Appendix B Letters of Support

ALLYSON BELL CHIEF OF STAFF



COMMITTEES:

JUDICIARY

ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

June 12, 2020

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

RE: Utah Transit Authority CRISI Competitive Grant Application

Dear Mr. Christensen:

Thank you for notifying me of the Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) intention to apply for a Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program competitive grant.

I have been informed that this grant would be used to build approximately 7,400 linear feet of new railroad tracks connecting the Sharp and Tintic Railroad corridors within the cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah. It is also my understanding that the purpose of this connection is to improve local community accessibility to public transit as well as re-route Union Pacific freight trains to bypass residential areas and eliminate highway rail crossings.

I commend UTA's efforts to provide Utahns with a safe, reliable, and efficient transit system, as well as improve access for commercial rail opportunities.

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.

Mas

Sincerely

Michael S. Lee

United States Senator

ROB BISHOP
1st District, Utah

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

June 9, 2020

The Honorable Ronald Batory Administrator Federal Railroad Administration U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Administrator Batory,

I am writing today regarding Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program competitive grant application.

UTA, in collaboration with the Utah Department of Transportation, the cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah, Union Pacific, and the Mountainland Association of Governments, is seeking a \$3.8 million CRISI grant in order to build approximately 7,400 linear feet of new railroad tracks between existing railroad corridors within the cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah. This new connection will facilitate transit improvements by allowing for the future expansion of the UTA Frontrunner and for the ability to re-route Union Pacific freight trains away from residential areas, leading to more pedestrian-friendly communities with less traffic.

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

June 8, 2020

The Honorable Ronald Batory Administrator Federal Railroad Administration U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Administrator Batory:

I am writing today to urge your full and fair consideration of the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program competitive grant application.

UTA, in partnership with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), the cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah, Union Pacific, and the Mountainland Association of Governments, are seeking a \$3.8 million CRISI grant for the Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project. This project would build approximately 7,400 linear feet of new railroad tracks connecting the Sharp and Tintic Railroad corridors within the cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah. This connection will enable key public transit objectives while improving local community accessibility and safety.

Additionally, this project will re-route Union Pacific freight trains to bypass residential areas and eliminate highway rail crossings. It will also provide a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school and reduce the amount of necessary bus routes.

Also, very importantly, this project will provide a route for future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner commuter rail to southern Utah County. UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It currently connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo, but as Utah County continues to be one of fastest growing communities in the U.S., the FrontRunner needs to eventually grow into southern Utah County to help meet the travel demand on Utah's Interstate-15 corridor.

On behalf of the residents of Utah's Third Congressional District, I appreciate your full and fair consideration of this grant application. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jake Bornstein at Jake.Bornstein@mail.house.gov 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

June 9, 2020

The Honorable Ronald Batory Administrator Federal Railroad Administration U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the Utah Transit Authority CRISI Competitive Grant Application

Dear Administrator Batory:

I am writing today to express my support for the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program competitive grant application.

UTA, in partnership with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), the cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah, Union Pacific, and the Mountainland Association of Governments, is seeking a \$3.8 million CRISI grant for the Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project. This project will build approximately 7,400 linear feet of new railroad tracks connecting the Sharp and Tintic Railroad corridors within the cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah. This connection will enable key public transit objectives while improving local community accessibility and safety.

Additionally, this project will re-route Union Pacific freight trains to bypass residential areas and eliminate highway rail crossings. It will provide a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school and reduce bus routes.

Also, very importantly, this project will provide a route for future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner commuter rail to southern Utah County. UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It currently connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo, but as Utah County continues to be one of fastest growing communities in the U.S., FrontRunner needs to eventually grow into southern Utah County to help meet the travel demand on Utah's Interstate-15 corridor.

