



Proposal to Centralize Utah's Traffic Data for AI Driven Traffic Management

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Utah's Department of Transportation (UDOT) uses various traffic management technologies; however, these technologies are not part of a shared data or governance framework. This project recommends that Utah's Office of Artificial Intelligence Policy (OAIP) manage a pilot initiative to evaluate how the traffic technologies function together at an intersection. A contracted subject matter expert could assess the technologies to identify operational redundancies and evaluate their compliance with privacy regulations. This pilot would aim to not only centralize UDOT's traffic technologies but also provide guidance on if UDOT's infrastructure is ready for further AI integrations.

PROBLEM

UDOT has deployed a range of innovative technologies — including light detection and ranging sensors and real-time analytics tools — operated across multiple vendors and platforms. While the department has subsequently gained an influx of data on vehicles and pedestrians at intersections, it has no centralized means for collecting and managing this data. As a result, UDOT often has duplicative or siloed data from the same intersection. Making sense of these overlapping data sets by streamlining data governance infrastructure is a priority as the department prepares to add AI enabled traffic management solutions.

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The department could implement this pilot efficiently and cost-effectively by identifying a single intersection to use as a case study for the overlapping technologies.

SOLUTION

This project recommends the OAIP sponsor a pilot evaluating the interoperability, privacy standards, and AI readiness of UDOT's current traffic technologies. The department could cost-effectively implement this pilot in just 4 to 6 weeks by identifying a single intersection or corridor to use as a case study for the overlapping technologies. Following expert assessments of the intersection the OAIP could engage internal policy staff and vendor representatives to decide on next steps for standardizing the traffic technologies' data. This project argues that OAIP's findings could inform future standardized procurement language and interagency data agreement that would prepare the transportation section for imminent AI interventions.

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For more information about this proposal, see: (1) [a policy memo expanding on this proposal](#) and (2) [an Operational Plan, proposing an approach to developing the pilot project](#).