

News Release February 12, 2025 Media Contact: Amy Luft, 208/475-2229

Let's Ride Treasure Valley! COMPASS Invites Residents to Weigh in on Potential Future High-Capacity Transit Routes and Types of Service

Meridian, ID – The Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) is seeking public feedback on proposed routes and types of service for potential future high-capacity transit connecting the Cities of Caldwell, Nampa, Meridian, and Boise. The types of service being considered include rail, light rail, and bus rapid transit.

This is the second opportunity for the public to weigh in on the *Let's Ride Treasure Valley* study – an in-depth analysis of potential future high-capacity transit in the Treasure Valley. COMPASS first solicited input last fall into the purpose, need, and initial routes being considered in the study. A summary of the comments received can be found on the COMPASS website at https://compassidaho.org/comments-and-questions/.

Based on technical analysis and public feedback, COMPASS has narrowed the routes under consideration and is now also studying the different types of service that would be compatible with those routes.

The public is invited to learn more about the *Let's Ride Treasure Valley* study and weigh in on the proposed routes and types of service at one of two identical in-person open houses:

Tuesday, February 18, 2025 COMPASS

700 NE 2nd Street, Meridian 5:00 – 7:30 pm Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Nampa Public Library 215 12th Avenue S., Nampa 5:00 – 7:30 pm

Individuals may also review materials and comment from home through March 2, 2025:

- Online: compassidaho.org
- Email: *info@compassidaho.org*
- US mail: COMPASS, 700 NE 2nd Street, Suite 200, Meridian, ID 83642
- Request materials be mailed to you: 208/855-2558 or info@compassidaho.org
- Comments due: March 2, 2025

While this study represents a significant step toward high-capacity transit, lack of funding remains an obstacle. Idaho does not have a dedicated funding source for public transportation, which is needed to operate any sort of high-capacity transit system. Without dedicated funding, work on any type of high-capacity service will remain in the planning stages.

A third and final opportunity to review materials and submit comments as part of the *Let's Ride Treasure Valley* study will take place in early summer. The study is anticipated to be completed by December 31, 2025.

NOTICE: This is a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study, and all draft and final planning products produced during this PEL process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process in accordance with 23 USC 168, with the goal of not revisiting during future National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) processes.