

RESOLUTION OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE U.S. BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT'S TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE THAT WOULD DRASTICALLY INCREASE TRAFFIC ON 100 SOUTH IN ST. GEORGE

WHEREAS, in 2009, Congress passed, and President Obama signed into law, an Act which required the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”) to work with Washington County and St. George City to identify possible locations for a “Northern Transportation Route” that would allow east/west traffic to bypass downtown St. George.

WHEREAS, in 2021, BLM fulfilled this mandate when it granted a right-of-way to the State of Utah for an extension of Washington Parkway in order to connect it to Red Hills Parkway and provide a way for traffic to get from the Washington/Hurricane area to the Ivins / Santa Clara area without having to go through downtown St. George (aka the Northern Corridor);

WHEREAS, the Biden Administration is conducting a supplemental study that is seriously considering revoking that right-of-way. One of the alternative traffic solutions it is proposing would turn St. George Boulevard and 100 South in St. George into one-way streets, with each street carrying an estimated 38,000 vehicles per day in 2050 (“One-Way Couplet Alternative”).

WHEREAS, Legacy Elementary is a new school that was build on 100 South in order to provide a neighborhood elementary in the downtown St. George area where two elementary schools had been closed in the past twenty years. Legacy Elementary is a Title 1 School, meaning that statistically it serves a low-income population. It also has the highest percentage of racial minority students of any elementary school in the Washington County School District.

WHEREAS, Over 95% of students at Legacy Elementary do not utilize school busses because it was located so that the vast majority of students could walk or ride bikes to and from school.

WHEREAS, this increase of traffic adjacent to Legacy Elementary would create a huge public safety problem and would harm the community feel and walkability of the downtown St. George neighborhood.

WHEREAS, it is not in the interest of the students that attend Legacy Elementary or their families for the BLM’s One-Way Couplet Alternative to be selected.

WHEREAS, it is also not in their interest for the right-of-way to be rescinded (“Right-of-way Termination Alternative”) without another traffic alternative being adopted because doing so will leave the possibility of the One-Way-Couplet open for future consideration.

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved by the School Board of the Washington County School District in Utah that the School District formally opposes the One-Way-Couplet and Right-of-way Termination Alternatives. The State’s existing Northern Corridor right-of-way should remain in place.

(Signature block on following page.)

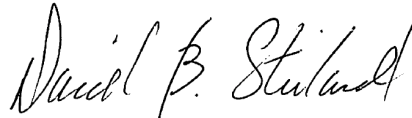
VOTED UPON AND PASSED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE 10TH DAY OF JUNE 2024.

Washington County Board of Education

Becky Dunn



David B Stirland



Craig Seegmiller



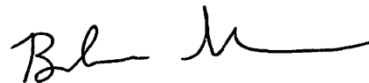
Terry L Hutchinson



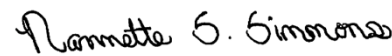
LaRene L Cox



Burke Staheli



Nannette S Simmons



Superintendent Richard Holmes

