



Image by Bettymaya Foott

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# CONNECTING THE DOTS

FY2020 ANNUAL ACCOUNTING

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE  
REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM



**WORKFORCE  
SERVICES  
HOUSING & COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT**  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

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# FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

In these uncertain times planning is more important than ever. I'd like to share our three guiding principles with you to introduce this report and emphasize the importance of planning for all seasons. It may seem counterintuitive but as one of our three principles states, planning is a process. It is in this process that we *connect the dots* that bring people together to form a true community.

Another of our principles is that each community is self-determined. As planners we are here to provide the resources each community needs to develop in the manner they see fit based on the changing circumstances of their respective communities. Working with our regional planners we are better able to know our communities. To build relationships that help us learn the needs of each community and how to best serve those individual needs.

Our third and final principle is that community development must be viewed holistically. The true value we strive to provide is in connecting the dots, whether that be people, places, tools, guides or resources — making connections is what planning is really about.

The Community Development Office (CDO) is thrilled to work with the Community Impact Board (CIB) and the Associations of Governments (AOGs) regional planners. With the goal to help our local communities' use their valuable and scarce resources, including amazing people, to build their community their way.

On behalf of all the planners we thank you for your service and for your support of planning in rural Utah. Together we are making a difference in creating a viable and resilient place that generations past, present and future lovingly call home.

Sincerely,



**KEITH HEATON**

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# AOG REPORTS

## BEAR RIVER

**RPP SUPPORT**     BRIAN CARVER  
                              ZAC COVINGTON  
                              SCOTT MCCOMB

**CDO SUPPORT**     AUBREY LARSEN



The Bear River Association of Governments (BRAG) Regional Planning Program is a diverse collection of communities ranging from the metropolitan Logan City of over 50,000 people in population, to small towns of less than 100 residents. Some of the larger communities have the resources to provide for much of their own planning and management needs, while others are staffed entirely by part-time volunteers and lack technical training and capacity to engage in anything more than the most basic public services.

The geography spreads from the west desert of the Great Salt Lake east across mountains and valleys to the Bear Lake and plateaus of western Wyoming. This creates a demand for planning and coordination across a wide variety of issues from public lands and natural resources, to community infrastructure and public involvement management.

Leveraging CIB investments in the RPPs with other project funds, BRAG is able to provide two and a half full-time planners for the region, which broadens technical expertise and capacity to address a number of issues including natural hazards, recreation, and housing. The RPPs have been busy conducting Pre-Disaster Natural Hazard workshops and analysis for the Bear River Region, as well as providing technical assistance to the Six County AOG in their PDHM process.

### COMPLETED

- 5th Annual Cache Summit: Land-Use Planning Conference
- Bear Lake Overlook Trail Proposal (Rich County)
- Bear River Valley Senior Center Client Map Analysis (Tremonton)
- Box Elder County Affordable Housing Plan
- Deweyville Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans



### COMPLETED CONTINUED

- Honeyville Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans
- Nibley Community Center Environmental Site Analysis
- North Logan Moderate Income Housing Plan Update
- Plymouth Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans
- Portage Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans
- Rich County Trails Plan
- Rich County Trails Guide
- Richmond Affordable Housing Plan
- Richmond 300 East Pathway Planning and Grant-writing
- Tremonton Malad River Trail Sign Design
- Willard Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans

### ON-GOING

- Coordination with federal, state and local elected officials, planners, agencies and organizations
- Lewiston Main Street Pathway
- Mantua Trails Master Plan
- Willard 750 North Pathway Planning
- Shared Stewardship Planning Project with Utah Forestry Division and US Forest Service
- Six County Region Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan
- Bear River Region Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan
- Tooele County Hazard Mitigation Planning
- Tremonton Way-finding Signs Design

### MUNICIPALITIES ASSISTED

- |                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Box Elder County | Plymouth    |
| Cache County     | Portage     |
| Cornish          | Providence  |
| Deweyville       | Rich County |
| Garland          | Richmond    |
| Honeyville       | Tremonton   |
| Hyde Park        | Wellsville  |
| Mantua           | Willard     |
| Nibley           |             |
| North Logan      |             |