On behalf of the residents of Utah, I encourage and appreciate your full and fair consideration of this 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 Representatives
Washington, AC 20515-4402
June 9, 2020

CHRIS STEWART 2ND DISTRICT, UTAH

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

RANKING MEMBER
STRATEGIC TECHNOLOGIES AND ADVANCED
RESEARCH SUBCOMMUTTEE

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

The Honorable Ronald Batory Federal Railroad Administration U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Batory:

I am writing today to express my support for the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program competitive grant application.

UTA, in partnership with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), the cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah, Union Pacific, and the Mountainland Association of Governments, is seeking a \$3.8 million CRISI grant for the Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project. This project will build approximately 7,400 linear feet of new railroad tracks connecting the Sharp and Tintic Railroad corridors within the cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah. This connection will enable key public transit objectives while improving local community accessibility and safety.

Additionally, this project will re-route Union Pacific freight trains to bypass residential areas and eliminate highway rail crossings. It will provide a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school and reduce bus routes.

Also, this project will provide a route for future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner commuter rail to southern Utah County. UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail is the transit backbone for the Wasatch Front. It currently connects Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Provo, but as Utah County continues to be one of fastest growing communities in the U.S., FrontRunner needs to eventually grow into southern Utah County to help meet the travel demand on Utah's Interstate-15 corridor.

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.

Sincerely,

Chris Stewart



STATE OF UTAH

GARY R. HERBERT
GOVERNOR

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

SPENCER J. COX LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

June 19, 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 UTA's FY 20 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project Application

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing today to express support for the Utah Transit Authority's Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project.

Utah has one of the most diverse and fastest growing economies in the country. This translates to an economic environment that has long-term stability and sustainability. The funds being requested with this grant request will provide important infrastructure for the local community and the surrounding economy.

By constructing a new connector railroad line between the Sharp Subdivision line and the Tintic Industrial Lead Line in Springville City and Spanish Fork; the Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project will provide increased safety through the elimination of highway-rail crossings, access for future trails, a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school and future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner to southern Utah County creating greater access. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will need to grow to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor.

The Utah Transit Authority is partnering on this project with the Utah Department of Transportation, Union Pacific Railroad, Mountainland Association of Governments, Spanish Fork and Springville City in this endeavor to enable key public transit objectives while improving local community accessibility and safety.

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

Janes R Herbert

Governor



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

June 9, 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 UTA's FY 20 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project Application

As Executive Director of the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), I would like to give my support for the Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection project for FY 2020 FRA CRISI funding.

The funds from this award represent the critical funding necessary to complement the local and state resources that have been dedicated to the Sharp-Tintic project.

UDOT supports integrated transportation options for all Utahns. Our vision at UDOT is simple and straightforward: Keep Utah Moving. That includes improving our roads, public transit, freight, public trails, and safe routes to school. Public transit provides reliable and convenient service which strengthens and connects communities.

By constructing a new connector railroad line between the Sharp Subdivision line and the Tintic Industrial Lead Line in Springville City and Spanish Fork; the Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project will provide increased safety through the elimination of highway-rail crossings, access for future trails, and a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school. It will also facilitate future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner commuter rail to southern Utah County to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor.

The Utah Department of Transportation joins project partners, UTA, Union Pacific Railroad, Mountainland Association of Governments, Spanish Fork and Springville City in this endeavor to enable key public transit objectives while improving local community accessibility and safety.

Secretary Elaine L. Chao Page 2 June 9, 2020

The project represents an important milestone in this crucial process of improving the nation's transportation infrastructure and thus promoting a high quality of life.

We appreciate this opportunity to endorse the Utah Transit Authority's Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection project.

Sincerely,

Carlos M. Braceras, P.E.

Executive Director

CMB/dej



June 8, 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 FY 20 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

As the Planning Director of the Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG) and Associated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), I would like to offer our endorsement of the Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) 2020 FRA CRISI proposal. The funds from this award request will fund the construction of a new connector railroad line between the Sharp and Tintic lines in Springville City and Spanish Fork. This award would leverage the existing state and local government funding already allocated to this Sharp-Tintic project.

