

**JORDAN RIVER IMPROVEMENTS AMENDMENTS**

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Cheryl K. Acton**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill addresses Jordan River improvement projects.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

▸ directs the Jordan River Commission to work with the Department of Transportation regarding issues related to state highways and the Jordan River; and

▸ makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**65A-2-8**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 157

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

Section 1. Section **65A-2-8** is amended to read:

**65A-2-8. Jordan River improvement projects.**

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Commission" means the Jordan River Commission created by interlocal



28 agreement.

29 (b) "Zone" means the Jordan River Recreation Area, the area 250 yards on each side of  
30 the Jordan River from the edge of the river between SR-201 and 4800 South.

31 (2) The division, subject to applicable federal, state, and local laws and ordinances and  
32 Subsections (3) [~~and (4)~~] through (5), may:

33 (a) expend money for the following purposes:

34 (i) enhancing safety, recreation, and conservation in the zone;

35 (ii) capital improvements within the zone, including:

36 (A) lighting along the Jordan River and within the zone;

37 (B) completing construction of a paved pathway on both sides of the Jordan River  
38 within the zone;

39 (C) building a boat launch, picnic pavilion, bench, restroom, or other amenity within  
40 the zone; and

41 (D) supporting Tracy Aviary, a nature area, bike or boat rental concessionaire, or other  
42 partnerships to enhance recreation in the zone;

43 (iii) funding programs to clean the zone, remove invasive species, and restore riparian  
44 habitat;

45 (iv) hiring or contracting for personnel to perform tasks as directed by the commission;

46 (v) partnering or contracting with an urban ranger or conservation corp operated by a  
47 state institution of higher education or similar service-oriented organizations or programs:

48 (A) to provide trail, river, and parkway maintenance, invasive species removal and  
49 revegetation, emergency care, and environmental education for the area 250 yards on each side  
50 of the Jordan River from the edge of the river for the entire length of the river; and

51 (B) to report to the appropriate public official all health, safety, or law enforcement  
52 concerns that the organization encounters, as directed by the commission; and

53 (vi) partnering or contracting with local law enforcement or a certified peace officer to  
54 provide patrol, security, and law enforcement for the area 250 yards on each side of the Jordan  
55 River from the edge of the river for the entire length of the river; and

56 (b) purchase, lease, sell, or dispose of property or an easement within the zone to  
57 achieve the goals in Subsection (2)(a).

58 (3) (a) Before engaging in any activity described in Subsections (2)(a)(i) through

59 (2)(a)(iii) or Subsection (2)(b), the division shall receive the approval of:

60 (i) the commission;

61 (ii) any relevant governmental entity that owns or is responsible for the maintenance of  
62 real property within the zone, including Salt Lake County Flood Control; and

63 (iii) the relevant municipality within the zone.

64 (b) Before engaging in any activity described in Subsections (2)(a)(iv) through

65 (2)(a)(vi), the division shall:

66 (i) receive the approval of the commission; and

67 (ii) consult with:

68 (A) any relevant governmental entity that owns or is responsible for the maintenance of  
69 real property within the zone; and

70 (B) the relevant municipality within the zone.

71 (4) The commission shall work with the Department of Transportation, created in  
72 Section 72-1-201, to:

73 (a) have the Department of Transportation post by no later than July 1, 2023, consistent  
74 and attractive signs where a highway that is designated as a state highway under Title 72,  
75 Chapter 4, Designation of State Highways Act, but is not a freeway crosses the Jordan River;

76 (b) develop methods to provide access from a state highway to the trails along the  
77 Jordan River where the trail can be safely accessed; and

78 (c) develop methods to address water pollution issues from storm water flowing off  
79 state highways directly into the Jordan River.

80 [~~4~~] (5) (a) The programs described in this section may only be implemented as  
81 appropriations from the Legislature allow.

82 (b) Money appropriated to programs in this section are managed by the division in  
83 accordance with this section.

84 (c) Money that the Legislature appropriates to programs described in this section are  
85 nonlapsing in accordance with Section 63J-1-602.2.