



**SALT LAKE
COUNTY**

News Release

July 02, 2009

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Property Tax Increase Vetoed

Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon will veto the property tax increase approved by the County Council on June 18.

On June 30, Mayor Corroon presented an alternate budget strategy to the Council, one that addresses the 2010 budget shortfall without increasing property taxes on County residents. The Council did not reach a consensus that would adopt the Mayor's proposal.

"I understand and appreciate the thought process behind the Council's decision," said Corroon, "however, I made the commitment that I would exhaust every viable option to balance the budget before increasing property taxes."

Mayor Corroon went on to state:

Given the current state of the economy with increasing unemployment and foreclosure rates in Utah, and considering that the 2010 budget gap can be closed with prudent cuts in spending, this is not the time to increase property taxes. Several taxing entities have already increased property taxes for 2010. This is not the time for the County to pile on.

According to Doug Willmore, SLCO Chief Administrative Officer, Salt Lake County's 2009 budget is balanced with an increase of \$7M in the General Fund balance since the beginning of 2009. Willmore notes that the budget strategy proposed by the Mayor on June 30 took "aggressive, but thoughtful and prudent steps" to ensure that the County's budget remains balanced over the next 18 months and that the County's "Triple-A" bond rating is preserved.

Mayor Corroon will be available for the press from 3:15pm – 4:00pm today in the Mayor's Office.

**RESOLUTION
OF THE
SALT LAKE COUNTY MAYOR**

RESOLUTION NO. 4287

DATE JULY 2, 2009

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SALT LAKE COUNTY MAYOR
VETOING THE SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL'S
ADOPTION OF THE TAX INCREASE SET FORTH IN ITS
RESOLUTION ENACTED JUNE 18, 2009 AS PART OF THE
COUNTY MID-YEAR BUDGET ADJUSTMENT**

BE IT KNOWN AND REMEMBERED THAT:

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Council, by a vote of 5-4, in its budget hearing on June 18, 2009, adopted an increase to the ad valorem tax rates on the taxable property within the County for the fiscal year 2009;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the governing laws and ordinances for Salt Lake County as well as its optional plan, the County Mayor is authorized with veto power over legislative acts taken by the County Council which veto power must be exercised within fifteen days of the legislative act;

NOW, THEREFORE, the County Mayor of Salt Lake County hereby resolves:

1. To veto the legislative act taken by the County Council on June 18, 2009, increasing the ad valorem tax rates on taxable property within Salt Lake County as set forth in the resolution adopted by the County Council on said date.

2. The reasons for exercising this veto authority of the tax increase are as follows:

Although the Council adopted an increase to the property tax rates for 2009 in order to close a projected shortfall in the 2010 General Fund budget, it is the position of the County Mayor that this tax increase is not necessary at this time.

On June 30, 2009, in the Council of the Whole meeting, Mayor Corroon presented an alternate budget strategy to the Council, one that addresses the 2010 General Fund budget shortfall without increasing property taxes on County residents. This proposal took steps to ensure the County's General Fund remains balanced over the next eighteen months and that our AAA Bond Rating is preserved.

In its meeting on June 30, 2009, the Council did not reach a consensus that would both adopt the Mayor's proposed adjustments and roll back the property tax increase the Council adopted on June 18, 2009.

Although tax increases are sometimes necessary, and may be necessary in the future, this option should only be taken when all other viable options have been exhausted. Given the state of the economy, increasing unemployment levels, and the growing foreclosure rate in Utah, and given that the budget gap can be closed by prudent cuts in spending, this is not time for a property tax increase.

EXECUTED this 2nd day of July, 2009.

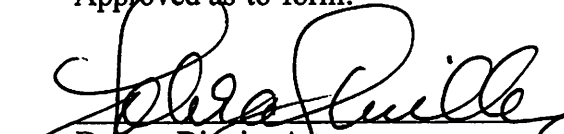
SALT LAKE COUNTY

By



Peter M. Corroon
Salt Lake County Mayor

Approved as-to-form:



Deputy District Attorney
Date: July 2, 2009

Mayor Resolution -- June Budget Veto