

KSL Editorials

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A Vision for Dixie

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If ever a region needed a meaningful, workable plan for managing growth, it would be Utah's Dixie. That's why it is good to note the way the Washington County community embraced a two-year effort dubbed "Vision Dixie," which followed the highly touted Envision Utah process.

Vision Dixie's recently released final report offers a realistic framework for smarter, managed growth in the region:

- Plan regionally, but implement locally!
- Maintain air and water quality and conserve water!
- Guard signature scenic landscapes!
- Provide rich, connected natural recreation and open space!
- Build a balanced transportation system!
- Focus growth on walkable, mixed-use centers!
- Direct growth inward!
- Provide a broad range of housing types!
- Reserve key areas for industry to grow!
- Focused public land conversion should sustain community goals and preserve critical lands!

Not a bad list of priorities for an area that has grown dramatically in recent decades and is projected to see its population triple in the next 30 years.

Community leaders are to be commended for seeing the need to manage growth, rather than let it move forward in a helter-skelter fashion. Their challenge now will be to effectively implement what they've jointly decided is the best direction to go.

KSL wishes them the best in this critical endeavor.