

# Hnited States Senate WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4404

April 22, 2020

Mr. Carlton Christensen Chair of the Board of Trustees Utah Transit Authority 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Dear Mr. Christensen,

Thank you for notifying me of Utah Transit Authority's (UTA's) intention to apply for a Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

I have been informed that the purpose of this BUILD grant will be for investments in UTA's Frontrunner commuter rail system, including the building of a new station and 1.9 miles of double tracking at Vineyard, UT as well as double track between South Jordan and Draper.

As Utah's population continues to grow, I commend UTA's efforts to provide Utahans with a safe, reliable, and efficient transit system in the years ahead.

It is a pleasure and honor to serve you and the people of Utah in the United States Senate. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Mike Lee

**United States Senator** 

123 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225–0453

> 324 25TH STREET SUITE 1017 OGDEN, UT 84401 (801) 625-0107

6 NORTH MAIN STREET BRIGHAM CITY, UT 84302 (435) 734–2270



COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES RANKING MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

CONGRESSIONAL WESTERN CAUCUS
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

**Washington**, **DC** 20515–4401 April 20, 2020

Secretary Elaine Chao U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing regarding Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) application for Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant funding for the FrontRunner commuter rail system.

Due to rapid growth in Utah's population, creative transit solutions have become increasingly important. Within this context, the FrontRunner commuter rail system has played an important role in supporting travel demand along the increasingly busy Interstate 15 corridor.

In order to meet this rising demand, UTA is applying for BUILD Grant funding to build a new station and provide 1.9 miles of strategically located double tracking in existing pinch points. It is expected that these modifications will improve reliability, reduce delays and congestion, and exceed the Department of Transportation's other performance-based goals.

I encourage and appreciate your full and fair consideration of this important grant application. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Paul Johnson at Paul.Johnson@mail.house.gov in my Washington office.

Sincerely,

Rob Bishop

Member of Congress

### Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 17, 2020

Secretary Elaine Chao U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I write to urge your full and fair consideration of the application submitted by the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) for Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant funding for investments to UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail system.

UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is vital transit infrastructure for the Wasatch Front. It connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will continue to grow to help meet the travel demand on the Interstate-15 corridor. To obtain long term goals for the corridor, UTA must make incremental investments to FrontRunner; including double tracking at strategic locations and some additional stations.

Specifically, this funding would be used to build a new station and 1.9 miles of double tracking at Vineyard, Utah, which is a fast-growing community located on the southern portion of the FrontRunner system. Additionally, this funding would be used to double track the FrontRunner between South Jordan to Draper, which is currently a pinch point in the system and this project will improve reliability.

It is my hope that this critical project will help UTA meet U.S. Department of Transportation performance-based goals in safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, reliability, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and improved project delivery.

I encourage and appreciate your full and fair consideration of this important grant application. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jake Bornstein at <a href="mailto:Jake.Bornstein@mail.house.gov">Jake.Bornstein@mail.house.gov</a> in my Washington Office.

Sincerely,

John Curtis

Member of Congress

#### **Ben McAdams**

Utah's 4th District,

#### **Washington Office**

130 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-3011

#### **Utah District Office**

9067 S. 1300 West, Suite #101 West Jordan, UT 84088 (801) 999–9801



Committee On Financial Services Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

### Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

April 30th, 2020

Secretary Elaine Chao US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the Utah Transit Authority's BUILD Competitive Grant

#### Dear Secretary Chao,

I write in support of the application submitted by the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) for Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant funding for investments to UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail system.

UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner needs to grow to help meet the travel demand on the Interstate-15 corridor. To obtain long term goals for the corridor, UTA must make incremental investments to FrontRunner; including double tracking at strategic locations and some additional stations.

Specifically, this funding will be used to build a new station and 1.9 miles of double tracking at Vineyard, Utah, which is a fast-growing community located on the southern portion of the FrontRunner system. Additionally, this funding will be used to double track the FrontRunner between South Jordan to Draper, which is currently a pinch point in the system and this project will improve reliability. This critical project may help UTA meet U.S. DOT performance-based goals in safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, reliability, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and improved project delivery.

On behalf of the residents of Utah, I appreciate your full and fair consideration of this important grant application. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Brennen Cain at Brennen.Cain@mail.house.gov in my Washington Office.

