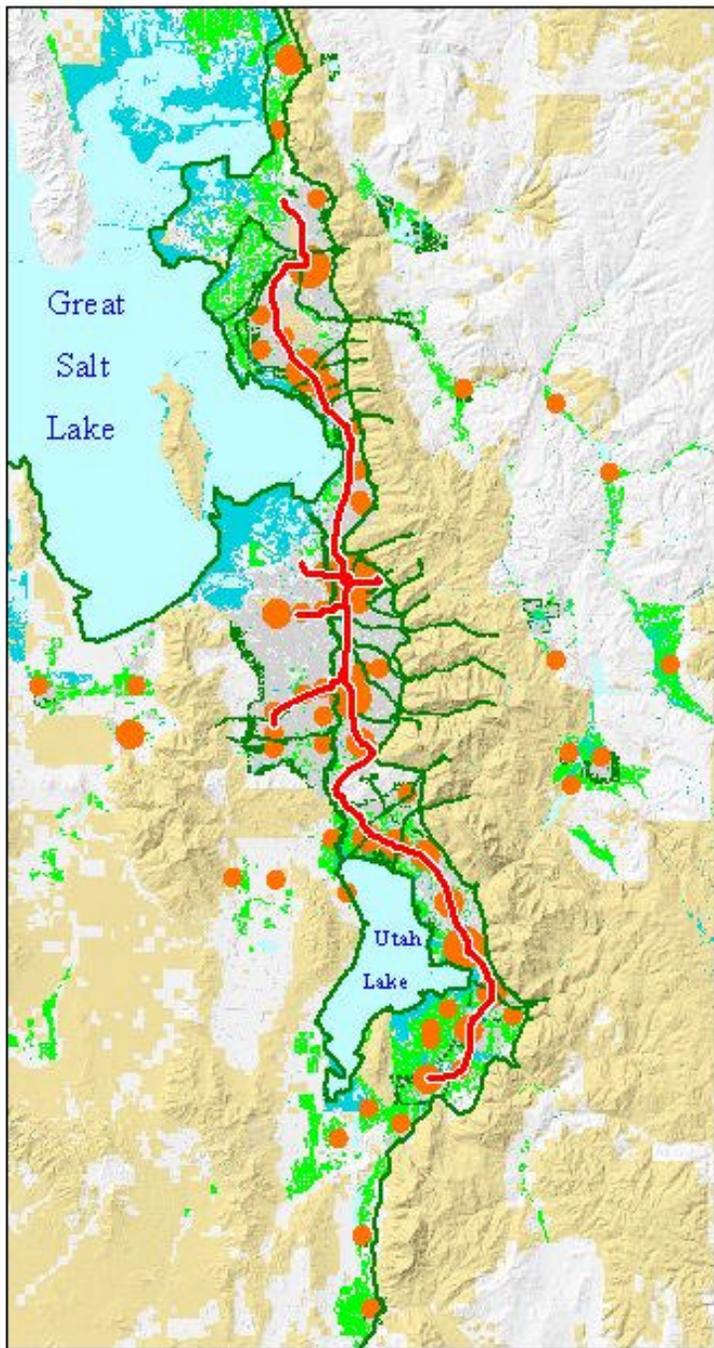
- Salient Characteristics
  - Refinement of past work (2nd revision)
  - Includes the addition of approximately one million more people by 2020
  - Snapshot of the future based on state and regional plans
  - Based on trends of the past 20-30 years

# Strategy

***Depicts how the region is likely to develop based on adherence to Envision Utah's goals and strategies***

- Salient Characteristics
  - Includes addition of approximately one million more people
  - Depicts impacts of voluntary, interjurisdictional cooperation
  - Reflects market-based housing mix
  - Requires additional water conservation and telework
  - Consistent with previously expected population and employment trends at the county-level
  - Requires incremental changes from current development patterns

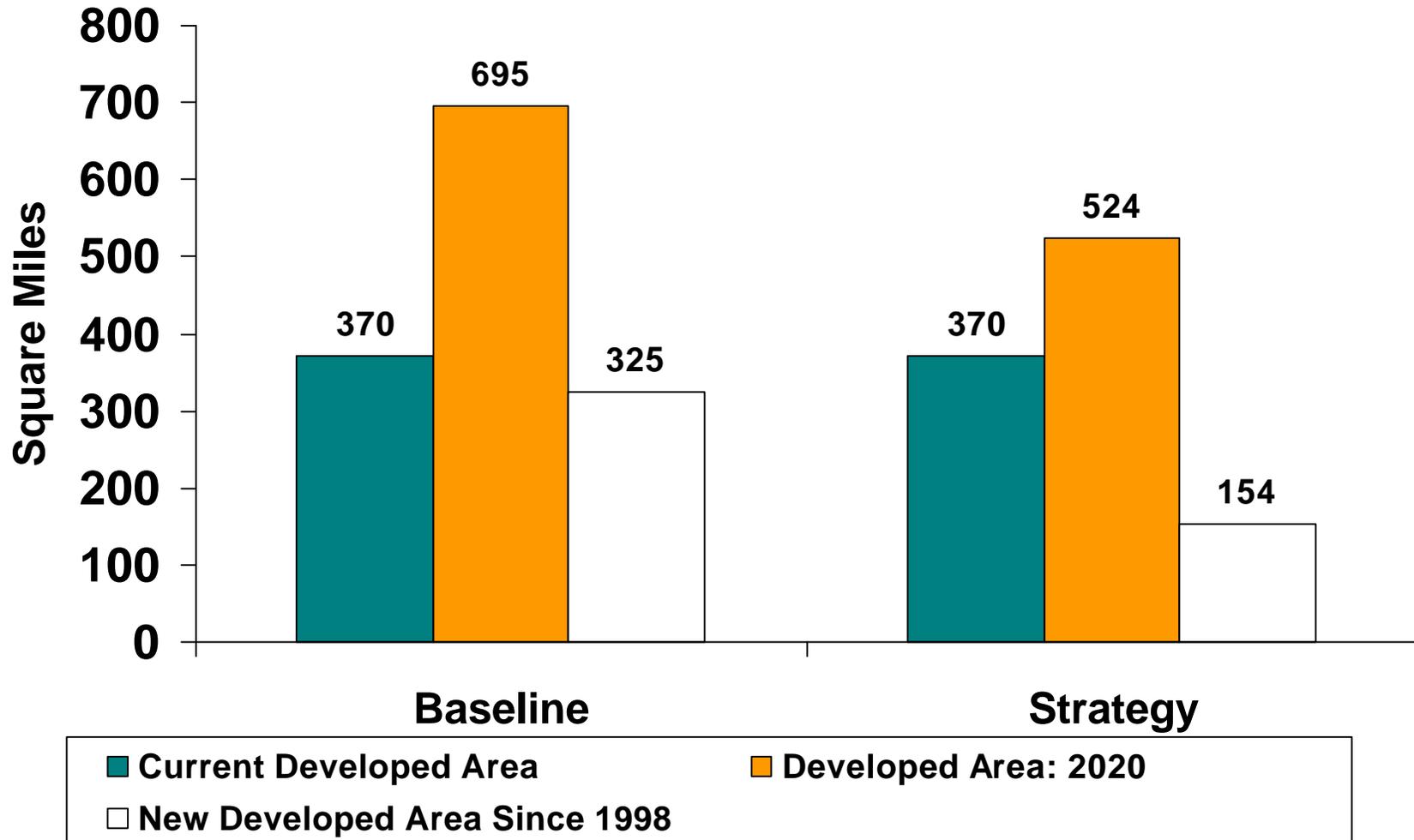
**The pursuit of this strategy is motivated by the common and regional nature of many of our challenges. We share the same roads, airshed, water resources, and natural assets. We have an enviable quality of life, but we have major challenges.**



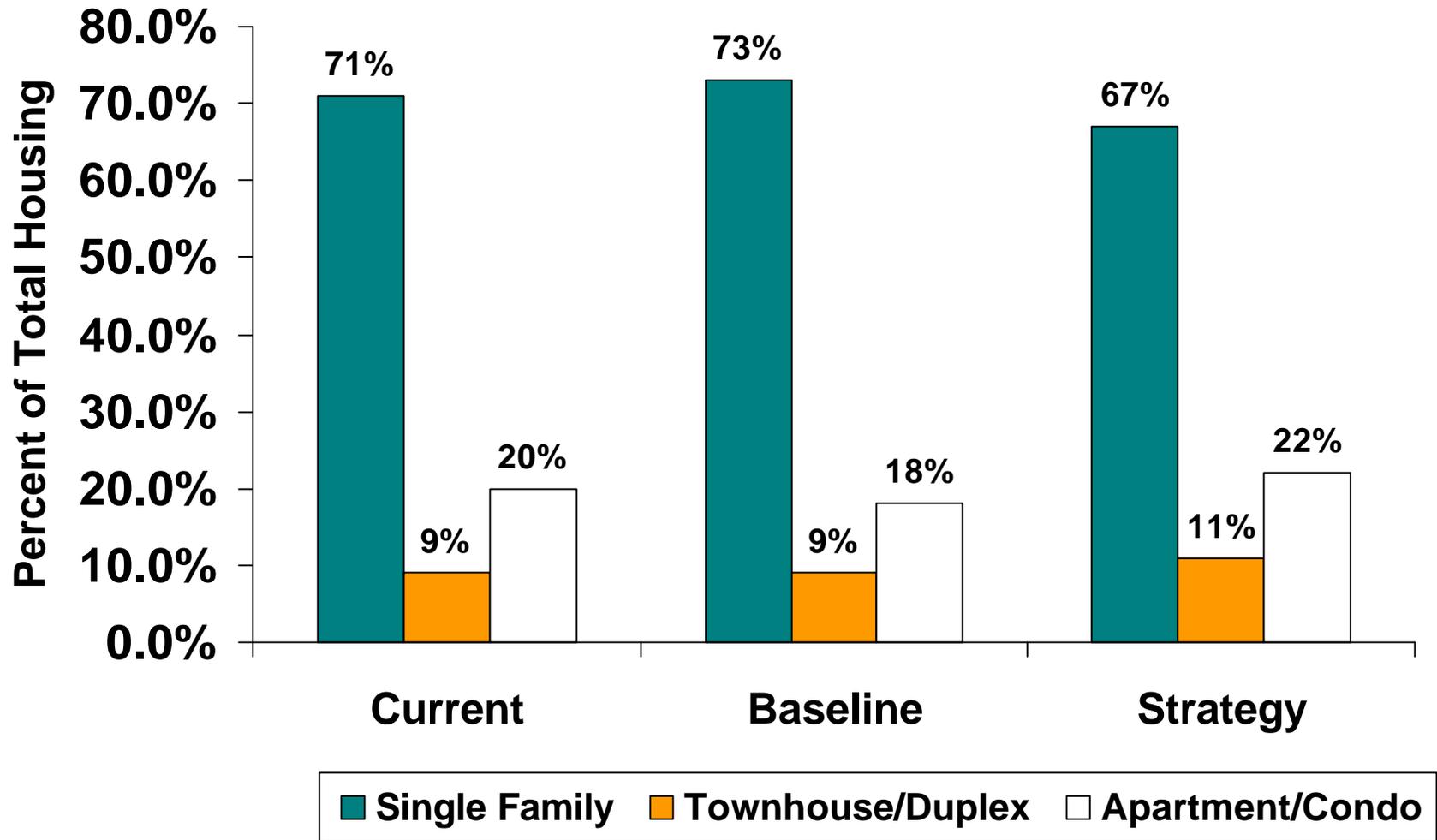
## Population Centers and Critical Land

-  Population Centers
-  Rail Transit
-  Critical Lands Conserved  
Rural Cluster Development  
Trail/Stream Corridor  
Lake Buffer
-  Public Lands &  
Mountain Areas
-  Farmland
-  Wetlands &  
Floodplain
-  Developed Area

