



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
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*Lieutenant Governor*

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CARLOS M. BRACERAS, P.E.

*Executive Director*

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*Deputy Director of Planning and Investment*

Date: November 26, 2024

To: Senator Jerry W. Stevenson, Chair  
Representative Val L. Peterson, Chair, and  
Members of the Executive Appropriations Committee

From: Carlos Braceras, Executive Director

Re: 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 purchase a new King Air state plane and further intent language directed that once UDOT ‘takes possession of a new King Air plane purchased with the funds appropriated by that item, UDOT will keep the existing Model 200 King Air and will transfer the existing Model 90 King Air to Utah Valley University (UVU)’. UDOT was asked to report progress on this transaction to the Executive Appropriations Committee.

### **Status of the New Aircraft Purchase**

UDOT entered into a contract with Beechcraft by Textron Aviation for the purchase of the new plane in August 2023 with the original expected delivery of the plane by December 2024. The contract price for the airplane is \$6,988,300. Shortly after the contract was executed, the United States Navy ordered 60 planes from Textron through the Defense Priorities and Allocation Systems Program which prioritizes national defense contracts. UDOT’s plane was prioritized after the Navy order and the current expected delivery of the new state plane is December 2025. Textron provided \$40,000 in maintenance and interior cosmetic improvements to the plane to compensate for the delay.

**Status of the Transfer of Existing Aircraft to UVU:** UDOT will retain both the Model 200 and Model 90 aircraft until the new plane is delivered and fully operational. At that point, UDOT will transfer the Model 90 to UVU.