

November 9, 2023

Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity

60 East South Temple, Suite 300

Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

RE: 2023 RCOG City of Moab Dispersed Parking Amenities

To the GOEO Staff and the Rural Opportunity Advisory Committee,

The City of Moab Planning Commission fully supports this Rural Community Opportunity Grant (RCOG) application to supplement the shovel-ready Downtown Dispersed Parking project. Where UDOT Hotspot will fund the parking and pedestrian infrastructure, RCOG and City of Moab will fund the amenities to create a more beautiful, accessible, and inviting downtown to explore. We, the Planning Commission, know the value of creating a walkable downtown that visitors and residents want to spend time in, even after they have completed their errands.

The Downtown Dispersed Parking project ranges from 200 North to 200 South, 100 West to 200 East. This project encompasses the only commercial center for 50 miles. Numerous restaurants, retail stores, public and private services, parks, and community events can be found between these streets. The increased parking spaces that UDOT Hotspot will construct will be beneficial, but the traffic calming and pedestrian focused amenities, which RCOG could supplement, will be key to creating a beautiful and comfortable location worth spending time in.

A \$590,319 RCOG investment will facilitate foot traffic and downtown exploration. As people park in the new spaces, or walk downtown from their hotels or residences, they will find it safer to cross streets with the new bulb-outs. They may even rest on one of the many RCOG-funded benches, under the shade of an RCOG-funded tree or pergola, and smell RCOG-funded shrubs and forbs. They'll be able to watch as other passersby appreciate a sculpture on one of the RCOG-funded artwork bases. And as the sun sets over the red rock cliffs, they'll be able to safely continue their downtown adventure because RCOG-funded illuminated bollards light their path.

The City of Moab strives to develop a more walkable city, and a beautiful, comfortable downtown is a great place to start. This investment by the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity will not only aid Moab in creating a more beautiful and accessible downtown in the short term but will be part of a project that acts as a foundation for future downtown projects to expand on and emulate.

We ask for your consideration of this proposal.

With gratitude,

Moab City Planning Commission

Commission members in attendance and voting affirmatively to approve this letter: