Rio Grande Depot: Future Home of a Public Market

A public market is home to small, independent food businesses providing access to local food year-round in addition to fulfilling an educational and community development mission.

The Rio Grande Depot, one of Utah’s most beautiful and historic assets, is the most compelling home for a Public Market.

- **Statewide economic impact:** More than half of Utah’s counties are represented at the Downtown SLC Farmers Market each week. Dozens of jobs will be created at the market, and preserved in Utah’s agricultural industry.

- **Self-sustaining project:** The business plan for the Public Market shows that it will pay all costs of operation, so an initial public investment in the facility pays dividends for decades.

- **Catalyst for revitalizing the Depot District:** The Public Market will spark redevelopment by injecting a proven use that will draw customers from throughout the region on a daily basis.

- **Logical next step for the state’s largest and most successful farmers market:** The Downtown SLC Farmers Market just finished its 28th season. The Winter Market at Rio Grande Depot launched its seventh season this fall. The next step is moving to daily, year-round operation through a Public Market.

- **Dynamic use of the Rio Grande Depot:** The Public Market will preserve the architectural and historical character of the Rio Grande Depot as an urban farmers market.

- **Tourist and community destination:** Public Markets are some of the most visited places in cities throughout the globe, drawing hundreds of thousands of people to this incredible building each year.

A $300,000 initial investment will pay for the seismic, mechanical and electrical analysis of the Rio Grande Depot, along with as a retail analysis and project management.

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