**BRIAN CARVER**  
COMMUNITY AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR



**ZAC COVINGTON**  
SR REGIONAL PLANNER



**SCOTT MCCOMB**  
REGIONAL PLANNER



**LARA GALE**  
JUNIOR PLANNER

**THE BRAG TEAM**

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# UINTAH BASIN

**RPP SUPPORT**

KEVIN YACK  
WILL WRIGHT

**CDO SUPPORT**

SKYE SIEBER  
KEITH HEATON



**ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

The Uintah Basin Association of Governments (UBAOG) provides planning assistance to three counties comprising ten municipalities and thirty-two special service districts. The Uintah Basin region consists of 8,478 square miles in area of which about 61 square miles is water with a population of approximately 56,205 people. The region is exceedingly rural due to its remote location, the very northeast corner of Utah, and the high amount of public and tribal lands comprising about 80% of the region's area.

UBAOG planners implemented the new, more in-depth CIB process described in last year's report. In alignment with the new process UBAOG planners contacted all 42 entities to ensure that proper planning and priorities were established and to determine if public meetings were well-documented.

The updated one-year and 2-5 year Capital Improvement Lists (CIL) were then reviewed by the planners before being sent to the UBAOG Executive Board for final approval. The approved one year CIL projects were then forwarded to the Permanent Community Impact Fund (PCIF) Program for their administering and Board consideration.

In FY2020 UBAOG received and provided technical assistance for 16 CIB project requests. Of those requests, seven were planning grants with six being from Uintah County municipalities totaling \$185,000 in CIB funds and one being from Daggett County (Manila) for \$47,500.



The remaining nine capital project requests showed 5 in Duchesne County for a total cost of \$8,994,000 in CIB funds of which \$2,020,000 was in grants and \$6,974,000 for loans. Uintah County had 4 requests at a total cost of \$4,709,000 in CIB funds of which \$2,630,000 was for grants and \$2,079,000 in loans.

In summary, the Uintah Basin had 16 CIB requests in FY2019 for a total of \$13,953,750 of which \$232,500 were for planning and \$13,723,000 for capital projects (\$4,650,000 in grants and \$9,053,000 for loans).

Further, UBAOG planners worked closely with eight of the ten municipalities to assist in the renewal of their Enterprise Zone designations through the Governor’s Office of Economic Development (GOED). These designations are good for five years and have proven valuable in assisting rural communities in their economic development efforts by offering important tax incentives, thereby enabling eligible businesses and areas to start/maintain their local operations vital for these rural areas of Utah.



KEVIN YACK  
REGIONAL PLANNER



WILL WRIGHT  
REGIONAL PLANNER

THE UBAOG TEAM

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# SOUTHEASTERN

**RPP SUPPORT**      MICHAEL BRYANT  
                                 JADE POWELL

**CDO SUPPORT**      KEITH HEATON



The Southeastern Utah planning team led by Michael Bryant and Jade Powell has focused on working with many partners in the Southeastern Utah region. A priority of the planning team at SEUALG has been economic development planning with Carbon, Emery, Grand, and San Juan Counties. The team has partnered with Utah Association of Counties, Utah State University (USU) Eastern, USU-Extension’s Rural Online Initiative, and local chambers of commerce to carry out economic development planning and implementation.

In addition to economic development planning, the team has assisted communities with general plans and land use ordinances, provided training, technical assistance, and support. They have been first-adopters of new tools and technology—actively receiving support from CDO resources, research, and assistance. Efforts have included main street planning in Price City, land use assistance in Castle Dale, economic

development planning in San Juan County, planning for the Utah APA conference, Bluff Town ordinance assistance, tourism planning with Carbon and Emery Counties, land use assistance to Helper City, land use assistance to Monticello City, and economic development planning in Grand County.

Other priorities have included regular attendance at planning commission meetings for local communities, 2020 Census outreach planning, and grant writing assistance for brownfield revolving loan funds, commercial kitchens, and coworking spaces.