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 Sharp-Tintic project is part of our Regional Transportation Plan, TransPlan 50, and is crucial to future growth.

Progress has been made toward the region's ongoing strategy of offering more transportation choices for our communities. MAG joins project partners, UTA, Utah Department of Transportation, Union Pacific Railroad, Spanish Fork and Springville City in this endeavor to enable key public transit objectives while improving local community connectivity, accessibility and safety.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at any time (801)824-1066

NAMING-SAM

Shawn Seager, Planning Director



Utah County Commission

Tanner Ainge Nathan Ivie Bill Lee 51 S University Ave. Suite 320 Provo, UT 84601 801-851-8100

www.utahcounty.gov

June 19, 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 FY 20 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

Utah County is in support of Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection application for the FY 2020 FRA CRISI Grant.

Utah 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 our newly opened UVX BRT which operates between Provo and Orem. High quality transportation is essential for Utah County.

The Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project will provide increased safety through the elimination of highway-rail crossings, access for future trails, a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school and future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner to southern Utah County creating greater access for our community. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will need to grow to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor.

The project offers an exciting future for transit in Utah County and provides the foundation for future transit improvements, which will benefit our residents and local communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to support the Utah Transit Authority's Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection project.

Sincerely,

The Utah County Commission



June 10, 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 FY 20 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

Spanish Fork is in support of Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Application for the FRA CRISI Grant.

Spanish Fork is the 'Home of Pride and Progress!" and values transit and understands its importance to the quality of life for residents.

The Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project will provide increased safety through the elimination of highway-rail crossings, access for future trails, a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school and future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner to southern Utah County creating greater access for our community. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will need to grow to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor.

Spanish Fork joins project partners, UTA, Utah Department of Transportation, Union Pacific Railroad, Mountainland Association of Governments, and Springville City in this endeavor to enable key public transit objectives while improving local community accessibility and safety.

The Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project offers critical steps in a course of action for an exciting future for transit in our community.

Sincerely,

Spanish Fork City Mayor

Stu Suf

Steve Leifson

40 SOUTH MAIN STREET | SPANISH FORK, UT 84660 | SPANISHFORK.ORG



June 5, 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 FY 20 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Sharp-Tintic Railroad
Connection Project Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

Springville City is in support of Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Application for the FRA CRISI Grant.

The Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project will provide increased safety through the elimination of highway-rail crossings, access for future trails, a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school and future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner to southern Utah County creating greater access for our community. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will need to grow to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor.

Springville City joins project partners, UTA, Utah Department of Transportation, Union Pacific Railroad, Mountainland Association of Governments, and Spanish Fork in this endeavor to enable key public transit objectives while improving local community accessibility and safety.

The Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project offers critical steps in a course of action for an exciting future for transit in our community.

Sincerely,

Bradley D. Stapley, P.E. Director of Public Works

bstapley@springville.org



BOARD OF EDUCATION Shannon Acor Rick B. Ainge

Randy Boothe Scott Card

Christine Riley R. Dean Rowley Lisa Rowley

SUPERINTENDENT Richard C. Nielsen

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR Tracy Olsen

June 19, 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 FY 20 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

Nebo School District is in support of Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Application for the FRA CRISI Grant.

The Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project will provide increased safety through the elimination of highway-rail crossings, access for future trails, a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school and future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner to southern Utah County creating greater access for our community. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will need to grow to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor.

The project partners include UTA, Utah Department of Transportation, Union Pacific Railroad, Mountainland Association of Governments, Spanish Fork and Springville City and we support this endeavor to enable key public transit objectives while improving local community accessibility and safety.

The Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project offers critical steps in a course of action for an exciting future for transit in our community.

