



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Central Federal Lands Highway Division

May 9, 2025

12300 West Dakota Avenue
Suite 380B
Lakewood, CO 80228-2583
Office: 720-963-3415
Julia.Dietsch@dot.gov

San Juan County
Todd Adair
Road Superintendent
P.O. Box 188
885 East Center Street
Monticello, UT 84535
tadair@sanjuancounty.org

Re: UT FLAP SJC 285(1) JOHNSON CREEK ROAD PAVING
Utah Federal Lands Access Program Project Application

Mr. Adair:

Congratulations. The Utah Program Decisions Committee (PDC) has short-listed your application for the above referenced project as part of the 2024 UT Federal Lands Access (FLAP) Call for Projects. Your application is no longer competing against other applications, but rather verification of the merits and defining the scope of work, costs, and schedule. The project's scope of work, costs, and schedule will be further evaluated for the PDC's final decision, anticipated in the summer of 2026. The scope, funding, and preliminary schedule are proposed as follows:

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to improve safety and transportation access into the Manti-La Sal National Forest and Bears Ears National Monument by improving the roadway surface.

Scope: The scope of this project includes approximately 4 miles of roadway paving, exact project limits will be determined during scoping:

- Rehabilitate and pave existing gravel surface road.
- Provide consistent 24-ft or less roadway width.
- Minor drainage improvements and pavement markings.
- Note, the scope has been reduced from what was requested in the application due to funding limitations. The project limits and scope are to be validated during scoping. See "PDC Considerations" below.

Preliminary Schedule: This project is preliminarily programmed for construction funding in fiscal year 2028 (construction in 2029) based on availability of funding. The actual year funds are obligated may change due to changes to the program and/or program funding.

This is contingent on future legislation. The FLAP program is currently authorized under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which is set to expire on September 30, 2026. The FLAP Program, or a similar program where this project can be grandfathered into, would need to be extended, renewed, or created through additional federal legislation.

Funding: The application estimated the total project cost at \$8,570,000. The PDC desktop-level estimated total project cost for the full scope requested in the application, including engineering, escalation of construction costs to the program year, and contingency is \$18,500,000. The PDC estimate of the reduced scope (length and width) is \$12,000,000 total project cost (approximately \$9,000,000 in construction costs). The Federal Lands Access Program will provide \$12,000,000. The USFS and/or San Juan County may provide leveraged funds to increase the project limits and/or scope if desired.

Right of Way and Utilities: The County does not anticipate needing additional right of way or utility relocation, however, notes an existing irrigation line in the shoulder. This will be verified through scoping and project development and avoided if possible.

Additional PDC Considerations: The PDC has approved a reduced project scope due to funding limitations. The PDC has shortlisted the project for the available funding with the intent that project limits and improvements will be established during the scoping process. The proposed improvements should be prepared to be a standalone project and fit within available funding, as there are no guarantees of future phases funded by FLAP.

Project Delivery: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Central Federal Lands Highway Division (CFLHD) will lead the project delivery, construction contracting, and contract administration of this project.

Prior to final selection by the PDC, CFLHD will conduct a scoping effort. This effort will yield a Project Delivery Plan (PDP) detailing the proposed scope, schedule, and budget anticipated for the project to allow the PDC to finalize the program of projects. The CFLHD Project Manager will be Braden Peters, who can be reached at braden.peters@dot.gov or (720) 963-3397. Mr. Peters will be contacting you and other project stakeholders shortly to kick off the project and schedule a scoping trip.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will be required to establish the project scope, roles, and responsibilities. The draft of this agreement is attached to this letter. Please fill in the appropriate information for your agency and email a scanned PDF of the signed version to Mr. Peters and me **no later than 30 calendar days** of this notification letter, which is **June 9, 2025**.

The total project cost may be updated during scoping. The PDC will make the final determination of the total program amount and scope of work. If the PDC and your agency agree with the project scope and cost estimate once scoping is complete, the PDC will place the project in the final program of projects and a new MOA will be developed and signed by all the project partners. The PDC determines the final program year for funding based on total available funding and other needs in the program.

