

Chapter 10 – Corridor Preservation

Corridor preservation is the practice of purchasing anticipated rights of way years ahead of planned transportation projects as an effort to reduce overall costs. Some estimates indicate that the early and well planned purchase of transportation corridors can result in cost savings of one-fifth or one-sixth of the amount that would be needed if the purchase were put off. The degree of importance for corridor preservation increases in areas like the Dixie MPO where high population growth is anticipated.

The Dixie MPO encourages all municipalities to anticipate and address corridor preservation needs within their own boarders – and utilize the Washington County Corridor Preservation Fund: In 2009, the Washington County Board of Commissioners implemented a “\$10 per vehicle” annual registration fee to endow a corridor preservation fund that is administered by the county-wide Council of Governments (COG).

The COG is made up of elected leaders from throughout Washington County which meets at least annually to review a list of priority projects and program funds from the Local Transportation Corridor Preservation Fund.

The Local Transportation Corridor Preservation Fund Act is accumulating about \$1.2 million of revenues annually for acquisition of rights-of-way. A portion of these corridor preservation funds are also available for transportation planning studies outside the MPO area.

In order for a project to receive funding, it must be on the COG project priority list. Currently, a number of projects have benefited from preservation funds including the 600 North project in Hurricane, the Bluff Street Widening project in St. George, and a future widening of State Route 9 in Hurricane.

The current list of prioritized projects is shown below.

NAME OF ROADWAY *2015 Alphabetical Listing*

<i>1400 West - Between 1300 South & 600 North - Hurricane</i>
<i>3000 East Widening - St. George</i>
<i>3050 East / 850 North Home Depot / Walmart Connection - St. George City - (to be ADDED)</i>
<i>400 South & 200 East Intersection Roundabout - Ivins (to be REMOVED)</i>
<i>600 North Street - 200 West to SR-9 - Hurricane</i>
<i>900 East - Virgin River Crossing, also knowns as Heritage Bridge - St. George</i>
<i>Airport Bypass Road (700 West, 1500 South, 2060 South, & 1150 West) - Hurricane</i>
<i>Apple Valley Gateway - Apple Valley</i>
<i>Bluff Street - St. George</i>
<i>Bridge Road - Relocate/rebuild historic bridge - Rockville</i>
<i>Dixie Springs Drive & 300 South St. - Hurricane</i>
<i>Extension of Washington Dam Road to Southern Parkway - Washington City & Washington County</i>

<i>Hurricane Valley to Leeds Connection - Hurricane</i>
<i>Indian Hills Drive - St. George</i>
<i>Kwavasa Drive (600 West) - Ivins (to be ADDED)</i>
<i>Kolob Road Intersection with SR-9 - Relocation / rebuild - Virgin</i>
<i>Leeds North Interchange Feasibility Study - Leeds</i>
<i>Mall Drive - Bridge over Virgin River and Underpass at I-15 - St. George</i>
<i>Merrill Road - Washington City</i>
<i>Mile Post 11 New Freeway Interchange - Washington City (to be ADDED)</i>
<i>North Airport Loop Road - St. George and Washington City</i>
<i>Purgatory Road - From SR-9 to Washington Dam Road - Hurricane and Washington City</i>
<i>Southern Parkway - UDOT</i>
<i>SR-17 - LaVerkin through Toquerville - UDOT</i>
<i>SR-17 Bypass - Toquerville</i>
<i>SR-18 - I-15 along Bluff Street to Veyo - UDOT</i>
<i>SR-34 - St. George Boulevard - I-15 to Bluff Street - UDOT</i>
<i>SR-9 Shoulder Widening - I-15 to Southern Parkway - UDOT</i>
<i>SR-9 Southern Parkway Interchange to Zion - UDOT</i>
<i>SR-9 to SR-59 Connection - through Sheep Bridge Road or Rockville / Smithsonion Butte</i>
<i>Toquerville to Leeds Connection</i>
<i>Washington Parkway - through Red Cliffs Desert Reserve - Washington City, St. George, & County</i>
<i>Western Corridor - 100' Corridor from Snow Canyon Parkway through Ivins/Santa Clara</i>
<i>Western Corridor - Sun River to Santa Clara</i>

Objectives and Goals

It is of critical importance to preserve transportation corridors now and in the future; the DMPO will work towards meeting goals and objectives to assist this worthy cause.

Objective

Coordinate with the COG to edit its list of priority projects and select right-of-way acquisitions that maximize the effective use of the Washington County Corridor Preservation Fund.

Goals

1. Encourage all municipalities to anticipate and address corridor preservation needs within their own boarders.
2. Assist with the efforts of Washington County Public Works in preparing the Annual Master Priority Corridor Preservation Project List.
3. Make DMPO members aware of, and provide reminders and assistance in making proper use of the Preservation Fund.
4. Become more aware of project needs and look for opportunities to preserve important transportation corridors through the use of the Fund.

5. Work with DMPO partners to identify opportunities for corridor preservation.