

Midway City Corporation

Mayor: Celeste T. Johnson
City Council Members
Lisa Orme • Jeffery Drury
J.C. Simonsen • Kevin Payne
Craig Simons



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Wasatch County
Heber City
Wasatch County School District

Re: Proposed Letter of Support for UDOT's Environmental Impact Study (EIS) Process encompassing Heber Valley Corridor and Related Priority Outcomes

Dear Wasatch County Council, Heber City Council, and Wasatch County School District:

A draft letter of support in the above referenced matter dated July 9, 2024, was brought before our City Council at our last Council meeting for review and approval.

The Midway City Council values its relationship with each of you and supports in spirit the general statements set forth in the proposed letter, however, based upon data presented to date, we lack confidence that any of the remaining UDOT alternatives for the bypass meet these outcomes and/or will provide significant relief to the traffic problems UDOT seeks to address. For example, while constructing a bypass close to the new high school and connecting to Route 40 at the new Smith's intersection may help preserve the north fields, which Midway strongly supports, it is difficult to envision how it will help rather than simply relocate the traffic problems on State Route 40. Do each of you support one or more of the UDOT options, or is the purpose of the proposed letter to encourage UDOT to consider other options while prioritizing the outcomes listed?

If the purpose of the letter is to support existing UDOT option(s), Midway cannot join in the letter for the reasons set forth above. If the purpose is to encourage discussion of alternatives, Midway appreciates the opportunity to work with you and UDOT in discussing options which might provide more quantifiable and sustainable traffic relief. At our last council meeting, we discussed with our City engineer the feasibility of a no access highway paralleling Route 40, located as close to Route 40 as possible, running the length of Route 40, and connecting at the intersection with River Road (e.g., akin to the Legacy Highway). If you and UDOT are willing to discuss this or other options, Midway welcomes the opportunity to collaborate. If the purpose of the letter is neither of the above, we appreciate you providing greater explanation of the actual purpose so we may better understand what you are requesting from Midway at this time.

Thank you for your continued efforts in this matter.



July 9, 2024

Carlos Braceras, P.E, Executive Director
Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT)
P.O. Box 141265
SLC, UT 84114-1265

Re: Letter of Support for UDOT's Environmental Impact Study (EIS) Process encompassing Heber Valley Corridor and Related Priority Outcomes

Dear Mr. Braceras:

On behalf of Wasatch County, Heber City, Midway City and Wasatch County School District, we write in support of UDOT's EIS process for the Heber Valley Corridor and the work UDOT is completing on our behalf to improve regional and local mobility on U.S. 40 from S.R. 32 to U.S. 189 through 2050 while allowing Heber to achieve its vision for the City's historic downtown center.

We are unified and committed to working with UDOT to achieve a functional corridor alignment while remaining focused on the following five (5) related priority outcomes:

- 1) The Heber Valley Corridor alignment should preserve open space in the North Fields, to the greatest extent possible, as a paramount priority for our community, and as a defining attribute of our Valley;
- 2) The Corridor alignment should maximize quality of life (i.e. preservation of the view shed over Heber Valley, reduction of commute times, and traffic congestion) and improve safety for our citizens;
- 3) The Corridor alignment should emphasize and maximize movement of traffic through the Valley by limiting access points;
- 4) The Corridor alignment should consider and seek to support and contribute to the vitality and success of Heber City's downtown and its Envision Central Heber goals of transitioning the downtown into an economically vibrant destination location for Wasatch County citizens and visitors; and
- 5) The Corridor design should maintain and contribute to the beauty of Heber Valley and minimize environmental impacts, by incorporating landscaping, trees, berms, and other proven means to screen traffic movements, reduce noise, preserve the area's water shed and Provo River water quality.

We look forward to working with you, and UDOT Region 3 representatives, as you bring forward the results of the EIS and make recommendations to finalize a Corridor alignment that achieves the five priority outcomes listed above.

Most sincerely,

Heber City
Midway City
Wasatch County
Wasatch County School District

cc: Rob Clayton, Region 3 Director
Craig Hancock, Region 3 Project Manager

Heber City

Mayor Heidi Franco

Council Member Yvonne Barney

Council Member Aaron Cheatwood

Council Member Mike Johnston

Council Member Sid Ostergaard

Council Member D. Scott Phillips

Attest: City Recorder

Midway City

Mayor Celeste Johnson

Council Member Jeff Drury

Council Member Lisa Orme

Council Member Kevin Payne

Council Member Craig Simons

Council Member JC Simonsen

Attest: City Recorder

Wasatch County

Council Chair Spencer Park

Council Vice-Chair Karl McMillan

Council Member Kendall Crittenden

Council Member Steve Farrell

Council Member Mark Nelson

Council Member Eric Rowland

Council Member Luke Searle

Attest: County Clerk

Wasatch County School Board

Board President Tyler Bluth

Board Vice-President Kim Dickerson

Board Member Marianne B Allen

Board Member Tom Hansen

Board Member Cory Holmes

Attest: