

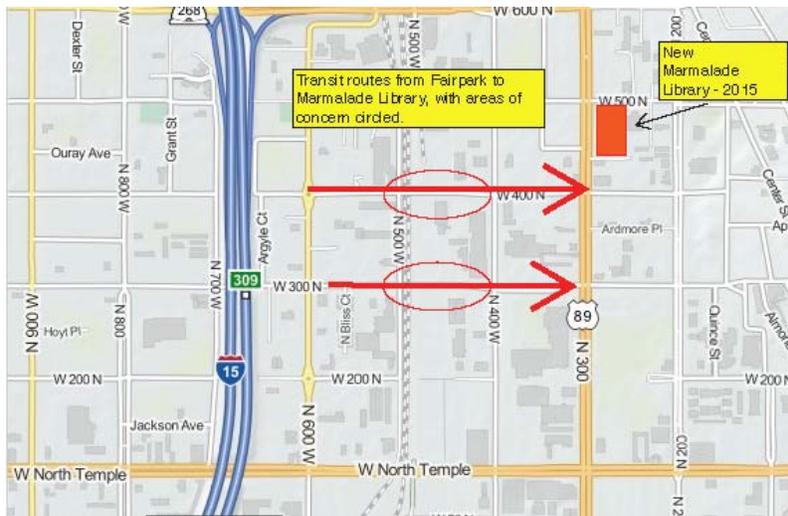
## Mayor Recommends Funding of 300 / 400 North Intermodal Study for City Council Approval



The Fairpark Community has been without a public library since the Spencer Branch, now the Tongan Church at 800 West 200 N, closed in 1965. We look forward to the 2015 completion of the new [Marmalade Library](#)\* at 300 West 500 North with anticipation.

At the same time, the Community is concerned with the safety of Fairpark children as they travel to and from the new library via 300 and 400 North.

The railroad crossings at 500 West have been a Community concern for decades with Fairpark students crossing the tracks to get to West High (Fairpark residents report that kids have been injured climbing between railroad cars of a train that has stopped, blocking the crossings). Now we're going to be seeing younger kids crossing the railroad tracks to get to the new library.



### 300/400 North Transit Routes from Fairpark to Library

The concern we have for our kids extends beyond the railroad crossing at 300 and 400 North. Both of these streets, between 400 and 500 West, are scary. They both go through a block with large empty lots, warehouses and small manufacturing businesses. Except when classes at

West High School begin and end, these streets see few pedestrians or people on bicycles. In the evenings, the two streets are mostly empty. Street lighting seems inadequate. Salt Lake City libraries stay open until 9 pm. In the winter months, our kids will be walking home from the library, along 300 and 400 North, in the dark.

The number of Fairpark kids who might be put at risk while traveling to and from the new library is not insignificant. Of course, there are the Fairpark students who attend West High. Three-fourths of Bryant Middle School students live west of I-15, many of whom will be patrons of the library. And, finally, many of the more than 300 kids who attend Jackson Elementary will be traveling to and from the library.

But, what are the actual risks to children traveling to and from the new library? Are there actions that can diminish these risks?

The residents of the Fairpark Community are grateful that Mayor Becker, in his Community Improvement Program (CIP) funding recommendations, included \$75,000 for a **300/400 North Intermodal Study**. The Study's purpose is to, finally, document the dangers that children face along 300 and 400 North and suggest possible actions to address these risks.

The City Council voted to approve most of the Mayor's overall recommended budget on June 10<sup>th</sup>, but the budgeting process continues. In August the City Council will begin prioritizing the specific projects that will, or will not, get City funding.

City Councilmen from our area of the City are aware of the dangers posed by 300 and 400 North. Councilmen from other districts may not be as familiar with the situation. Regardless, every member of the City Council will come under pressure to fund various projects, especially those projects that have been on potential funding lists for a number of years.

### **Request Fairpark Citizens' Action**

It is important that every City Councilman hear from Fairpark Community residents and organizations on the importance of the 300/North Study, with the completion of the library later this year. The safety of 300 and 400 North, especially the two railroad crossings, have been, for decades, a concern for Fairpark residents. The proposed 300/400 North study is just the first step to begin rectifying an old problem that separates the Fairpark Community from Downtown. The new library is going to be on the "other side". Let's make sure our young kids can get to the "other side" and return home, safe and sound.

Visit the [City Council Contact Page](#)\*\* to find additional information about your Council representatives and to sign up for their monthly newsletters.

Communicating with City Council via email:

- District 1 – James Rogers: [james.rogers@slcgov.com](mailto:james.rogers@slcgov.com)
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Email to ALL Council members: [council.comments@slcgov.com](mailto:council.comments@slcgov.com)

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\*Marmalade SL Tribune article (<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/58004190-90/architects-blalock-branch-building.html.csp>)

\*\*City Council Contact Webpage (<http://www.slccouncil.com/contact/>)