COMPASS
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION
of Southwest Idaho

Working together to plan for the future

2027 COMPASS State Legislative Positions

Approved October 26, 2026

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 it to meet the region's current and future safety and mobility needs.

Enhanced transportation revenues. COMPASS supports enhancing state and local 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, as well as planning, scoping, and studies to accelerate the early development of future projects.

Growth

COMPASS supports policies that encourage growth to pay for growth. Ada and Canyon Counties' combined population is forecast to grow to 1.3 million by 2055. An increase of over 400,000 people in 30 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 adjusting the property tax cap on local taxing districts to meet the increasing infrastructure needs and ongoing operations and maintenance costs 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.

Housing

COMPASS supports policies that enhance regional and local efforts to align housing availability with transportation investments and infrastructure planning. Policies that promote a range of housing options—particularly in areas with existing or planned transportation infrastructure and services—can help improve regional mobility, economic opportunity, infrastructure efficiency, and make addressing housing undersupply more feasible. COMPASS encourages legislation that supports local flexibility, market-driven solutions, and voluntary tools to improve housing outcomes that are coordinated with transportation systems.

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.

- **Safety and accessibility.** COMPASS supports policies that improve the safety and accessibility of the transportation system for its most vulnerable users through enhanced engineering, education, enforcement, and emergency response.