

CLEAN RESOLUTION

State Entities Contributing to a Healthier Utah with
Clean Air Strategies

APRIL 2015

Issue 2 :: Let's Go Places

AIR QUALITY AND THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Inside:

**Win Clear the Air
Challenge**

2

**GREENbikes Ride
Around Town
& MATT Rides
Around the State**

3

**UTANG's Solar
Projects: Produce
Millions of kWh
and Save Millions
of Dollars**

4

**New Aggie Date
Night Trend**

5

Envision Utah is working to determine what is important to Utahns, and to help them see the long term outcomes of decisions. They want everyone in the state to participate in [Your Utah Your Future](#), where Utahns rank priorities like economy, air quality, water resources, and energy. Air quality is clearly important to many of us. Envision Utah CEO, Robert Grow, said at the [Intermountain Sustainability Summit](#) at Weber State University in March, that the primary thing people say they don't like about Utah is the air quality.

Continued on Page 3



CLEAR THE AIR

CHALLENGE

Drive Down Your Miles

Winning Clear the Air Challenge: Lessons from Utah Agency TravelWise Winners

Gear up for the “championship round.” [The Clear the Air Challenge](#) is July 1 through July 31. This competition for private businesses, governments, families, school... everyone, is about coming together to keep the air clean and healthy to breathe. Summer being a time of potentially high ozone in Utah, is also good time to try strategies to reduce air pollution, like riding your bike to work or getting used to your train route.

Last winter Agencies competed in the [State of Utah Agencies TravelWise Challenge](#) by carpooling, teleworking, trip chaining, and using active and mass transit. After four weeks of competition we had clear winners (no pun intended).

Total Non-SOV Trips: 14,016!

Total Distance: 266,404.9 mi

CO2 Saved: 77.1 tons

Money Saved: \$87,275.54

Calories Burned: 340,016

Top Agencies Overall Trips

Environmental Quality 3,491

Human Resource Management 2,262

Transportation 2,137

Administrative Services 1,891

Technology Services 1,620

Top Riders Trips

1. Robert Ford 223

2. Gary Schow 220

3. Will Clark 186

4. Dale Jorgensen 182

5. Elisa Smith 165

The key to clenching “Clear the Air” -where tough competitors on the private side like Fidelity Investments, Rio Tinto and Questar, are well prepared to win- is to learn from top state agencies and riders. Winning teams took the completion to a personal level. Here’s what worked.

Fun.

Teams that have fun will do things better, even when it is a bit hard to do. Division level competing created healthy rivalry. One agency, for example challenged divisions to see who could get all of their employees to use transit during one week of the competition.

Encouragement.

Leadership must tell people it matters and that winning is important. Agencies who asked supervisors to reach out to their teams got many competitors involved.

Recognition.

Prizes and a nod from someone who matters can go along way. Some agencies offered a nice lunch or administrative leave for their top rider(s), others offered a prize .

Our top riders are committed to traveling wise beyond the challenge window, and have made this a part of their daily life. They do it for many reasons: to save money, to simplify their commute, to improve their health, to be a good steward of the air we all breath. They are great examples of how to have an impact on air quality all year long.

The 2015 legislative session added and modified Utah laws that effect air quality. Many aim to motivate you with your pocketbook using financial incentives and some disincentives. Here is a brief summary containing bill links to help you learn more:

Motivating Carrots

- Now you may not have to wait to get the tax benefit of your car’s clean fuel conversion because [HB 15](#) allows the Department of Environmental Quality to make grants in lieu of the credit. Similarly one could get a tax credit for certain motorcycles because of [HB 156](#), and credits for things like tow trucks and garbage trucks because of [HB 406](#).
- The grant program [CARROT](#) (Clean Air Retrofit, Replacement and Off-Road Tech) received \$700,000 one-time funds, an increase in funds from the previous fiscal year. Refineries may use tax credits defined by [SB 216](#) to help with [Tier 3](#) Fuel infrastructure.

Giving Teeth

- Vehicle emissions offenders face higher fines & penalties when they break the law with the passing of [HB 17](#), and with [HB 110](#) which targets smoking vehicles. But [SB 208](#), aimed at the statute of limitations for violations for air quality, laws did not pass.

Broadening the Playbook

- Utah has more ability to create tailored strategies for meeting the requirement of EPA clean air regulations because of [HB 226](#).

Financial Resources

- [HB 362](#) allows Counties, with voter approval, to implement a 0.25% general sales tax that may be used to expand transit services and to create more infrastructure for those who bike or walk.
- Savings from fleet fuel costs from the conversion to things like electric vehicles can help public entities get the financial resources for projects because of [HB 410](#). Public entities -outside of state agencies, which already have this requirement-, will not yet be required to make the 50% switch as was the hope in [SB 69](#).
- Funding for many more clean school buses in [HB 49](#) made it



Office Group-Buy Memberships for as Little as \$25

GREENbike operates bike share services in the Salt Lake area and reports that 14,538 people rode a GREENbike in 2014. Bike share is solution to avoid parking fees, and reduce air-polluting emissions.

