



Working together to plan for the future

2024 COMPASS State Legislative Positions

Approved by the COMPASS Board of Directors, October 16, 2023

Transportation Revenue

COMPASS supports continued investment in Idaho's state and local transportation systems. Idaho's current transportation investment level remains inadequate to address the state's growing infrastructure needs. State and local transportation entities face critical funding shortfalls for safety, maintenance, and expansion projects. An additional \$193 million investment per year in the transportation system is needed in the Treasure Valley alone to expand and maintain the system to meet the region's future safety and mobility needs.

- **Enhanced transportation revenues.** COMPASS supports enhancing state transportation revenues in a stable and predictable fashion to address Idaho's long-term infrastructure funding needs, including but not limited to local roadways, highways, public transportation, active transportation, and child pedestrian safety projects.

Growth

COMPASS supports policies that allow for growth to pay for growth. Ada and Canyon Counties' combined population is forecast to grow to nearly 1.1 million by 2050. An increase of over 300,000 people in 26 years will further strain a transportation system that is already congested and lacks mobility options for the region's residents. COMPASS supports policies that allow local jurisdictions to meet the increasing demands for infrastructure in Idaho.

- **Property tax cap.** COMPASS supports removing the property tax cap on local taxing districts to meet the increasing infrastructure needs associated with new development.
- **Transportation impact fee flexibility.** COMPASS supports expanding the statutorily allowable uses of transportation impact fees to include additional capital improvements such as sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and public transportation improvements.

State Transportation Policy

COMPASS supports policies to augment state and local transportation entities' abilities to meet the transportation needs of the state and region, including but not limited to:

- **High occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes.** COMPASS supports changing existing statutory authority to allow HOV lanes to be considered by the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) Director in any region in Idaho.
- **Speed limits on state highways.** COMPASS supports improved coordination and cooperation between ITD and local governments in establishing speed limits on state highways within local jurisdictional boundaries.
- **Interstate passenger rail service.** COMPASS supports the restoration of Amtrak passenger rail service in Idaho.