# Land Consumption

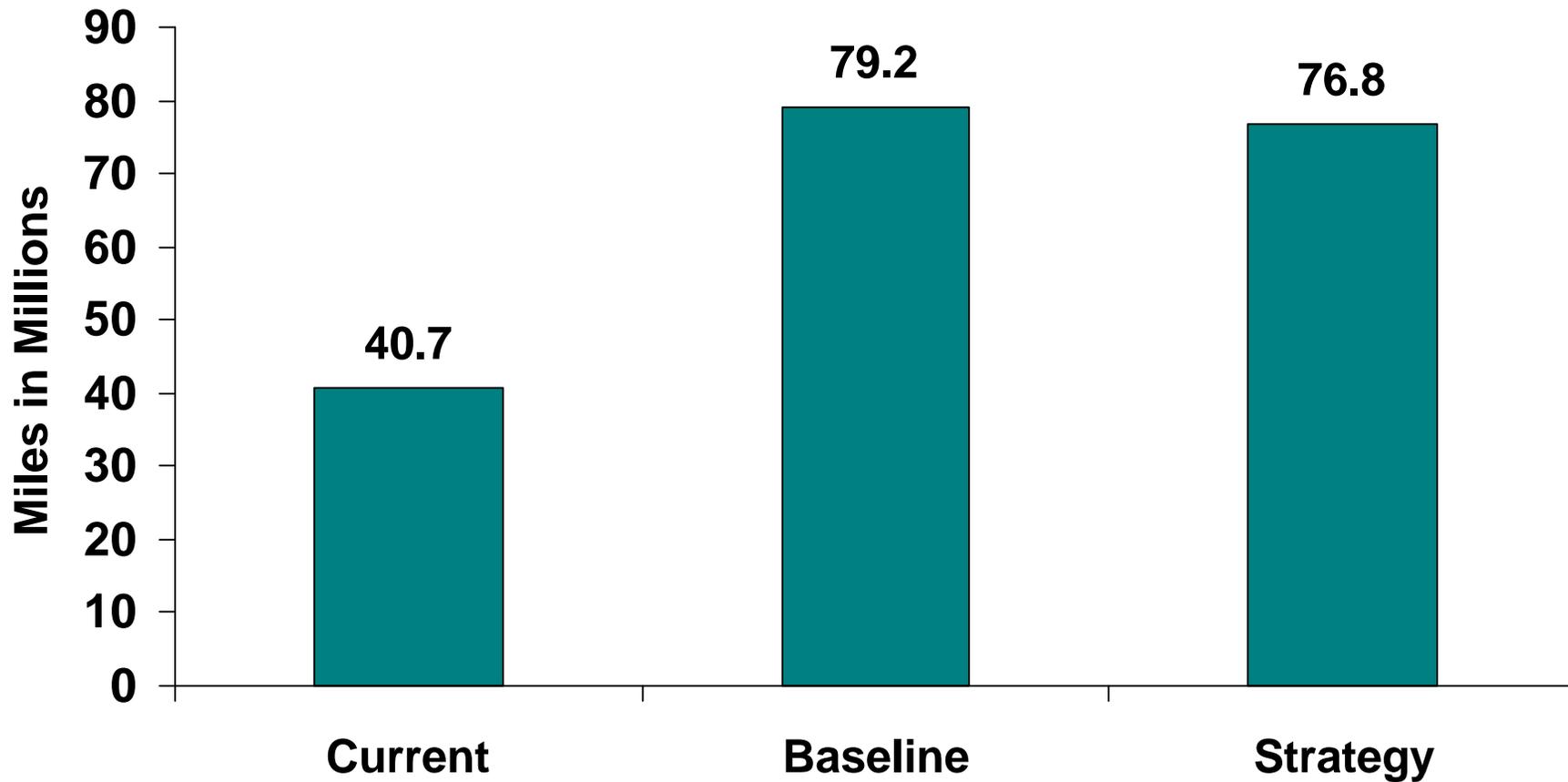


# Housing Mix: Current and 2020





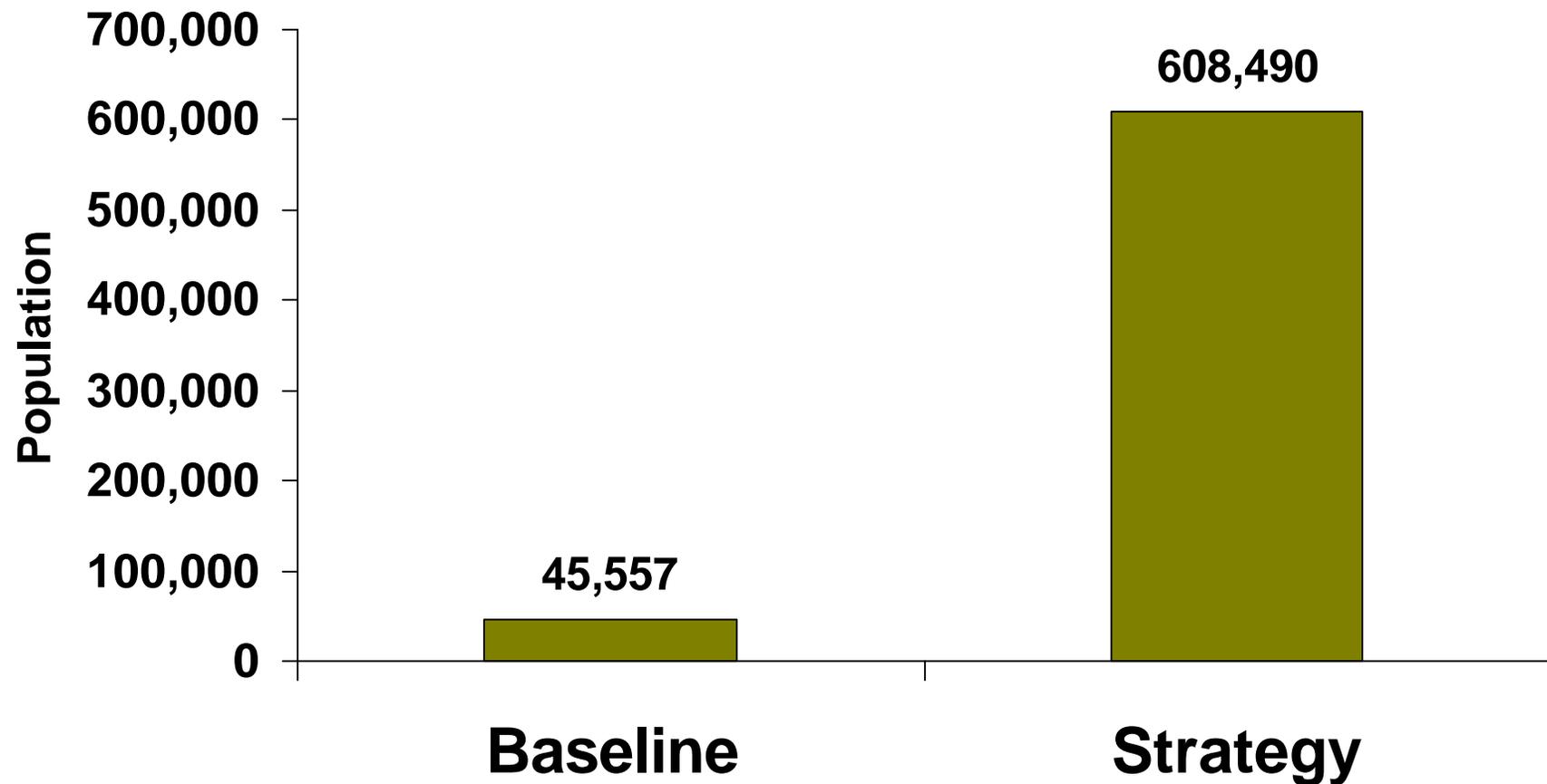
# Vehicle Miles of Travel Per Day: Current and 2020