We appreciate your interest in the Utah Federal Lands Access Program and look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

JULIA DORIS

IRENE DIETSCH

Digitally signed by JULIA
DORIS IRENE DIETSCH
Date: 2025.05.09 09:11:10
-06'00'

Julia Dietsch, PE, PMP
UT Federal Lands Access Program Manager &
Federal PDC Representative
FHWA-CFLHD

Attachment: Draft Scoping Memorandum of Agreement

cc: Dennis Blackburn, Utah Association of Counties, Commissioner, Local PDC
Representative, dennis@wayne.utah.gov
Ivan Hartle, UDOT Financial Programming Director, State PDC Representative,
ihartle@utah.gov
Kelly Lund, FHWA UT Division, TPM/Asset Management Program Manager,
Kelly.Lund@dot.gov
Trisha Sharma, FHWA UT Division, FLAP Planner, trisha.sharma@dot.gov
Christopher Longley, Planning, Programming, and Environment Branch Chief, FHWA-
CFLHD, christopher.longley@dot.gov
Jill Locken, FLAP Lead Program Manager, FHWA-CFLHD, jill.locken@dot.gov
Melissa Jucha, Programming Team Lead, FHWA-CFLHD, melissa.jucha@dot.gov
Andrew Valdez, Planning Team Lead, FHWA-CFLHD, andrew.valdez@dot.gov
Braden Peters, Project Manager, FHWA-CFLHD, braden.peters@dot.gov
Tammy Eggers, Project Manager, FHWA-CFLHD, tammy.eggers@dot.gov

FLMA Technical Advisory Group:

Sena Wiley, NPS, sena_wiley@nps.gov
Justin Krieg, USFS, Justin.Krieg@usda.gov
Jeff Rich, BLM, jrich@blm.gov

FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS PROGRAM
PROJECT MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
May 9, 2025

Project: UT FLAP SJC 285(1) JOHNSON CREEK ROAD PAVING

Limits: Approximately 3 miles of roadway paving starting, limits to be determined during scoping.

State: Utah

County: San Juan County

Owner of Federal Lands to which the Project Provides Access: United States Forest Services (USFS)

Entity with Title or Maintenance Responsibility for Facility: San Juan County

Type of Work:

Preliminary Engineering: Scoping

This Agreement does not obligate (commit to) the expenditure of Federal funds nor does it commit the parties to complete the project. Rather, this Agreement sets forth the respective responsibilities as the project proceeds through the project development process.

Parties to this Agreement: Federal Highway Administration-Central Federal Lands Highway Division (FHWA-CFLHD); San Juan County; USFS

The Program Decision Committee approved this project for scoping on:

4/24/2025

Date

AGREED:

XXXXXX

San Juan County

Date

XXXXXX

USFS

Date

Vivien Hoang
Chief of Business Operations
FHWA-CFLHD

Date

FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS PROGRAM
PROJECT MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
May 9, 2025

A. PURPOSE OF THIS AGREEMENT

This Agreement documents the intent of the parties and sets forth the anticipated responsibilities of each party in the development, construction, and future maintenance of the subject project. The purpose of the Agreement is to identify and assign responsibilities for the environmental analysis, design, right-of-way, utilities, acquisition and construction as appropriate for this programmed project, and to ensure maintenance of the facility for public use if improvements are made. The parties understand that any final decision as to design or construction will not be made until after the environmental analysis required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is completed (this does not prevent the parties from assigning proposed design criteria to be studied in the NEPA process.) Any decision to proceed with the design and construction of the project will depend on the availability of appropriations at the time of obligation and other factors, such as issues raised during the NEPA process, a natural disaster that changes the need for the project, a change in Congressional direction, or other relevant factors.

A. AUTHORITY

This Agreement is entered into between the signatory parties pursuant to the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 204.

