

CITY OF MOAB, UTAH
GRAND COUNTY, UTAH

Joint Resolution No. 2020-XX

**COMMITTING TO FUNDING YEARS FOR FOUR AND FIVE OF A
“RECREATIONAL HOTSPOT” TRANSIT SHUTTLE PILOT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, safe and efficient transportation and transit systems creates foundations for economic growth, reduced congestion, and serving recreation activities; and

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

WHEREAS, recreation and tourism associated with Arches and Canyonlands National Parks and surrounding public lands is a significant economic impact on the Moab area; and

WHEREAS, visitation to the Moab region has risen exponentially over the past decade, increasing to more than three million visitors annually; and

WHEREAS, the dramatic increase in visitation has caused traffic and parking congestion in Moab on Highway-191, and on City of Moab streets and Grand County roads; and

WHEREAS, parking and traffic congestion in the Moab region causes safety hazards for motorists, bicycles, and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, parking and traffic congestion in the Moab area negatively impacts the quality of the visitor experience and the quality of life for residents; and

WHEREAS, the City of Moab’s General Plan Element 7.4.e “encourage(s) efforts to provide a shuttle system serving downtown Moab and key tourism destinations and accommodations;” and

WHEREAS, in 2017 the Utah State Legislature passed SB 277—Highway General Obligation Bonds, which, in part, identifies \$100 million to be used by UDOT for projects that (1) have significant economic development impact associated with recreation and tourism, and (2) address significant needs for congestion mitigation, known as “recreational hotspots” on UDOT’s Transportation Infrastructure list; and

WHEREAS, the Arches/Moab area was allocated \$10,000,000 out of this “recreational hotspot” fund for transportation projects fulfilling the statutory criteria outlined in SB 277; and

WHEREAS, UDOT has engaged a transportation consultant team to develop details, costs, and benefits for a three- to five-year pilot shuttle system that would test the demand and viability of long-term transit for the Moab community.to develop a transit shuttle system; and

WHEREAS, the Arches Hotspot Region Coordinating Committee, Grand County Commission, and Moab City Council have recommended the transit shuttle system be included as one of the transportation projects to be submitted to UDOT for consideration by the Transportation Commission for SB 277 funding.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Moab City Council and Grand County Commission that:

1. The City of Moab and Grand County support the pilot project being developed by UDOT to establish a transit shuttle system for downtown Moab and to operate the system for three years.
2. The City of Moab and Grand County are committed to the long-term success of transit in the Moab area.
3. If the transit shuttle system is healthy and viable at the conclusion of the first three years of operation as anticipated, the City of Moab and Grand County will provide funding for the operation of the system for years four and five of the project, up to approximately \$500,000 per year.

This resolution shall be effective upon adoption.

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