

**Bill: 1st substitute SB 195 – Transportation Amendments**

Sponsor: Senator Wayne A. Harper

Floor Sponsor: Representative Kay J. Christofferson

**UASD Position: Support**

This Bill amends provisions related to transportation items, including road rage, wrong way driving, hybrid vehicle registration fees, and adherence to proposed phases of certain transportation developments.

Discussion: The sponsor introduced the 1st substitute of the Bill, which was adopted by the Committee. Senator Wayne A. Harper presented the Bill, explaining that it addresses various transportation and infrastructure issues. It requires cities to plan connections for dead end roads caused by canals and mandates periodic reporting on transit station plans. The Bill ensures that public transit property remains under the Utah Department of Transportation’s (“UDOT”) ownership, reduces hybrid vehicle registration fees, and establishes regulations for electric unicycles and similar devices. It also enhances penalties for wrong-way driving linked to road rage, creates air ambulance dispatch requirements, reinstates UDOT funding for litter mitigation, and enforces project phasing according to environmental impact statements. Additionally, the Bill updates outdated language, repeals certain highway name designations, and clarifies streetlight maintenance responsibilities. The sponsor summarized the changes made in the 1st substitute, including a requirement for municipalities and Municipal Planning Organizations (“MPOs”) to provide a report on disconnected roads, clarified actions regarding UDOT’s land conveyances and transfers, updated air ambulance requirements, and refined streetlight maintenance roles for UDOT and municipalities.

Senator Riebe expressed her appreciation for the changes made in the substitute Bill, specifically deleting “counties of the first, second, and third class” and replacing that language with “municipalities and metropolitan planning organizations”. She asked whether the Bill would require a street to connect across a canal if homeowners preferred remaining disconnected. The sponsor clarified that the Bill only encourages surveys and studies be done by MPOs, with municipalities deciding whether to pursue connectivity. Senator Kwan asked about self-balancing electric skateboards mentioned on lines 1074–1075, specifically regarding supervision requirements for operators under 18. The sponsor explained that supervision would be required on private property, but line 1086 provided general usage guidelines rather than restrictions. Senator Winterton then requested the definition of a self-balancing electric skateboard, which the sponsor directed him to on line 845. Several organizations expressed their support for the Bill, including the Utah League of Cities and Towns, the Utah Transit Authority (“UTA”), the Bureau of EMS, the Wasatch Front Regional Council (“WFRC”), the North Davis Fire District Fire Chief, and the Mountainland Association of Governments (“MAG”).

Yeas: 6

Nays: 0

N/V: 2

**Outcome: 1st substitute SB 195 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.**

UASD