



# CENTERVILLE CITY

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Incorporated in 1915

December 13, 2013

*Mayor*

Ronald G. Russell

*City Council*

Justin Y. Allen

Ken S. Averett

John T. Higginson

Sherri L. Lindstrom

Lawrence Wright

*City Manager*

Steve H. Thacker

Senator Todd Weiler  
Utah State Senate

Dear Todd:

I am writing to ask for your support of legislation that will increase funding for maintaining local roads within Utah's municipalities. The gap between needs and funding has been well documented by the Utah League of Cities and Towns, and Centerville is no exception—as this letter will explain. I believe a user fee in the form of an increase in the fuel tax is the most appropriate way to provide additional revenue for this purpose.

Over a five-year period (FY 2008-FY 2012) Centerville's annual street maintenance expenditures averaged \$1,819,068. Centerville's share of Class C Road Fund revenue during the same period averaged \$481,430, or only 26 percent of average expenditures. The City's current 5-year Streets Maintenance Plan recommends the City increase spending on road maintenance by more than \$500,000 per year due to the age and condition of the roads. The City's Budget cannot fund this increase without additional revenues or drastic cuts to other General Fund services.

Centerville's share of Class C Road Fund revenue has not increased since FY 1998, fluctuating between approximately \$450,000 and \$500,000 per year. An analysis done last year revealed the City's cost for a ton of installed asphalt doubled in just the nine years between FY 2003 and FY 2012. In other words, the purchasing power of the City's Class C Road Fund revenue has been cut in half while the need has increased dramatically.

Funding the construction and maintenance of roads out of fuel taxes makes sense because the tax is a user-based fee—those who put the wear and tear on the roads pay proportionately more tax at the pump. Therefore, I encourage you to support legislation that will provide more fuel tax revenue for the maintenance of local roads.

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Russell  
Mayor

