



June 24, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of the **Sandy City Council**, I am honored to submit this letter of recommendation in support of the **Sandy City General Plan** for the **APA Daniel Burnham Award** for a Comprehensive Plan. We believe this General Plan is an exceptional model of thoughtful urban planning, forward-looking development, and community engagement that will positively shape the future of our city for generations to come.

The **Sandy City General Plan** is the result of years of collaborative work between city officials, staff, residents, and community stakeholders. It goes beyond the usual elements of growth and development; it embodies a vision for our city that prioritizes both progress and preservation. The plan emphasizes a number of key strategies including increasing the range of housing opportunities, bolstering commercial centers, and conserving open space and natural resources. There is a clear focus on creating a balanced, dynamic environment that benefits all residents no matter their stage in life.

From the outset, Sandy City has taken a collaborative approach, seeking input from a wide range of community members, business owners, and regional partners. From the very beginning, we ensured that the voices of our residents, business and property owners, community and faith leaders, city staff, and elected officials would be the cornerstone of this strategic undertaking. Through open houses, stakeholder workshops, online input, steering committee meetings, subcommittee meetings, and comprehensive surveys, the General Plan reflects a shared vision that was crafted through meaningful collaboration. I believe this level of inclusivity and transparency is one of the reasons our plan is reflective of the diverse needs and aspirations of the people of Sandy.

We've worked hard to create a vision for Sandy, especially our neighborhood activity centers. Staff and other stakeholders have looked at these centers and reimagined them to serve as focal points for their surrounding neighborhoods. These centers will attract new businesses but also include diversified housing, vibrant public spaces, and expanded services that improve the quality of life for residents. The plan's initiatives will bring about positive change in key areas of the city, ensuring that Sandy remains a place where businesses thrive and residents take pride in their community.

As members of the Sandy City Council, we are incredibly proud of the progress we have made in developing this General Plan. It embodies our commitment to ensuring a high quality of life for our residents while preparing for the future. I wholeheartedly recommend the **Sandy City General Plan** for the **APA Daniel Burnham Award** for a comprehensive plan.

Sincerely,

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Aaron Dekeyzer, Chair