

***Communities in Motion 2040***  
**Quarterly Email Update #7, April 2013**

Hello -

This is the seventh in a series of quarterly email updates about [\*Communities in Motion 2040\*](#), the next regional long-range transportation plan for Ada and Canyon Counties. Its purpose is to help you stay abreast of the behind-the-scenes planning process and of opportunities for you to be involved.

The current long-range transportation plan for Ada and Canyon Counties is [\*Communities in Motion 2035\*](#). This next version of *Communities in Motion* will look to a horizon year of 2040 and be ready for adoption by the Community Planning Association (COMPASS) Board no later than September 2014. Unlike the past and current versions of *Communities in Motion*, *Communities in Motion 2040* will be a long-range transportation plan with "sustainability elements" that focus on housing, community infrastructure, health, open space, farmland, and economic development, as well as land use and transportation.

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**What has happened with *Communities in Motion 2040* (CIM 2040) since the last quarterly email update (January 2013)?**

Planning Process:

- The COMPASS Board approved the CIM 2040 Vision map. The map will be posted online at [http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040\\_scenarioplanning.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040_scenarioplanning.htm) in April. An interactive map, where users can view additional map layers, will also be added to the COMPASS website.
- COMPASS received public comments on CIM 2040 goals, objectives, and tasks. The CIM 2040 Planning Team reviewed the goals, objectives, tasks, lead agencies, and performance measures in March and are expected to act on them in April.
- Work on the Operations, Management, and ITS (intelligent transportation systems) plan will continue. The consultant will finalize the ITS project list based on agency and system needs and begin to match the Operations, Management, and ITS plan visions (goals) to the CIM 2040 goals, objectives, and tasks. Work on developing the ITS architecture has begun, including work to finalize the existing ITS inventory.
- The environmental review workgroup reviewed and finalized the CommunityViz® suitability analysis methodology and environmental datasets to be used to identify likely environmental implications of the CIM 2040 transportation projects.
- The COMPASS Board directed staff to focus on regional transportation corridors when identifying needs and developing a list of transportation projects. Transportation investment areas (TIAs) will be used later to report the effects of transportation investments.
- The COMPASS Board approved a prioritization process for transportation projects in January. However, the Board's direction for identifying projects for CIM 2040 (see bullet above) necessitated some changes to that process to ensure the process focused on regional transportation corridors. COMPASS staff identified regional transportation corridors and projects and discussed those, along with transit priorities, with the CIM 2040 Planning Team in March. COMPASS staff also met with additional stakeholders from across the valley to discuss needs and projects.

- Additional data collection and modeling were completed for the Complete Streets Level of Service evaluation.
- COMPASS staff conducted evaluations of safety and security elements using GIS data and crash data maintained by the Idaho Transportation Department.
- Changes in the functional classification of roadways were provided for public comment in December/January. The COMPASS Board approved the changes at its January 2013 Board meeting. Staff has finalized the functional classification changes and is asking local agencies to adopt the revised functional classification map. The changes will affect requirements for right-of-way and access management. The following changes were adopted by the COMPASS Board:
  - Ustick Road between Middleton Road and McDermott Road was changed from a minor arterial to a principal arterial. (Canyon County)
  - Happy Valley Road north of Flamingo Road was changed from a principal arterial to a local road. (Canyon County)
  - All arterials shown south of Kuna Mora Road and east of Cloverdale Road were removed. (Ada County)
  - Airport Road/Overland Road was added as a future principal arterial. (Ada County)
  - The alignment of Warm Springs Avenue through Harris Ranch was changed to a future minor arterial. (Ada County)
  - Eisenman Road was changed to show as an existing connection to the Isaac Canyon Interchange. (Ada County)
- COMPASS staff have begun drafting plan chapters. Chapters under development are:
  - Chapter 1, Introduction
  - Chapter 2, Public Involvement
  - Chapter 3, Scenario Planning
  - Chapter 4, Transportation Financial Forecast
  - Chapter 7, Safety
  - Chapter 8, Security

#### Public Involvement and Outreach:

- COMPASS collected public comments on four key issues in CIM 2040 from December 27, 2012 - January 15, 2013: CIM 2040 goals, objectives, and tasks; transportation investment areas; the prioritization process; and the functional classification map. View all comments online: [www.compassidaho.org/documents/prodserv/CIM2040/CIM2040\\_Dec12\\_Jan13\\_PublicComments.pdf](http://www.compassidaho.org/documents/prodserv/CIM2040/CIM2040_Dec12_Jan13_PublicComments.pdf).
- COMPASS continued to collect photos for the "*Your Treasure Valley Future: Photo Challenge*." Through the "challenge," COMPASS is asking photographers of all abilities to share photos that show values, ideals, and things in Ada and Canyon Counties that they would like to see carried into the year 2040 or even changed for the better. The photos are being posted on the COMPASS [web](#) and [Facebook](#) pages and will be used to illustrate [Communities in Motion 2040](#) and at outreach events. The challenge will run for an entire year (through November 2013), so you have the opportunity to take photos during all seasons. Visit [www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040\\_photochallenge.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040_photochallenge.htm) to learn more and upload your photos and check our [website](#) from time to time to see what else has been submitted.