Sincerely,

Ben McAdams

Member of Congress

#### DISTRICT OFFICES

420 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE STREET, #390 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111 (801) 364-5550

253 WEST ST. GEORGE BOULEVARD, #100 ST. GEORGE, UT 84770 (435) 627-1500



# Congress of the United States

House of Representatibes Washington, DC 20515-4402

April 22, 2020

#### CHRIS STEWART 2ND DISTRICT, UTAH

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON

INTELLIGENCE

RANKING MENGER STRATEGIC TECHNOLOGIES AND ADVANCED RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE

> COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Secretary Elaine Chao US Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I write in support of the application submitted by the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) for Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant funding for investments to UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail system.

UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner needs to grow to help meet the travel demand on the Interstate-15 corridor. To obtain long term goals for the corridor, UTA must make incremental investments to FrontRunner; including double tracking at strategic locations and some additional stations.

Specifically, this funding will be used to build a new station and 1.9 miles of double tracking at Vineyard, Utah, which is a fast-growing community located on the southern portion of the FrontRunner system. Additionally, this funding will be used to double track the FrontRunner between South Jordan to Draper, which is currently a pinch point in the system and this project will improve reliability.

It is my hope that this critical project will help UTA meet U.S. DOT performance-based goals in safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, reliability, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and improved project delivery.

On behalf of the residents of Utah, I encourage and appreciate your full and fair consideration of this important grant application. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mark Coffield at Mark Coffield@mail.house.gov in my Washington Office.

Member of Congress



GARY R. HERBERT
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
84114-2220

SPENCER J. COX LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

May 5, 2020

The Honorable Elaine Chao Office of the Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the Utah Transit Authority's BUILD Competitive Grant

Dear Secretary Chao,

I write in support of the application submitted by the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) for Better Utilizing Infrastructure to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant funding for investments to UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail system.

UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner needs to grow to help meet the travel demand on the Interstate-15 corridor. To obtain long term goals for the corridor, UTA must make incremental investments to FrontRunner; including double tracking at strategic locations and some additional stations.

Specifically, this funding will be used to build a new station and 1.9 miles of double tracking at Vineyard, Utah, which is a fast-growing community located on the southern portion of the FrontRunner system. Additionally, this funding will be used to double track the FrontRunner between South Jordan to Draper, which is currently a pinch point in the system and this project will improve reliability.

It is my hope that this critical project will help UTA meet U.S. DOT performance-based goals in safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, reliability, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and improved project delivery.

On behalf of the residents of Utah, I encourage and appreciate your full and fair consideration of this important grant application.

Sincerely,

Gary R. Herbert

Governor



Lieutenant Governor

Office of the Governor

ROBERT SIMMONS. Energy Advisor Executive Director

May 1, 2020

Carolyn M. Gonot Executive Director Utah Transit Authority 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

The Governor's Office of Energy Development (OED) is pleased to provide this letter in support of the Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Future of FrontRunner First Steps project and the application to fund it with the FY 2020 BUILD grant opportunity.

OED's mission is to effectively implement State Energy Policy and the Governor's Energy Vision for more affordable, reliable, diverse, and cleaner energy options through strategic planning and programs, market-based incentives, and education tools that promote wise resource development, economic opportunity, innovation, and workforce development. Enhancing public transportation options is a key component of diversifying and growing Utah's energy systems, maintaining a high standard of living, increasing efficient and low-cost transportation options, and improving air quality.

UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail connects Ogden to Salt Lake City and Provo making it the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner provides a solution to help meet the travel demand along the I-15 corridor. The proposed additional track construction along key sections of the existing railway could help serve the needs of the growing population and increasing ridership.

OED appreciates UTA's dedication to improving transit infrastructure and encourages USDOT to support UTA's proposal.

Sincerely,

Rob Simmons, Esq.







State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT Governor

SPENCER J. COX Lieutenant Governor

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CARLOS M. BRACERAS, P.E. Executive Director

JASON E. DAVIS, P.E.
Deputy Director of Engineering and Operations

TERIANNE S. NEWELL, P.E.
Deputy Director of Planning and Investment

May 4, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) United States

Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to

Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application

As Executive Director of the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), I would like to give my support for UTA's Future of FrontRunner First Steps project for FY 2020 BUILD funding.

The funds from this award represent the critical funding necessary to complement the local and state resources that have been dedicated to the Vineyard station, Vineyard double tracking, Draper to South Jordan double tracking, and project wayfinding signage. Double tracking along the FrontRunner corridor will improve reliability and open a new station to residents and businesses in a rapidly developing city.

