

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-3__

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE 0.25% LOCAL OPTION GENERAL SALES TAX DEDICATED TO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED BY SB 136 (2018) AND ENCOURAGING SALT LAKE COUNTY TO IMPOSE THE TAX IN 2018

WHEREAS, a safe and efficient transportation system creates the foundation for economic growth, improved air quality and public health, and enhanced quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the creation and maintenance of transportation infrastructure is a core responsibility of local government; and

WHEREAS, Utah's population is expected to grow by more than two million residents by 2050 and the population of the city of Cottonwood Heights (the "*City*") also is expected to increase; and

WHEREAS, the City's residents need and demand new comprehensive transportation options such as bike lanes, multi-use paths, off-road trails, and transit, in addition to traditional roads; and

WHEREAS, due to a statewide, drastic shortfall in transportation revenue, absent another funding source the City will be forced to use a significant number of dollars from its general fund to supplement the Class B&C road fund revenue in order to try to meet the City's local transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, research from the Utah Department of Transportation indicates that road rehabilitation costs six times as much as road maintenance, and that road reconstruction costs ten times as much as road maintenance, and

WHEREAS, investing in transportation results in economic development for the City and Salt Lake County (the "*County*"), and accessible good-paying jobs for our residents; and

WHEREAS, improving comprehensive transportation in the City and the County will reduce private vehicle usage, which will in turn lead to improved air quality; and

WHEREAS, poor air quality discourages economic development, business recruitment and tourism visits, and contributes to asthma and other health ailments; and

WHEREAS, nearly ten percent of Utah adults suffer from asthma and struggle to breathe during poor air quality days; and

WHEREAS, nearly 57% of Utah adults are overweight and nearly 200,000 Utahns have diabetes, with diabetes and obesity-related health care costs in Utah exceed \$700 million annually; and

WHEREAS, investing in safe and connected trails, bike lanes, sidewalks, and multi-use paths will encourage our residents to be more active, enable them to spend more time with their families via active transportation, and result in improved personal and community health; and

WHEREAS, Utah has created a Unified Transportation Plan to address these comprehensive transportation and quality of life issues; and

WHEREAS, in its 2018 general session, the Utah State Legislature recognized the local transportation needs and enacted SB 136 authorizing counties to impose a 0.25% local option general sales tax (the “*Local Option Tax*”) between 8 May 2018 and 30 June 2019 dedicated to local transportation; and

WHEREAS, the City will, upon the County’s imposition and per the SB 136 formula phase-in, receive 0.10% of the 0.25% Local Option Tax from and after 1 July 2019 to invest in critical local transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, the City’s city council (the “*Council*”) met on __ June 2018 to consider, among other things, expressing support for the Local Option Tax and encouraging the County to impose such tax; and

WHEREAS, after careful consideration, the Council has determined that it is in the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City to so act.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the city council of the city of Cottonwood Heights as follows:

Section 1. **Support for Imposition of the 0.25% Local Option Tax**. The Council supports the proposed 0.25% Local Option Tax that the County’s governing body may impose, and hereby requests that the County’s governing body promptly impose the .25% Local Option Tax. The Council’s support is based on, among others, the following potential impacts:

(a) *Road and Street Needs*. The City has significant traditional transportation needs that the City’s portion of the Local Option Tax could address. Adoption of the Local Option Tax would provide additional funds and enable the City to invest more dollars in the critical road maintenance projects that the City’s residents expect.

(b) *Active and Alternative Transportation Infrastructure Needs*. The City has significant active and alternative transportation needs that the City’s portion of the proposed Local Option Tax could address. For example, City residents need and demand improved sidewalks and pedestrian safety modes, enhanced bike lanes, better connectivity with transit, more traffic calming devices, and other modern transportation infrastructure. Investment in active transportation options will encourage residents to travel via walking, biking and public transit, resulting in a healthier population, reduced emissions, decreased health care costs and improved quality of life. Adoption of the Local Option Tax would provide additional funds and enable the City to invest in those critical transportation projects.

Section 2. **Distribution of this Resolution**. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Salt Lake County Council and to any and all other jurisdictions and offices required by SB 136 or deemed advisable by the Council.

This Resolution, assigned no. 2018-3___, shall take effect immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this ___ day of June 2018.

ATTEST:

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL

By: _____
Paula Melgar, Recorder

By _____
Michael J. Peterson, Mayor

VOTING:

Michael J. Peterson	Yea ___ Nay ___
Michael L. Shelton	Yea ___ Nay ___
J. Scott Bracken	Yea ___ Nay ___
Tali C. Bruce	Yea ___ Nay ___
Christine Watson Mikell	Yea ___ Nay ___

DEPOSITED in the office of the City Recorder this ___ day of June 2018.

RECORDED this ___ day of June 2018.