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Press Release

For Immediate Release

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American Chamber of Commerce Executives Honors Envision Utah

At its annual convention, the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE)/Alliance for Regional Stewardship (ARS) honored Envision Utah with its Ten Award for Distinguished Achievement in Sustained Regional Stewardship. The Ten Award recognizes organizations that demonstrated ambitious and steadfast advancement of regional stewardship over a period of at least a decade. Envision Utah is only the second recipient to receive the award.

Ian Scott, ACCE's Vice President, Communications and Networks, said, "The award is given to those rare organizations that have been early adopters and bold risk takers in the regionalism movement nationally. The Ten Award celebrates a decade or more of strong organization management, effective public-private partnerships, and valuable programs."

"The Envision Utah approach to civic engagement has been replicated by dozens of regions around the country," said Richard C.D. Fleming, ARS Chairman and president and CEO of the St. Louis (MO) Regional Chamber and Growth Association. "They truly are an organization held in the highest regard by their peers, and the ARS Board is proud to recognize their commitment to regional strategies, social inclusion, and collaborative governance by presenting them with the 2011 Ten Award."

The ACCE convention took place from August 3rd to 5th at the JW Marriott Hotel in Los Angeles. Envision Utah's Executive Director, Alan Matheson, received the award. Said Matheson, "This significant award is a tribute to Utah's residents who work tirelessly to make this the best place to do business and raise a family."

Founded almost a century ago, the American Chamber of Commerce Executives began as the National Association of Commercial Organization Secretaries back in 1914. Today, ACCE is headquartered in Alexandria, Va. and represents over 1,375 members servicing 7,000 staff throughout the United States and internationally.

The Alliance for Regional Stewardship is a national, peer-to-peer network of regional leaders working across boundaries to solve tough community problems. Supported by ACCE, ARS members come from business, government, education, and the civic sectors and share a common commitment to collaborative action and achieving results. ARS is committed to the idea that strong and vibrant regional communities are built on four principles of regional stewardship: an innovative economy, livable communities, social inclusion, and a collaborative style of governance.

Envision Utah is a nonprofit public/private partnership that facilitates informed public involvement to explore land use, transportation, and environmental solutions to the challenges presented by growth. Their transparent grassroots approach draws on public values, research, scenarios analysis, powerful technology and community visioning. Envision Utah has been invited into regions experiencing political stalemate and has successfully helped residents find common ground and a consensus vision for the future. Its innovative approach is replicable and overcomes skepticism often associated with government initiatives. Envision Utah has initiated demonstration projects in dozens of jurisdictions in Utah and has shared its model with over 80 regions in the United States and 11 foreign countries. According to national planning leaders, projects inspired by Envision Utah have positively affected over 55 million people in the United States.

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