UDOT supports integrated transportation options for all Utahans. Public transit provides reliable and convenient service which strengthens and connects communities. This double tracking from South Jordan to Draper and wayfinding signage project is a critical step in a course of future system capacity/frequency improvements. This corridor is one of the most important travel markets in our regional transportation system.

Progress has been made toward the region's ongoing strategy of offering more and better transportation choices for our communities. UDOT and UTA are strong partners in leading the charge to implement and realize this vision. The Future of FrontRunner First Steps project represents an important milestone in this crucial process of improving the nation's transportation infrastructure and thus promoting a high quality of life.

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao Page 2 May 4, 2020

We appreciate this opportunity to endorse the Utah Transit Authority's Future of FrontRunner First Steps project.

Sincerely,

Carlos M. Braceras, P.E.

**Executive Director** 

CMB/dej



Jennifer Wilson Salt Lake County Mayor

Regional Planning & Transportation

Ryan Perry Division Director

Helen Peters, AICP Transportation Program Manager

Jake Young, AICP Planning Program Manager











Carolyn M. Gonot **Executive Director Utah Transit Authority** 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) **Grant Application** 

Dear Ms. Gonot,

This letter is in support of Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Point of the Mountain Transit Project application for the USDOT FY 2020 BUILD Grant.

Salt Lake County values transit and understands its importance to the quality of life for residents. We are fortunate to have a strong public transportation network, including three TRAX lines, a streetcar, five FrontRunner stations, and over 75 bus routes. As Utah's most populous county and largest employment core, high quality transportation is essential. Roads alone will not be able to support the growing travel demand, and transit options are key to reducing traffic congestion and improving the air quality in our communities.

The Point of the Mountain Transit Project is a coordinated effort between state, local and private agencies to complete an environmental study and preliminary design and engineering of an approximately 12-mile extension of high-capacity transit from southern Salt Lake County into northern Utah County, providing critical transportation connections between existing and planned employment and population centers.

We look forward to the construction of this project.

Sincerely,



April 28, 2020

Carolyn M. Gonot Executive Director Utah Transit Authority 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

As the Executive Director of the Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG), I would like to offer our endorsement of the Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) 2020 BUILD proposal. The funds from this award request will fund double tracking from Draper to South Jordan and wayfinding signage at those two stations and the new Vineyard station. This awarded would represent the funding necessary to complement the local and state resources that have recently been dedicated to the new Vineyard Station area.

MAG serves the governments and citizens of Summit, Utah and Wasatch Counties and has the task of planning for the urban Utah County regional transportation needs. MAG has a strong history of working together with stakeholders and accomplishing results. Part of MAG's focus is to support the increase of accessibility and mobility of people and freight. Growth in Utah County is robust, rising by 40% in each of the last two decades. The state and county have invested nearly \$4 billion in highway and rail projects, making a significant impact towards easing congestion and creating better connectivity. This double tracking and wayfinding, along with the locally funded new Vineyard station, are part of our Regional Transportation Plan, TransPlan 50, and are crucial to future growth.

Progress has been made toward the region's ongoing strategy of offering more and better transportation choices for our communities. MAG and UTA are strong partners in leading the charge to implement and realize this vision. The Future of FrontRunner First Steps project represent an important milestone in this crucial process of improving the region's transportation infrastructure and thus promoting a high quality of life. Best of Luck.

Sincerely, Shawn Seager, Regional Planning Director

41 N. Rio Grande Street, Suite 103 Salt Lake City, UT 84101 (801) 363-4250 www.wfrc.org

Bob Stevenson, Chair Commissioner, Davis County

Jeff Silvestrini, Vice Chair Mayor, Millcreek

Mark Allen

Mayor, Washington Terrace

Len Arave Mayor, North Salt Lake

Ron Bigelow Mayor, West Valley City

Mike Caldwell Mayor, Ogden

Tina Cannon Councilmember, Morgan County

Robert Dahle Mayor, Holladay

Jim Harvey Commissioner, Weber County

Scott Jenkins Commissioner, Weber County

Michael Jensen Councilmember, Salt Lake County

Randy Lewis Mayor, Bountiful

Erin Mendenhall Mayor, Salt Lake City

Shawn Milne Commissioner, Tooele County

Jeff Scott Commissioner, Box Elder County

Mark Shepherd Mayor, Clearfield

Derk Timothy Mayor, Bluffdale

Troy Walker Mayor, Draper

Jenny Wilson Mayor, Salt Lake County

Senator Gregg Buxton Utah State Senate

Representative Mike Schultz Utah House of Representatives

Carlton Christensen Utah Transit Authority

Carlos Braceras Utah Department of Transportation

Dawn Ramsey Utah League of Cities and Towns

Lorene Kamalu Utah Association of Counties

Ari Bruening Envision Utah

Evan Curtis State Planning Coordinator

Andrew Gruber Executive Director



May 12, 2020

Carolyn M. Gonot Executive Director Utah Transit Authority 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

