

State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON Lieutenant Governor

Dear Candidate:

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

CARLOS M. BRACERAS, P.E. Executive Director

LISA J. WILSON, P.E. Deputy Director of Engineering and Operations

BENJAMIN G. HUOT, P.E. Deputy Director of Planning and Investment

You are receiving this letter because you are running for election this season. As you are undoubtedly aware, campaign signs are ubiquitous at this time of year. You are also aware from your candidate pamphlet that state and federal law prohibit campaign signs within state rights-of-way (Utah Code Section <u>72-7-102</u>). This includes all state highways, medians, road shoulders, sound walls, on-ramps, off-ramps, overpasses, adjoining fence lines, and the land between the fence line and hard surfaces of the road. The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) may remove signs in state rights-of-way.

What you may not realize is that illegally placed campaign signs can create serious safety issues for the traveling public and UDOT employees. Signs can negatively impact visibility and create hazardous debris on the road if they become loose. UDOT crews, who are responsible for retrieving these signs near live traffic, are unnecessarily exposed to the danger of being hit by distracted and speeding drivers. Additionally, when our road crews are forced to spend valuable time removing signs, they have less time to perform necessary and important work on the roadways.

At UDOT, our highest goal is to achieve Zero Fatalities on Utah roads. We ask for you to share in our efforts to keep Utahns safe.

If you choose to use campaign signs, keep in mind that rules and regulations vary among cities and counties, so you are encouraged to contact your local government for more information about whether campaign signs may be placed on their property.

If your signs are removed from State rights-of-way, they will be stored at a UDOT maintenance shed until after the election. If you would like to retrieve them, you can contact 801-965-4000 to make arrangements for pickup.

Thank you again for your leadership, and I wish you well in your campaign efforts.

Sincerely.

Carlos M. Braceras, P.E. Executive Director