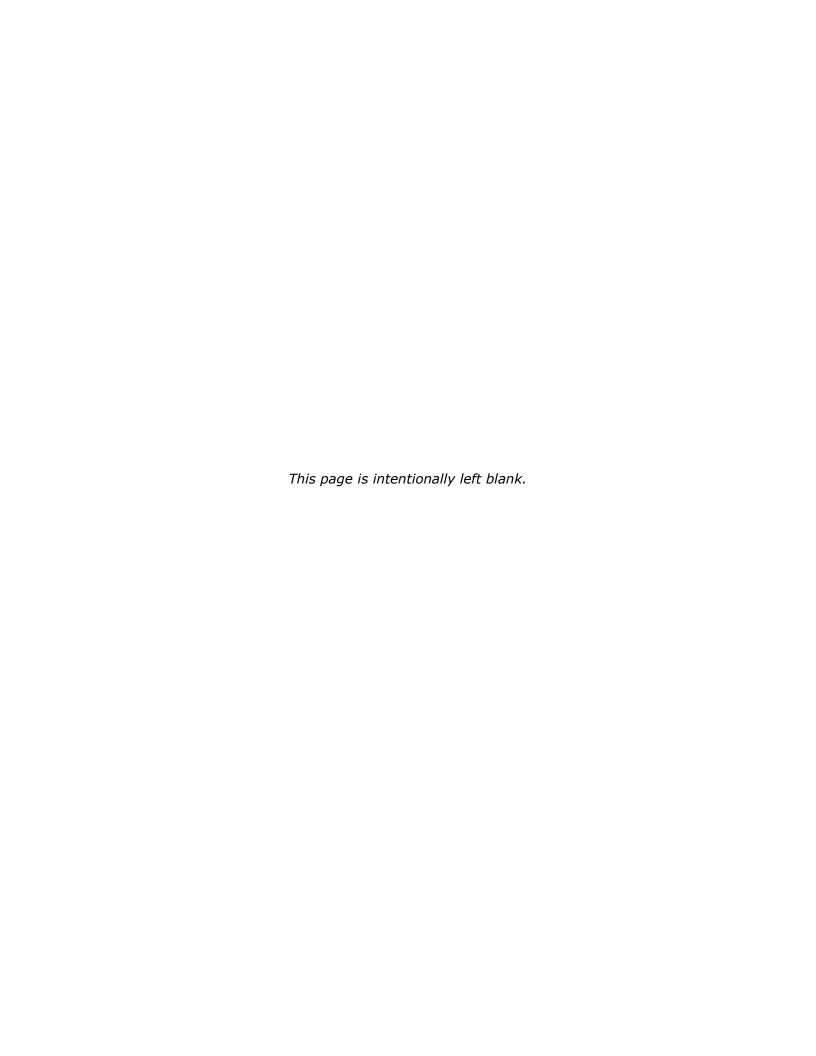


Working together to plan for the future

Ada County Master Facilities Plan Public Transportation Access

Report No. 03-2020 October 2019



Ada County Master Facilities Plan – Public Transportation Access

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Background and Purpose

Ada County is responsible for providing a wide variety of public facilities and services to Treasure Valley residents within unincorporated Ada County, incorporated cities, as well as other counties within the jurisdiction of the 4th District Court (Boise, Elmore, and Valley Counties). Ada County recently adopted a Master Facilities Plan¹, which is the ongoing county facilities guidebook to be employed for capital improvement needs, projects, and decisions through a 2025 planning horizon.

Ada County needs to be able to provide services at its facilities to all residents, especially the most vulnerable populations, and those who may not otherwise have a car or other means of transportation. This raises two questions: "to what degree do existing public transportation options provide residents access to critical county services?" and "how can that access be improved?" Ada County, in partnership with the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) and Valley Regional Transit (VRT), worked to identify those county services and facilities that provide critical services to county residents. Once identified, existing public transportation routes and stops were analyzed to understand how best to approach optimizing the ability of residents to access Ada County services and facilities through public transportation. Recommendations were developed to guide near-, medium-, and long-term actions to improve public transportation access to county services and facilities.

https://adacounty.id.gov/developmentservices/wp-content/uploads/sites/37/Ada-County-Master-Facilities-Plan-June-2018-Final1.pdf

¹ Ada County Master Facilities Plan (June 2018):

Ada County Facilities and Functions

The Ada County Master Facilities Plan inventoried and assessed 57 separate buildings located at the county's 32 complexes (Figure 1). The facility assessments documented existing building conditions, needed maintenance and building system improvements, and development opportunities.

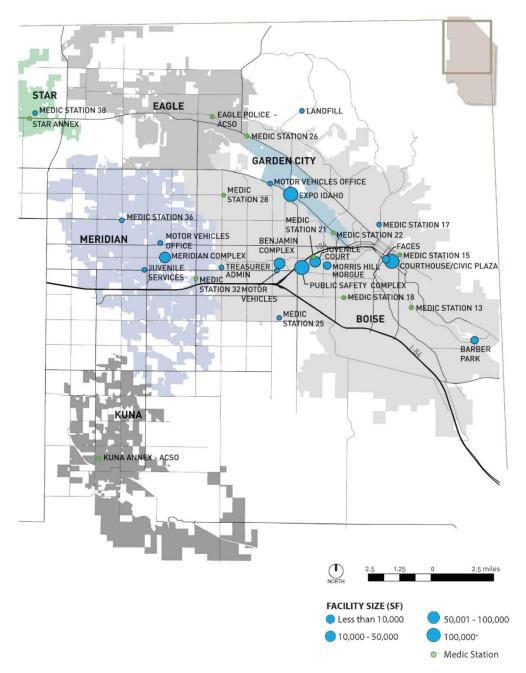


Figure 1: Ada County facility locations and relative sizes

The current services provided at each facility are listed in Table 1. The project team identified eight complexes as priority locations for public transportation analysis based on public use of facility, including types of visitors and number of services provided. These priority facilities are indicated by an asterisk (*).

