

Utah's Guiding Principles for Quality Growth

The Utah Quality Growth Commission defines quality growth as creating a responsible balance between the protection of natural resources — land, air, and water — and the requisite development of residential, commercial, and industrial land to accommodate our expanding economy and population.

Assumptions:

These assumptions underlie the principles of Quality Growth:

- Utahns value quality of life.
- Growth creates challenges and opportunities.
- State government should not impose requirements on local governments without adequate resources or appropriate incentives.
- Private property and other individual rights will be respected.
- A solution for one community may not apply to all communities.
- Free market forces are important in addressing challenges.

Principles:

These principles should apply to all levels of government as our communities develop. To this end, we offer these principles:

- **Local Responsibility** — Local governments are responsible for planning and land use decisions in their own jurisdictions in coordination and cooperation with other government entities.
- **State Leadership** — The State's role is to provide planning assistance, technical assistance, information and incentives for local governments to coordinate and cooperate in the management of growth.
- **Economic Development** — The State shall promote a healthy statewide economy and quality of life that supports a broad spectrum of opportunity.
- **Efficient Infrastructure Development** — State and local governments and the private sector should cooperate to encourage development that promotes efficient use of infrastructure and water and energy resources.
- **Housing Opportunity** — Housing choices and housing affordability are quality of life priorities and state and local governments should cooperate with the private sector to encourage both.
- **Conservation Ethic** — The public sector, private sector and the individual should cooperate to protect and conserve water, air, critical lands, important agricultural lands, and historical resources.