



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 20, 2010
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Mayor Becker Delivers: Sugar House Streetcar Receives \$26 Million in Federal Funding Highly Competitive Federal Stimulus Funding Fast-Tracks Sugar House Rail Transit Project

WASHINGTON and SALT LAKE CITY – The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) today announced Salt Lake City will receive \$26 million from the highly competitive TIGER II grant program to fund the Sugar House Streetcar project. The announcement makes good on a campaign promise Mayor Becker made to fast-track the transit project.

Over \$19 billion in shovel-ready projects were submitted to DOT of which only \$600 million, or 3 percent, were funded. Selection criteria included significant impact on desirable long-term outcomes, improving existing transportation facilities and systems, contributing to economic competitiveness, fostering livable communities, and improving energy efficiency and job creation.

The grant announcement means the streetcar project — once thought to be 25 years away — will soon become reality for Salt Lake City. “Three years ago, almost to the day, on October 23, 2007, I stood on the Granite Block of Sugar House as a candidate for mayor and proposed my policy goals to fast-track the Sugar House Streetcar project’s timeline from 25 years to the first years of my administration,” said Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker.

“I am pleased to announce that by securing the TIGER II grant, we have identified a crucial piece of federal funding to take the Sugar House Streetcar from vision to reality,” Mayor Becker said. “Our community and local economy will benefit tremendously by the rapid development of this core transit improvement and the jobs the project quickly creates.”

The Sugar House Streetcar will consist of a two-mile modern streetcar line to be constructed in an abandoned railroad corridor purchased by UTA between 2100 South and Interstate-80. The project will connect the Sugar House business district, a thriving regional commercial center, to the highly successful regional TRAX light rail system. This link will stimulate transit-oriented development, drive economic activity in Sugar House, and further strengthen the extent and intensity of use of the existing light rail and bus network and the pedestrian and bicycle connections to that network, providing an increasingly competitive transit alternative for residents and visitors of Salt Lake City. New streetcar development in other U.S. cities has

successfully spurred significant economic investment along the transit corridors; Salt Lake City leaders are projecting similar results.

Today's announcement represents the results of extensive effort by Salt Lake City and the RDA of Salt Lake City to secure Sugar House streetcar funding and strong collaboration with the Utah Transit Authority and South Salt Lake City to submit for TIGER II consideration.

"The Sugar House Streetcar project has been a tremendous community partnership including Salt Lake City, South Salt Lake City, Utah Transit Authority, Parley's Train Coalition, Sugar House Merchant Association, Sugar House Community Council and many others," said Salt Lake City Councilman Soren Simonsen. "Our concerted efforts spanning nearly a decade are coming to fruition with this federal partnership."

**Who: Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker
UTA Acting Chief Capital Development Officer Ralph Jackson**

