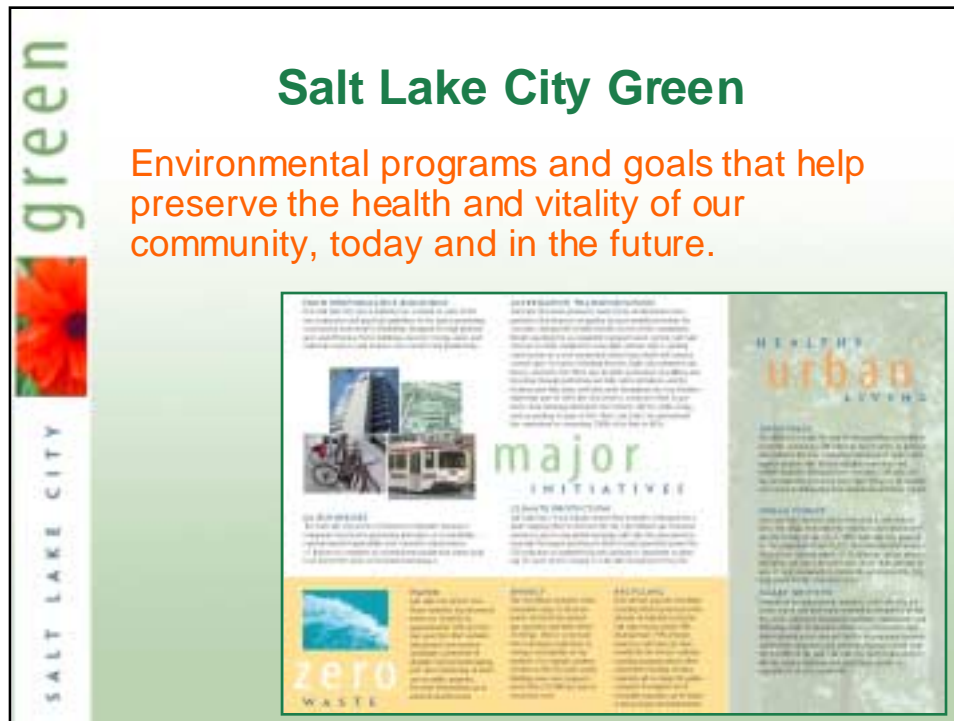


Speech Details: 15 minutes in length. Topic submitted by CCP: Making progress despite adversity, demonstrating specific actions that SLC is making to mitigate climate change despite a lack of leadership and commitment at the national level. Short talk, maximum of 15 slides.

- With less than 5% of the world’s population, the United States is the single largest source of carbon from the burning of fossil fuels. Despite our disproportionate share of global greenhouse gas emissions, President George W. Bush reneged on the promise he made during his first presidential campaign to support the Kyoto Protocol. He stated he “will not accept a plan that will harm our economy and hurt American workers.”
- I, along with millions of people in the U.S., feel differently than the President. In 2002 I committed Salt Lake City government to abide by the guidelines set forth for the U.S. in the Kyoto Protocol and created a Local Climate Action Plan to help us reach this goal. This plan is part of Salt Lake City’s holistic environmental program, Salt Lake City Green.



Launched in 2001, Salt Lake City Green is comprised of award-winning environmental programs that help us conserve resources, reduce pollution, reverse the trend toward global warming, and ensure a healthy, sustainable future for Salt Lake City. We are committed to do our part to ensure a healthy, sustainable future for our planet.

green

Climate Change



“Global warming is threatening the world’s ski resorts... Downhill skiing could disappear altogether at some resorts, while at others, a retreating snow line will cut off base villages from their ski runs as soon as 2030.”

- CBS News. Dec. 3, 2004

SALE LANE CITY

Some people in our community have asked why the Mayor is focusing on global warming.

My answer is that nowhere in the world can Climate Change be considered an issue that is not relevant to the local community. If the prospect of worldwide droughts, floods, hurricanes, mass starvation, and other climatic disasters are not enough to get the attention of some, then perhaps they will respond to the almost certain destruction of the ski industry worldwide.



In Salt Lake City, we point out that our tourism industry is largely dependent on Utah having the “Greatest Snow on Earth.” Our communities are dependent on the snow-pack that feeds our rivers and streams. With projected temperature gains from 5-9 degrees by the end of this century, skiing will soon be a thing of the past if we do not take prompt, effective action.

Using Climate Protection Software provided by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives and the Cities for Climate Protection, we are able to track our emissions reductions. The target for the United States in the Kyoto Protocol is a 7% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 levels by 2012.

Salt Lake City has achieved tremendous results in emissions reductions by converting to energy efficient lights bulbs and traffic signals, purchasing wind power, operating compressed natural gas vehicles, installing a cogeneration facility at our sewer treatment plant, and by capturing Methane Gas from the landfill. Today we estimate that we are already 81% of the way toward meeting our Kyoto Goal.

