

Update to the Salt Lake County Corridor Preservation Application Process

Policy Adjustment Recommendations from the COG Public Works Committee

Salt Lake County (SLCo) is currently experiencing an incredibly volatile real estate market. Property valuations are constantly changing, and opportunities for good planning and property acquisition can appear suddenly and quickly disappear. These changes in the market as well as a desire for transparency and clarity in the public planning process have caused a desire to adjust the process for the use of public funding related to Corridor Preservation. The Salt Lake County Council of Governments (COG) Public Works Committee asked SLCo staff to create a potential policy regarding changing the application process for the Corridor Preservation Fund. This updated policy was approved by the Public Works Committee in January 2024.

Corridor Preservation Application Review Updated Policy:

- The COG Public Works Committee reviews applications submitted by jurisdictions within the county. This committee then sends a recommendation list of projects to the COG for final approval.
- Once the COG has approved the list of recommendations, SLCo staff will send out a notice to all jurisdictions located within Salt Lake County and will open the application period. The application period will begin the next month after the COG Meeting where a recommended list of projects has been approved.
- A jurisdiction is free to apply at any point until the application period closes if they have all required documentation, the application meets all committee requirements, and the property is not yet purchased.
- Once the fund is approximately 2 months away from accumulating \$3 million dollars, SLCo staff will send out a last call to the jurisdictions to let them know that the application period will be closing and provide a date. This will give jurisdictions roughly 45 remaining days to submit any applications.
- Once the applications are closed, SLCo staff will organize the COG Public Works Committee to meet 2 weeks before the next meeting of the COG. This will give SLCo staff time to review the applications.
- If a property acquisition has occurred between the time of the application submittal and the meeting of the COG Public Works Committee, the application is still eligible to be discussed at that upcoming Public Works Committee meeting. If the purchase happens before the application is submitted, then the application will be disqualified.
- The COG Public Works Committee has full discretion about which applications will be funded, staff scoring is purely for informational purposes.

Program detail requirements:

Requirements per state code:

- Salt Lake County Council of Governments has discretion to administer the fund through the Public Works Committee
- Funding may only be used for a purpose listed in Utah Code § 72-2-117.5(6)(a)(i) and (6)(a)(ii)(A)
- Roadway Functional Class
- Not allowed to be used for highway corridors that are primarily recreational trails

Prioritization categories per committee:

- WFRC 2023-2050 RTP Phases 1 or 2
- Willing Seller
- Resolved Boundary Resolution (If applicable)
- Privately-owned property
- Appraisals
- Connectivity
- Project Timing
- Pre-Engineering or Environmental Clearance
- Project Completion
- Multi-modal Elements
- Functional Class
- Funding History
- Multi-Jurisdictional
- Local Match

Required documents requested at time of application submittal per committee:

- Willing Seller Letter
- Appraisal
- Review Appraisal

Optional documents requested at time of application submittal per committee:

- Boundary Resolution (If applicable)
- Pre-Engineering or Environmental Clearance Documents
- Multi-Jurisdictional Support Letters or Resolution