



## Smart Economic Growth

Taylorsville and West Jordan are vibrant, multicultural cities with a rich history. Our state will nearly double in population by 2050. [In 2021, West Jordan was named one of the fastest-growing cities in America](#), and Taylorsville is one of the top 25 cities in the country to start a business. However, with this growth comes new challenges as we strive to balance present and future needs. As community leaders, we have a responsibility to our future generations to make decisions that do not only meet our current needs but plan for the future.

In particular, our Legislature should prioritize...

- Decreasing the cost of housing so residents can stay within our district.
  - o To maintain healthy personal finances, individuals should not spend more than 30 percent of their monthly income on housing. Nearly [2/3 of our District's residents make less than \\$50,000](#), making their target rent \$1,200 or less per month. Yet, the average rent for a one-bedroom is [over \\$1,500](#). When housing costs spike, they cut into residents' ability to pay for food, healthcare and other essentials. The Legislature must enact policies to address rising housing costs across the state.
- Supporting market-driven housing solutions.
  - o Our current housing market and economic development have created a market for affordable, multi-family housing in some areas of our community. We have a lot of pride in our well-established neighborhoods, and the market should drive housing solutions. We should explore viable choices for people who want it, and only in places that make sense. That is places near large employment centers with quality transportation resources.



- Protecting established neighborhoods.
  - o We're fortunate to have well-established neighborhoods for 30-50 years. While we work to protect our region's resources for future generations and encourage economic development, our work should not come at the expense or legacy of our neighborhoods.
  
- Educating and training young people for the jobs of the future.
  - o Taylorsville is fortunate to be home to the Sorenson Research Park, which includes medium and large size high-tech employers. In addition, West Jordan boasts multiple large employers across sectors, including finance, construction and tech. However, in many cases, our students are not taught the skills necessary to build a trained workforce to sustain these companies. Our state should train young people for technical and high-skilled jobs to ensure a prosperous economic future.
  
- Increase the number of health care and mental health providers in the area.
  - o Like many communities across the country, Taylorsville and West Jordan have experienced a healthcare worker shortage. Sustainable growth is more than economic development. It also includes encouraging our next generation of workers to fill in the gaps. We need more healthcare, especially mental health workers. State leaders should support funding for programs that train and retain healthcare professionals.
  
- Fund environmentally conscious projects.
  - o One of our greatest assets is nature. We have beautiful parks, impressive canyons and cherished lakes. However, we have not been building our communities in an environmentally conscious way. As a result, our air quality has decreased, and our Great Salt Lake has shrunk. We're growing at an impressive rate, but it must not come at the cost of our environment.