

Will the 300/400 North Study be Funded?

As the result of a funding request by the Fairpark Community Council, Mayor Becker's proposed budget for this new fiscal year includes \$75,000 to document possible risks (and offer possible solutions) to Fairpark kids traveling to West High and the new Marmalade Library on 300 West.

The funding request is part of the multi-million Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget that is being prioritized by the City Council right now.

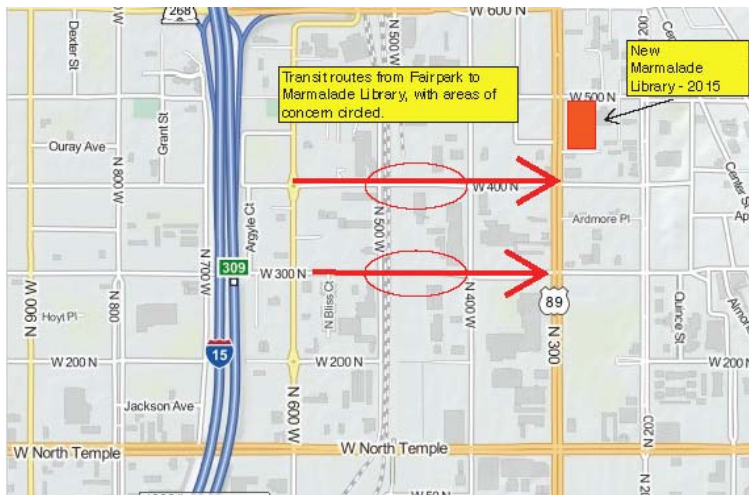
The CIP budget is a complex thing. It has to fund projects, and debts the City incurred in the past. Because there is never enough money, there are long-standing projects from years that have been delayed until funding is available. And, then, there are new projects that compete for extremely limited funds to address urgent issues.

The 300/400 North Intermodal Study will, if funded, address one of these urgent needs.

The danger for West High students has been with us for decades. The danger for kids of all ages going to, and from, the Marmalade Library compounds this historic issue. The risks to West High students should have been addressed in the past; the risks to kids of all ages going to the new library have to be addressed now.

Why is this an Important Issue for our Community?

The issue is bigger than just the safety of kids at the 300 North/500 West railroad crossing. Many Fairpark Community kids, especially those in the Guadalupe Neighborhood, will cross the tracks at 400 North. And, once you get across the tracks at 500 West, on either 300 or 400 North, how safe is the stretch of the streets between 400 and 500 West? I think



that Fairpark Community residents who have walked/bicycled these routes know that these streets can be a bit unnerving. How safe will our kids be after dark, when they trek home from the library (Salt Lake City libraries, on most days, are open until 9 pm)?

The City Councilmen who represent portions of the Fairpark Community, James Rogers (District 1), Kyle LaMalfa (District 2) and Stan Penfold (District 3) have to fight for limited dollars to address critical needs. It appears that the City Council is hoping to wrap up its CIP discussions on September 2nd, with a public hearing and vote coming later in the month.

What can the Community Do?

A brief email from residents to the City Councilmen who represent portions of the Fairpark Community will help them convey to the other members of the City Council how important this issue is to us.

The message doesn't have to lengthy. Basically, what we're saying as a community is that:

Safety of kids traveling along 300 North and 400 North, between 400 and 500 West, has been long-time issue for Fairpark Community residents. We are/I am grateful for Mayor Becker's awareness of this concern. We are/I am hopeful that the City Council will act positively on the Mayor's funding request.

Send a brief message to your City Councilman:

- Councilman James Rogers' email address: *james.rogers@slcgov.com*
- Councilman Kyle LaMalfa's email address: *kyle.lamalfa@slcgov.com*
- Councilman Stan Penfold's email address: *stan.penfold@slcgoe.com*

If you want to drop a note to all seven members of the Salt Lake City Council, send your email to: *council.comment@slcgov.com*

And, while you're at your computer or smart phone sending messages to our elected officials, it would hurt to drop a note to Mayor Becker, to thank him for including the 300/400 North Intermodal Study in his 2014 Proposed Budget (*mayor@slcgov.com*).

For additional information, contact Steve Johnson, *philogooch@yahoo.com* or call 801-521-3160