

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE MEETING

October 10, 2007

Foothills Learning Center

3188 Sunset Peak Rd.

Boise, Idaho



****Meeting Summary****

ATTENDEES:

Brian Ballard, Co-Chair
 Julia Grant
 Pat Johnson, Co-Chair
 Gary Segers
 Deanna Smith
 Brian Tandrow

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ester Ceja
 Sunny Freeman-Genz
 Miguel Gaddi
 Linda Gossett
 Thad Hoffman
 Rob Miller
 Rachel Winer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rosemary Curtin, RBC, Inc.
 Marilyn Sampson, COMPASS
 Terri Schorzman, COMPASS
 Sue Sullivan, Idaho Transportation Department
 Toni Tisdale, COMPASS

CALL TO ORDER:

Co-Chair Brian Ballard called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

None.

OPEN DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Urban Land Institute is sponsoring Transportation Infrastructure Funding: Dollars and Sense, Sensible Solutions and Strategies on October 11, 2007, 8:00-11:00 a.m. at the Grove Hotel

The Transit Summit sponsored by the City of Boise, is at the Boise State University, Jordan Ballroom D, on October 16, 2007 from 7:30 – 12:30 a.m. The intent is to bring together cities outside of the Treasure Valley (in particular, the northern cities). It is supportive of the local option sales tax.

CONSENT AGENDA

Gary Segers moved and Brian Tandrow seconded approval of the June 14, 2007 Meeting Summary as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Committee Reports

There were no committee reports.

B. US 20/26 Focus Group

Rosemary Curtin, RBC, Inc. and Sue Sullivan, Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) asked the Committee to review a mail piece. Sue explained that ITD spends a significant amount of money on materials to inform the public and wants them to be as effective as possible. The committee provided feedback on the newsletter. Rosemary and Sue indicated they would bring more materials for the Committee and thanked them for their time.

Several members of PPC did exit interviews at the Open House Public Meetings for US 20/26 in May 2007 and some of the comments they received were:

- It doesn't make any difference what my input is.
- I'm really concerned about protecting my property values.
- Why aren't the local officials who represent me at this meeting?

Gary stated the Open House was well done in terms of who was there and the information available. The public appreciated the information and having their questions answered whether they liked the answer or not.

C. Transportation Improvement Program

Toni Tisdale presented the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). She explained how TIP relates to *Communities in Motion*. She stated she had presented this program to all the local agencies and cities. Gary asked who decides the prioritization. Toni responded the COMPASS Board makes the decision. She stated this is a specific group of funds called Surface Transportation Program-Urban and can be used only on specific items. Toni stated that COMPASS and Valley Regional Transit are working on legislation for a local option sales tax using a bundled approach.

Toni handed out the draft Corridor Studies, Areawide Studies and Developments as of April 2007 map for Committee review. Toni noted those projects are not yet funded, but funding is anticipated by 2030.

D. Public Involvement Efforts

Terri announced COMPASS had received the

- Association of Metropolitan Planning Organization's National Award for Outstanding Achievement in Metropolitan Transportation Planning award for *Communities in Motion*.
- The International Association for Public Participation "Project of the Year" which will be awarded in November 2007.

Terri recapped the Western Idaho Fair results. She thanked those Committee members who staffed the booth. There were 368 requests for information received, which is positive as the booth was outside and in a fairly inconspicuous area. A suggestion was made that the booth be staffed mostly by volunteers next time and be inside, with a better location.

Terri provided an update on the Treasure Valley High Capacity Study. She noted that this has potential to be a great opportunity to involve the public.

Deanna summarized the Blueprint for Good Growth Outreach efforts. The primary purpose of the effort was to educate the users, city councils, and the public to create enough understanding for support. Terri suggested it be presented to PPC in December.

Toni noted that COMPASS is working with ITD to get ITD's projects and new technology ready to receive the information for all the projects and agencies in a central location. This would provide an outlet for the public to check road projects for the Treasure Valley at one location.

Terri reviewed the new COMPASS folders and brochures the Committee had provided input on.

Toni informed the Committee the COMPASS and Valley Regional Transit Boards are considering a merger. She noted that many of the same people are on both Boards. There would be a new name to encompass the expanded functions of the new organization. The Committee thought that a new organization could keep the name "COMPASS".

E. Materials Assessment

Terri presented the *CIM* Monitoring Report for Committee review. The COMPASS board will review it on Monday, October 22, 2007. She explained that it is updated once a year with information from the corresponding cities. The Committee responded that it was a fabulous idea, easily read and informative.

Terri noted that the *CIM* Implementation Guidebook is still in draft form and not ready for review. She will send it to the Committee in the next few days.

OTHER

The Committee was asked to fill out the Range of Interest Review and Contact Update information sheet. The Range of Interest Review will be used to find gaps that new members could fill on the Committee. Julia suggested contacting those from the US 20/26 Corridor Study who were interested in being on a committee. Pat said it is important prospective committee members understand the purpose of the Committee. Brian Tandrow stated they need to be wary of activists. The Committee felt that about 20 people is a reasonable size and the people on the Committee need to be polled to see if they are still committed. Gary Segers suggested devoting a meeting to what's working and what isn't and where the Committee sees itself in the next couple of years. Brian Tandrow stated that should be done before looking for new Committee members.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

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