# Transportation Investment: 1997-2020

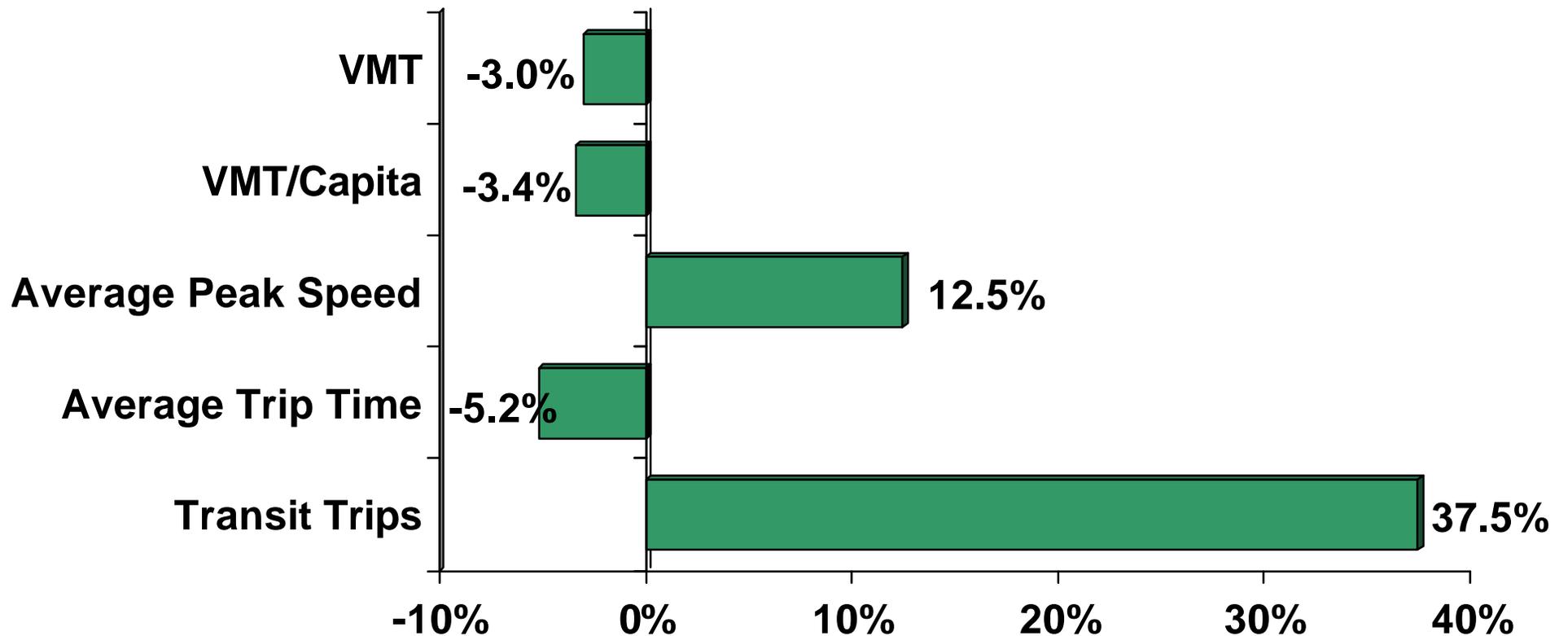


# Population Within 1/2 Mile of Rail Transit: 2020

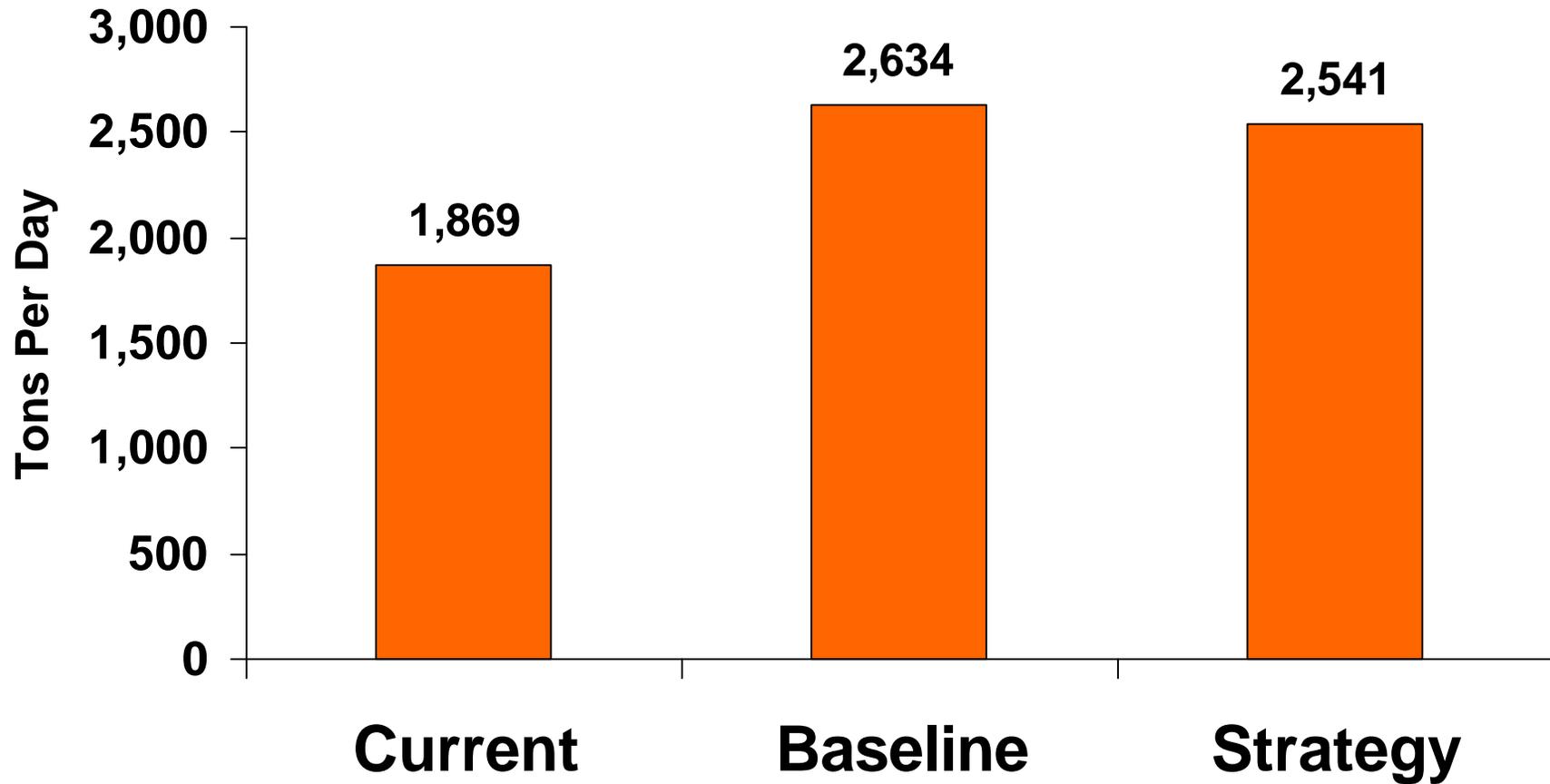


# Transportation Comparison

Percent Difference Between Strategy and Baseline: 2020

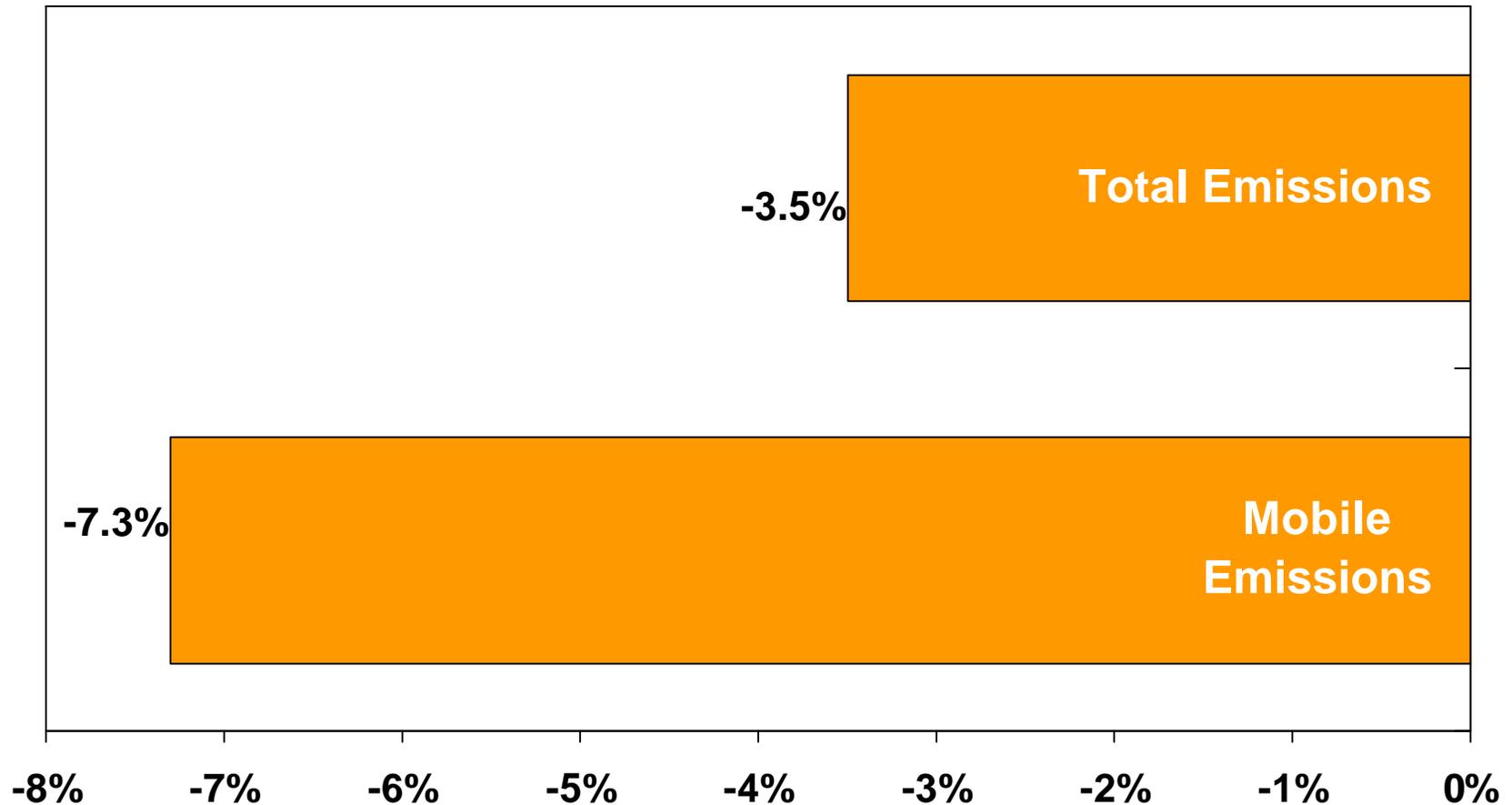


# Total Emissions: Current and 2020

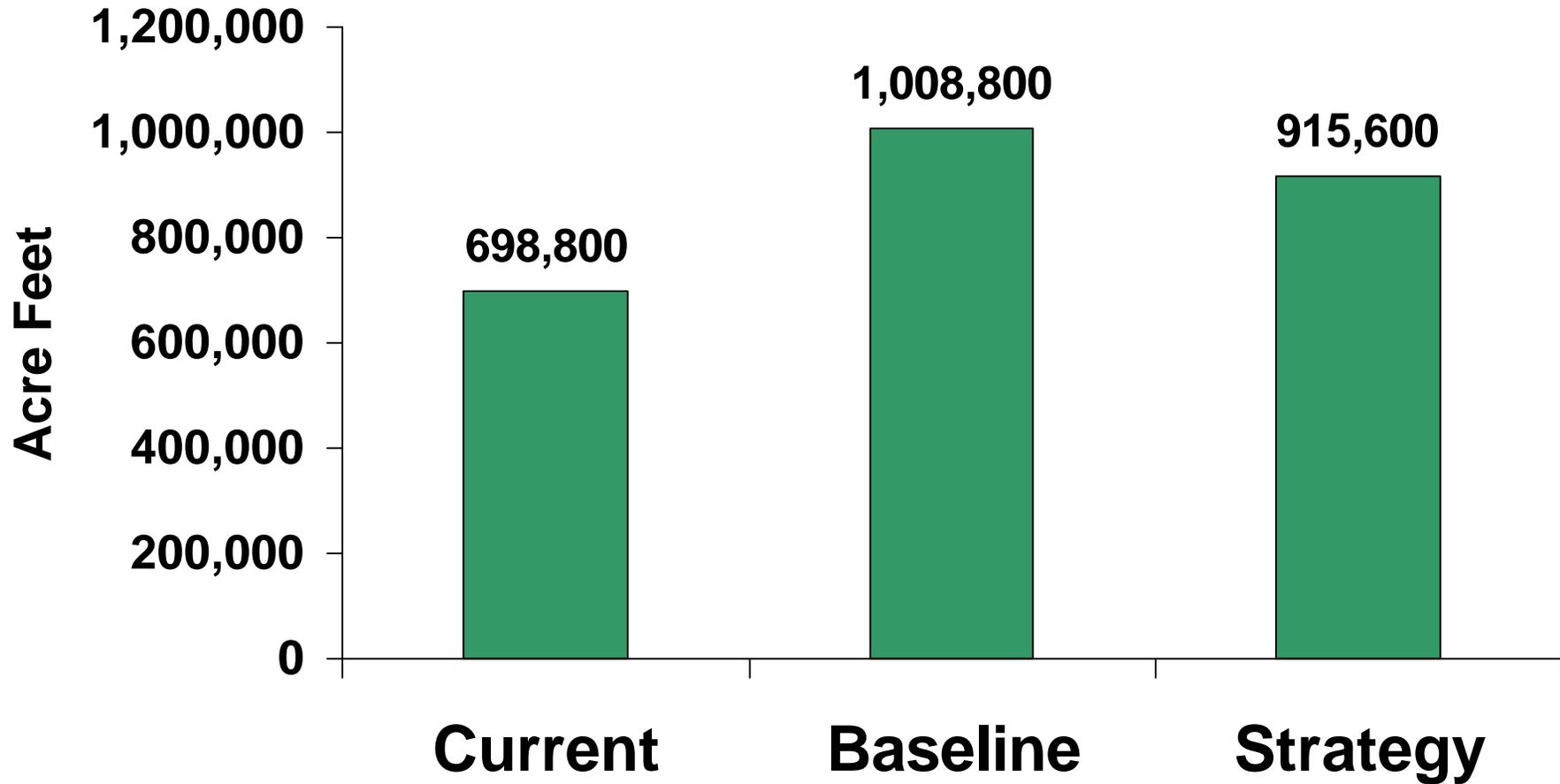


# Emissions Comparison

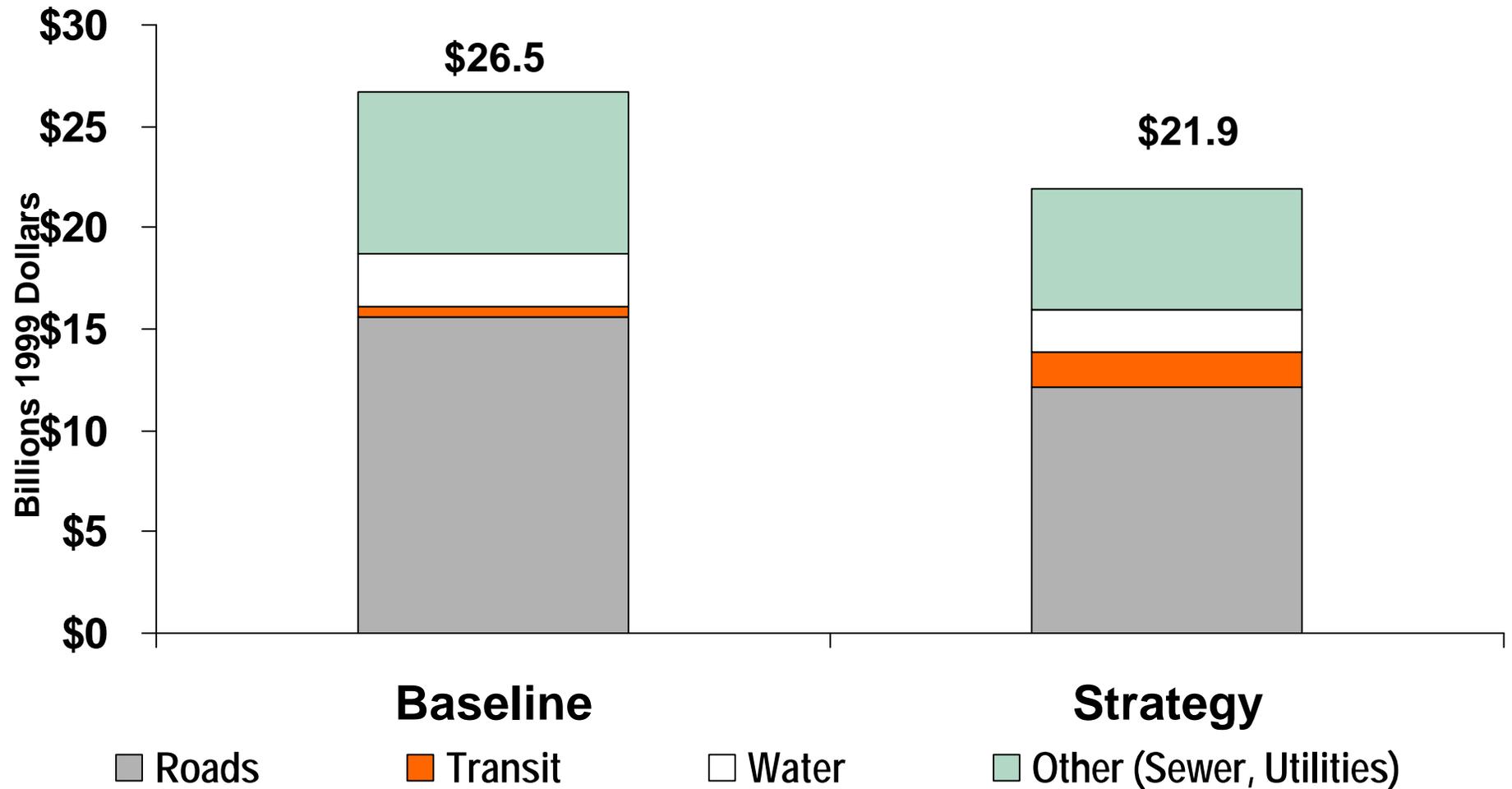
