



Mary May, President
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September 21, 2022

Matt Stoll, Executive Director
COMPASS
700 NE 2nd St., Ste. 200
Meridian, ID 83642

Dear Mr. Stoll:

The Ada County Highway District (ACHD) is pleased to provide the following comments on the DRAFT FY2023-2029 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). ACHD appreciates COMPASS' continued support of Ada County transportation projects through grants, federal funding, and planning. The draft TIP continues to support the Communities in Motion 2040 funding policy by dedicating a steady funding source for ACHD's integrated roadway improvements and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) projects within the Boise Urbanized Area. The TIP aligns with the ACHD Strategic Plan and supports ACHD's Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) by freeing up local dollars for capacity improvement and Community Programs projects.

The ACHD Commission continues its support of roadway improvement projects that include evaluating and providing accessible facilities for people who walk and ride bikes. The District's goals are to maintain the public's infrastructure in a "very good" condition, to repair Americans with Disability Act (ADA) violations, eliminate sidewalk gaps, improve pedestrian crossings and create low-stress bike facilities. These goals are reflected in the DRAFT TIP.

ACHD offers the following specific comments on projects added to, or advanced in, the draft FY2023-2029 TIP:

- ACHD is pleased to see the addition of ACHD's Access to Opportunity project (ORN 23833), which will design and construct roadway improvements that include bicycle and pedestrian facilities on 12 routes in Boise and Garden City. This project received a \$5 million Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Resilience and Equity (RAISE) grant that will fund the design process. To implement large projects like this, ACHD will seek federal grants and budget local funding while pursuing FHWA Advance Construction reimbursements.
- ITD and ACHD's combined Five Mile Road Bridge and roadway improvements, from Overland Road to Franklin Road (RD203-04), is another example of ACHD's effort to seek federal grants and use FHWA Advance Construction funding to design and construct a large improvement project. The addition of the construction phase of RD203-04 to the TIP will further support efforts to secure federal funding for this critical transportation improvement project.

- The addition of the ITD's State Highway 21, Mores Creek Bridge Repair project (ORN 23879) and the State Highway 21 pavement preservation projects (KN 20612 and ORN 23535) supports maintenance of critical transportation infrastructure in Ada County.
- The inclusion of ACHD funded projects on Franklin Road and Ustick Road highlight the significant road work that needs to be performed to maintain the valuable roadway infrastructure in Ada County.
- The support of ACHD's Commuteride public outreach efforts is valuable for current and future commuters of the Treasure Valley. ACHD appreciates COMPASS' support through the advancement of KN 22386, and the addition of KN 23328, ORN 23679 and ORN 23680.
- ACHD is pleased to see the advancement of ITD's pavement preservation projects on US 20/26 (KN 20536) SH69 (KN 22699) and SH44 (KN 22677), which will help preserve these valuable Ada County roadways for years to come.

ACHD has the following comments regarding projects that have updated schedules:

- The challenges of programming large roadway improvement projects require regular cost and project performance evaluations. ACHD appreciates COMPASS' efforts to correctly show the updated schedules for locally funded projects on Fairview Avenue (RC0133), Lake Hazel Road (RD207-29 and RD209-18), Linder Road (RD209-28) and Orchard Road (RD207-01).
- ACHD fully understands the necessity to update scheduled projects because of unanticipated changes in funding or better than forecasted pavement conditions. ACHD encourages the continued project coordination for ITD's State Street project (KN 20754).

ACHD appreciates COMPASS' annual effort to update the Treasure Valley's Regional Transportation Improvement Program, and COMPASS' oversight of the region's federal funds. ACHD will continue to work with its city and county partners, COMPASS and ITD to maintain the transportation network, improve access for people who walk and ride bikes, and plan for necessary capacity improvements in growth areas across the county.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tom Ferch, Transportation Funding Coordinator, at tferch@achdidaho.org or 208-387-6157.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary May". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "A".

Mary May
ACHD Commission President

Cc: COMPASS Executive Committee