New this season, GREENbike set up an [Office Pass Program](#) that makes membership down right affordable. A free bike helmet also comes with each membership.

RIDE & SEE

Ride & See Beautiful Utah

MATT’s (Mobile Active Transportation Tours) are planned bicycle [rides all over Utah](#). Supportive organizers and great locations make these rides a way to network or see the beauty of our state.

St George: April 3
Provo: May 20
Moab: June 1-2
Park City: Aug 14
Draper: September 10
Riverdale: October 7

The Utah National Guard Leads Clean

The Utah National Guard (UTANG) will be able to generate over 4 million kilowatt hours of solar energy in 2016 because of ten strategic projects across Utah. The projects will generate enough renewable energy to power the equivalent of 360 average American homes, and is an example of how solar technology integrates into the mission and values of an evolving domestic defense strategy.

Project funding comes primarily from competitive National Guard Bureau grants and Rocky Mountain Power utility incentives. The team's aggressive and well-detailed plan was key to obtaining funding and making this cost-effective and successful.

All ten projects are to be operational with net-metering agreements in place before the end of the year, and are estimated to save just under \$12 million over 20 years based on a six percent escalation in energy prices in Utah.

Project team and scope details summary:

Owner: [Utah National Guard](#)

Construction Management: [The Division of Facilities - Energy](#)

General Contractor: Solar City, Inc.

Sub Contractors: Intermountain Wind & Solar, Hunt Electric and Hidden Peak Electric

Solar Modules: Suniva

Inverters: Solectria

Total Project Size: 2.83 MW

Calculated Total Project Production: 4,059,256 kWh/year

20 year saving at 6% (RMP esc.): \$11,945,797

Four projects are at Camp Williams, others are located at the Draper Headquarters, and the armories in St. George, West Jordan and.

to the floor but ultimately did not pass.

- Ongoing funding requested for State employee transit passes was not in the budget.
- \$200,000 one-time funding was included in the budget for Utah-specific air quality research.

Many people work hard to create and maintain the laws that govern Utah. All branches of government, lobbyists, and concerned citizens spend much of the session trying to bring important issues to light when time and attention are stretched.

We have one of the best [legislative websites](#) in the county. Live streaming and the archive of legislative activities gives broad access to the public process, and insight as to what those who represent us think and care about. With online voting coming around corner, we will see more ways to keep engaged in a highly mobile world.



Governor Gary Herbert & Major General Jeff Burton at the Draper Headquarters, July 2014

BLUE BIKES, DATE NIGHTS

Utah State University (USU) Aggies vetting the success of a first may have some new criteria -if he/she can peddle tandem. Alexi Hamm, USU Sustainability Coordinator, says, "A mild Utah winter has meant dips in Aggie Shuttle ridership, but it's all good for encouraging year-round bicycling. [USU's Aggie Blue Bikes](#) aims to get more people on more bikes, more often and has almost 300 donated, refurbished bicycles available to the USU community on a three month or 24-hour basis, free of charge to the user. Other services include bike tool boards, one-on-one tutorials, and departmental bikes. Aggie Blue Bikes is funded through a \$2.75 charge in student fees.

In 2005, a group of students, faculty, and staff advocated for policies to allow bicycles more access to campus and address air quality concerns, and Aggie Blue Bikes continues to work in both areas. The university became a Bike Friendly University at the Silver level in 2013 through the League of American Bicyclists. Three sessions this winter taught students about winter cycling skills and provided equipment for their three-month rentals. The 24-hour checkouts of mountain bikes, road bikes, beach cruisers, and unicycles are also well-used, with tandem bike rentals being especially popular for dates."



Events to Watch For...

Submit Information &
Questions for

Clean ReSolutions to
Resource Stewardship
Coordinator

Chamonix Larsen

801-889-8123

ChamLarsen@utah.gov

More Stories and Info
[@UtahSteward](#)

LOCAL

[Utah Bike Summit: April 10](#)

[Gas Can Exchange: April 11](#)

[Adobe Connect eLearning Seminar for Gov. April 21](#)

[Utah Economic Summit: April 17](#)

[Earth Day April 22](#)

[Governor's Energy Development Summit: May 20-21](#)

Check out the Utah Office of Energy Development event page [here](#)

Check out the Department of Environmental Quality news page [here](#)

NATIONAL

[Better Buildings Summit, Washington D.C. May 27-29](#)