February 8, 2021

RE: Support of Salt Lake County Mountainous Planning District

Dear Members of the Salt Lake County Council:

On behalf of Sandy City, Cottonwood Heights City, Millcreek, Salt Lake City, the Town of Brighton, and the Town of Alta we are writing to express support for the Salt Lake County Mountainous Planning District (MPD) and the Mountainous Planning Commission (MPC), as well as the elimination of the state legislative sunset provision associated with the MPD and the continuation of the current delegation of MPC commissioner seats to certain geographic areas.

Since its inception in 2015, the MPC has served our citizens well. In particular, the commission has proven itself to be a valuable community asset through its work related to the FCOZ Ordinance updates, the creation of a Mountain Resort Zone, and the award-winning Wasatch Canyons General Plan. Planning decisions within the canyons directly impact our respective communities, and we appreciate the expertise and knowledge of the commissioners to the MPC.

The MPD is a unique area, not like any other community in the County, and it serves as a significant recreation resource and a major watershed. As such, we value the existence of a planning commission that focuses on this area as a regional resource, with long-range planning being conducted by commissioners from throughout the valley.

It is our understanding that, pursuant to the request of its residents, the Town of Brighton will be receiving its own planning authority. We support the newly defined area of the MPD (without the Town of Brighton) and believe now is the time to eliminate the sunset provision so that the MPC can continue its good work as we face the ongoing challenges and opportunities presented by the Wasatch Canyons.

Sincerely,

Mayor Kurt Bradburn
Sandy City

Mayor Mike Peterson
Cottonwood Heights City

Mayor Dan Knopp
Town of Brighton

Mayor Jeff Silvestrini
Millcreek

Mayor Erin Mendenhall
Salt Lake City

Mayor Harris Sondak
Town of Alta