- The "*Picture This! Treasure Valley 2040*" student video contest wrapped up on January 7, 2013. East Junior High students Vera Gaddi and Sarah Dean developed the winning video, "[2040: A Sneak Peek Into the Future](#)." The video will be used throughout the development and implementation of the plan. Congratulations, Sarah and Vera!
- COMPASS has begun a series of blogs that discuss the CIM 2040 "elements" and how they relate to transportation and to each other. Check out the blogs at [www.compassidaho.blogspot.com](http://www.compassidaho.blogspot.com).
- COMPASS kicked off its 2013 education series with speakers on using Census data and looking at ways Yellowstone National Park has tackled "sustainability" issues by thinking "outside the box." [Learn more](#).
- COMPASS continued to update CIM 2040 information online; visit <http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm> for information on CIM 2040 and links to additional pages.

## **What will happen in the next three months?**

### Planning Process:

- The CIM 2040 Planning Team will be asked to recommend the CIM 2040 goals, objectives, tasks, lead agencies, and performance measures in April, then in June, the Leadership Team will review and be asked to recommend the same items for COMPASS Board for approval. The COMPASS Board will review and act on these items in light of Leadership Team and Planning Team's recommendations. The Planning Team will then develop targets for the CIM 2040 regional performance measures.
- A workshop focusing on the ITS architecture – what it is and why it is important – will be held on April 8, 2013. The consultants will begin developing the overall plan, work with planning staff on how an ITS project list can be integrated into CIM 2040, and finalize the ITS architecture. The Operations, Management, and ITS plan is expected to be complete in mid-2013.
- COMPASS staff will use CommunityViz® suitability analysis to identify likely environmental implications of CIM 2040 transportation projects for consideration in project prioritization.
- The Planning Team will prioritize regional transportation corridors and projects based on the modified prioritization process. The Planning Team and the Leadership Team are expected to review the recommended funded/unfunded transportation project list in June.
- The completed Complete Streets Levels of Service data and maps will be presented to the COMPASS Transportation Modeling Advisory Committee and the CIM 2040 Planning Team.
- COMPASS staff will continue to write plan chapters. Initial drafts of the following six chapters will be made available for review:
  - Chapter 1, Introduction
  - Chapter 2, Public Involvement
  - Chapter 3, Scenario Planning
  - Chapter 4, Transportation Financial Forecast
  - Chapter 7, Safety
  - Chapter 8, Security

### Public Involvement and Outreach Opportunities:

- The COMPASS "*Your Treasure Valley Future: Photo Challenge*" will continue through November 30, 2013. Visit [www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040\\_photochallenge.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040_photochallenge.htm) to learn more and upload your photos.
- COMPASS will finalize a display highlighting the CIM 2040 Vision and the "photo challenge" to place in public locations around the Treasure Valley. Be watching for it around the valley throughout the spring and summer. Would you like to host the display at your office or venue? Contact [aluft@compassidaho.org](mailto:aluft@compassidaho.org) to schedule and for additional information.
- COMPASS will continue to host speakers as part of its 2013 education series. Learn about regional and national issues as they relate to CIM 2040 and the Treasure Valley. Topics coming up this spring include walkability and strategies for fostering rural/urban partnerships. [Learn more](#).
- Learn more about the plan and the planning process with a presentation to your club or organization. Contact Amy Luft at [aluft@compassidaho.org](mailto:aluft@compassidaho.org) to schedule.
- Join the [Public Participation Committee](#). This committee of citizen volunteers encourages community involvement in transportation planning issues in the COMPASS planning area and assists COMPASS staff with outreach efforts. It is a great opportunity to learn more about and become more deeply involved in the planning process. Contact Amy Luft at [aluft@compassidaho.org](mailto:aluft@compassidaho.org) to learn more.
- Follow COMPASS on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/COMPASSIdaho>.
- Read the Executive Director's blog at <http://www.compassidaho.blogspot.com>.

### **Why should I care?**

*Big government projects take a long time (yes, we admit it!). Planning starts now for what will happen in 25 years. Don't wait until it's too late to get involved!*

\*\*Why do you think people should care? Reply to this email to share your reasons. We'll post them quarterly on the COMPASS Executive Director's blog at <http://www.compassidaho.blogspot.com>. Check it out to see what everyone else is saying.\*\*

Watch for your next quarterly email update in July 2013. In the meantime, if you have questions, comments, or want to become more involved, contact Amy Luft at [aluft@compassidaho.org](mailto:aluft@compassidaho.org).