

# 2016 UDOT RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT

\*\*\* Problem statement deadline is March 14, 2016. Submit statements to Tom Hales at [tahales@utah.gov](mailto:tahales@utah.gov). \*\*\*

**Title:** Index of Model Ordinances Promoting Pedestrian Safety

**No. (office use):** 16.03.08

**Submitted By:** Shaunna K. Burbidge

**Organization:** Active Planning

**Email:** burbidge@walkbikeplan.com

**Phone:** 801-336-7991

**UDOT Champion (suggested):** Robert Miles

**Select One Subject Area**

Materials/Pavements

Maintenance

Traffic Mgmt/Safety

Preconstruction

Planning

## 1. Describe the problem to be addressed.

In early March 2016 the Utah Department of Transportation and the Utah Department of Public Safety's Highway Safety Office adopted the Utah Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. This plan was created as the culmination of a comprehensive effort by a diverse stakeholder committee to address and reduce the high number of pedestrian fatalities in Utah. Within that plan, goals and tasks are outlined. Goal 7.1 Task 3 is to "create an index of model ordinances and policies for local governments promoting pedestrian safety".

Currently, the promotion of pedestrian safety is not a main focus within Utah municipalities. While many cities do have existing ordinances on their books that aim to promote pedestrian safety, their implementation and enforcement is limited or in many cases non-existent. This research will conduct a comprehensive review to identify effective policies and ordinances from jurisdictions both locally and nationally that have been proven to improve and promote pedestrian safety. A working group of representatives will be convened to review these model policies and ordinances to identify which are appropriate and feasible for implementation in Utah, as well as the best way to incorporate these ideas at the local level. A resource will be compiled that provides information on each type of policy as well as sample language for incorporating these concepts into existing code. Additionally, this resource will provide information on implementation and enforcement techniques to assist in institutionalizing appropriate methods.

## 2. Explain why this research is important.

UDOT has committed to accomplish all tasks assigned to the agency in the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. Completion of this task will fulfil the requirements of Goal 7.1 Task 3. Additionally, this project will allow local jurisdictions to have input and ownership over the identification of appropriate policies which will lead to an increase in interagency cooperation and a higher likelihood of implementation.

## 3. List the research objective(s):

1. Identify effective policies and ordinances that will promote pedestrian safety and decrease pedestrian fatalities.
2. Work with local jurisdictions to create a resource that will encourage the adoption and implementation of these policies/ordinances.

## 4. List the major tasks:

1. Develop a project scope of work and cost estimate and identify appropriate TAC members.
2. Conduct a project kick-off meeting with the TAC.
3. Conduct a comprehensive review of local and national policies and ordinances aimed at promoting pedestrian safety or the improvement of the pedestrian environment, and identify their proven effectiveness where possible.
4. Work with representatives from local jurisdictions (through the COGs, Utah League of Cities and Towns, MPOs, etc.) to identify recommendations for which would be most appropriate for local implementation.
5. Create a resource for local municipalities that 1) identifies effective policies and ordinances, 2) includes sample language for incorporating them into existing code, and 3) provides information on implementation and enforcement techniques.
6. Report results to UDOT in a final written report.

## 5. List the expected results:

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1. Technical memo outlining the findings of the literature review.
2. Recommendations of appropriate policies and ordinances for promoting pedestrian safety and reducing pedestrian fatalities.
3. Creation of a comprehensive resource outlining appropriate policies and ordinances for local jurisdictions.

### 6. Describe how this research will be implemented.

This research will be disseminated by UDOT and DPS to promote pedestrian safety statewide through encouraged local implementation.

**7. Requested from UDOT:** \$45,000

**Other/Matching Funds:** \$0

**Total Cost:** \$45,000

### 8. Outline the proposed schedule, including start and major event dates.

Project will kick-off in Fall 2016. The comprehensive literature review and efficacy analysis will be conducted through the winter (Q4 2016-Q1 2017). During this time a working group of representatives from local jurisdictions will also be assembled. Recommendations from the working group will be gathered by the end of Q2- 2017. Based on those recommendations the final resource will be created in the form of a document, guidebook, or interactive webpage (to be determined by the working group) during Q3-2017. A final written report will then be submitted to UDOT. This research is anticipated to be completed within 12-15 months.