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- Planning and land use ordinance training and coordination and technical assistance for Helper City, Price City, Monticello City, Bluff Town, and Castle Dale City
- Funding assistance and coordination
- CIB application assistance and capital improvements list compilation
- Regional economic development coordination
- Regional transit and transportation coordination
- Development of a regional commercial kitchen in Carbon and Emery Counties
- Planning and implementation of San Juan County EDA Regional Economic Diversification Summit (REDS)
- Planning for a Carbon/Emery County EDA Regional Economic Diversification Summit (REDS)
- Utah Coal Country Strike Team participation and coordination
- Silicon Slopes East Development and Implementation
- Creation of coworking spaces in Carbon and Emery Counties
- Participatory efforts with Utah Association of Counties, USU Eastern, USU Extension and local chambers of commerce
- Planning with tourism departments in Carbon/Emery Counties



**MICHAEL BRYANT**  
REGIONAL PLANNING  
DIRECTOR/ CIB LIAISON/  
BUSINESS & TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE CENTER  
MANAGER



**JADE POWELL**  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
& RURAL PLANNING/  
UTAH COAL COUNTY STRIKE  
TEAM COORDINATOR

**THE SEUALG TEAM**

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# SIX COUNTY

**RPP SUPPORT**     ZACH LEAVITT  
                             TRAVIS KYHL



**CDO SUPPORT**     PAUL MOBERLY

The only constant is change, and the Six County Association of Governments Regional Planning Program is no stranger to changes in this past year. The previous Executive Director, Russ Cowley, retired after many years of dedicated service and Travis Kyhl has since taken on the responsibilities of directing the agency’s efforts. Even with these changes, Zach Leavitt and Travis Kyhl have not slowed down.

Building on the relationships established through previous years, Six County has worked to bring best practices and skill development into the realm of planning and project development to empower communities throughout the region. These efforts have been accomplished by working directly with communities to provide the necessary training and skill development for community leaders and staff to be successful.

## TRAINING AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT EXAMPLES

- Development and implementation of a training program in conjunction with the CDO to build practical leadership skills for governing small towns in rural Utah
- Working with communities to develop their capital asset inventories and capital improvement plans
- Coordinating with communities to help develop area and regional plans that provide mutual benefit to all
- Beginning to create a GIS-based method to help create dynamic capital asset inventories to help communities understand their own needs and to inform future planning.

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## OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- Capital Improvement List assistance
- CIB Application assistance and support, including holding the first AOG directed CIB application tutorial
- Supporting communities with the development of Moderate-Income Housing Planning
- Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Planning continued
- Helped multiple communities to develop project ideas and identified funding sources to assist with projects
- In partnership with the CDO, began to develop and implement a community development and leadership training course that focused on rural leadership and the unique challenges that rural Utah faces.
- Provided many communities with general planning and land use ordinance support technical assistance
- Helped to implement additional programs that have a planning focus that is similar to the RPP program such as CDBG, Hazard Mitigation, and Regional Transportation.
- Provided ongoing local support for the 2020 Census
- Provided training and technical assistance to communities for long term capital asset inventorying and improvement planning.
- Assisted with GIS efforts with the Sevier County Sheriff's office.

## MUNICIPALITIES ASSISTED

Bicknell	Marysvale
Circleville	Mayfield
Ephraim	Millard County
Eureka	Mount Pleasant
Fayette	Nephi
Fillmore	Piute County
Glenwood	Richfield
Hanksville	Rocky Ridge
Holden	Salina
Joseph	Sanpete County
Junction	Sevier County
Kingston	Sigurd
Leamington	Torrey
Loa	Wayne County
Lyman	



TRAVIS KYHL  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ZACH LEAVITT  
REGIONAL PLANNER

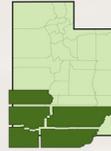
THE SCAOG TEAM

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# FIVE COUNTY

**RPP SUPPORT** GARY ZABRISKIE  
NATE WIBERG

**CDO SUPPORT** JORDAN KATCHER



## FIVE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

The Five County Association of Governments encompasses over 11 million acres of land in Southwestern Utah. The AOG serves 38 incorporated cities and towns, five county-wide school districts, and the county jurisdictions of Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, and Washington. The region is also home to two state universities as well as two technical colleges.

As the home of two national parks, one national monument, and nine state parks, tourism plays a very large role in the local economies of Southwestern Utah. While portions of the region have seen growth and economic prosperity with new businesses and excellent medical services, other portions of the region have seen slow or negative growth. The diversity of growth throughout the region brings unique challenges that the regional planning staff at the AOG are addressing.

Within Five County Association of Governments Community and Economic Development Department, Gary Zabriskie and Nate Wiberg conducted a capital improvement training in Minersville Town, assisted

Escalante City and Boulder Town with zoning map updates, conducted a community survey in Rockville, provided coordination and assistance with the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce on the Cedar City Area Vision 2050 planning project, coordinated with the Washington County Trails Committee, conducted CIB one-year Capital Improvement Prioritization meetings in Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, and Washington counties and conducted an environmental assessment for the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah.

