

1 **UTILITY RELOCATION COST SHARING AMENDMENTS**

2 2024 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

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5 **LONG TITLE**

6 **General Description:**

7 This bill amends provisions related to allocation of costs to relocate utility  
8 infrastructure within state highway and certain public transit rights of way.

9 **Highlighted Provisions:**

10 This bill:

- 11 ▶ defines terms;
- 12 ▶ requires coordination and cooperation between the Department of Transportation  
13 and utilities impacted by certain capital development projects;
- 14 ▶ provides for sharing of utility relocation costs caused by certain capital development  
15 projects for which the Department of Transportation has oversight and supervision;
- 16 ▶ requires the Department of Transportation to abide by agreements with a utility  
17 relevant to the relocation of utility infrastructure;
- 18 ▶ amends provisions related to notice provided by the Department of Transportation  
19 to impacted utilities; and
- 20 ▶ makes technical changes.

21 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

22 None

23 **Other Special Clauses:**

24 October 10, 2023None

25 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

26 AMENDS:

27 **72-6-116**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 80

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29 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

30 Section 1. Section **72-6-116** is amended to read:

31 **72-6-116. Regulation of utilities -- Relocation of utilities.**

32 (1) As used in this section:

33 (a) "Cost of relocation" includes the entire amount paid by the utility company properly  
34 attributable to the relocation of the utility after deducting any increase in the value of the new  
35 utility and any salvage value derived from the old utility.

36 (b) "Department project" means:

37 (i) a state highway project, including the construction of a proposed state highway and  
38 the improvement, widening, or modification of an existing state highway; or

39 (ii) a fixed guideway capital development project for which the department has  
40 oversight and supervision, including a transit station, passenger loading or unloading zone,  
41 parking lot, or other facility that is constructed or reconstructed immediately adjacent to a fixed  
42 guideway that is part of a fixed guideway capital development project.

43 ~~(b)~~ (c) "Exempt water supplier" means an entity that directly or indirectly supplies at  
44 least a portion of the entity's water for culinary purposes to the public for municipal, domestic,  
45 or industrial use, and is:

46 (i) a water corporation, as defined in Section 54-2-1, that is regulated by the Public  
47 Service Commission; or

48 (ii) a community water system:

49 (A) that either supplies water to at least 100 service connections used by year-round  
50 residents, or regularly serves at least 200 year-round residents; and

51 (B) whose voting members own a share in the community water system, receive water  
52 from the community water system in proportion to the member's share in the community water  
53 system, and pay the rate set by the community water system based on the water the member  
54 receives.

55 ~~(c)~~ (d) "Utility" includes telecommunication, crude oil, petroleum products, gas,  
56 electricity, cable television, water, sewer, data, and video transmission lines, drainage and  
57 irrigation facilities, and other similar utilities whether public, private, or cooperatively owned.

58 ~~(d)~~ (e) "Utility company" means a privately, cooperatively, or publicly owned utility,  
59 including utilities owned by political subdivisions.

60 (2) (a) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,  
61 the department may make rules for the installation, construction, maintenance, repair, renewal,  
62 system upgrade, and relocation of all utilities.

63 (b) If the department determines under the rules established in this section that it is

64 necessary that any utilities should be relocated, the utility company owning or operating the  
65 utilities shall relocate the utilities in accordance with this section and the order of the  
66 department.

67 (3) (a) The department shall pay 100% of the cost of relocation of a utility to  
68 accommodate construction of a [~~state highway project, including the construction of a proposed~~  
69 ~~state highway and the improvement, widening, or modification of an existing state highway~~]  
70 department project if the:

71 (i) utility is owned or operated by:

72 (A) a political subdivision of the state; or

73 (B) an exempt water supplier;

74 (ii) utility company owns the easement or fee title to the right-of-way in which the  
75 utility is located; or

76 (iii) utility is located in a public utility easement as defined in Section 54-3-27.

77 (b) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(a), (c), or (d) or Section 54-21-603, the  
78 department shall pay 50% of the cost of relocation of a utility to accommodate construction of  
79 a [~~state highway project, including the construction of a proposed state highway and the~~  
80 ~~improvement, widening, or modification of an existing state highway~~] department project, and  
81 the utility company shall pay the remainder of the cost of relocation.

82 (c) [~~If the utility described in Subsection (3)(b) is a crude oil or petroleum products~~  
83 ~~pipeline, unless the utility meets the conditions described in Subsection (3)(a):-]~~

84 [(~~i~~) ~~the utility company shall pay the lesser of:~~] Subject to Subsection (3)(e), if a utility  
85 company is responsible to pay for a portion of a utility relocation as described in Subsection  
86 (3)(b):

87 (i) the utility shall pay the lesser of:

88 (A) 50% of the cost of relocation of the [~~pipeline~~] utility to accommodate construction  
89 of a [~~proposed state highway and the improvement, widening, and modification of an existing~~  
90 ~~highway~~] department project; or

91 (B) 50% of the cost of any structure or facility necessary to avoid impinging on the  
92 [~~pipeline, and the department shall pay the remainder of the cost of the structure or facility~~]  
93 utility; and

94 (ii) the department shall pay the remainder of the cost after the utility pays the portion

95 of the cost of relocation described in Subsection (3)(c)(i).

96 (d) This Subsection (3) does not affect the provisions of Subsection 72-7-108(5).

97 (e) If the department or a large public transit district has entered into an agreement with  
98 a utility regarding the use of right-of-way by the utility and relocation costs, the department  
99 shall abide by the terms of the agreement.

100 (4) If a utility is relocated, the utility company owning or operating the utility, its  
101 successors or assigns, may maintain and operate the utility, with the necessary appurtenances,  
102 in the new location.

103 (5) In accordance with this section, the cost of relocating a utility in connection with  
104 any [~~project on a highway is a cost of highway construction~~] department project is a cost of  
105 construction for the department project.

106 (6) (a) The department shall notify affected utility companies, in accordance with  
107 Section 54-3-29, whenever the relocation of utilities is likely to be necessary because of a  
108 reconstruction project.

109 (b) [~~The notification shall be made~~] The department shall notify an affected utility  
110 company during the preliminary design of the project or as soon as practical in order to  
111 minimize the number, costs, and delays of utility relocations.

112 (c) [~~A utility company notified~~] When the department notifies a utility company under  
113 this Subsection (6):

114 (i) the utility company shall coordinate and cooperate with the department and the  
115 department's contractor on the utility relocations, including the scheduling of the utility  
116 relocations; and

117 (ii) the department and the utility shall strive to minimize the relocation costs.

118 **Section 2. Effective date.**

119 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.