



Sustainable City Code Initiative

Salt Lake City residents deserve a city to match the spectacular scenery. A green city is a place that uses energy efficiently. It reduces, reuses and recycles its waste. It works to keep its air and water clean. A green city protects its open spaces as ecological and recreational treasures. It offers its residents healthy and efficient transportation and housing choices.

By doing these things, a city becomes green: it becomes a highly desirable place to live, work, play, raise a family and own a business. A green city is a place where people want to be because the quality of life is high. As a result, a green city is economically stable and less vulnerable to the ups and downs of national and global forces, such as the prices of imported fossil fuels, over which city residents have little control.

Salt Lake City can be one of America's leading green cities. Mayor Ralph Becker recently announced Salt Lake City's effort to adopt **the most comprehensive sustainability ordinances in the country**. The Sustainable City Code Initiative is a ground-breaking initiative to **incorporate sustainability provisions into the City's development codes (Zoning, Subdivision and Site Development Ordinances)**. The revised codes will contribute to making Salt Lake City one of the nation's leading sustainable communities.

The three-phase initiative is based on an exhaustive reworking of city ordinances and is aimed at removing barriers to enhancing livability and establishing sustainable practices that address the near-term needs of residents and the long-term goals of reducing the community's reliance on limited, non-renewable resources.

Proposed code changes include allowing wider use of clean-energy collectors like solar panels and wind turbines, promoting transit-oriented development, creating new opportunities for urban agriculture, promoting recycling, requiring efficient use of water resources in new development and promoting bike routes and pedestrian connectivity in and throughout the City.

When fully adopted, the new comprehensive sustainability ordinance will be the first of its kind in the country. The 10 key areas addressed by the Sustainability City Code Initiative are:

- Climate Change and Air Quality
- Water Quality and Conservation
- Alternative Energy Production/Conservation
- Mobility and Transportation

- Urban Forestry
- Housing Accessibility and Diversity
- Community Health and Safety
- Food Production and Nutrition
- Recycling and Waste Reduction
- Open Space, Parks, and Trails

“We’re moving forward in our work to reach the goals expressed by our residents to remove government barriers to sustainable practices,” Mayor Becker said.

For more information on Salt Lake City’s Sustainable City Code Initiative, go to <http://www.slcgov.com/slcgreen/>.

