



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CARLOS M. BRACERAS, P.E.
Executive Director

LISA J. WILSON, P.E.
Deputy Director of Engineering and Operations

BENJAMIN G. HUOT, P.E.
Deputy Director of Planning and Investment

November 30, 2023

The Honorable Jerry W. Stevenson, Chair
Executive Appropriations Committee
Utah State Senate

The Honorable Val L. Peterson, Chair
Executive Appropriations Committee
Utah House of Representatives

Executive Appropriations Committee Members

Dear Senator Stevenson, Representative Peterson, and Executive Appropriations Committee:

SUBJECT: Status of the Purchase of a New State Aircraft

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) received an appropriation of \$7,000,000 in HB3, Item 27 of the 2023 General Session to 'replace the two existing King Air airplanes with a single aircraft of similar capability' and to 'transfer the existing King Airs to Utah Valley University (UVU)'. Further, UDOT was asked to report progress on this transaction to the Executive Appropriations Committee.

Status of the New Airplane Purchase

UDOT has entered into a contract with Beechcraft by Textron Aviation for the purchase of the new plane and should take delivery of the plane by December 2024. The contract price for the airplane is \$6,988,300. The required pilot training should be completed by the time of delivery; so the new plane will be ready to use shortly thereafter.

Status of the Transfer of Existing Aircraft to UVU: UDOT will retain both planes until the new plane is delivered and fully operational. After discussions with UVU and the EAC chair, UDOT recommends modifying the requirement to transfer the planes to UVU, as they do not currently use these types of planes in their aeronautics program and lack space to house them.

If the requirement to transfer to UVU is modified, UDOT recommends retaining one of the two existing planes for use during the new plane's maintenance and to handle the

Senator Jerry W. Stevenson
Representative Val L. Peterson
Executive Appropriations Committee Members

several times a year when both planes are scheduled to fly at the same time. UDOT would offset that scheduled maintenance of both aircraft so that one plane would always be available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carlos M. Braceras', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Carlos M. Braceras, P.E.
Executive Director

CMB/SH/dej

Cc: Amanda Killian, Legislative Fiscal Analyst Office
Senator Chris H. Wilson, IGG Chair
Representative Keven J. Stratton, IGG Chair