

**Key May Board/
Committee Actions**

- > **Board:** Meeting cancelled.
- > **Executive Committee:** Received information regarding a TIGER grant application for work on Interstate 84.
- > **RTAC:** Recommended end-of-year funding priorities.

Keeping Up With COMPASS

A newsletter for COMPASS members to keep abreast of COMPASS Board and committee actions.

COMPASS Moving Toward Managing Economic Development District for Southwest Idaho: What Does that Mean for Me?

As noted in the May 2015 edition of *Keeping Up With COMPASS*, the COMPASS Board of Directors has voted to have COMPASS move forward to assume responsibilities as the Economic Development District (EDD) for a 10-county region in southwest Idaho.

This has raised many questions. Several of the most common questions are addressed below.

Is COMPASS now the EDD? Not yet. While the COMPASS Board has voted to have COMPASS assume this role, the process is not complete. Several things still need to happen, including

COMPASS Board approval of a revised Joint Powers Agreement and by-laws and approval of the transfer of EDD responsibilities by the federal Economic Development Administration.

Will my agency automatically be a member of the EDD? No. COMPASS membership and EDD membership are separate. Each agency has the option of being a member of one, both, or neither.

Will my COMPASS membership dues increase? No. If your agency chooses to become a member of the EDD, then it will pay sep-

arate EDD dues, but the dues you pay as a member of COMPASS will not change.

Will the services I receive as a COMPASS member change? No. The services COMPASS provides in its role as the metropolitan planning organization for Ada and Canyon Counties will not change. That said, economic development and transportation are closely tied. COMPASS has already made strides in better integrating economic development with transportation planning in *Communities in Motion 2040*. Housing the EDD with COMPASS will help strengthen those connections.

Executive Committee

The COMPASS Executive Committee met on Tuesday, May 12, 2015.

Matt Stoll, COMPASS Executive Director, announced that COMPASS will be working with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) to submit a TIGER grant application for up to three phases of work on Interstate 84 in Canyon County. The grant requires a 20% match; local agencies will need to supply 50% of that match and ITD will supply the remainder.

Director Stoll will be contacting Canyon County member agencies to discuss local match contributions and letters of support.

Director Stoll also reminded the committee of the May 21, 2015, legal review work group to discuss the draft new COMPASS Joint Powers Agreement and bylaws in preparation for the discussion and action at the July 20, 2015, Board meeting.*

The committee then approved the COMPASS Board meeting agenda for June 15, 2015.*

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, 2015, at 10:00 am.

**Note: Action on the draft Joint Powers Agreement and bylaws was originally scheduled for the June 15, 2015, Board meeting. Following the May 21 legal review work group, the item was moved from the June Board meeting to the July 20, 2015, Board meeting.*



COMPASS
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION
of Southwest Idaho

June Meeting Dates	
Executive Committee	June 2
TMA Balancing Committee	June 4
Board of Directors	June 15
Public Participation Committee	June 22
Regional Technical Advisory Committee	June 24

Keeping Up With COMPASS

Regional Technical Advisory Committee

The Regional Technical Advisory Committee (RTAC) advises the COMPASS Board on regional transportation and related planning issues.

The Regional Technical Advisory Committee (RTAC) met on Wednesday, June 27, 2015.

The committee recommended Board approval of two items. The first was an amendment to the FY2015-2019 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to make changes to four projects in the statewide "Community Choices" (Transportation Alternatives) program.

The City of Middleton has requested to remove one project and use that funding to offset increased costs for another of its Community Choices projects. The City of Nampa has requested to delay one project and the City of Caldwell has requested to remove one project. The recommended TIP

amendment will be open for public comment from May 29 - June 12, 2015.

The second recommendation was to approve end-of-year priorities, should additional funding become available. Seven projects were recommended for funding.

Both items will be brought to the COMPASS Board for action in its June 15, 2015, meeting.

Next, RTAC received an update on the Public Transportation Network Study from Kittleson and Associates. The results of the study will be used to inform the public transportation component of *Communities in Motion 2040 2.0* (CIM 2040 2.0).

Sabrina Minshall, COMPASS Director of Planning, then led a discussion on member

agencies' need for a planning level functional classification map. Ms. Minshall will follow up with a proposed protocol for the process and timing updates to a regional planning level functional classification map.

Finally, Principal Planner Liisa Itkonen provided a status report on the Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP2) grant that COMPASS has received. COMPASS will use the funding to hire consultants for data collection on freight movements and to develop a means of normalizing benefits and costs of transportation projects across the eight CIM 2040 elements (land use, transportation, housing, economic development, open space, health, community infrastructure, and farmland) to aid in project prioritization.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Thursday, May 14, 2015.

The committee approved the October 1, 2014 - March 31, 2015 variance report.

The Finance Committee then discussed and recommended Board approval of the FY2016 Economic Development District membership dues.

The recommended dues structure uses a formula based on the popula-

tion within each member agency's jurisdiction. The recommended membership dues will be brought to the COMPASS Board for approval at the August 17, 2015, Board meeting.*

Next, the committee reviewed the draft FY2016 COMPASS Unified Planning Work Program and budget (UPWP) and recommended Board approval. This item will also be brought to the COMPASS Board for approval in August.*

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2015.

**Note: These items were originally scheduled for the June 15, 2015, COMPASS Board meeting, but were subsequently moved to the August 17, 2015, meeting.*



All meeting packets and minutes are available online.

Where Can I Find More Information?

COMPASS Board and committee members and meeting schedules, packets, and minutes are available on the COMPASS website.

Board:

www.compassidaho.org/people/board.htm

Committees:

www.compassidaho.org/people/committees.htm

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