Table 1: Functions and services located at each Ada County complex

Complex	Address	Offices/Departments
Courthouse/Civic Plaza*	200 W Front St, Boise, 83702	Administration, Assessor, Board of County Commissioners, Clerk, Development Services, IT, Operations, Public Defender, Prosecutor, Recorder, Sheriff/911, Treasurer, Trial Court Administration
Public Safety Complex*	7200 W Barrister Dr, Boise, 83704	Emergency Management, IT, Operations, Sheriff/911
Meridian Complex	975 E Pine Ave, Meridian, 83642	Emergency Medical Services, IT, Operations, Sheriff/911
Benjamin Complex*	400 N Benjamin Ln, Boise, 83704	Clerk, Elections, Emergency Medical Services, IT, Juvenile Services, Operations, Sheriff/911, Trial Court Administration
Barber Park*	4049 S Eckert Rd, Boise, 83716	Parks & Waterways
Juvenile Court Services, Boise*	6300 W Denton St, Boise, 83704	Clerk, Juvenile Services, Operations, Public Defender, Prosecutor, Trial Court Administration
Juvenile Court Services, Meridian*	124 W Franklin Rd, Meridian, 83642	Juvenile Services
Kuna Annex/Kuna Police – ACSO	1450 W Boise St, Kuna, 63642	Juvenile Services, Sheriff/911
Expo Idaho*	5610 N Glenwood St, Garden City, 83714	Emergency Medical Services, Expo Idaho, Trial Court Administration
Morris Hill Morgue	5550 W Morris Hill Rd, Boise, 83706	Coroner, Operations, Storage
Landfill	10300 N Seaman Gulch Rd, Boise, 83714	Operations, Storage
Medic Station 13	2202 S Gekeler Ln, Boise, 83706	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 15	107 W State St, Boise, 83702	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 17	1666 W Ridenbaugh St, Boise, 83702	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 18	4422 W Overland Rd, Boise, 83705	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 21	923 N Liberty St, Boise, 83704	Emergency Medical Services

Complex	Address	Offices/Departments
Medic Station 22	3895 W Chinden Blvd, Garden City, 83714	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 23	5870 N Glenwood St, Boise, 83714	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 25	2754 S Featherly Way, Boise, 83709	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 26	3101 E State St, Eagle, 83616	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 28	12065 W McMillan Rd, Boise, 83713	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 32	520 S Eagle Rd, Eagle, 83642	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 34	963 E Pine Ave, Meridian, 83642	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 36	3195 N Linder Rd, Meridian, 83646	Emergency Medical Services
Medic Station 38	198 N Dawes Pl, Star, 83669	Emergency Medical Services
Motor Vehicles Office – Garden City	9165 W Chinden Blvd, Garden City, 83714	Assessor
Motor Vehicles Office – Meridian	1769 N Lakes Pl, Meridian, 83646	Assessor
Star Annex/ Motor Vehicles Office	10769 W State St, Star, 83669	Assessor, Juvenile Services, Sheriff/911
FACES of Hope Victim Center*	417 S 6 th St, Boise, 83702	Prosecutor, Storage
Eagle Police – ACSO	1119 E State St, Eagle, 83616	Sheriff/911

ACSO = Ada County Sheriff's Office

Ada County is currently experiencing significant growth; with increased population comes increased demand for services. Therefore, it is pertinent to consider where Ada County residents live in relation to facilities and public transportation services in order to optimize plans for future services and improvements to existing services. Figure 2 shows the projected 2025 population density by census tract in the context of where current county facilities are located.

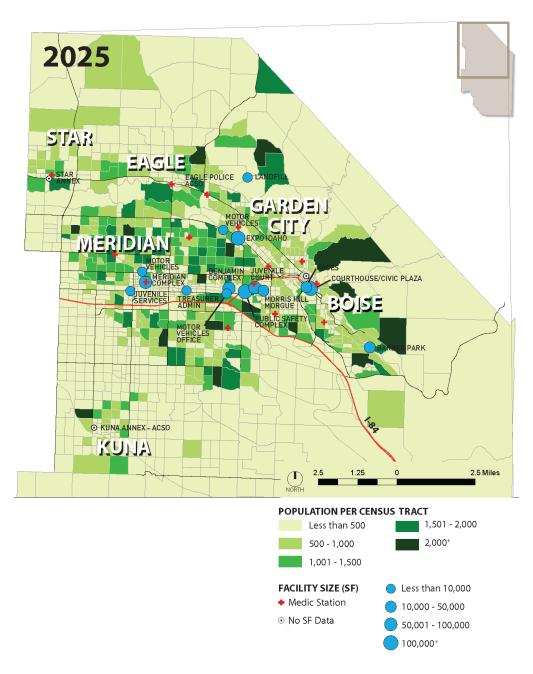


Figure 2: Ada County complexes with 2025 projected population by census tract

Profiles of Priority Facilities for Public Transportation Service

The eight priority facilities were selected because of the importance of public transportation access to them. Each priority facility profile includes a description of the facility and its services, comparisons of current and future public transportation access, and recommendations to improve public transportation access to the facility. Future public transportation service is based on the growth scenario from ValleyConnect 2.0², which planned for this scenario to exist in 2025. The purpose of the profiles is to understand current public transportation availability at each facility while bringing to light any shortfalls that should be addressed. Facility-specific improvements are recommended to improve access for users of each facility. See the Recommendations section for general tasks that could be applied to all facilities.