As the Executive Director of the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC), the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the majority of Utah's Wasatch Front, I would like to offer our strong endorsement of the Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) 2020 BUILD grant proposal. The funds from this award request represent the funding necessary to complement the local and state resources that have been dedicated to double tracking the FrontRunner Commuter Rail from Draper to South Jordan, Vineyard double tracking, and the new Vineyard Station, and wayfinding signage at all three stations.

As one of the fastest growing regions in the country possessing a wealth of natural treasures, we work tirelessly to balance development with a healthy environment. Our existing commuter rail service currently takes over 3,000 cars per hour off northbound I-15 in the Salt Lake Valley every weekday morning. The WFRC 2019-2050 Regional Transportation Plan calls for double-tracking FrontRunner, the region's commuter rail line, which is the first critical step needed to improve service frequencies and capacity in the corridor. FrontRunner is the backbone of the region's transit system, and there is broad support for enhancing service and capacity, and thereby utilization, as Utah's population continues to grow. BUILD grant funding for double tracking complements a new Vineyard Station, and wayfinding signage at South Jordan, Draper and Vineyard will support the economic vitality in key dense and highgrowth areas, enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.

Thank you for this opportunity to support the Utah Transit Authority's Future of FrontRunner First Steps project.

Sincerely,

Andrew S. Gruber Executive Director



ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION
OF UTAH

201 South Main Street Suite 2150 Salt Lake City, UT 84111

edcutah.org 800-574-UTAH (8824)

f EDCUtahOrg

April 27, 2020

Carolyn M. Gonot Executive Director Utah Transit Authority 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (DOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant

Dear Ms. Gonot,

I am writing today in support of Utah Transit Authority's Future of FrontRunner First Steps project, and their request for FY 2020 BUILD federal funding.

The Economic Development Corporation of Utah seeks to attract and grow competitive, high-value companies and spur the development and expansion of local Utah businesses. An essential component to growing Utah's economy and creating new job opportunities for our residents is an efficient transit system. Many companies that are moving into Utah or growing from within chose to locate in areas well served by transit.

UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner needs to grow to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor. To obtain long term goals for the corridor, UTA must make incremental investments to FrontRunner; including double track at strategic locations and some additional stations.

The double tracking between Draper and South Jordan, the new FrontRunner station and double tracking near Vineyard, Utah, one of the fastest growing cities in the country, and wayfinding signage at all three stations will allow UTA to increase transit service near workplace destinations, as well as nearby communities, where many employees live.

We look forward to the construction of this project.

Sincerely,

Theresa A. Foxley

President & C.E.O., EDCUtah

Refordy



April 27, 2020

Carolyn M. Gonot Executive Director Utah Transit Authority 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

Envision Utah is a non-profit entity that brings the public and private sectors together to keep Utah beautiful, prosperous, healthy, and neighborly for current and future generations. We seek to understand Utahns' values and work with stakeholders to bring about the future Utahns want. From our work, we know that Utahns want cleaner air, improved mobility, and increased affordability. We have enjoyed a long partnership with Utah Transit Authority in working on these issues.

I am writing today in support of Utah Transit Authority's Future of FrontRunner First Steps project. The double tracking between Draper and South Jordan, station and double tracking in Vineyard, and wayfinding signage is essential to achieve Utahns' visions for the future. Double tracking along the FrontRunner corridor will improve reliability and is the first critical step for future improvements to system capacity and electrification. By removing vehicles from the road, reducing air emissions, expanding travel options, and improving travel affordability, FrontRunner promotes quality of life along the Wasatch Front. The project is an important component of our regional transportation system, and specifically a key element of the Point of the Mountain vision that was established under the guidance of the Point of the Mountain Development Commission.

How we grow will affect how we and our children will live. At Envision Utah, we don't believe in sitting back and seeing where growth will take us. We seek to be visionary and actively secure our future. There are many elements that we must consider as we grow, including transportation. Roads alone cannot support the growing demand, nor do they meet the future most Utahns envision. Transit will be a key component, and the Future of FrontRunner First Steps project is one of many steps towards the future.

