

Work Group: Rural Prioritization Workgroup (RPWG)
Staff Liaison: Toni Tisdale

Purpose:

The purpose of the Rural Prioritization Workgroup is to develop recommended priority lists for rural programs managed by the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC). The focus of this workgroup is determining the most beneficial rural projects within the COMPASS Planning Area Boundary (Ada and Canyon Counties) (referred to as the Metropolitan Planning Organization [MPO] area) and outside the COMPASS Planning Area Boundary (Boise and Elmore Counties) (referred to as the non-MPO area) to maximize rural transportation funding opportunities.

Tasks:

1. Working with member agencies in the non-MPO area, develop a prioritization process for the non-MPO area before the next prioritization cycle.
2. Discuss and recommend the most beneficial rural projects for funding programs managed by LHTAC using the prioritization process updated and approved by the COMPASS Board at their June 2027 meeting.

Deliverables, Schedule:

1. Work with Boise and Elmore County elected officials and staff to develop a rural prioritization process for the non-MPO area (could include non-member cities and highway districts) (winter 2026/2027).
2. Provide the non-MPO area prioritization process to RTAC for recommendation (May 2027) and to the COMPASS Board of Directors for approval (June 2027).
3. Host a meeting for both the MPO area and the non-MPO area to prioritize rural projects (August 2027).
4. Provide two lists of rural priorities to RTAC for recommendation (September 2027) and to the COMPASS Board of Directors for approval (October 2027).

Membership:

Membership in the RPWG will be drawn from mayors, staff, and/or contract engineers from all rural agencies in Ada and Canyon Counties. In Boise and Elmore Counties, the membership will be determined through the development process.

Charter recommended by Executive Committee: July 14, 2026

Charter approved by COMPASS Board: August 17, 2026

Next planned review of charter by Executive Committee: June 2027

All decisions and recommendations of COMPASS workgroups are reached through consensus and there are no quorum requirements for workgroups. All workgroup meetings are open to anyone interested in attending. Individuals interested in attending should contact the staff liaison to obtain the scheduled meeting dates and planned agendas.