http://valleyregionaltransit.org/media/1415/valleyconnect2 apr18 final.pdf

² ValleyConnect 2.0 (Adopted April 2018):

1. Courthouse/Civic Plaza

The Courthouse/Civic Plaza complex operates as the headquarters for Ada County and houses many departments across multiple buildings (Figure 3). The courthouse also houses the county's trial courts and serves as the primary court facility in Ada County. The public visits this building to attend court, pay taxes, secure building permits, and engage in other general county government-related activities. Current and future public transportation access to this facility is shown in Figures 4 and 5 and described in Tables 2 and 3.

Operating hours: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Daily visitors: 1,460 (entire courthouse)



Figure 3: Ada County Courthouse/Civic Plaza complex and adjacent bus stops and routes within ¼ mile (6 routes)

Table 2: Current and future public transportation service at the Courthouse/Civic Plaza and recommendations for improvements

Current Service	Five routes with bus stops on Main and Idaho Streets
	One route (#45) stops on Front Street directly adjacent to facility
Current Span	Weekdays 5:30 AM to 7:30 PM
	Saturdays 7:45 AM to 6:15 PM (route #2 only)
Facility	1. VRT should consider rerouting some or all routes from 6 th Street
Recommendations	to 3 rd Street to better serve the Courthouse/Civic Plaza.
	Routes affected: #1 Harris Ranch, #3 Vista, #4 Roosevelt, #5
	Emerald, and #8X Five Mile/Chinden.
	2. Add wayfinding from bus stop locations to popular courthouse
	destinations (e.g., courts, assessor).
Future Planned	Four routes serving this facility, three with 15-minute peak service
Service	and two with service 7 days per week, all running until 9:00 PM.

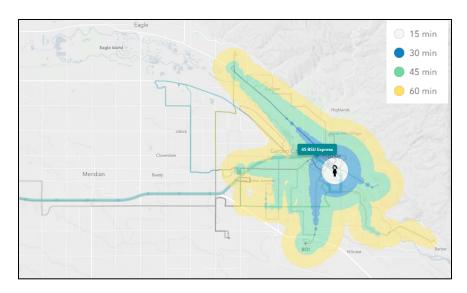


Figure 4: Transit shed showing current population able to reach the Courthouse/Civic Plaza within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday

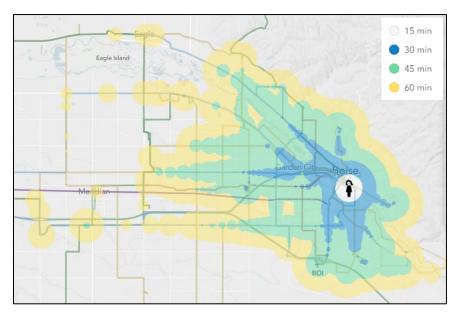


Figure 5: Transit shed of future population able to reach the Courthouse/Civic Plaza within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday, based on planned service in future

Table 3: Population within 60 minutes of the Courthouse/Civic Plaza by bus at 8:00 AM on a weekday

Courthouse/Civic Plaza	15min	30min	45min	60min
Number of people that currently can reach the facility	2,372	17,543	69,192	118,459
Number of people that will be able to reach the facility in future	2,405	34,983	133,473	203,794

2. Public Safety Complex

The Public Safety Complex houses several public safety facilities, including the county jail facility (Figure 6). The Ada County Sheriff and Emergency Management Departments are also located on this property. The complex houses parole and support staff and supports lower-risk offenders on work release. The public uses this complex to visit the jail, engage with parole officers, and interact with the sheriff's department. Current and future public transportation access to this facility is shown in Figures 7 and 8 and described in Tables 4 and 5.

Operating hours: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Daily visitors: Not counted

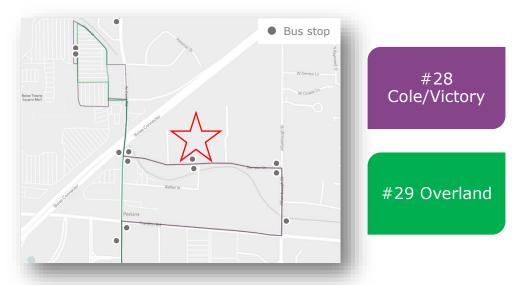


Figure 6: Public Safety Complex and adjacent bus stops and routes within ¼ mile (2 routes)

This facility is also within ½ mile of Boise Towne Square Mall transit center for six additional routes: #5 Emerald, #7B Fairview/Towne Square Mall, #8 Five Mile, #8x Five Mile/Chinden, #12 Maple Grove, and #42 Happy Day/Towne Square Mall.