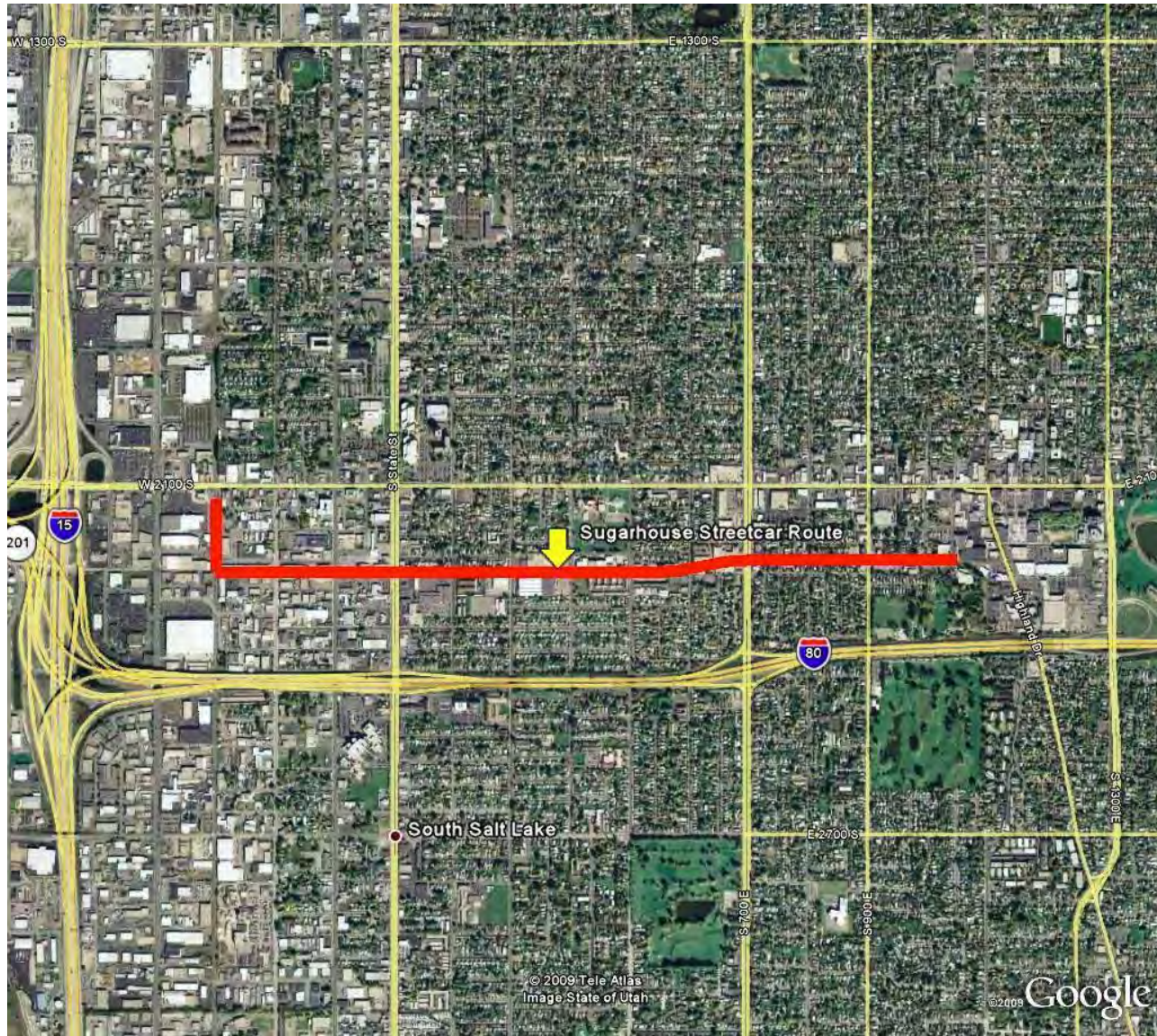
What: Media Availability to answer questions about the newly announced \$26 million in grant funding to fast-track the Sugar House Streetcar

Where: Corner of McClelland (1045 East) and Sugarmont (2225 South) – Southeast corner of the Granite Block

**When: Wednesday, October 20, 2010
10:30 a.m.**

For more information, visit the TIGER II Discretionary Grant Program website at <http://www.dot.gov/recovery/ost/tigerii/>.