Sincerely,

Ari Bruening
President & CEO

**Envision Utah** 



May 7, 2020

Carolyn M. Gonot Executive Director Utah Transit Authority 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

#### **UCAIR Board**

Amanda Smith, Chair Liz Joy, MD, MPH, Chair-Elect Scott Baird, Secretary Paul Hacking, Treasurer Jon Cox Christian Gardner Andrew Gruber Kerry Kelly, PE, PhD Gordon Larsen Tom Morgan Abby Osborne Robert Paine III Stephen C. Sands II Emily Schilling

#### **UCAIR Staff**

Thom Carter, Executive Director Bailey Toolson, Program Manager Olivia Niitsuma, Office Manager 195 North 1950 West Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

Here at Utah Clean Air Partnership (UCAIR), we strive to make it easier for individuals, businesses and communities to make small changes to improve Utah's air. Every small change adds to a collective bigger step toward better health, a better economy and better overall quality of life for all of us. We promote individuals to TravelWise and drive less by carpooling, using transit, walking/biking, and e-commuting. Transit, due to its ability to transport large groups of people, is one of the best ways to address air quality.

UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will be needed to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor. To obtain long term goals for the corridor, UTA must make incremental investments in the system.

UTA is proposing double tracking from South Jordan to Draper to complement the new Vineyard Station and associated double tracking and wayfinding signage at all three stations. This project will help UTA meet USDOT performance-based goals in safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, system reliability, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and improved project delivery.

The Future of FrontRunner First Steps project is the first critical step in a course of future system capacity/frequency improvements such as full double track and electrification. For these reasons, I would like to express my support for this project.

Sincerely

Thom Carter, Executive Director Utah Clean Air Partnership



Clean Fuels • Clean Strategies • Clean Air

#### **Address**

Salt Lake City & County Building 451 South State Street Suite 415 Salt Lake City, UT 84111

#### Web

utahcleancities.org



Turn Your Key Be Idle Free





May 4, 2020

Carolyn M. Gonot, Executive Director Utah Transit Authority | 669 West 200 South | Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

I am writing today in support of Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Future of FrontRunner First Steps project.

The mission of the Utah Clean Cities Coalition (UCCC) is to advance the energy, economic, and environmental security of the United States by supporting local decisions to adopt practices that reduce the use of petroleum in the transportation sector. This commitment and public security include the use of wide-spread, accessible and shared transportation so aptly provided by UTA. To support this essential goal, our coalition has been an active stakeholder with UTA on multiple projects. UCCC has assisted with the advancement of UTA's progressive adoption and deployment of advanced transit technologies model, including the use of natural gas and electric bus fleet options. UTA's vehicle portfolio moves Utah future to realize a clean, low carbon fuel, and zero-emission transportation reality.

UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will be needed to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor. To obtain long term goals for the corridor, UTA must make incremental investments in the system.

UTA is proposing double tracking from South Jordan to Draper to complement the new Vineyard Station and associated double tracking and wayfinding signage at all three stations. This project will help UTA meet USDOT performance-based goals in safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, system reliability, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and improved project delivery.

Improved service will help reduce congestion by encouraging more Utahans to use transit. Improving air quality is an extremely high priority, and a major goal, for government leaders, communities and families here in Utah.

Utah Clean Cities Coalition celebrates over 25 years of advanced transportation goals in Utah. Our vehicle technologies program was designed to reduce the U.S. import and overall consumption of petroleum and to use state-side energy sources. This project is a critical step in a course of action for an exciting future for transit in our community.

We look forward to the advancement of this project and the positive results of enhanced, green and clean transit in Utah.

Sincerely,

Jammie Patrice

Tammie Bostick, Executive Director Utah Clean Cities Coalition



May 11, 2020

Carolyn M. Gonot Executive Director Utah Transit Authority 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

Draper City is in support of Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Future of FrontRunner First Steps application for the USDOT FY 2020 BUILD Grant.

Draper City values transit and understands its importance to the quality of life for residents.

UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will need to grow to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor. To obtain long term goals for the corridor, UTA must make incremental investments in the system.

UTA is proposing double tracking from South Jordan to Draper to complement the new Vineyard Station and associated double tracking and wayfinding signage at all three stations. This project will help UTA meet USDOT performance-based goals in safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, system reliability, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and improved project delivery.