Table 4: Current and future public transportation service at the Public Safety Complex and recommendations for improvements

Current Service	Route #28 has bus stops on Barrister Drive directly in front of
	facility
	Route #29 has bus stops on Cole Road
Current Span	Weekdays 6:45 AM to 7:00 PM
	Saturdays 7:45 AM to 6:30 PM (route #29 only)
Facility	Improve wayfinding and pedestrian facilities to the Towne Square
Recommendation	Mall transit center, especially facilities within the mall property.
Future Planned	One route serving this facility with 30-minute service for most of the
Service	day and running until 9:00 PM.

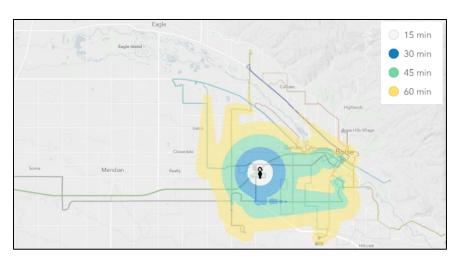


Figure 7: Transit shed showing current population able to reach the Public Safety Complex within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday

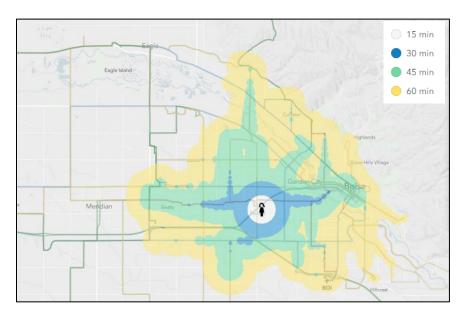


Figure 8: Transit shed of future population able to reach the Public Safety Complex within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday, based on planned service in future

Table 5: Population within 60 minutes of the Public Safety Complex by bus at 8:00 AM on a weekday

Public Safety Complex	15min	30min	45min	60min
Number of people that currently can reach the facility	2,516	13,415	43,926	102,141
Number of people that will be able to reach the facility in future	2,516	16,026	84,001	183,218

3. Benjamin Complex

The Benjamin Complex (Figure 9) primarily houses the county's driver licensing facility, but also houses drug treatment and juvenile services. Because this complex processes all driver's licenses, it is heavily used by the public (Table 6). The facility also serves as the headquarters for the county's Emergency Medical Services Department, but this use does not generate visits by the public. Current and future public transportation access to this facility is shown in Figures 10 and 11 and described in Tables 7 and 8.

Table 6: Benjamin Complex services, hours, and daily visitors

Service	Operating hours	Daily visitors
Driver's License	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	998
Juvenile	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	65
Drug Court/Problem Solving	6:30 AM - 9:30 PM Sun-Thu	Not counted
	6:30 AM - 10:30 PM Fri-Sat	

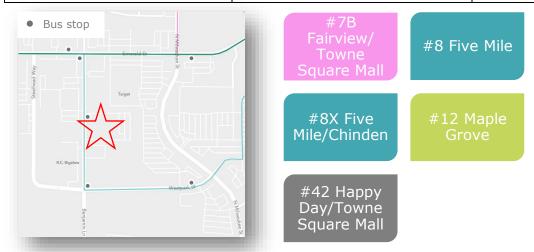


Figure 9: Benjamin Complex and adjacent bus stops and routes within ¼ mile (5 routes)

Table 7: Current and future public transportation service at the Benjamin Complex and recommendations for improvements

Current Service	Four routes with bus stops on Emerald Street
	One route (#8X) stops on Benjamin Lane directly adjacent to
	facility
Current Span	Weekdays 5:15 AM to 9:30 PM
	Saturdays 7:45 AM to 6:00 PM (route #7B only)
Facility	1. Support extending more service west of the Towne Square Mall
Recommendations	and increasing service span and frequency in the
	Fairview/Emerald corridor to improve weekend and evening
	service.
	2. Improve sidewalk connectivity on Benjamin to provide ADA
	(Americans with Disability Act) compliant connection to Emerald.
Future Planned	Two routes serving this facility, one with 15-minute daytime service
Service	seven days per week, both running until 9:00 PM.

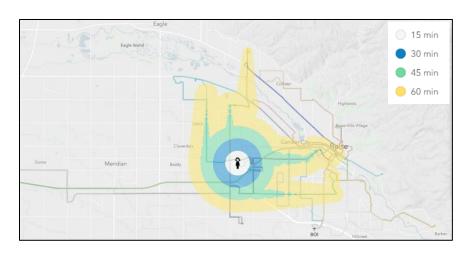


Figure 10: Transit shed showing current population able to reach the Benjamin Complex within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday

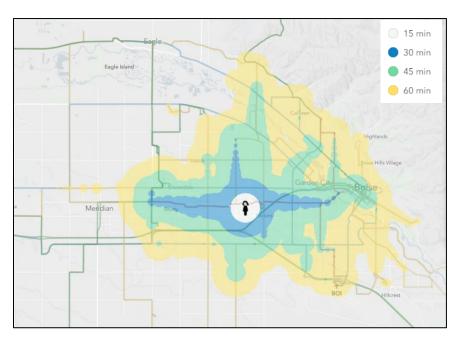


Figure 11: Transit shed of future population able to reach the Benjamin Complex within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday, based on planned service in future

Table 8: Population within 60 minutes of the Benjamin Complex by bus at 8:00 AM on a weekday

Benjamin Complex	15min	30min	45min	60min
Number of people that currently can reach the facility	2,509	11,295	35,033	97,111
Number of people that will be able to reach the facility in future	2,517	18,333	89,218	199,340

4. Barber Park

Barber Park is the primary Ada County park on the east side of the county (Figure 12). The park serves as the launch point for recreational floaters during the Boise River floating season and houses all rental watercraft. This facility sees very heavy traffic during the summer months from recreational floaters (Table 9). The park also contains an event center that hosts weddings, conferences, and other events. Current and future public transportation access to this facility is shown in Figures 13 and 14 and described in Tables 10 and 11.

