

7. **Informational: Reconnecting Communities Grant**

FYI – Project Timeline: (subject to change per Chair direction or Council discussion)

Briefing -

Set Public Hearing Date -

Hold hearing to accept public comment -

TENTATIVE Council Action -

Jon Larsen and Joe Taylor presented the Critical Connections Healing Salt Lake City's East-West Divide.

Council Member Puy, Joe Taylor, and Jon Larsen discussed the timeline for the proposal, whether federal funding would still be available, and the potential for portions of the project to receive funding prior to the twenty-four-month deadline. Jon Larsen explained the program was ongoing, even with potential changes to the Federal Administration and as long as the program existed, staff would aggressively apply for funding.

Council Member Petro asked about the selection process for the participants of the program and how it aligned with the infrastructure requests for the Olympics. Joe Taylor reviewed the selection process and stated a Representative Board would represent the community from which the applicants came. Jon Larsen reviewed potential rail projects to prepare Salt Lake City for the Olympics and stated that the east/west connectivity would be beneficial to Salt Lake City residents and the Olympics. Council Member Petro stated it was important to be realistic with expectations for the project as funding was federal, and some areas were not City owned roads **and requested that educational/information materials be made available to the community throughout the process.**

Council Member Dugan asked how the Department of Transportation was going to ensure the project stayed within the projected timeline and what updates would be provided to the City Council. Jon Larsen reviewed the relationship with the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and the Project Manager, who would ensure the project stayed on track. They explained that staff would provide updates to the Council as requested, either in the form of a report or an in-person presentation.