

# CEDAR CITY Spectrum

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1981

## Cedar urges state tax amendment

CEDAR CITY -- This is the full text of the property tax resolution passed by the Cedar City Council in its regular meeting Thursday. It will be sent to the governor's office in Salt Lake City.

WHEREAS the present Utah property tax on land values within cities is so low that resulting land speculation retards development, and

WHEREAS the property tax on buildings and improvements is a deterrent to development, particularly in the business area of cities where land values are highest, thus discouraging free marketplace development, and

WHEREAS the bureaucratic method provided by the State Legislature to encourage redevelopment by cities requires intensive local government

involvement and in some cases subsidies from property tax revenue, and

WHEREAS reform of the property tax will correct the present conditions by giving marketplace forces the opportunity to meet the needs of cities.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Utah Legislature be urged to provide a constitutional tax amendment for voters in 1982 that allow municipalities to impose different tax rates on land and on the improvements thereon, thus rewarding those who put property to good use while penalizing "slumlords" and land speculators, and at the same time stimulating housing construction and rehabilitation of decaying municipal business centers without subsidy.