

Work Group: Rails with Trails Workgroup (RTWG)
Staff Liaison: Duane Wakan

Purpose:

The purpose of the Rails with Trails Workgroup is to develop a unified strategy among member agencies for the development of a continuous rails with trails system within the Union Pacific corridor to be adopted by the COMPASS Board into *Communities in Motion 2040 2.0* (CIM 2040 2.0).

Tasks:

1. Research and summary of best practices for rails with trails across the United States in the following areas: liability, safety, and implementation steps; location of trails; maintenance practices, agreements, and costs; funding sources; how agreements were put in place; implementation strategies used.
2. Estimate probable costs for design, land (providing range for fee simple acquisition, easements, or other options), pathway construction and development, and ongoing maintenance.
3. Create funding strategy and options including phasing plan.
4. Create timeline for rail implementation, funding, and outreach.
5. Develop a stakeholder, elected official, and public outreach strategy including creation of visual materials to aid in presentation to interested parties, member agencies, stakeholders, and public.
6. Provide updates to the COMPASS Board on the effort and deliverables.

Deliverables, Schedule:

1. Narrative and storyboards for section in Pedestrian/Bicycle Chapter in CIM 2040 2.0 describing Rails with Trails Plan/Vision. (Spring 2018)
2. Technical summary of opinion of probable cost with phasing options. (Fall 2017)
3. Technical document of funding strategy with phasing options. (Winter 2018)
4. Timeline for implementation, funding, and outreach. (Spring 2018)
5. Stakeholder, elected official, and public outreach plan. (Spring 2018).
6. Updates to the COMPASS Board at key milestones.
7. Additional deliverables pending COMPASS Board direction.

The Rails with Trails Workgroup is anticipated to meet six times in FY2018.

Membership:

Membership in the RTWG will be drawn from: member agencies interested in rails with trails efforts including but not limited to City of Meridian, City of Boise, City of Nampa, City of Caldwell, Ada County, Canyon County, and ACHD. Membership will also include a member of the COMPASS Active Transportation Workgroup and a member representing the Foundation for Ada and Canyon Trails System (FACTS), ITD, members of the business community, and user or advocacy groups.

Other members may include the cities of Wilder, Greenleaf, Middleton, Parma, Notus, and Kuna pending future examination of spur routes and ultimate desired regional system.

Charter recommended by Executive Committee: July 11, 2017
Date

Charter approved by COMPASS Board: August 28, 2017
Date

Next planned review of charter by Executive Committee: June 2018

All decisions and recommendations of COMPASS workgroups are reached through consensus and there are no quorum requirements for workgroups. All workgroup meetings are open to anyone interested in attending. Individuals interested in attending should contact the staff liaison to obtain the scheduled meeting dates and planned agendas.