Sincerely,

Rick Nielsen Superintendent



Address:

451 South State Street, Suite 415 Salt Lake City, Utah 86106

Web:

utahcleancities.org

UTAH CLEAN CITIES EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dr. David Christensen: Executive Director,
Center for Electrified Transportation, SELECT, USU
Utah Clean Cities Board President
Carolyn Genot: Executive Director
Utah Transit Authority, UTA
Utah Clean Cities Board Vice President
Dr. Royal DeLegge: Executive Director
Salt Lake County Environmental Health Dept
Utah Clean Cities Board Secretary

UTAH CLEAN CITIES BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Debbie Lyons: Deputy Director
Salt Lake City Sustainability
Hanko Kiessner: CEO, Packsize International
Leaders for Clean Air
Scott Brandeberry: CEO
Lancer Energy and Fleet Saver
Matt Stalsberg: CEO, ACE Disposal and Recycling
Steve Handy: Utah State Representative
Brett Brown: Manager of Operations
Dominion Energy
Annie Schneider: Senior Energy Resilience Specialist
Governor's Office of Energy Development
Jack Hedge: Executive Director
Utah Inland Port Authority
Brent Chamberlain: Kane County Commissioner
EVZION Steering Committee Kane County
Scott Baird: Executive Director
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
Teri Newell: P.E., Deputy Director









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

Re: Letter of Support for UTA's FY 20 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

I am writing today in support of Utah Transit Authority's (UTA) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection 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. We applaud your efforts to achieve shared goals.

The Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project will provide increased safety through the elimination of highway-rail crossings, access for future trails, a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school and future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner to southern Utah County creating greater access for our community. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will need to grow to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor.

Improved service will help reduce congestion by encouraging more Utahns 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, UCCC, was the 16th coalition in the nation to join the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Clean Cities Program in 1994. Today it is one of nearly 90 coalitions across the country that are part of the U.S. DOE's Vehicle Technologies Program—a program designed to reduce the U.S. import and overall consumption of petroleum. This project is part of the solution for future system capacity improvements for FrontRunner.

We look forward to the advancement of this project and the positive results in our Utah communities. We are here to support with our team and our larger network of technical support, resources, and related projects within the state, regionally, and nationwide.

Sincerely,

Jammie Patiel

Tammie Bostick, Executive Director Utah Clean Cities Coalition



June 4, 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 FY 20 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project Application

Dear Ms. Gonot,

Here at the 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.

The Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project will provide increased safety through the elimination of highway-rail crossings, access for future trails, a safer walking route for children to a local elementary school and future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner to southern Utah County creating greater access for our community. As the region continues to grow, FrontRunner will need to grow to help meet the travel demand on the I-15 corridor.

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

We look forward to the advancement of this project and the positive results in our Utah communities.

Sincerely,

Thom Carter
Executive Director
Utah Clean Air Partnership





June 16, 2020

Frances Bourne,
ATTN. Office of Policy and Planning
Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Local Match Availability for the FY 2020 Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program - UTA Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project.

Dear Ms. Bourne,

Utah Transit Authority (UTA) is applying for funding through the FRA CRISI Program to build approximately 7,400 linear feet of new railroad tracks connecting the Sharp and Tintic Railroad corridors within the cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah. The project will mitigate safety issues by eliminating train traffic from highway-rail crossings, provide access to Springville City to areas currently used for the Tintic Railroad for a future trail and future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner rail service to southern Utah County.

The local match is from UTA, the Utah Department of Transportation, Mountainland Association of Governments, Springville and Spanish Fork funds. UTA's board of trustees and executive team have committed \$132,100 to the project. This amount is acceptable within UTA's long-range financial model. The \$1,026,307 in match equates to 21 percent local funding and 79 percent FRA funding—well exceeding the minimum required match for the CRISI program.

The new railroad tracks are a necessary improvement for UTA to provide future FrontRunner rail service to continue south and for the project. Award of the CRISI funds would complete the funding plan for this much needed project.

Please contact me (801-287-3367) or Tracy Young (801-287-3320) with any needs or questions. Thank you for your consideration of UTA's application.

Sincerely,

Robert K. Biles

Chief Financial Officer