

10-27-2016

## Response to Gochnour

Natalie Gochnour's recent column about Utah's future paints a far too rosy picture. Imagine 5 million Utah residents ...

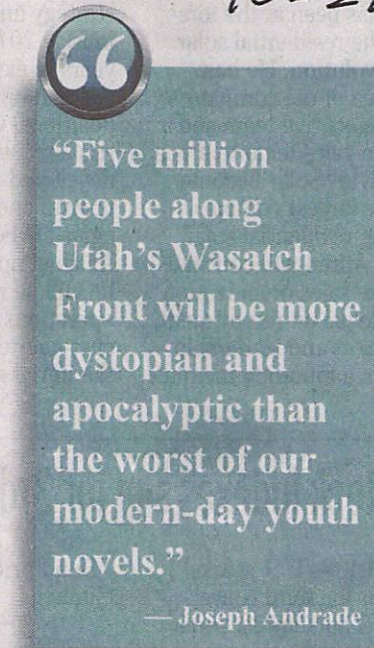
Imagine new and expanded ski resorts — in spite of severe global warming, resulting in much less and probably almost no snow. Imagine investor debt and bankruptcies!

Imagine greatly increased professional sports, insisting on public expenditures for new stadiums, transport and physical facilities. Imagine less and less money going to critical education!

Imagine a major airport in Utah County, significantly increasing air and noise pollution and resulting in a great increase in health and medical services — and greater incidences of gestation, birth and baby medical issues.

Imagine another Olympics to "light the fires within," to consume precious tax revenues and to produce smoke pollution — and result in athletes boycotting the Games due to dramatic increases in summer ozone or winter particulate air pollution. Imagine even less and less money going to critical education!

Imagine good, accessible, inexpen-



sive commuter rail services. Very good.

Imagine drones — not just for convenient delivery but for surveillance and annoyance. Imagine new campaign donations for our marginally moral politicians and more jobs for lawyers to deal with drone-based altercations!

"The future certainly holds many challenges ..." The most difficult

and most severe challenge is how to encourage less growth in population and a sustainable economy in a state plagued by pollution, by a disrespect for reality and critical thinking, and trapped in a 19th-century mindset advocating largely unrestrained growth in population and its economy.

Five million people along Utah's Wasatch Front will be more dystopian and apocalyptic than the worst of our modern-day youth novels. No wonder the kids are worried.

Imagine nightmares ...

**Joseph Andrade**  
Salt Lake City

## SUBMISSIONS

**Mailing address:** Readers' Forum, Deseret News, P.O. Box 1257, Salt Lake City, UT 84110.

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