

## 9. **Informational: Utah Transit Authority Tech Link TRAX Extension Study**

**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 -

**Patti Garver** (UTA Manager of Environmental Compliance & Sustainability) **and Alex Beim** (UTA Manager of Long Range and Strategic Planning) provided information regarding:

### **Techlink TRAX Study**

- Study overview:
  - Funded by Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant
  - Intended to investigate new transit connections in Salt Lake City
  - Overall goal being to select a locally preferred alternative to advance into National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Review
- Background:
  - Initial studies included the 2021 Downtown SLC Rail Extension and Connections Feasibility Study, 2021 Research Park Strategic Vision, 2022 Future of Light Rail, etc.
- Project goals:
  - Supporting long-range transportation growth demand
  - Improving TRAX reliability and capacity
  - Enhancing access and mobility between existing areas
  - Increasing access to disadvantaged populations
  - Providing sustainable transportation options
- Study timeline of key activities (2023 to 2024)
- Overview of proposed alternatives:
  - New Orange line from Airport to research park
  - Realigned Red line along Ballpark spur
  - Blue and Green line northern termini switch
- Proposed Alternatives 1 through 4
- Results of analysis for Alternatives 1 through 4
- Technical evaluation recommendation details
  - Alternative 3 performed best due to lowest cost, highest operational efficiency, reduced travel times, etc.
- Public feedback summary details
- Locally Preferred Alternative Recommendation – Alternative 3 (direct connection on 400 West)

- Next steps for long-term implementation