Gary Zabriskie has supported communities with the CIB application process as well as the Revolving Loan Fund application process. Nate Wiberg created an Affordable Housing Location Analysis using GIS for Washington City and assisted Washington County with a county-wide Attainable Housing Location Analysis. Additionally, the regional planners are in the process of coordinating with Beaver City to assist with their general plan update.

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- Applicant assistance with the Five County AOG Economic Development revolving loan fund
- Economic development assistance, coordination, and support
- Compilation of the annual capital improvements lists
- Coordination with the decennial census
- Technical assistance provided to CIB applicants
- Facilitation of the CIB application tutorial
- Coordinating project funding, and leveraging funding
- Supporting local and county planning initiatives
- Supporting hazard mitigation planning
- Assisting with mapping projects and GIS analysis
- Support of opportunity zones
- Training communities on planning, capital improvements, and affordable housing
- Assistance with public engagement
- Coordination with tribal entities on projects and planning



**GARY ZABRISKE**  
COMMUNITY AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR



**NATE WIBERG**  
ASSOCIATE PLANNER

**THE FCAOG TEAM**

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# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE FY2020 SNAPSHOT

As part of the Housing and Community Development Division of the Department of Workforce Services, the Community Development Office (CDO) help’s Utah’s rural communities build knowledge, skills, and abilities to achieve their goals. Since its inception in 2013, the CDO has been adapting its structure to best support regional planners across the state and produce relevant, timely tools, guides, and resources.

For FY2020, both the CDO and regional planners focused heavily on two main components: increased coordination and local empowerment. On the state level, the CDO focused on increasing partnerships with rural service providers to increase efficiency and promote collaboration; on the regional level, planners focused on expanding training and support to local communities.

To increase planning support, the CDO proposed that the Permanent Community Impact Fund Board (CIB) authorize CDO staff to review, approve, and fund planning grant applications up to \$50,000.

The proposed Small Planning Grant Fund (SPGF) reserves the CIB board’s limited time to discuss and review larger-scale and more complex projects and empowers CDO staff to connect applicants with additional resources. The SPFG process expedites the review timeline so that applicants can be approved for funding within two months.

During the FY2020 pilot year the SPGF process awarded 19 grants with \$567,870 total funds given to rural communities. Below is a summation of grants awarded by category.

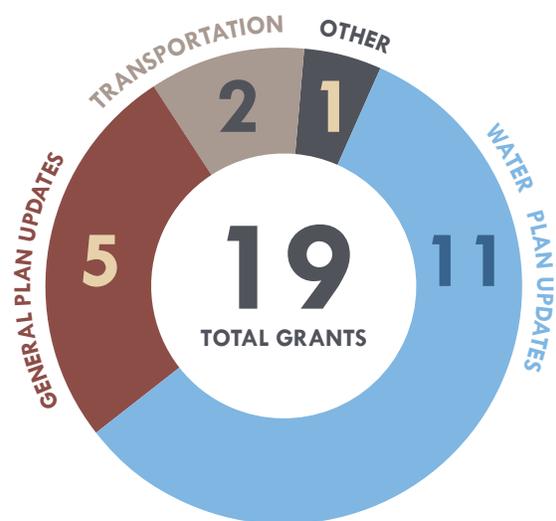


Figure 1. Small Planning Grant Fund (SPGF) grants awarded by category



# STAFFING CHANGES

In FY2020 Lara Gale, a current Applied Economics graduate student attending Utah State University, completed her internship with CDO and was hired as a Junior Regional Planner with Bear River AOG. Tessa Carver, a recent Master of Public Administration graduate from Brigham Young University, and Sophie Bellina, a current Master of City & Metropolitan Planning graduate student at the University of Utah, were hired by CDO as new interns towards the middle of the fiscal year.

Skye Sieber left CDO in January 2020 to pursue new opportunities with the Department of Environmental Quality. CDO is now back to full capacity with recent hire McKenna Marchant, a Master of Public Administration graduate from the University of Utah and former Vineyard City planner.

