



*Working together to plan for the future*

News Release

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## ***Fixing the Karcher Interchange Bottleneck: Your feedback wanted!***

*Meridian, ID* – When it opened in 2006, the Interstate 84 interchange with State Highway 55 (Karcher Road) and Midland Boulevard spurred development on the northeast side of I-84. However, this rapid development has created a traffic bottleneck and safety issues. In fact, the intersection of Exit Ramp 33B and Midland Boulevard has the third highest rate of accidents among unsignalized intersections in ITD’s District 3 (southwest Idaho).

To deal with these issues, the City of Nampa and the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) propose to fund a project to modify the I-84/Karcher Road interchange and provide a second southbound through-lane on Midland Boulevard.

This project is currently listed as [number 23](#) on a list of unfunded needs in *Communities in Motion 2040*, the regional long-range transportation plan for Ada and Canyon Counties. The proposed amendment would remove the project from the list of unfunded needs and place it on a list of funded projects, with an estimated cost of \$2,590,000. Construction is proposed for FY2017.

In order for this project to move forward, *Communities in Motion 2040* must be amended to show funding for this project. COMPASS is seeking public comment on this proposed amendment through Monday, May 23, 2016.

“Transportation funding is very tight,” states COMPASS Principal Planner and *Communities in Motion* project manager Liisa Itkonen. “We’re pleased to begin moving projects off the *Communities in Motion* ‘unfunded’ list onto the list of funded transportation projects. We applaud the City of Nampa and ITD for funding this project to address the issues at this interchange.”

Public comments are being accepted on this proposed amendment to *Communities in Motion 2040* through Monday, May 23, 2016. Comments may be submitted to [litkonen@compassidaho.org](mailto:litkonen@compassidaho.org) or by mail to COMPASS, 700 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 200, Meridian, ID, 83642. Additional information on the project is available by following the link under “Hot Topics” at [www.compassidaho.org](http://www.compassidaho.org).