



## GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH <sup>OF</sup> GREATER SALT LAKE

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### **Holy Trinity Cathedral**

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### **Prophet Elias Church**

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*V. Rev. Archimandrite George Nikas, Dean  
Rev. Presbyter Simeon Pardalis, Assistant Priest  
George Karahalios Parish Council President*

January 25, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

The Parish Council of the Greek Orthodox Church of Greater Salt Lake expresses its full support for the newly proposed Rio Grande plan. This plan, which calls for an underground rail system, will significantly benefit the downtown area by reducing congestion and alleviating the competition between trains and pedestrians.

Our church, located at the corner of 300 South and 300 West, hosts the annual Greek Festival every September. As the largest Greek cultural event west of the Mississippi, the festival attracts 35,000 to 40,000 visitors each year. The proposed railway system will help manage the high volume of attendees during the festival, as well as other large events in the downtown area throughout the year.

In recent years, Salt Lake City has experienced significant growth, and it is essential that we create viable transportation options for those who rely on public transit. This plan provides a critical solution to ensure our city's infrastructure can accommodate both current and future needs.

The Parish Council strongly supports this project and hopes to see its implementation as soon as possible.

Sincerely,  
The Parish Council  
Greek Orthodox Church of Greater Salt Lake