

# Proposed \$2M Appropriation: Technical Planning Assistance

Governor Herbert proposed \$2M ongoing General Funds to UDOT, partnering with local governments and regional planning organizations, for statewide technical planning assistance.

## Growth Challenges

Utah added almost 500,000 people in the past decade and lead the nation in job growth rate in 2018, at 3.3% or 48,000 jobs. With this growth comes challenges: housing availability and affordability, air quality, traffic congestion, water availability, and more. Land use and transportation decisions directly affect our ability to address these issues.

## A Proven Model of Technical Assistance for Locals: The Story of the TLC Program



### TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE CONNECTION

The Transportation and Land Use Connection (TLC) program is an example of a technical assistance program that helps local governments address growth challenges. TLC is administered by the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) and funded in partnership with UDOT, UTA, and Salt Lake County. All of Utah's MPOs provide technical and planning assistance.

**The TLC program has already helped over 40 communities plan, develop policies, and ultimately produce change.** [wfr.org/tlc](http://wfr.org/tlc)

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- 1 Plans:** visioning, community/public engagement, downtown master plans, area plans.



**Example:** Roy City is a largely built-out bedroom community that was concerned about growth. With the

TLC program's help, Roy City decided to redevelop around their FrontRunner station, while preserving the character of existing neighborhoods. Now the TLC program is helping Roy City incorporate this vision into their general plan.

**Results:** community support, local vitality, housing choices, more transit use and less traffic on I-15.

- 2 Policies:** zoning ordinances, design standards, transportation priorities.

**Example:** The TLC program helped Tooele County adopt a transportation master plan to handle rapid growth, shaped by community workshops and analysis of options.

**Results:** prepare for rapid growth, including transportation choices, more efficient and coordinated development.

- 3 Products:** financing options, market analysis, implementation strategies.



**Example:** The TLC program helped South Salt Lake City develop a vision, update their ordinances, and redevelop an area that is now booming with new housing and commerce, walkable paths, and transit access.

**Results:** less driving and more walking, over 2,600 mixed-use housing units, both market-rate and affordable, with 800 more on the way, and cleaner air.

## Why Additional Resources are Needed

**Help communities to address growth,** by providing resources and expertise to effectively engage citizens and build support for visions, develop transportation and land use plans and policies, and turn those plans into reality.

**Maximize value of state Infrastructure investments,** by helping communities coordinate local land use with transportation, as incentivized by SB136 (2018).

**Utilize innovative financing strategies,** such as Transportation Reinvestment Zones (TRZs).

**Results:** housing choice and affordability, community engagement, mitigated traffic congestion, air quality improvement, stronger economy, and quality of life.

## Supporters

Governor Gary Herbert, UDOT, UTA, Utah League of Cities and Towns, Utah Association of Counties, Wasatch Front Regional Council, Mountainland Association of Governments, and more.