Percent Difference Between Strategy and Baseline: 2020



# Water Demand: Current and 2020



# Total Infrastructure Costs: 1998-2020

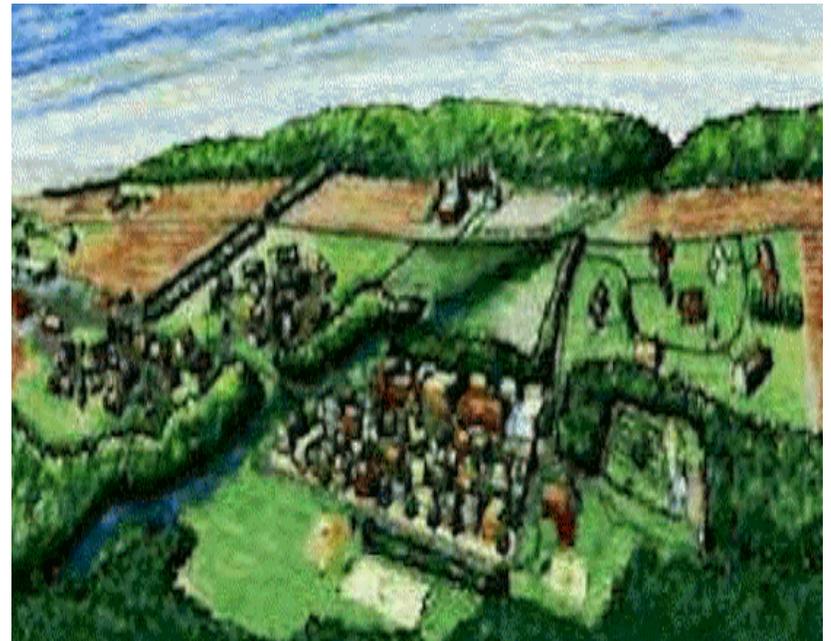




- Established by the Quality Growth Act of 1999
- Duties include:
  - Advise and recommend to the legislature Utah's guiding principles for quality growth
  - Administer a \$3 million critical land conservation fund
  - Provide grants to local government for quality growth planning efforts

# LeRay McCallister Critical Land Conservation Fund

- Fund designed to preserve Utah's beauty, character, heritage, and critical lands
- Requires matching funds equal to or greater than the loan or grant
- Can be used for the purchase of conservation easements or fee interest purchases of real property providing the parcel is less than 20 acres in size
- Includes an original appropriation of \$2.75 million and has an ongoing source of funding through the State Building Efficiency Program and sale of state surplus lands



# Quality Growth Implementation

- Demonstration Projects
- Tool Box Development
- Critical Lands Project
- City Council Presentations – 88 Communities & 10 Counties
- Quality Growth Workshops
- Quality Growth Commission – Legislative Recommendations
- Continual Model/Tools Development and Data Enhancement

