



**Jennifer Wilson**  
Mayor

# Briefing Memorandum

To: Deputy Mayor Catherine Kanter  
From: Michael Yei, Tara Behunin  
Subject: Summary of BRIC Grant  
Date: February 28, 2024  
Number: EM24-001

**Erin Litvack**  
Deputy Mayor  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Darrin Casper**  
Deputy Mayor  
Chief Financial Officer

**Catherine Kanter**  
Deputy Mayor  
Chief Regional Officer

**Andrew Roberts**  
Chief of Staff

## Summary

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides funding opportunities for local communities, tribes, and territories to undertake mitigation projects within their communities, reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards. This grant funding is called the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC). Previously, this grant was known as the Pre-Disaster Mitigation or PDM grant. Salt Lake County (SLCo) has participated in this grant program over several years, primarily focusing on the creation and maintenance of the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). The Utah Division of Emergency Management is the State Awarding Agency (SAA) for this grant to pass down to the local governments. For participants to be eligible for the BRIC funding, they must have an up-to-date Hazard Mitigation Plan.

## Background

In 2022, SLCo Emergency Management, Internal, and External offices received a request from the Jordan School District (JSD), seeking support under Salt Lake County's Hazard Mitigation Plan, to submit for BRIC funding to conduct a seismic assessment on ten identified potential high-risk schools within the district boundaries. When the SLCo Hazard Mitigation Plan was drafted in 2019, the JSD representative did not participate and, therefore, does not have a current HMP, hence the need to work through and with SLCo Emergency Management. As this activity supports efforts to identify and address risks within the valley, this one specific to the high hazard threat of an earthquake and risk of life to our students, faculty, and staff, SLCo provided full support to the project. In January of 2024, the Emergency Management representatives within SLCo were notified that the Jordan School District was awarded the grant application from FEMA, **totaling \$315,000, with a 30% match of \$135,000 paid by JSD.**

## Participation and Recommendation

Since the Jordan School District does not have its own HMP and works under the umbrella of the Salt Lake County Hazard Mitigation Plan, Utah DEM, as the SAA, will need to award the funding to Salt Lake County for the county to pass to the Jordan School District. This is done as a reimbursement process. Once JSD has completed the work and expended funds, it will provide proof and request reimbursement. Our goal is to complete this process twice during the grant timeline, which will end in December 2025. **It is recommended that Salt Lake County, in a spirit of collaboration and support, agree to be the pass-through agency for this federal funding for the Jordan School District.**

## Benefits

**Benefits** – Salt Lake County becomes more resilient through identifying risks to infrastructure, with the goal to further address and minimize risks through mitigation work and collaboration valley-wide. Jordan School District works toward making their schools safer for students, faculty, and staff and minimizing the loss of life should an earthquake hit SLCo.

**Impacts** – This is a budget-neutral process.

**Project Management:**

JSD is responsible for the project management including all grant deliverable activities, and all grant reporting. The State of Utah Department of Emergency Management will work with JSD to ensure all timelines and reports meet the FEMA grant expectations.

Outside of the initial coordination of acceptance of the BRIC funds and then the pass-through financial process from Salt Lake County to Jordan School District, there are no project management responsibilities on the Salt Lake County government. Jared Steffey, Public Works Fiscal Manager, will manage the pass-through process.

**Timeline**

Once Salt Lake County has signed the award, work will begin immediately. It is anticipated that the final reports and reimbursement will be completed by January 2025.