## NEW HIRE SUMMARY

*McKenna Marchant  
(CDO FTE)*

*Tessa Carver (CDO  
Intern)*

*Sophie Bellina (CDO/  
CPDSC Intern)*

*Lara Gale (BRAG  
Junior Planner)*

# CDO PRODUCTION

## FY2020 TOOLS, GUIDES, AND RESOURCES

**Single Issue Guides:** Short-term Rentals, Energy & Natural Resource Communities, Dark Sky Planning (*updated and reprinted*)

**Issue Briefs:** Land Use

**Tools:** Sample Ordinances, Rural Resources & Assistance Inventory, Planning Consultants Inventory (*updated*)

**Annual State of Rural Utah (SORU) Report**

**Trainings/Presentations:** Appalachian Regional Council Webinar, International Dark Sky Association Webinar, Utah League of Cities & Towns Annual Convention, Utah American Planning Association Conferences, University of Utah Presentations, Maps on the Hill, Amazing Earthfest, 68th Annual United Nations Civil Society Conference, Cache Summit, Association of Government Accountants, Governor’s Office of Economic Development

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# CDO MAJOR INITIATIVES

## SMALL PLANNING GRANTS FUND

### CDO LEADS

AUBREY LARSEN  
SKYE SIEBER

FY2020 marked the first year of the Small Planning Grants Fund (SPGF) process, in which eligible applicants applying for \$50,000 or less for a 50% match planning grant could expedite the application process. Rather than present in front of the Permanent Community Impact Fund Board, applicants work with CDO staff and regional planners virtually and in-person to provide planning assistance and distribute funding in a short amount of time.

### SUMMARY

*In its first year, CDO staff awarded 19 Small Planning Grants totaling \$567,870.*

## CIB SELECTION CRITERIA

### CDO LEADS

PAUL MOBERLY  
TESSA CARVER

CDO staff worked with CIB staff to develop the new funding decision criteria for the CIB board. This criteria will facilitate the board making more consistent and informed decisions. Accompanying this work is a tool for the board and staff to analyze each applicant's financial situation and provide funding packages consistent with the revised criteria. CDO staff will provide continuing support as the board adopts these criteria fully with the new fiscal year. CDO staff would like to thank all the board members for their hospitality in meeting to review and revise this criteria.

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# RURAL COORDINATING COUNCIL

**CDO LEAD**

JORDAN KATCHER



Launched in December 2018, the Utah Rural Coordinating Council (RCC) is a grassroots initiative that seeks to better allocate time, resources, and strategies in rural Utah by increasing communication and collaboration with multiple service providers. Coordinated by the CDO, the RCC gathers on a quarterly basis in Salt Lake City. Together, they brainstorm on rural opportunities, conduct research through working groups, and collaborate on ways to better share their resources.

During FY2020, RCC membership increased from 22 to 35 members from state and federal agencies, nonprofits, universities, and statewide organizations. RCC members are from the following: 20 state agencies, 4 federal agencies, 4 universities, 3 nonprofits, and 4 statewide organizations. In an effort to build working relationships, RCC members gather together at each other's work locations; rotating each quarter. During this fiscal year, RCC gatherings were hosted by the following: Utah State Archives & Records Service, Utah Division of Emergency Management, Bureau of Land Management, and via Zoom amid COVID-19.

The Rural Coordinating Council's first major project involved compiling an inventory of all of their resources available to rural Utah communities. Their first compilation included 150 resources, and their updated 2020 summer compilation now includes 200 resources. Known as the Rural Resources & Assistance Inventory, this is a resource that is meant to be used by service providers, regional planners, and local community leaders. RCC members were able to showcase this inventory during their presentations at both the Utah League of Cities & Towns Annual 2019 Convention in Salt Lake City and at the Utah American Planning Association 2020 Spring Conference in Moab.

The RCC also launched a Google site ([sites.google.com/utah.gov/rural](https://sites.google.com/utah.gov/rural)), which houses their current projects, showcases Monthly RCC Member Spotlights, and provides a way for individuals to contact the RCC.

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# GNAR INITIATIVE

## CDO LEADS

JORDAN KATCHER  
PAUL MOBERLY  
MCKENNA MARCHANT  
AUBREY LARSEN



CDO staff Jordan Katcher was given the opportunity to teach a 2020 Summer Planning Gateway & Natural Amenity Region (GNAR) Workshop with both graduate and undergraduate students at the University of Utah.

