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UTA MEDIA RELEASE

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UTA BOARD SELECTS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR **Announcement Comes After Nationwide Search**

Salt Lake City -- The UTA Board of Trustees is excited to announce they have selected Carolyn Gonot as the agency's new Executive Director, succeeding Interim Executive Director Steve Meyer who postponed his retirement while the Board sought a permanent candidate for the position.

The selection of Gonot follows a diligent and extensive six month national search for an experienced transit professional capable of leading UTA forward. Gonot's recommendation will be presented for adoption at the Wednesday, June 26 board meeting at UTA's headquarters in Salt Lake City.

Gonot comes to UTA from Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) in San Jose, California where she has worked since 1996. Most recently, Gonot served as Chief Planning and Engineering Officer, directing VTA's Planning and Programming Division as well as the Engineering and Construction Division.

Prior to those duties, Gonot served for five years as VTA's Chief Engineering and Program Delivery Officer, a role which included project delivery of the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Silicon Valley Extension as well as light rail, bus rapid transit, pedestrian, bicycle and facilities projects. During her years with VTA she also held the positions of Chief Development Officer and Deputy Director of the Congestion Management Program.

"Gonot's breadth of experience in the transit industry is extensive, ranging from service and program planning to managing and implementing major capital projects," says Carlton Christensen, UTA Board Chair. "Her decades of transit experience give her an understanding of the entire transit agency, and she has the leadership qualities to ensure UTA continues to improve its service to the community."

As Executive Director, Gonot's experience is in alignment with the UTA's new organizational structure and the Board of Trustees' vision and focus on stewardship, service and people. Her experience in the San Jose area and Silicon Valley, which has experienced significant growth, gives her unique and valuable insight into the growth challenges facing the Wasatch Front. "She understands the pressures of

growth on a transit agency and the need to continually work to align UTA’s services with the needs of the community,” said Christensen.

“Service is the key to what we do,” says Gonot. “I’ll be focused on advancing the board’s vision to ensure the agency is aligned with the anticipated growth along the Wasatch Front and the transit service needs of the communities UTA serves.”

Gonot has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

Gonot’s contract, including compensation, will be reviewed at the upcoming Board of Trustees meeting on June 26 and is available for review in the board meeting packet at www.rideuta.com. The compensation package is in alignment with UTA’s compensation practices and is commensurate with Gonot’s experience in transit, similar transportation positions within Utah and the redefined role of UTA’s Executive Director. Gonot is scheduled to assume her duties at UTA on August 19, 2019.

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