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Walking the walk

Public Forum Letter
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In her May 15 Public Forum letter, Polly Hart correctly states that most (approximately 65 percent) of Utah's air pollution is caused by automobiles. She incorrectly assumes, however, that Utah Moms for Clean Air is not actively addressing this issue.

We carpool to public meetings, and although we are a new organization, hundreds of Utahns have joined us. We are committed to reducing our own contributions to air pollution. Like Ms. Hart, we urge Utahns to eliminate at least one car trip per day. Recommended actions and facts about Utah's air pollution are posted on our Web site, www.utahmomsforcleanair.org.

Lifestyle changes alone will not solve the problem. We endorse the recommendations issued by Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment, which include expanding mass transit, a moratorium on coal-fired power plants and improved air-quality standards.

We have mobilized as mothers because the effect of air pollution on children is particularly severe. Poor air quality hurts all of us, and physicians warn Utah is facing a public health catastrophe if current air-pollution levels persist. We agree with Ms. Hart that if Utahns work together, we can clear Utah's air.

Jennifer Whitlock
Utah Moms for Clean Air
Salt Lake City

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