Throughout the Intermountain West, communities that serve as the gateways to national parks, scenic rivers, and other public lands (known as gateway communities) are grappling with the ever-evolving challenges brought on by COVID-19. The online workshop is designed for students seeking to understand how gateway communities are affected and responding to the pandemic. Students will have the opportunity to compile case studies, conduct interviews, inventory existing resources, and identify how service providers can better assist communities during this time.

## OTHER GNAR WORK

- *The Colorado Plateau Dark Sky Cooperative has the opportunity to develop a prototype toolkit for the GNAR Initiative’s dark skies toolbox. CPDSC is also exploring a stronger general partnership with GNAR.*
- *GNAR has been working on bringing together representatives from a range of western gateway and natural amenity region communities to share their experiences and challenges, generating strategies and lessons learned, and understanding how to be the most helpful to gateway and natural amenity regions as they mitigate and recover from the impacts of COVID-19.*



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# COLORADO PLATEAU DARK SKY COOPERATIVE



## CDO LEADS

AUBREY LARSEN  
SOPHIE BELLINA

In FY2020, the Colorado Plateau Dark Sky Cooperative was pleased to receive additional financial assistance from the National Park Service in partnership with the University of Utah. The additional funds enable the Cooperative to continue its collaborative work, to further efforts toward becoming a self-sustaining entity, to continue support of the emerging Basin and Range Dark Sky Cooperative, and to extend the project end date. The Cooperative was pleased to welcome Danya Rumore, Research Assistant Professor in the Department of City & Metropolitan Planning as a new Principal Investigator and university liaison as well as Sophie Bellina, a current graduate student at the University of Utah, as a new Assistant Coordinator.

In August of 2019, the Colorado Plateau Dark Sky Cooperative began formal support for a landscape-scale night sky conservation effort in Southeastern Utah to establish an International Dark Sky Reserve. The Southeastern Utah Night Sky Reserve celebrates Southern Utah’s unique rural character and landscapes by preserving the region’s heritage of starry night skies for present and

future generations. If successful, the Utah Reserve would be the largest in the world with over 20,000 square miles of protected night skies. The Cooperative will continue to provide coordination and support for this transformative regional opportunity in 2020.

In 2019, the Cooperative completed a number of powerful new tools and resources including: an interactive dark sky lighting ordinance walkthrough; an informational video series; topic briefs for International Dark Sky Community applicants; a story map highlighting night sky stewards throughout the Colorado Plateau; and a Google Site for the Southeastern Utah Night Sky Reserve. The Cooperative also updated an existing dark sky assessment guide and made improvements to a GIS-based dark sky dashboard to include the Basin and Range Cooperative boundary. In FY2021, the Cooperative will continue working towards becoming a self-sustaining entity and increasing state, community, and local stakeholder engagement throughout the Colorado Plateau and beyond.



## TRAINING CURRICULUM

**CDO LEAD**

PAUL MOBERLY

In collaboration with Six County AOG, our office is developing a curated curriculum for local leaders on municipal basics. The training consists of ten modules, facilitated by the Regional Planners and CDO staff, covering topics like land use basics, public meetings, capital asset management, and finance.

The material pulls heavily from ULCT's great resources to provide local leadership structured training to help them make better decisions. Our first test community is Circleville where the mayor and town council have enthusiastically embraced the training and have recently formed a planning commission as a result.

## STATE OF RURAL UTAH (SORU)

**CDO LEAD**

PAUL MOBERLY

Our office completed our annual report on the State of Rural Utah. This report compiled primary survey work, data analysis, and interviews to provide leadership with a more robust understanding of the opportunities and challenges in rural Utah.

The full report was accompanied by a story map and summary version. We were fortunate to meet with Lt. Governor Spencer Cox to discuss the findings in the report and look forward to building a unified policy voice for rural Utah through next year's report.

The themes of this past year's report were increasing coordination and empowering local efforts—these themes resonated through our interviews with local leaders and are reflected in our efforts with the Rural Coordinating Council, involvement in state-wide initiatives, and general focus on local capacity building.

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# UTAH STUDENT COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**CDO LEAD**

PAUL MOBERLY

The Utah Student Community Assistance program exists as a hub to connect communities with projects and classes, student groups, and individual students interested in obtaining real world experience while making a difference. In FY2020 student projects include work on capital asset management and examining CIB's financial situation.

# MAIN STREET

**CDO LEADS**

PAUL MOBERLY  
KEITH HEATON

Building off collaboration and work CDO has long been involved in, our office is on the leadership committee of Utah's developing main street program. Lead by GOED's Nan Anderson and SHPO's Roger Roper, the program is a coalition of multiple state and regional organizations working on two pilot projects: Brigham City and Price.