# Lessons Learned

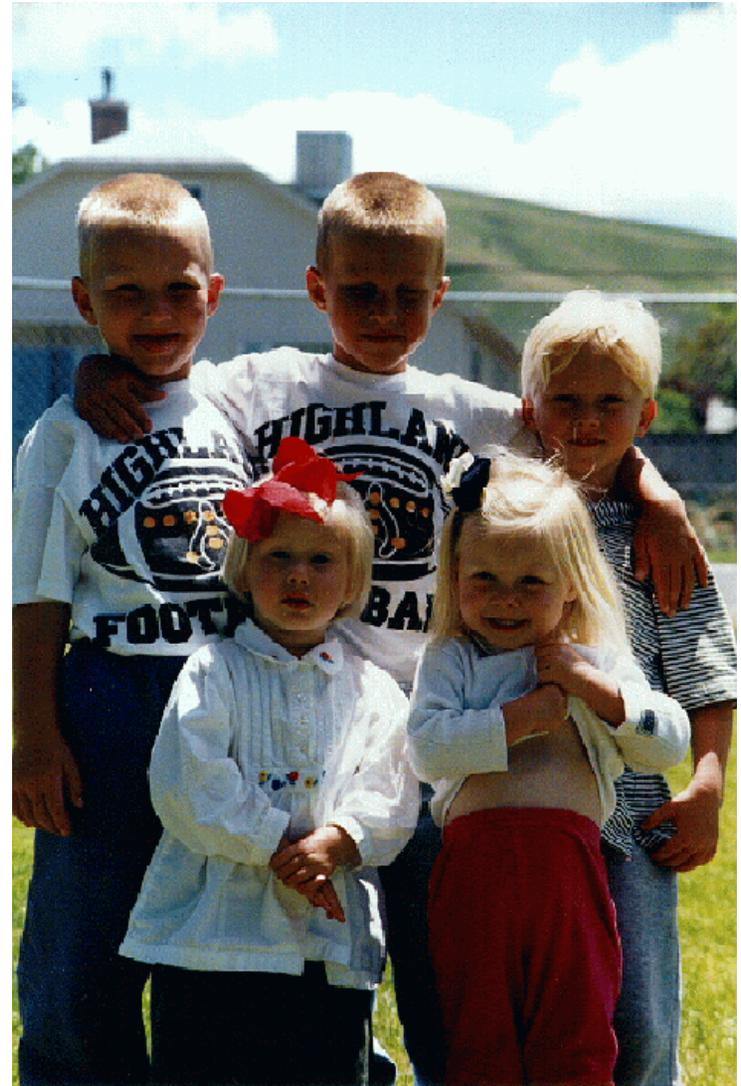
- Long term process
- Must work continually with the critics
- State Government cannot take the lead
- Local Government is the Key
- DOTS are important partners
- Must have a true partnership
- Change is slow-but it does happen
- Long term discussion is always safer

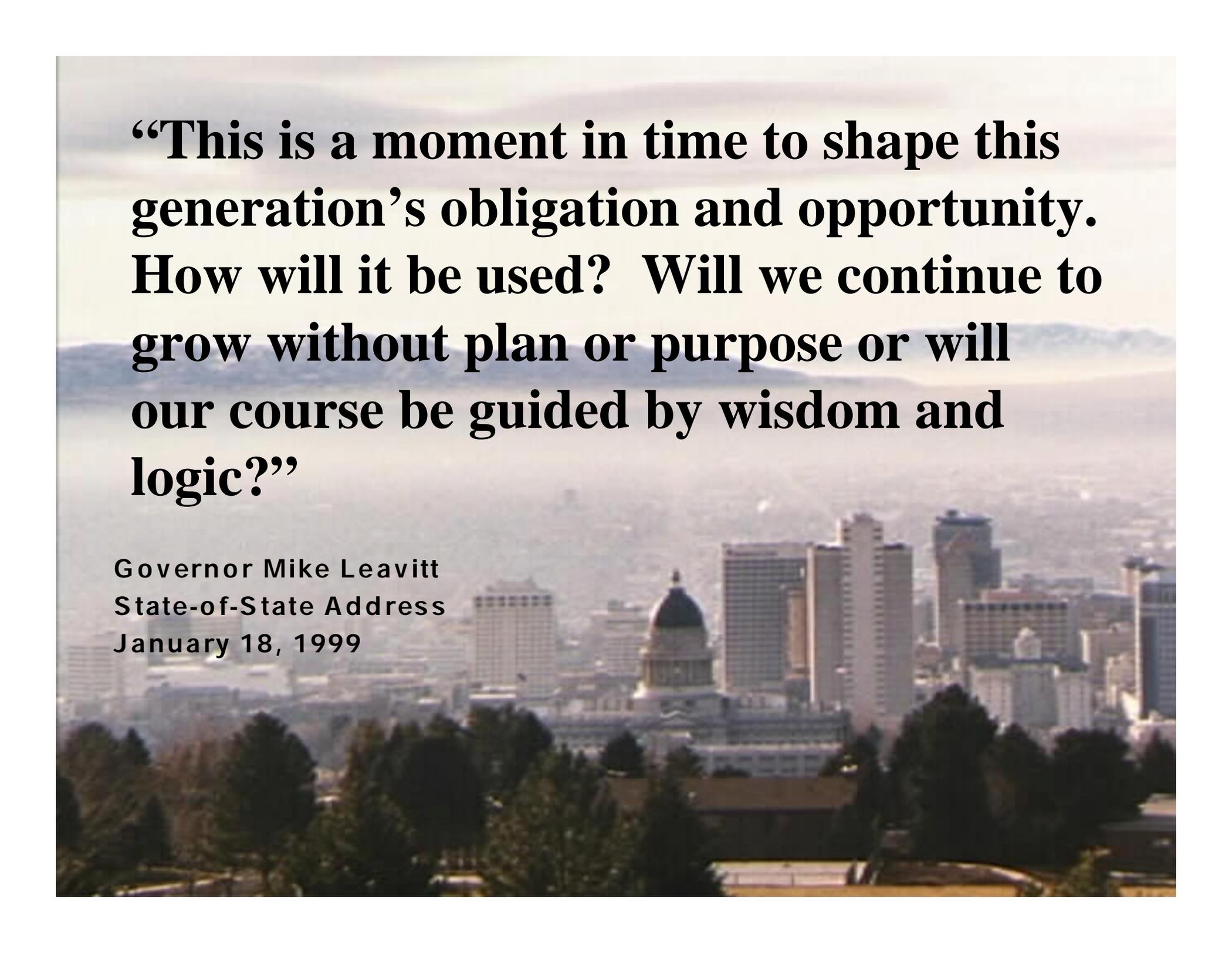
# Benefits to Transportation Planning

- Better Data
- Combined Modeling for two regions-stronger regional transportation planning
- Development of integrated land use model-URBAN SIM
- Help with conformity determinations
- Better understanding of land use/transportation issues by local government & the public
- Enhancement of image

# Quality Growth Planning Utah Style

- Growth cannot be managed by some sort of regional growth czar or some mystical regional solution arrived at by experts
- It must evolve at the local level
- Nobody should be left out
- The collaboration will be messy, difficult, and ... indispensable
- Understanding tradeoffs and seeking balance is key
- In the end, the community will be a more desirable place to call home





**“This is a moment in time to shape this generation’s obligation and opportunity. How will it be used? Will we continue to grow without plan or purpose or will our course be guided by wisdom and logic?”**

Governor Mike Leavitt  
State-of-State Address  
January 18, 1999