Table 9: Barber Park services, hours, and annual visitors

Service	Operating hours	Annual visitors*
Barber Park	Sunrise to Sunset	225,965
Barber Park shuttle	1:00 PM to 8:00 PM	45,669
Barber Park parking lot	Sunrise to Sunset	96,937
Off-site parking	N/A	15,000
Drop-offs	N/A	30,000

^{*}Varies by season. Shuttle operates during float season only (summer)

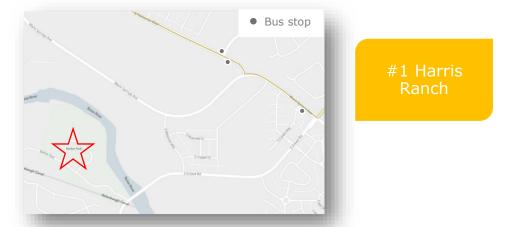


Figure 12: Barber Park and adjacent bus stops and routes within ½ mile** (1 route)

Table 10: Current and future public transportation service at Barber Park and recommendations for improvements

Current Service	• One route with stops ½ mile away aerially; about 1 mile by foot
	Park is directly served by summer shuttle funded by Ada County
Current Span	Weekdays 6:15 AM to 6:30 PM (no weekend service)
Facility	Consider redirecting summer shuttle funding toward weekend
Recommendation	summer service on route #1 and implementing the growth scenario
	service improvements sooner (route will loop around on Eckert/Boise
	Avenue to serve Barber Park directly).
Future Planned	One route serving this facility with 30-minute service Monday through
Service	Saturday.

^{**}No routes within 1/4 mile.

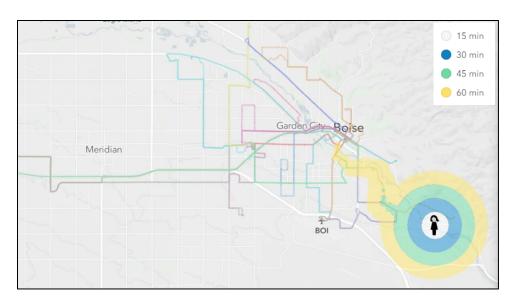


Figure 13: Transit shed showing current population able to reach Barber Park within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday

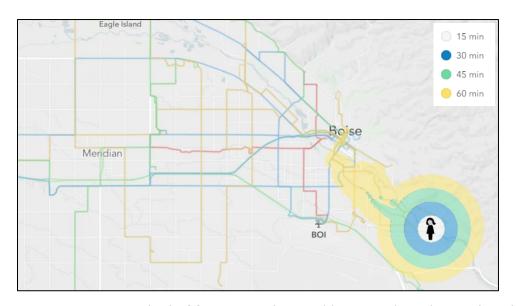


Figure 14: Transit shed of future population able to reach Barber Park within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday, based on planned service in future

Table 11: Population within 60 minutes of Barber Park by bus at 8:00 AM on a weekday

Barber Park	15min	30min	45min	60min
Number of people that currently can reach the park	1,351	5,097	12,249	30,393
Number of people that will be able to reach the park in future	1,351	5,101	13,189	37,877

5. Juvenile Court Services, Boise

The Juvenile Court Services building in Boise provides juvenile programs, court, and detention functions (Figure 15). This building contains office space for the Public Defender, Prosecuting Attorney, Clerk of the Court, and the Trial Court Administrator. The facility also has one courtroom for mental health commitment hearings for adults. Most juvenile-related offenses are handled in this building. Current and future public transportation access to this facility is shown in Figures 16 and 17 and described in Tables 12 and 13.

Operating hours: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Daily visitors: Not counted

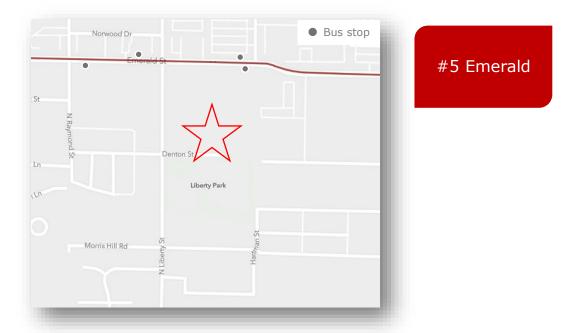


Figure 15: Boise Juvenile Court Services and adjacent bus stops and routes within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile (1 route)

Table 12: Current and future public transportation service at Boise Juvenile Court Services and recommendations for improvements

Current Service	Route #5 has stops on Emerald Street
	Other routes are at least ½ mile away
Current Span	Weekdays 6:15 AM to 7:00 PM
	Saturdays 7:45 AM to 6:30 PM
Facility	Improve connection to Hartman Street sidewalk for ADA-
Recommendations	compliant access to bus stops on Emerald Street.
	2. Support increased public transportation service in the Emerald
	Street corridor.
Future Planned	One route serving this facility with 15-minute daytime service seven
Service	days per week and running until 9:00 PM.

