C. Executive Summary:

With the successful implementation of wireless internet access on the 44-mile FrontRunner North commuter rail from Salt Lake City to Pleasant View, Utah in May 2008, UTA customers have embraced the opportunity of having cost free wireless access to the internet through their personal wireless devices while riding the train. On a daily basis, 500 to 700 people access the free wireless internet provided by UTA on FrontRunner North commuter rail. Over the last year, we have recorded more than 200,000 users accessing the existing infrastructure in North corridor. The North commuter rail was 80% federally funded through the Federal Transit Administration. However, the South commuter rail that will connect the transportation of the Wasatch Front is being funded locally and is struggling because of financial hardships in the local and national economy. Once completed, the entire Wasatch Front will connect in a permanent transportation corridor that extends from rural areas in Box Elder County through major cities then again to Payson, Utah County, another rural location, for a distance of 125 miles.

The FrontRunner Provo to Salt Lake City project, also known as FrontRunner South, is a 45-mile commuter rail line that will offer high-capacity transit service between downtown Provo in Utah County and Salt Lake City. A future 20 mile extension on the north and 16 miles on the south will serve Box Elder County and south Utah County, both rural areas.

The FrontRunner South will begin at the Salt Lake Intermodal Hub, where there is a connection with the TRAX light rail system and will be constructed on the east side of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) until it reaches 9800 South in Salt Lake County where it will switch to the west of UPRR's line and continue to Provo. The line also is an extension of UTA's existing FrontRunner system, which currently runs from the Salt Lake Intermodal Hub to Pleasant View in Weber County.

7a - The Need:

We believe with adequate funding we can extend the existing successful FrontLines infrastructure to the south Commuter Rail South project and potentially to four TRAX light rail extension projects. The commuter rail, FrontRunner South, and three of the four TRAX lines are being constructed totally with local funding. The recent economic downturn has resulted in decreases in sales tax, which is the
primary public funding source for UTA. It will be very difficult to initiate purchase and installation of broadband wireless services on the transportation lines currently under construction.

We anticipate the need for the passengers on Commuter Rail South to access the Internet as they commute from home to school and work on a daily basis. We project that as low as 5 percent (375) and as high as 15 percent (1125) of commuter rail passengers in this corridor can potentially use wireless broadband during their commute times. This is evidenced by the current wireless broadband usage by passengers on Commuter Rail North corridor. This wireless broadband project can potentially extend to other light rail line extensions. Four major universities will be serviced in these transportation corridors: University of Utah including the University Medical Center, Utah Valley State University, Weber State University, and Brigham Young University.