

MEMORANDUM

To: Sandy City Council
From: Mayor Monica Zoltanski
Date: 07/1/2026

Subject: Recommendation for Appointment of Economic Development Director

Pursuant to **Utah Code § 10-3b-202(1)(c)(iii)(C)**, which provides that the Mayor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the City Council, a qualified person to serve as Economic Development Director, I respectfully submit **Carlton Christensen** for your consideration and consent.

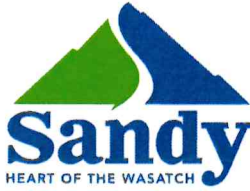
Carlton Christensen brings more than three decades of experience in economic development, regional planning, finance, and public-sector leadership to the role of Economic Development Director for Sandy City.

Most recently, Carlton served as Chair of the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) Board of Trustees — a position he held for seven and a half consecutive years, making him the longest-serving Chair in UTA history. Twice appointed by Utah Governors, he provided executive oversight of a \$785 million annual budget and led the agency to receipt of the 2025 Outstanding Public Transportation System Award from the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). His tenure also saw UTA recognized nationally for launching a first-in-the-nation governance model, demonstrating his commitment to institutional innovation and regional economic competitiveness.

Prior to UTA, Carlton served as Director of Regional Transportation, Housing and Economic Development for Salt Lake County — a cabinet-level appointment by Mayor Ben McAdams. In that role he oversaw a broad portfolio that included regional economic development, housing and community development, regional planning and transportation, the Salt Palace Convention Center, Mountain America Expo Center, and Visit Salt Lake. He coordinated multi-jurisdictional planning and transit investments that aligned county strategy with state and federal economic development priorities.

Carlton's economic development credentials are further grounded in fifteen years at Zions Securities Corporation, a for profit management entity of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where he assisted in the financial tracking of large-scale commercial and residential construction projects, land operations, and financial controls. He subsequently served Zions Bank as a Business Partner in Finance and Analytics and as a Community Development Representative, structuring financing solutions for communities and nonprofit housing providers across the state.

As an elected official, Carlton served four terms on the Salt Lake City Council, representing District 1 from 1998 to 2014 — a period encompassing the 2002 Winter Olympic Games and landmark redevelopment projects including City Creek Center, Eccles Theater and the region's current public transit network. He simultaneously chaired the Salt Lake City Redevelopment Agency, guiding renewal of the Gateway District, Sugarhouse, North Temple Corridor, and West Capitol Hill. He also served as Founding Chair of the Wasatch Front Economic Development District and as President of the Utah League of Cities and Towns.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

MONICA ZOLTANSKI
MAYOR

Carlton currently chairs the Utah Foundation, a nonpartisan public policy research organization, and recently concluded service with the Salt Lake Chamber Board of Governors and the Downtown Alliance, representing UTA. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Utah.

Based upon his extensive municipal experience, government relations expertise, executive leadership, and professional credentials, I am confident that Carlton Christensen is exceptionally qualified to serve as Sandy City's Economic Development Director.

Accordingly, pursuant to Utah Code, I respectfully request the City Council provide its advice and consent to the appointment of Carlton Christensen, as Sandy City's Economic Development Director, effective on July 15, 2026 following advice and consent.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this appointment.

Yours in Service,

Monica Zoltanski
Mayor, Sandy City