Our office looks forward to providing technical assistance to these communities and supporting the development of a state-wide program to benefit rural Utah.



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# MAPPING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**CDO LEAD**

AUBREY LARSEN

The Mapping and Technical Assistance Program (M-TAP) provides rural municipalities with resources to overcome actual and perceived barriers to using Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

The program connects municipalities with appropriate state, regional, and local resources, and provides basic mapping and geospatial analysis assistance to small towns with limited capacity.

## CURRENT PROJECTS

- *Developing a GIS Applications in Municipal Management Guide tailored towards small towns opportunities and constraints*
- *Exploring a statewide ArcGIS Online (AGOL) License Share Program in partnership with the RPPS and Utah AGRC*
- *Participating in the formation of a Women in GIS Utah Chapter*

## SUPPORT PROVIDED IN FY2020

**Alta, Town:** *Created Alta specific light pollution maps for Alta Planning Commission meeting*

**Beaver, City:** *Explored updates to a local destinations map.*

**Helper, City:** *Created light pollution map for Helper's IDA International Dark Sky Community (IDSC) application*

- *Created lighting inventory dashboard of Helper's public lighting fixtures from previous assessment done by Bryan Boulanger*
- *Mapping assistance was provided for Helper's general plan update in collaboration with SEUALG*
- *Developed an online map of Helper's transportation and annexation zones for quick data visualization*
- *Provided assistance in updating Helper's zoning and transportation maps for general plan*
- *Created an average annual daily traffic counts map*

**SEUALG:** *Created illustrative county maps for office building display*



# LOOKING FORWARD

## CAPITAL ASSET PLANNING ASSISTANCE

For FY2021, the CDO and regional planners will be expanding their technical assistance, time, and resources related to capital asset planning across the state. Whether a community needs to create a Capital Asset Inventory, decide on which projects to fund and when, or discuss procurement challenges, the CDO and regional planners will be working with communities to ensure that they're equipped with the proper resources.

## COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

During FY2020, the world turned upside down and started shaking violently amid a pandemic known as COVID-19. With a massive downturn in the economy accompanied with escalating hospitalizations and death rates, this pandemic has and continues to impact communities of all shapes and sizes across the world. Knowing the importance of providing as much assistance to small towns during this time, CDO staff and regional planners are looking at ways to enhance community resilience to mitigate the challenges associated with natural disasters, economic downturns, unstable economies, and more.

## PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT

With less than 10 years since its inception, the CDO is constantly evolving to best meet the needs of the regional planners and small communities they support. Over time, the CDO has designed and expanded major initiatives that have already experienced tremendous success. In the future, the CDO would like to invest more time and energy into those major initiatives to provide the best services possible.

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# OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

**WE APPROACH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT HOLISTICALLY.** *Community development is about increasing a community's quality of life. Comprehensive community development recognizes the importance of the human experience in each of the identified focus areas and is an ongoing, iterative process to foster community resilience.*

**WE SEEK TO EMPOWER COMMUNITIES AND SUPPORT THEIR DECISIONS.** *Local community leaders have both the authority and responsibility to make decisions for their constituents, and are accountable for those decisions to their electorate. We help educate leaders on the decisions and their potential outcomes, offering assistance and supporting local decisions.*

**WE APPROACH PLANNING AS A PROCESS AND NOT AN END PRODUCT.** *Planning is not merely the writing of a plan; it is a process of civic engagement, visioning, deliberation, and preparation. When we speak of planning, we are not referring to the creation of a document -the document is only the artifact of the process. Planning - looking ahead together - is the expression of community development*

## CDO TEAM MEMBERS



**KEITH HEATON**  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT



**PAUL MOBERLY**  
CDO PLANNER/ NRF & UBRF  
MANAGER



**AUBREY LARSEN**  
CDO PLANNER/ CPDSC  
COORDINATOR



**JORDAN KATCHER**  
CDO PLANNER/ RCC  
COORDINATOR



**MCKENNA MARCHANT**  
CDO PLANNER/ RAP  
COORDINATOR



**TESSA CARVER**  
CDO INTERN



**SOPHIE BELLINA**  
CDO INTERN/ CPDSC  
ASSISTANT COORDINATOR