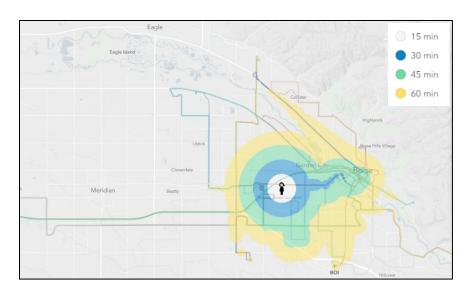


Figure 16: Transit shed showing current population able to reach Boise Juvenile Court Services within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday

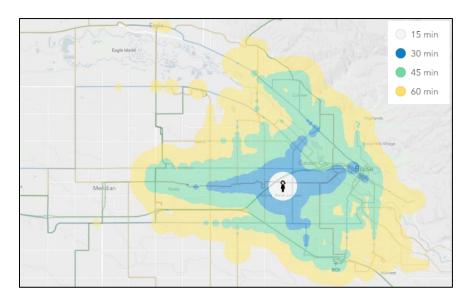


Figure 17: Transit shed of future population able to reach Boise Juvenile Court Services within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday, based on future planned service

Table 13: Population within 60 minutes of Boise Juvenile Court Services by bus at 8:00~AM on a weekday

Boise Juvenile Court Services	15min	30min	45min	60min
Number of people that currently can reach the facility	2,649	13,397	38,872	86,541
Number of people that will be able to reach the facility in future	2,657	23,609	105,144	186,429

6. Juvenile Court Services, Meridian

Ada County operates a satellite Juvenile Court Services facility in Meridian that houses some juvenile programs (Figure 18). The public visits this facility in order to participate in these programs. Current and future public transportation access to this facility is shown in Figures 19 and 20 and described in Tables 14 and 15.

Operating hours: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Daily visitors: 8

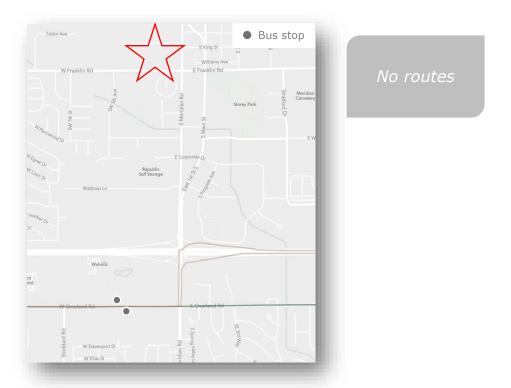
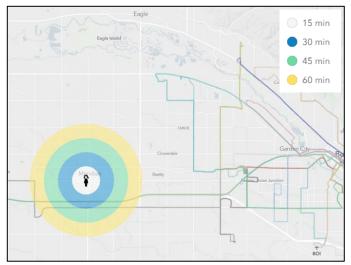


Figure 18: Map of facility and adjacent bus stops and routes (none within ¼ mile)

Table 14: Current and future public transportation service at Meridian Juvenile Court Services and recommendations for improvements

Current Service	No nearby routes. Closest routes are #40 and #42, which are about
	1.5 miles away by foot. This is not considered walkable.
Current Span	(For routes #40 and #42):
	Weekdays 5:30 AM to 8:00 PM (no weekend service)
Facility	Support expansion of public transportation service in Meridian and
Recommendation	consider coordinating/leveraging service contributions with the City of
	Meridian to better serve this location.
Future Planned	Two routes (approx. ½ mile) serving this facility, one with peak-only
Service	service and one with 30-minute peak and 60-minute midday service,
	both running on weekdays only.



Note: Currently, no one can reach this facility within 60 minutes using public transportation, on average. Therefore, the rings in this map depict walk times.

Figure 19: Transit shed showing current population able to reach Meridian Juvenile Court Services within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday

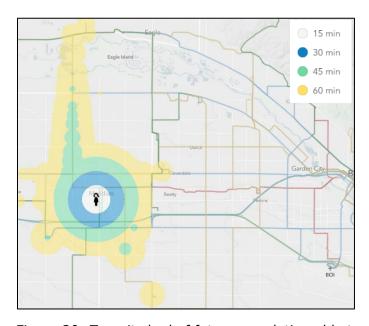


Figure 20: Transit shed of future population able to reach Meridian Juvenile Court Services within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday, based on planned service in future

Table 15: Population within 60 minutes of Meridian Juvenile Court Services by bus at 8:00 AM on a weekday

Meridian Juvenile Court Services	15min	30min	45min	60min
Number of people that currently can reach the facility	2,503	10,385	21,339	36,549
Number of people that will be able to reach the facility in future	2,636	10,807	34,640	95,613

Note: This table illustrates the number of people that are within walking distance of the facility, as it is not possible to take public transportation for a trip of 60 minutes or less, on average.

7. Expo Idaho

Expo Idaho is the primary fairgrounds facility in southwestern Idaho (Figure 21). Besides hosting the annual Western Idaho Fair, the facility contains large event space suitable for expositions, concerts, and trade shows. The facility sees most of its use during the summer, but supports periodic events throughout the year. Current and future public transportation access to this facility is shown in Figures 22 and 23 and described in Tables 16 and 17.

Operating hours: Varies based on events; Annual* visitors: 850,000

*Count varies by event so there is no average daily visitor count.