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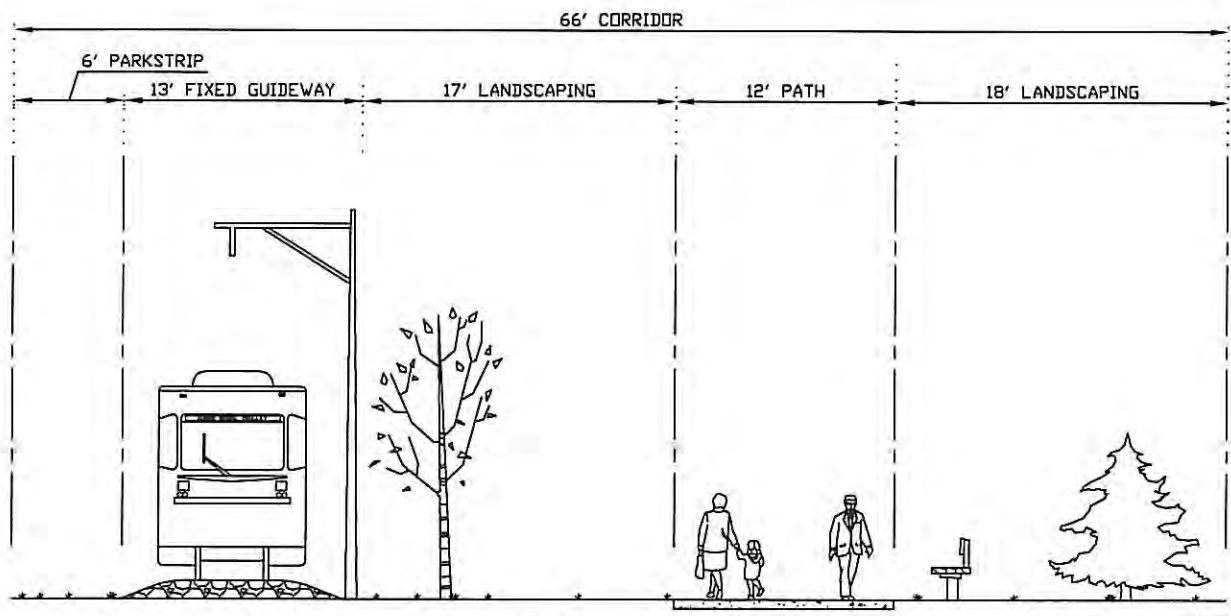
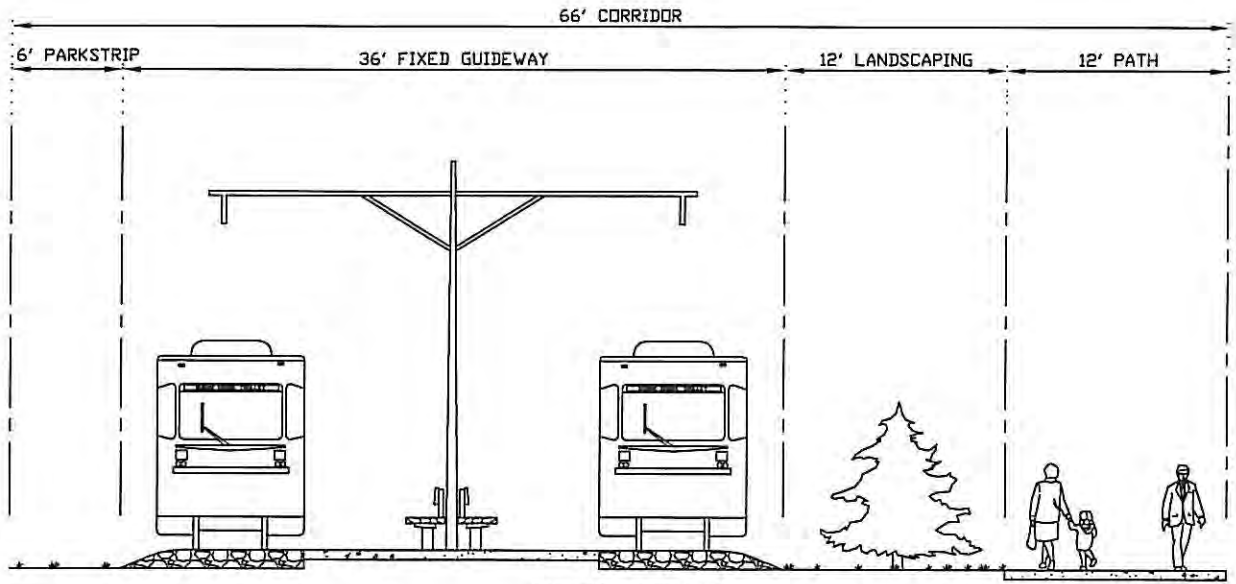
Sugarhouse Streetcar Route

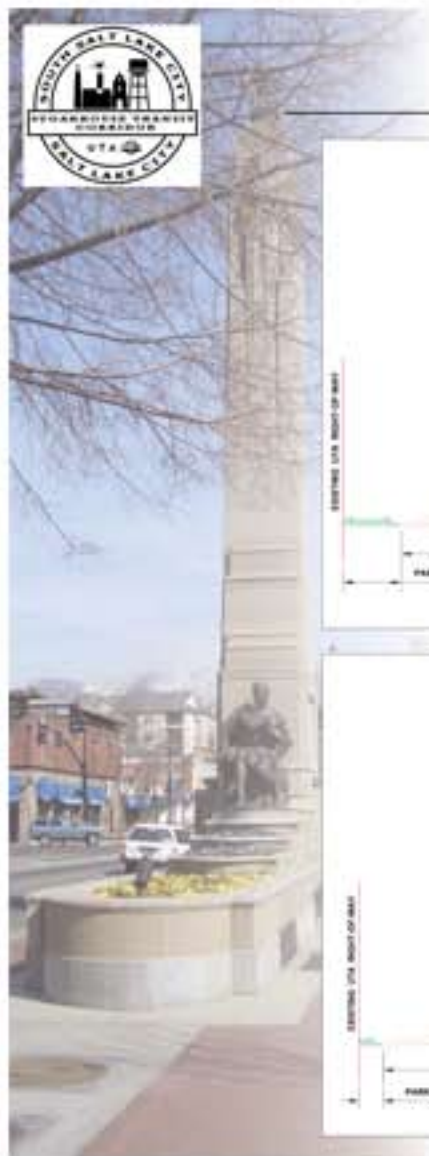
South Salt Lake

Google

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CROSS SECTIONS

