

**Key October Board/Committee Actions**

- > **Board:** Approved a TIP amendment, a funding plan, and a process for developing the public transportation component of CIM 2040 2.0.
- > **Executive Committee:** Recommended approval of COMPASS workgroup charters.
- > **RTAC:** Recommended Board approval of two TIP amendments.

# Keeping Up With COMPASS

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

## Board of Directors

The COMPASS Board of Directors met on October 19, 2015. The meeting began with an update on air quality issues from Mike Toole, Airshed Coordinator for the Department of Environmental Quality. He reported that the Environmental Protection Agency lowered the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ground-level ozone, but that the Treasure Valley is expected to remain in compliance.

Ken Burgess, Veritas Advisors, then provided an update on progress in Congress on a new transportation authorization bill. A new bill, or an extension of the current one, needs to pass Congress by October 29, 2015.

Next, Director of Planning Sabrina Minshall provided an update on the two projects in the FY2016 COM-

PASS Project Development Program — bicycle and pedestrian improvements on Eagle Road and Chinden Boulevard.

COMPASS planners Liisa Itkonen, Walt Satterfield, MaryAnn Waldinger, and Tom Laws then provided an update on *Communities in Motion 2040 2.0* (CIM 2040 2.0).

In action items, the Board endorsed a process for developing the public transportation system component for CIM 2040 2.0 and approved reprogramming funds currently programmed for FY2018 for a high capacity corridor study to “preliminary development” (PD) to allow those funds to be used at a later date when regional public transportation needs are more clearly defined.

Next, the Board approved a FY2016 COMPASS fund-

ing plan. The plan identifies member agency and COMPASS funding needs and will guide COMPASS efforts in grant research, grant writing, and more.

The Board also approved amendments to the FY2015-2019 and FY2016-2020 Regional Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) to add one project, remove one project, release funds from three projects, and rebalance the TIPs to accommodate moving the high capacity corridor study from FY2018 to PD as approved earlier in the meeting. The amendments are needed in both versions of the TIP, as the FY2015-2019 TIP remains in effect until federal approval of the FY2016–2020 TIP.

In its final action, the Board approved a policy to address cost overruns for projects in the CIM Implementation Grant Program.

## November Meeting Dates

Executive Committee	November 10
Finance Committee	November 19
Regional Transportation Advisory Committee	November 17
Board of Directors	No meeting

## Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on Tuesday, October 13, 2015.

The committee reviewed and recommended Board approval of nine COMPASS workgroup charters. With the approval of the updated Board bylaws in September, COMPASS will have only three standing committees: Executive, Finance, and Regional Transportation Advisory. All other advisory groups will function as workgroups.

The draft charters will be brought to the COMPASS Board for approval in December and will be re-evaluated

by the Executive Committee and Board yearly.

The committee then discussed the benefits of COMPASS Board representation on the board of the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC). Executive Director Stoll was directed to solicit nominations of COMPASS Board members interested in running for a NARC “at large” board position. Nominations will be presented to the Executive Committee in November for a recommendation to the COMPASS Board, who will receive the item for action in December.

Ken Burgess, Veritas Advisors, presented potential legislative position statements to the committee. The statements will be brought back to the committee for a recommendation in November. The Board will then receive the statements for action at its December 21, 2015, meeting.

Executive Director Stoll reported on Secretary/Treasurer nominations received to date. Nominations will close 48 hours prior to the December Executive Committee meeting.



# Keeping Up With COMPASS

## Regional Transportation Advisory Committee

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

The Regional Transportation Advisory Committee met on October 28, 2015.

Mike Toole, Airshed Coordinator for the Department of Environmental Quality, provided an update on air quality issues in the Treasure Valley. He reported that the Environmental Protection Agency lowered the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ground-level ozone, but that the Treasure Valley is expected to remain in compliance.

The committee acted on four items relating to the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). First, the committee discussed several changes to the TIP Amendment Policy, as requested by the Federal Highway Administration. After discussion, the committee voted to delay a de-

cision on this item to allow additional time to review comments on the changes from the Federal Highway Administration. The comments were not received until the day before the RTAC meeting.

Next, the committee recommended Board approval of amendments to the FY2015 - 2019 and FY2016 - 2020 TIPs to allow for first quarter obligations of new/changed projects. It is necessary to amend both TIPs, as the FY2015 - 2019 TIP will remain in effect until federal approval of the FY2016 - 2020 TIP, which is not expected until December.

The committee also recommended Board approval of an amendment to both the FY2015 - 2019 and FY2016 - 2020 TIPs to re-program available funds in the Sur-

face Transportation Program (STP) and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) in the Transportation Management Area. The amendment will include four STP projects and one TAP project.

Both TIP amendments will be brought to the COMPASS Executive Committee for approval in November; the Board will be asked to ratify the actions in December.

In preparation for the FY2017 - 2021 TIP, seven RTAC members volunteered to serve on a subcommittee to score applications for TAP and *Communities in Motion* Implementation Grant funding.

**NOTE:** The next RTAC meeting will be on November 17. The meeting had been cancelled, but has been reinstated and moved to accommodate the Thanksgiving holiday.

## Public Participation Workgroup

The Public Participation Workgroup (PPW) met on Tuesday, October 20, 2015.

COMPASS Principal Planner Toni Tisdale reviewed plans to incorporate information into the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document that shows how projects in the TIP align with *Communities in Motion 2040* (CIM 2040) performance measures. The group provided input into how to display the information.

Amy Luft, COMPASS Communication Coordinator, presented highlights of a baseline random household survey. The survey was used to determine the public's awareness and opinions of COMPASS and its projects and programs. The survey was conducted in July and August 2015 and will be re-administered in late 2017.

The group reviewed the draft Public Participation Workgroup charter and selected 2016 representatives for the Regional

Transportation Advisory Committee, Active Transportation Workgroup, and Leadership in Motion awards selection committee.

The workgroup also discussed recruitment of new PPW members. Once the workgroup charter has been approved by the COMPASS Board, group members will assist COMPASS staff in recruiting new members.



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](http://www.compassidaho.org/people/board.htm)

**Committees:**

[www.compassidaho.org/people/committees.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/people/committees.htm)

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