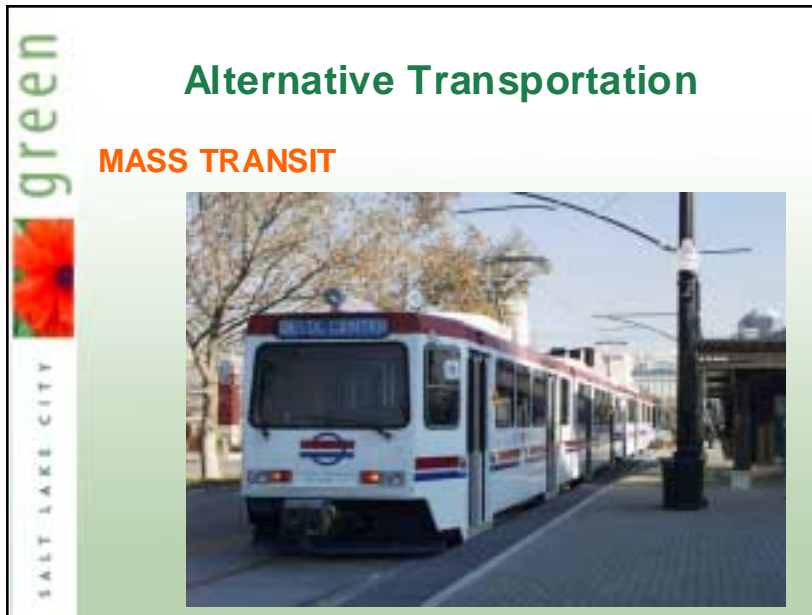
Without leadership from the federal government to slow global climate change, state and municipal leaders can take action that will make an enormous, planet-saving difference.



Salt Lake City has reduced emissions of criteria pollutants and greenhouse gases by right-sizing our city fleet and by using alternative fuels whenever possible.

- We have purchased five new three-wheeled parking enforcement vehicles that use less than one-eighth as much gas as the vehicles they replaced.
- We have removed 35 sport utility vehicles from the fleet and replaced them with mid-sized sedans or pickup trucks that use much less gas.
- Salt Lake City now has 89 Compressed Natural Gas, or CNG, vehicles in our fleet.
- This includes all of the shuttle buses and 52% of the light vehicle fleet at Salt Lake City International Airport, the 26th busiest airport in the U.S. and the 51st busiest in the world. (JD Power and Assoc: 7th highest rated in customer satisfaction)
- 40% of the fuel used by the Airport Fleet Division is Natural Gas.
- CNG use at the Airport reduces 1758 tons of CO2 per year.
- My personal car

No matter how clean and efficient the Salt Lake City Fleet is, we cannot significantly decrease greenhouse gas emissions in our region without reducing dependence on the personal automobile.



MASS TRANSIT

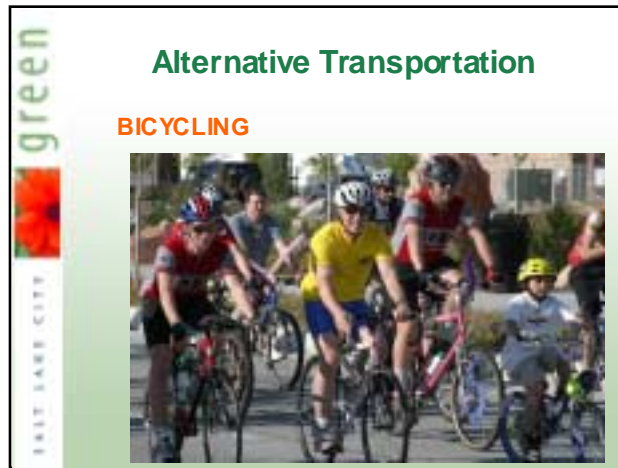
- In 1999 our first light-rail line opened in Salt Lake City.
- We now have 19 miles of completed light-rail lines with expansions to the University of Utah and University Hospital. (Ridership is double projections)
- 122,700 Utah residents board the bus or light-rail train every day.



Increasing comfort and safety for pedestrians helps encourage Salt Lake City residents to walk rather than drive. Getting people out of their personal automobiles is the single most effective thing a municipality can do to reduce pollution and slow global climate change.

In Salt Lake City we have:

- Installed pedestrian activated in-roadway lights that flash to alert drivers that a pedestrian is entering the roadway.
- Countdown walk signal timers and, in some areas, overhead flashing lights.
- The Orange Flag Program
 - The goal of the orange flag program is to increase visibility of pedestrians and remind motorists to watch for them. There are over 90 locations city-wide where flags have been installed.
- Last week Salt Lake City was recognized as having the greatest improvement in pedestrian safety in the United States.