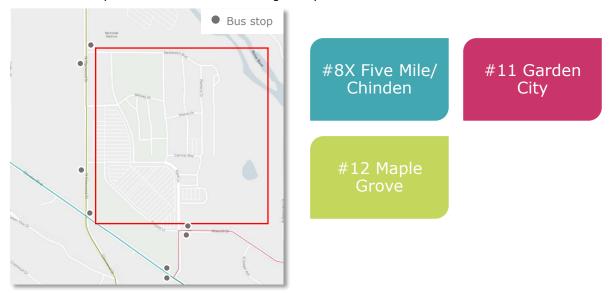


Figure 21: Expo Idaho and adjacent bus stops and routes within ¼ mile (3 routes)

Table 16: Current and future public transportation service at Expo Idaho and recommendations for improvements

Current Service	Three routes nearby with multiple stops on adjacent streets
Current Span	Weekdays 5:45 AM to 7:30 PM (no weekend service)
Facility	1. Engage Expo Idaho, Ada County, and other partners to find a
Recommendations	solution to continue service on route #11 in Garden City.
	2. Coordinate funding efforts with local jurisdictions to fund more
	service on route #11 on special days and times for events at this
	facility. For example, an intermittent fixed route with service only
	during summer and/or weekends.
	3. Coordinate marketing efforts to encourage eventgoers to use
	public transportation.
	4. Improve pedestrian connections to bus routes on Chinden
	Boulevard with a sidewalk/pathway through Lady Bird Park.
Future Planned	Four routes serving this facility, all have 30-minute peak service and
Service	run until 9:00 PM and one has service on Saturdays.

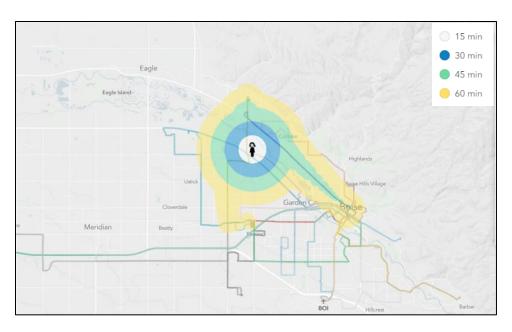


Figure 22: Transit shed showing current population able to reach Expo Idaho within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday

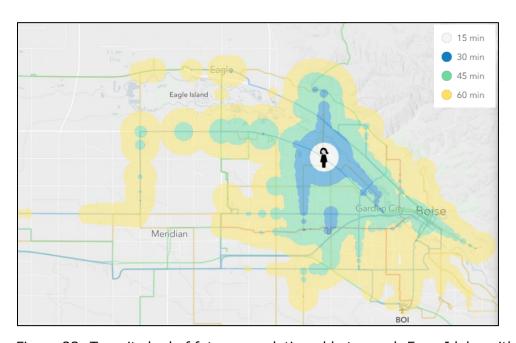


Figure 23: Transit shed of future population able to reach Expo Idaho within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday, based on planned service in future

Table 17: Population within 60 minutes of Expo Idaho by bus at 8:00 AM on a weekday

Expo Idaho	15min	30min	45min	60min
Number of people that currently can reach the facility	1,810	10,485	32,164	70,029
Number of people that will be able to reach the facility in future	2,267	20,216	84,638	208,707

8. FACES of Hope Victim Center

FACES is an abuse support center located in downtown Boise (Figure 24). This county facility offers medical care, mental health services, support groups, emergency assistance, and safety planning, and provides help accessing community resources to those in crisis. Current and future public transportation access to this facility is shown in Figures 25 and 26 and described in Tables 18 and 19.

Operating hours: 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM; Daily visitors: 8



Figure 24: FACES and adjacent bus stops and routes within ¼ mile (14 routes)

Table 18: Current and future public transportation service at FACES and recommendations for improvements

Current Service	This facility is well-served by buses, with 14 routes and the Main
	Street Station within ¼ mile
	The closest bus stops are on Capitol Boulevard (4 routes)
Current Span	Weekdays 5:15 AM to 10:00 PM
	Saturdays 7:30 AM to 6:30 PM (half of the routes)
Facility	No facility-specific recommendations. See general recommendations
Recommendation	section.
Future Planned	Twelve routes serving this facility, 9 with 15-minute peak service, 11
Service	with service on Saturdays and 6 on Sundays, and 10 routes running
	until 9:00 PM.

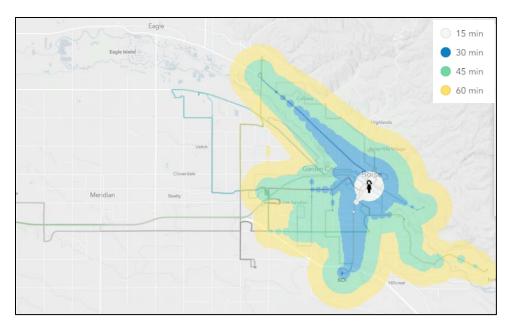


Figure 25: Transit shed showing current population able to reach FACES within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday

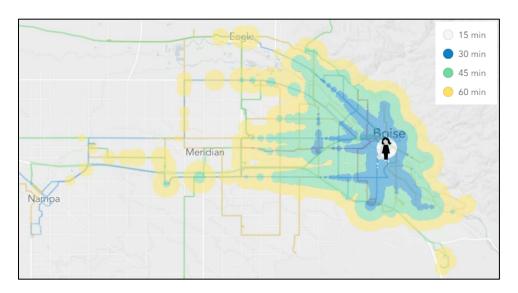


Figure 26: Transit shed of future population able to reach FACES within 60 minutes at 8:00 AM on a weekday, based on planned service in future

