

## Dear International Economic Development Council:

Let me be the first to welcome to you to Salt Lake City for the 2019 IEDC Economic Future Forum. As the capital city of Utah, I'm confident you'll enjoy the incredible arts and entertainment, unique dining options, and unparalleled access to the outdoors that our city has to offer. It's no wonder why Salt Lake City continues to rank among the top places to live, work, and recreate in the country.

When I took office three years ago, I pledged to make Salt Lake City a city for everyone. One priority to accomplish this important goal was creating Salt Lake City's Department of Economic Development. I'm proud of the team we've created, and happy to say that since the department's creation, Salt Lake City has secured over thirty companies, more than 9000 jobs, and nearly a billion dollars of investment.

Having this new department that focuses not only on business recruitment and retention, but also revitalization and redevelopment, along with attention to arts and culture ultimately means a stronger, more diverse, and vibrant economy for our residents and those visiting our beautiful capital city.

As you will soon see, Salt Lake City has a professional sports franchise, unique music venues, world-class micro-breweries, incredible performing arts venues, and hundreds of SLC-only restaurants. Also in our backyard are world-class ski resorts with year-round amenities and hundreds of miles of hiking and biking trails. Whether you're an arts fanatic, foodie, or outdoor enthusiast, it's all minutes away and you'll love the <u>access</u> with our public transportation system.

I look forward to hosting you in Salt Lake City next year and sharing more about why Salt Lake City is the best place to do business.

With warm regards,

Jacqueline M. Biskupski

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Mayor