BICYCLING

- We have three bicycles available for city employee use. Employees can check out a bike, lock, and helmet to travel to meetings.
- We have added 14 new miles of bike lanes in the past 4 years;
- Installed 45 new bike racks in the downtown area; and
- We have reverse-angle parking on one downtown street to more safely accommodate a bike lane through downtown.

Encouraging cycling in our community means less pollution and fewer greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles.



In 2001, Salt Lake City began offering a 90 gallon recycling bin to all single-family residences free of charge. We also offer the program to multi-family units and businesses at a very low cost. The amount of material recycled eliminates the production of over 30,000 tons eCO₂ per year.

In 2000 the Salt Lake Valley Landfill installed a methane recovery system. With 97% efficiency rating, we eliminate thousands of tons of eCO₂ that would otherwise be released directly into the environment.

One of the largest and most effective climate protection projects is the cogeneration facility at the Salt Lake City Waste Water Treatment plant. This system just recently began operating. It will produce half of the energy required by the treatment plant and reduce over 3,000 tons of eCO₂ each year. This one measure has the double advantage of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from our plant and by eliminating the need for one-half of the electricity previously purchased.



Cogeneration facilities cannot stand alone. Because more than 80% of the anthropogenic CO₂ emissions in the world are due to the burning of fossil fuels for processes such as energy production, real greenhouse gas emissions reductions are not possible without significant improvements in energy efficiency and increased reliance on clean, renewable resources.

ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTING

LED TRAFFIC SIGNALS

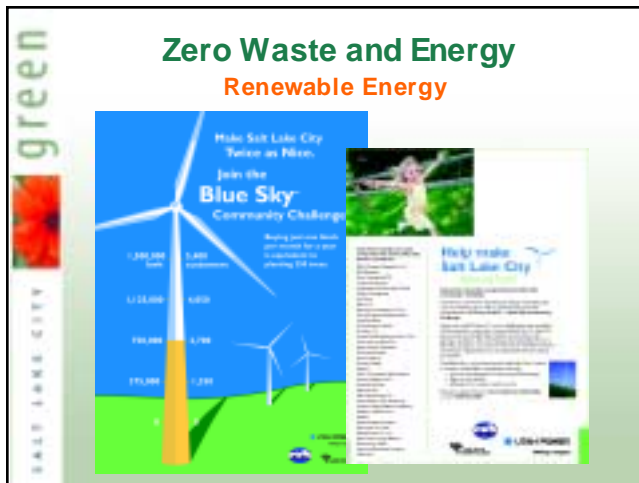
- Traffic lights operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- LED traffic signals use less energy and last longer, with a resultant savings in maintenance costs.
- 1630 red and green lights have been converted, saving 661 tons of eCO₂ each year.
- After all of our traffic signals are converted, we anticipate an annual savings of \$53,000, with huge reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

CITY AND COUNTY BUILDING

- Incandescent bulbs have been converted to compact fluorescent bulbs in the City-County Building.
 - This has reduced 344 tons of eCO₂ and saved taxpayers over \$33,000 annually. A portion of that savings has been reinvested to purchase wind energy.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

- By purchasing nearly 130,000 kwh of Blue Sky wind energy each month Salt Lake City reduces our carbon dioxide emissions by 796 tons each year.



RENEWABLE ENERGY

- Salt Lake City showed its commitment to wind power once again, by issuing a “Twice as Nice” community challenge - in partnership with Utah Power and the Utah Clean Energy Alliance.
- This month numbers indicate that 4,426 Salt Lake City residential customers and 110 local businesses purchase wind power.
- Our goal is to reach 5,000 participants
- If we reach our goal Salt Lake City will offset over 18,000 tons of carbon dioxide emission each year through the wind power program alone. For perspective, this is equivalent to planting 7,000 acres of forest every year.
- Due to our efforts to utilize and promote renewable energy Salt Lake City received the Green Power Purchasing Leadership award from the US EPA in 2004.



Outreach to the community is extremely important if we are going to have a real impact on global climate change. One means of working with the community to reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions is through our green business program that began in 2002 called “e2 Businesses”.

E2 stands for “environmentally and economically sustainable.”

Measures that businesses take to conserve energy, support wind power, and encourage employees to utilize alternative transportation are important steps toward slowing global climate change.



The reversal of global climate change will take leadership and action by us all. Governments, businesses and individuals all need to do their part.

Salt Lake City Government is tenacious in our commitment to doing all that we can to stop global warming - the most significant threat to the health of our planet.

Every decision we make is examined with regard to its impact on our environment. I urge others to make this same commitment. The first step is simple. Ask yourself – “Does this decision have an impact on our environment?” If the answer is yes, ask, “Will it help it or harm it?” If you believe you might cause harm look for another approach which will cause less harm, and pursue that approach. By making environmental protection a priority, every community can help to protect our planet, thereby improving the quality of life for all.