



**For Immediate Release**

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**SLC International Airport Opens First of Three Sensory Rooms**

**Salt Lake City, UT**—The Salt Lake City Department of Airports (SLCDA) has joined with KultureCity® to provide the first sensory accessible and inclusive space at the airport to offer a positive experience for all passengers with a sensory need.

“Since opening The New SLC more than four years ago, we have worked to make the airport environment welcoming and inviting to all passengers,” said Bill Wyatt, executive director, Salt Lake City Department of Airports. “The new airport has been designed to be adaptable and to accommodate people of all abilities and we continue to make improvements to achieve this goal.”

The dedicated sensory space has been designed by KultureCity® and their medical professionals for individuals who may need a quieter environment. The room—located on Concourse A-east—is equipped with bean bags, visual light panels, activity panels, air walls and ADA seating. This is the first of three sensory rooms that will open at SLC this year.

“No matter how smooth the journey, airports can still be overwhelming, especially for travelers with sensory needs,” Salt Lake City Mayor Erin Mendenhall said. “We want the SLC International Airport to work for everyone, and this new space is one more way we’re making that happen.”

Each year, SLC staff will be trained in how to recognize fliers with sensory needs and how to handle a sensory overload situation. Sensory bags that are equipped with noise canceling headphones, fidget tools, verbal cue cards and weighted lap pads will be made available to anyone who may feel overwhelmed by the environment.

Sensory sensitivities or challenges with sensory regulation are often experienced by individuals with autism, dementia, PTSD and other similar conditions. One of the major barriers for these individuals is sensitivity to overstimulation and noise.

“Empowering communities through inclusion and innovation, Salt Lake City Airport is aligned with the same visionary spirit as KultureCity® and is championing a world where every individual, regardless of ability, is not just accepted but celebrated for their unique contributions to the tapestry of humanity,” said Uma Srivastava, executive director, KultureCity®.

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