A. PROJECT BACKGROUND/SCOPE

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to improve safety and transportation access into the Manti-La Sal National Forest and Bears Ears National Monument by improving the roadway surface.

Scope: The scope of this project includes approximately 3 miles of roadway paving, exact project limits will be determined during scoping:

- Rehabilitate and pave existing gravel surface road.
- Provide consistent 24-ft or less roadway width.
- Minor drainage improvements and pavement markings.

B. PROJECT BUDGET

Item	Estimated Cost	Comments
Scoping	\$80,000	
Total	\$80,000	

FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS PROGRAM
PROJECT MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
May 9, 2025

B. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible Party	Product/Service/Role	Comments
FHWA-CFLHD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preliminary engineering towards the development of a Scoping Summary and Project Development Plan (PDP)	
San Juan County	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attend reviews and meetings• Provide in a timely manner available data as requested by FHWA	
USFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attend reviews and meetings• Provide in a timely manner available data as requested by FHWA	

C. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES—SCHEDULE

Responsible Lead	Product/Service/Role	Schedule Finish	Comments
FHWA-CFLHD	Scoping	Spring 2026	Project Delivery Plan Development

D. FUNDING

Funding Source	Estimated Funding	Comments
Federal Lands Access Program		
Total	\$80,000	

If during implementation of the project scoping effort it is determined that the total project scoping cost exceeds \$80,000, the Central Federal Lands Highway Division, San Juan County, and the USFS will either mutually agree to reduce the scoping effort of the project or execute a modification to this agreement to change funding amounts.

E. LEVERAGED FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The Federal Lands Access Program will provide 100% of the funds for scoping.

F. PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS—POINTS OF CONTACT

The following table provides the points of contact for this project. They are to be the first persons to deal with any issues or questions that arise over the implementation of each party's role and responsibility for this agreement.

FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS PROGRAM
PROJECT MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
May 9, 2025

Name/Title	Organization	Phone Number/Email
XXXX	San Juan County	(xxx) xxx-xxx xxxxx@xxx
XXXX	USFS	(xxx) xxx-xxx xxxxx@xxx
Braden Peters FHWA Project Manager	FHWA- CFLHD	(720) 963-3397 Braden.Peters@dot.gov

G. CHANGES/AMENDMENTS/ADDENDUMS

The agreement may be modified, amended, or have addendums added by mutual agreement of all parties. The change, amendment, or addendum must be in writing and executed by all of the parties.

The types of changes envisioned include, but are not limited to, changes that significantly impact scope, schedule, or budget; changes to the leveraged funding, either in type or responsibility; changes that alter the level of effort or responsibilities of a party. The parties commit to consider suggested changes in good faith. Failure to reach agreement on changes may be cause for termination of this agreement.

A change in the composition of the project team members does not require the agreement to be amended.

It is the responsibility of the project team members to recognize when changes are needed and to make timely notification to their management in order to avoid project delivery delays.

H. ISSUE RESOLUTION PROCEDURES MATRIX

Issues should be resolved at the lowest level possible. The issue should be clearly defined in writing and understood by all parties. Escalating to the next level can be requested by any party. When an issue is resolved, the decision will be communicated to all levels below.

FHWA	San Juan County	USFS	Time
Braden Peters Project Manager	XXXX	XXXX	30 days
Wendy Longley Project Management Branch Chief	XXXX	XXXX	60 days
Curtis Scott, Chief of Engineering	XXXX	XXXX	90 days

I. TERMINATION

This agreement may be terminated by mutual written consent of all parties. This agreement may also be terminated if either the NEPA process or funding availability requires a change and the parties are not able to agree to the change. Any termination of this agreement shall not prejudice any rights or obligations accrued to the parties prior to termination. If Federal Access funds have been expended prior to termination, the party responsible for the leveraged funds, if applicable, agrees to provide funds in the specified percentage of the total amount expended on the project prior to the termination.