The Future of FrontRunner First Steps project offers critical steps in a course of action for an exciting future for transit in our community.

Sincerely,

Mayor Troy Walker

**Draper City** 

Dawn R. Ramsey, Mayor Patrick Harris, Council Member Bradley G. Marlor, Council Member Donald J. Shelton, Council Member Tamara Zander, Council Member Jason T. McGuire. Council Member



PH: 801.446-HELP @SouthJordanUT

April 29, 2020

Carolyn M. Gonot **Executive Director Utah Transit Authority** 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

The City of South Jordan is in support of Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Future of FrontRunner First Steps application for the USDOT FY 2020 BUILD Grant.

The City of South Jordan values transit and understands its importance to the quality of life for residents.

UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will be needed to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor. To obtain long term goals for the corridor, UTA must make incremental investments in the system.

UTA is proposing double tracking from South Jordan to Draper to complement the new Vineyard Station and associated double tracking and wayfinding signage at all three stations. This project will help UTA meet USDOT performance-based goals in safety, infrastructure condition, congestion reduction, system reliability, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and improved project delivery.

The Future of FrontRunner First Steps project offers critical steps in a course of action for an exciting future for transit in our community.

Sincerely,

Gary L. Whatcott City Manager



Vineyard City Government 125 S. Vineyard, Utah 84059

May 14, 2020

UTA Board of Trustees: Carolyn M. Gonot Executive Director Utah Transit Authority 669 West 200 South Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application

Dear Ms. Gonot and UTA Board of Trustees.

Vineyard City is in support of the Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Future of FrontRunner First Steps application for the USDOT FY 2020 BUILD Grant. These are significant regional surface transportation infrastructure projects that will have a direct impact on our city. The federally mandated positive train control creates the additional safety need for double-tracking to allow nearby stations to open, trains to run on time, and to provide a safe, reliable system for the region. There is also a need to help direct our patrons through the system. Utah's growth is not slowing down. These transit outlets and inlets for our frontrunner system provide a critical regional connection for the economic and residential development of this area. We support UTA's request for funding to help improve the safety and mobility of the region and its effects on our local community. The value of the funds will be tenfold in the Draper-South Jordan region as well as the Northern and Southern Utah county regions where Vineyard resides.

Vineyard values transit and understands its importance to the quality of life for residents. Vineyard is centrally located in the Provo-Orem metropolitan area, which is in the top ten fastest growing areas in the United States. Vineyard is the fastest-growing city in the nation. In 2015, the City had a few hundred residents, since then, it has grown to 15,000. Furthermore, we are home to 300 acres of the largest university in the state and are across the street from another 200 acres of campus that houses their main undergrad programs. Utah Valley University provides free ridership to its students. As Vineyard has worked hard to consider affordable housing and has met the state's goals regarding affordable housing, we have

become home to the local student body population. We also have implemented a ridership package, which is built into our impact fees to provide free ridership to the 20-30 thousand people that will be living in one of the largest transit oriented districts in the state. We have a walkable and bikeable community and are transit-oriented in all of our developments. Vineyard FrontRunner station and Utah Valley University's master and undergraduate campuses along the FrontRunner system move students and young professionals throughout the state and to the international and regional airports. The connection between the two close campus commuter rail stations travels 3.5 miles through one of our main commercial corridors highlighting our retail center and providing access to over 30,000 current and future residents living on that road.

Draper and South Jordan are experiencing similar growth patterns and are also at regional cross-sections for transit. This funding support for double-tracking combined with new wayfinding signage for Vineyard's multi-modal hub, will offer unique access for residents and commuters within each of these connected regions. It will assist the local riders, professionals, and students to better move through and utilize this area safely. It will alleviate traffic concerns, reduce risk, mitigate significant parking disruptions, complete first and last miles, connect students to educational services, and stimulate economic development, which helps minimize commute and traffic on our interstate. It will allow for connection to jobs in the area, which in-turn will help fund one of the largest environmental cleanup sites in the state. Part of Vineyard is an old US steel mill site. The economic growth in our city helps us pay for the clean up in this area and restore the environment to its natural state.

The Future of FrontRunner First Steps project offers an exciting and necessary time ahead for transit in Utah County and the surrounding regions. Please include our sentiments as you send out for funding and involve us as you receive further information on this endeavor.

Warm Regards,

Julie Fullmer

Mayor | Vineyard City

p: 567.356.2060 o: 801.226.1929

a: 125 South Main Street

w: vineyardutah.org