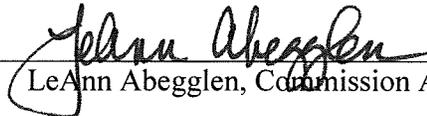


**Utah Department of Transportation
Utah Transportation Commission
Washington County Area Tour
November 12, 2015**

The tour departed at 12:58 p.m. from the Holiday Inn Express St. George North. Handouts were distributed. Dana Meier pointed out several areas as the bus traveled on SR-9 towards Hurricane, including the Purgatory Maintenance Station and offices, Sand Hollow Road, which is the current access point to the Southern Parkway, and the location of the future terminus of the Southern Parkway. He also talked about a portion of Main Street from 700 West to 300 West that was not included in a previously completed project, but will be reconstructed next year. The bus stopped at the Hurricane Arch Bridge and the group got off the bus to view the bridge. Jim McConnell shared details about the old structure and the new bridge. The group returned to the bus and continued traveling east on SR-9. Mr. Meier referred to the first project in the handout, the SR-9 Corridor Study from Hurricane/LaVerkin to Zion National Park. He talked about the challenges they have in that corridor, especially with the tourist traffic, and the projects that were identified as a result of the study. In Rockville, the bus traveled to the old Grafton Bridge. The group got out to view the bridge. Mr. Meier discussed the current situation with the bridge, noted that Joint Highway funds that are available for a new bridge, and talked about the possibility of relocating the old bridge to a new location. The group returned to the bus and continued traveling on SR-9 to Springdale. Mr. Meier talked about the \$10 million reconstruction project from Rockville to Springdale and the challenge of maintaining traffic movement and working around tourist season. He also referred to the diagram of the south entrance to Zion National Park in the handout and talked about the traffic backups that occur with tourists wanting to get into the park.

The bus turned around in Springdale and traveled west on SR-9 to SR-17 and Toquerville. He said the map in the handout shows the location of the proposed Toquerville Bypass Road. Mayor Darrin LeFevre from Toquerville said they have acquired the land from property owners for the bypass road. The bypass road would help with economic development and alleviate traffic backups on SR-17 through their town. The bypass would only have about six accesses. And, SR-17 through Toquerville could be transferred to the city and UDOT would take on the new bypass road. The bus traveled south on I-15. Mr. Meier commented that the merge lane onto I-15 southbound from SR-9 will be extended to eliminate some of the weaving taking place there. The bus stopped for a short break. Mr. Meier discussed the Northern Corridor, pointed out where the alignment would go, and mentioned problems they have run into with the desert tortoise, as the bus traveled on Buena Vista Blvd to Washington Main Street, where one of two proposed interchanges are being considered to help relieve congestion in the area. The handout provided additional information on the interchanges. On Telegraph/Red Cliffs Drive, Mr. Meier discussed the proposals for the Mall Drive bridge and I-15 between exits 8 and 10. The bus traveled on various roads in Washington City where it was mentioned that Washington City received MPO funding for Phase 4 of Washington Fields Road widening and reconstruction. The bus then traveled through Segment 3B of the Southern Parkway, where the group was able to see paving operations currently taking place. Mr. Meier talked about the challenges with the 'Bearclaw Poppy' and the desert tortoise in the 3B project. The bus continued on the Southern Parkway to Sand Hollow Road, SR-9, and back to the Holiday Inn Express. The tour ended at 4:30 p.m.

The following Commissioners, UDOT staff, and others attended the tour: Jeff Holt, Kent Millington, Meghan Holbrook, Wayne Barlow, Dannie McConkie, Naghi Zeenati, Gayle McKeachnie, LeAnn Abegglen, Randy Park, Cory Pope, Bill Lawrence, Bob Pelly, Joe Walker, Pat Morley, Dana Meier, Kevin Kitchen, Robert Dowell, Robert Bentley, Kirk Thornock, Jim McConnell, Brandon Andersen, Brigitte Mandel, Jamie Evans, Joe Woolley, Dave Demas, Mayor Darrin LeFevre, Darren Cottam, Linda Millington, Kathlene McKeachnie.



LeAnn Abegglen, Commission Assistant