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**News Release** 

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 DCHD NR 2018-004 Contact: Bob Ballew Public Information Officer Office: (801) 525-5175 Cell: (801) 510-5710

## County-wide Vehicle Repair Assistance Program Helps Reduce Emissions

(Clearfield, Utah) – A new air quality program within Davis County offers financial assistance to repair vehicles unable to pass current emission standards. Davis County Health Department's Environmental Health Services Division along with UCAIR (Utah Clean Air Partnership) is sponsoring a vehicle repair assistance program to get polluting vehicles back up to emissions standards. The program runs through October 2018.

"The Davis County Vehicle Repair Assistance Program will assist at least 40 Davis County residents to repair their excessively polluting vehicles," said Thom Carter, UCAIR's Executive Director. "Mobile sources contribute 50% of the PM2.5 pollution along the Wasatch Front."

"Vehicles that fail to meet emissions standards may emit over 100 times the amount that they would if all emissions components were operating properly," said Rachelle Blackham, Air Quality Bureau Manager with the county health department. "This county-wide program is designed to assist many owners of failed vehicles to come into emissions compliance and help reduce our local air quality problems."

Depending on their household income level, applicants who qualify will receive either 50%, 75%, or 100% financial assistance for a repair bill up to \$1000 for eligible emissions related repairs.

Vehicle owners may qualify for this assistance program if:

- They are a resident of Davis County;
- Their vehicle failed an emissions test in the last 30 days;
- The vehicle has been registered to the current owner for a minimum of one year; and
- There's no evidence of tampering with the emission control systems.

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To participate in the Davis County Vehicle Repair Assistance Program, residents shall:

- 1. Fill out the program's application for financial assistance.
- 2. Receive an assistance voucher.
- 3. Submit their vehicle to a participating certified automotive repair facility.
- 4. Agree to the necessary repairs.
- 5. Pay any remaining portion of the repair bill beyond the financial assistance allowed by the program.

According to Carter, working with Davis County's health department helps "partner with many different groups to come up with solutions and educate the public about steps they can take. In our efforts to clear the air, there are no perfect answers but there are practical solutions. And through this combined county and UCAIR grant program, we are helping reduce emissions now."

"Grant funding for this program will reduce the number of high emitting vehicles on the road, and provide support for those in need so that they can repair their vehicles in a timely manner," said Blackham.

To receive an application for the assistance program, call the Davis County Health Department at 801-525-5128 or visit <a href="https://go.usa.gov/xQx8K">https://go.usa.gov/xQx8K</a>.

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