

**Media Advisory**

September 16, 2003

**City Council to Begin Consideration of Rezone Petition**

The Salt Lake City Council will begin consideration of a petition by the owners of the Gateway mall to allow department stores in the Gateway Mixed-Use District. The process will begin with a briefing Tuesday night by Mayor Ross C. Anderson's Administration on the petition. The briefing will be held during the City Council's work session. The session will begin at 5:30 p.m. in Room 326 of the City & County Building, 451 South State Street. The work session will be broadcast on Salt Lake City Cable Television channel, Channel 17.

Gateway Associates filed the petition in mid-July as part of discussions with future tenants who have indicated an interest in moving to the Gateway. Currently, the *Zoning Ordinance* does not allow department stores in the Gateway Mixed-Use District. The Salt Lake City Planning Commission in August voted to recommend against changing the *Zoning Ordinance's* text. However, in accordance with Utah law, the City Council will consider the Planning Commission's recommendation and make the final decision regarding the petition.

The briefing is the first of five meetings the City Council has scheduled to address the petition to change the text of Salt Lake City's *Zoning Ordinance* to allow department stores as a permitted land use in the Gateway Mixed-Use District.

In an effort to address broader issues and to inform and involve the public the City Council has scheduled four other public meetings to address a variety of aspects involving the petition.

The first of the other sessions will be a one-hour presentation by two senior fellows of the Urban Land Institute's national office in Washington, DC, on issues involving the petition. Michael Beyard and Maureen McAvey will present their views to the City Council at noon Thursday in Room 326

Mr. Beyard and Ms. McAvey also will participate in a City Council fact-finding meeting that will start at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in Room 326. The fact-finding meeting also will involve presentations by Gateway Associates, owner of the Gateway Mall; Property Reserve Inc., owner of the Crossroads Plaza and ZCMI Center malls; Brenda Case Scheer, dean of the University of Utah's College of Architecture and Planning; David A. Wilcox, senior vice president of Economics Research Associates of Los Angeles; and Mr. Beyard and Ms. McAvey.

Each group is scheduled to make a 15-minute presentation and answer City Council questions for 15 minutes. The Council will take no public comment during the fact-finding meeting because the meeting will be broadcast live on City Cable Television channel, Channel 17. KUED-TV, Channel 7, also will broadcast the meeting on a delayed basis starting at 9 p.m.

On October 9, a Thursday, the City Council will hold a public hearing on the petition. The hearing will be held at 6 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, Room 315 of the City & County Building. Speakers' comments will be limited to two minutes each, the standard format for City Council public hearings.

On October 14, a Tuesday, the City Council is scheduled to formally consider the petition and vote on it. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chamber.

The City Council invited the four speakers at Wednesday's fact-finding meeting – Ms. Scheer, Mr. Wilcox, Mr. Beyard and Ms. McAvey – to review issues involving the petition to change the *Zoning Ordinance* for their expertise and understanding of the issues.

For more information, please contact Russell Weeks, public policy analyst, at 535-6206, or City Council Executive Director Cindy Gust-Jenson at 535-7600.