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PRESS RELEASE

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SOUTH JORDAN COUNCIL OPPOSES WEST JORDAN PRISON SITE

SOUTH JORDAN, UT – Dec. 19, 2014 On Tuesday, Dec. 16, the South Jordan City Council passed Resolution R2014-106, expressing opposition and concern with the proposed relocation of the state prison to a site in West Jordan. The South Jordan City Council is opposed to locating the prison in West Jordan as the impacts to education and economic development in both West Jordan and South Jordan City would unduly interfere with the lives of residents and businesses.

The Jordan School District would be negatively impacted by the location of the prison in West Jordan. The land used for a prison would become tax-exempt, with no future tax dollars coming to the District from that property. In addition, surrounding property would also be affected as a prison could stifle future commercial growth. The siting of the prison in West Jordan will unduly burden the Jordan School District (with already one of the lowest per-pupil expenditures in the state) with a permanent reduction in taxable value.

“We recognize the incredibly difficult task the Prison Relocation Commission has before them, and thank them for their dedicated public service,” said, South Jordan Mayor Dave Alvord, “we know there are better suited sites out there, and hope the Commission will consider those.”

It was announced Monday evening that the owners of the property under consideration in West Jordan had removed their site from consideration. South Jordan City Council joins city councils from West Jordan and Herriman in opposing the proposed West Jordan location by resolution.

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The City of South Jordan, one of the fastest growing cities in the United States, is located 20 miles southwest of Salt Lake City, and home to more than 62,000 residents. In 2010, 2012, and 2014, South Jordan was named one of the Top 20 “Best Place to Live in America” by Money Magazine.