

# **Sharp-Tintic Railroad Connection Project**

A Collaboration of UTA, UDOT, Union Pacific Railroad, Springville, and Spanish Fork

#### **Summary**

This project will build approximately 7,000 linear feet of new railroad tracks connecting the Sharp and Tintic Railroad corridors within the Cities of Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah. This connection will enable key public transit objectives while improving local community accessibility and safety.

Project partners include the Utah Transit Authority (UTA), Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), and Union Pacific Railroad, and is supported by the Springville City Council, the Spanish Fork City Council, and the Nebo School District Superintendent.

#### Need

- UTA FrontRunner currently stops at Provo. There is currently no connection between the Sharp and the Tintic Railroad corridors to allow FrontRunner to continue south.
- The Tintic Railroad bisects a growing residential area in Springville and disrupts access between community services and commercial destinations across Springville and Spanish Fork.
- The Tintic Railroad has several existing at-grade highway railroad crossings in a small area. As the area develops, there is the potential need to install additional crossings and required safety measures for those crossings.

### **Benefits**

- This project will provide a route for future expansion of the UTA FrontRunner commuter rail service to southern Utah County.
- The new interconnection will re-route Union Pacific freight trains from the Tintic Railroad Line to the Sharp Railroad Line, bypassing and retiring the current route through Springville residential areas and increasing safety by eliminating train traffic from six highway-rail crossings.
- Springville City will be able to reclaim access to the areas currently used for Tintic Railroad crossings.
- Through future southward expansion of FrontRunner commuter rail service, the project will create the potential to introduce new riders to FrontRunner and decrease the amount of single occupancy vehicles on the road.

## **Funding**

- The total budget for the project is \$6.13 million of which \$5.6 million will be in grants administered through the Federal Transit Administration.
- Springville, Spanish Fork and UTA are providing a local match, with UTA's portion being in-kind management services. UDOT is also contributing funding to the project.



