

**Utah Department of Transportation  
Utah Transportation Commission  
Utah County Area Tour  
October 21, 2021**

The Utah Transportation Commission, UDOT staff members and others departed for an area tour of Utah County at 2:26 p.m., from the UDOT Region Three offices, located at 658 North 1500 West, Orem.

Those in attendance included:

- Commissioners: Naghi Zeenati, Lew W. Cramer, Donna J. Law, Jim Evans, Natalie Gochmour, Kevin T. Van Tassell
- UDOT Staff: Carlos Braceras, Teri Newell, Lisa Wilson, Heather Barthold, Andrew Gwynn, Eric Mason, Eric Rasband, Geoff Dupaix, Kris Peterson, Leif Elder, Matt Parker, Rob Clayton
- Others: Cristy Welsh, Naseem Ghandour, Pete Evans, Val Peterson

The bus traveled into Vineyard, where officials from Vineyard City and UVU (Cristy Welsh, Naseem Ghandour, Pete Evans and Val Peterson) talked about the downtown area master plan and future UVU Campus, as well as the Vineyard rail consolidation and spur removal project and Vineyard FrontRunner Station. The tour also went through Pleasant Grove and down into Provo, where the group was met by UTA and Provo City officials, Jeff Acerson, Mary DeLaMare-Schaeffer, Dave Decker, Shane Winters, Dixon Holmes, and Keith Morey, to hear about area redevelopment and future transit plans.

The following projects were also discussed.

**Vineyard Connector; Main Street to 1600 North** - This \$16.5 million project with Vineyard City will extend the corridor from Main Street to 1600 North in Vineyard with a new two-lane road and a grade-separated pedestrian crossing, benefitting the rapid growth in Vineyard and complimenting efforts to develop the town center, consolidate rail lanes and complete the Utah Transit Authority's FrontRunner station. Design and construction of the remaining Vineyard Connector segments are unfunded, but are identified as being needed in Phase 1 of MAG's 2050 regional transportation plan (2021-2030).

**I-15, Pleasant Grove Interchange:** UDOT has initiated a \$2.1 million environmental study that will evaluate the I-15 Pleasant Grove Boulevard interchange and the surrounding area in Pleasant Grove and Lindon to address current and future traffic conditions and safety in Utah County. Other needs may be identified as the study progresses. The final environmental document is anticipated to be released in Fall 2022.

**Pleasant Grove Boulevard/North County Boulevard Improvements:** The Department is currently designing improvements to the area surrounding the Pleasant Grove Interchange, specifically Pleasant Grove and North County Boulevards, to increase capacity, improve safety

and help traffic move more efficiently through the area. Construction on this \$13.8 million project is anticipated to start in late 2022/2023, dependent on Right of Way.

**Geneva Road - University Parkway to 1800 South:** This \$20 million project will widen Geneva Road (SR-114) to include two travel lanes in each direction and a center turn lane between University Parkway (SR-265) and approximately 1800 South in Orem to improve mobility and enhance access to adjacent properties. Construction is anticipated to begin in Spring 2023, and will also include bike lanes and sidewalk throughout the project area.

**US-189: University Avenue Viaduct Replacement:** University Avenue (US-189) is the primary corridor connecting the Orem-Provo area to the Heber Valley. In the 600 South area of Provo, the roadway crosses over the Union Pacific Railroad switching yard and the current end-of-line for UTA's FrontRunner network. The viaduct was originally built in 1966 and has been rehabilitated several times during the past 50 years, including some emergency repairs that were completed in late 2020. Based on previous rehabilitation efforts, and the findings of recent routine inspections, the structure has reached the end of its anticipated service life. UDOT is completing a traffic analysis to determine the level of environmental study that will be needed. Replacing the viaduct will provide a bridge that meets current design standards, with a service life of approximately 75 years. The new structure will also have a wider typical section to address substandard geometry and active transportation. Maintaining this crossing is vital to the surrounding area and a key transportation facility for the traveling public. This \$49 million project is anticipated to begin construction in 2024.

The bus returned to UDOT Region Three at 4:32 p.m., concluding the tour.



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Heather Barthold, Commission Assistant