Table 19: Population within 60 minutes of FACES by bus at 8:00 AM on a weekday

FACES	15min	30min	45min	60min
Number of people that currently can reach the facility	2,268	32,361	93,634	130,855
Number of people that will be able to reach the facility in future	2,705	59,670	154,148	231,743

Recommendations

Based on the facility profiles and analysis of current and planned public transportation service, general recommendations were made to improve the public transportation accessibility of all facilities. These recommendations are organized into near-term, medium-term, and long-term lists to aid in implementation (Tables 20-22). The fourth list of recommendations is for siting new Ada County facilities in the future (Table 23). Responsible agencies are identified for each recommendation to guide ownership of these tasks.

Table 20: Near-term recommendations

	Recommendation	Details	Responsible
			Agency
1.1	Educate staff about existing services	Educate staff and provide materials about existing routes and special services such as the Lyft partnerships, shared mobility options, and other providers (e.g., Ada County Highway District [ACHD] Commuteride and Boise State University's free Bronco Shuttle), as applicable. The Bronco Shuttle serves multiple Ada County facilities (Figure 27).	Ada County
1.2	Use VRT services such as mobility managers and training	Encourage clients to use Share the Ride Idaho to find bus routes, travel partners, carpools, bike routes, and other useful transportation tools.	Ada County
1.3	Adjust route schedules to better serve facility needs	For example, buses do not run early enough on Saturdays to serve clients of the Boise Juvenile Court Services.	VRT
1.4	Pursue ridership contracts with VRT for clients	Work with the Downtown Mobility Collaborative to provide CityGo, an integrated payment platform between multiple modes and parking, to clients at free or discounted prices.	Ada County and VRT
1.5	Work with Boise GreenBike to locate station hubs near facilities and/or nearby bus stops to improve first/last mile connections	 Consider providing clients with free or discounted GreenBike passes. Provide bike racks at all facilities for clients using bicycles as a first/last mile connection from the bus stop and/or as their main mode of transportation. 	Ada County and Boise GreenBike



Figure 27: Bronco Shuttle Orange and Grey Route Map

Table 21: Medium-term recommendations

	Recommendation	Details	Responsible Agency
2.1	Coordinate investment in additional public transportation service	Coordinate between the county and the cities to make more improvements possible.	Ada County in coordination with cities
2.2	Implement wayfinding for each priority facility	For routes not directly adjacent to facilities, wayfinding should direct clients from facilities to bus stops (Figure 28).	VRT and Ada County in coordination with ACHD
2.3	Improve bus stops and shelters using VRT's Bus Stop Guidelines ³	Improvements may include changes to comply with ADA standards, as well as adding lighting, benches, and passenger amenities.	VRT in coordination with ACHD and the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD)
2.4	Improve sidewalk and bicycle infrastructure at and between bus stops and facilities	Improvements may include changes to comply with ADA standards, as well as adding lighting, crossing treatments, bike racks, and other streetscape elements.	Ada County and VRT in coordination with ACHD, ITD, and local agencies













Figure 28: Examples of Potential Wayfinding Strategies for Bus Stops

³ Bus Stop Location and Transit Amenities Development Guidelines (Revised August 2019): https://www.valleyregionaltransit.org/media/1377/vrtbusstopandtransitamenitiesdevelopmentguidelines.pdf

Table 22: Long-term recommendations

	Recommendation	Details	Responsible Agency
3.1	Pursue funding opportunities and potential partners to extend public transportation service into underserved areas of Ada County	Underserved areas of Ada County include Meridian, southwest Boise, southeast Boise, Kuna, Eagle, and Star (Figure 29).	Ada County in coordination with VRT and cities
3.2	Seek public-private partnerships	Maximize funding potential and reduce dependence on limited public agency budgets.	Ada County and VRT



Figure 29: Ada County 2017 Population Densities and Current Bus Routes

Table 23: Recommendations for siting new Ada County facilities

	Recommendation	Responsible Agency
4.1	Locate new county facilities near current and future public transportation routes. Reference ValleyConnect 2.0 for major routes now and into the future, such as the "Best in Class" bus routes.	Ada County in coordination with VRT
4.2	Locate new county facilities adjacent to a public transportation stop, or as close as possible.	Ada County
4.3	Locate new county facilities in mixed use areas.	Ada County, local jurisdictions, and developers
4.4	Orient buildings towards the street, rather than parking lots.	Ada County
4.5	Design buildings at "people-scale" to make them more welcoming and user-friendly, especially for pedestrians (which includes bus riders).	Ada County
4.6	Reference the State Street Transit Oriented Development Study ⁴ for additional transit-oriented development strategies and recommendations.	All

Summary

This report analyzes existing public transportation access to eight Ada County priority facilities. The existing public transportation service was compared to the planned ValleyConnect 2.0 growth scenario service to demonstrate opportunities that will become available if VRT is able to meet its funding goals to increase service. Specific and general recommendations are intended to guide next steps for improving public transportation access to Ada County facilities.

⁴ State Street Corridor Transit Oriented Development Study (2019): https://www.buildabetterstatestreet.org/documents