

Public Comments received during the Idaho Transportation Department Public Comment Period
July 1 through 31, 2020

No.	Date Received	Source	Name	Email	Phone	Company	Address	Response Requested (Y/N)	St with Up	Comment
W007	7/1/2020	email						y		When will the project to connect Idaho 55 at it's current intersection with State Street through to the north-south network of streets such as 5 Mile Road be considered again? There is an lot of development occurring on Idaho 55 to the north of State Street, and right now that commuter traffic t-bones onto State Street. The congestion is only going to get worse unless a north-south connector is established there.
W012	7/7/2020	email								<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I support of ALL proposed projects (widening SH44, SH16, SH55) listed in the Meridian Press on 7/3/20. All projects are overdue based on daily traffic counts. SH55 south of Middleton is desperately in need of additional widening due to heavy truck, occasional farm equipment, and the expected slow-moving traffic and should have highest priority as an inter-state arterial. All other Ada County widening projects can also be easily supported by the ongoing growth.</p> <p>And, I also highly support widening Fairview between Locust Grove and Eagle Rd. I submitted this recommendation to Meridian Planning last year. As half of this road section already includes a third lane, costs and construction time should be minimal. Also, this will facilitate traffic moving along Fairview Rd west through the Eagle signal.</p> <p>As for travel to and from Kuna, I do not support any additional widening of SH69, except for that section from the Kuna curve into town. A reduction in SH69 traffic could be accomplished by improvements to Linder Rd, including an interchange. Also, improve SH69 collectors (Amity, Lake Hazel) to provide secondary through routes into Boise.</p> <p>Thanks for allowing my input. Current resident of Meridian 50+ year Idaho resident Former ITD employee Former Meridian Transportation Commission member</p>
W014	7/4/2020	email								<p>Hello,</p> <p>I believe your attention should be focused on widening highway 44 from Star all the way to Linder. I also believe highway 16 needs to be completed to make the connection to I84.</p> <p>Thanks.</p>
W015	7/4/2020	email								<p>Please find my comment on the Idaho Transportation Improvement Program draft below.</p> <p>The absence of completion of ID 16 to I 84 is a mistake. As you improve ID 44 and US 20/26, the pressure on the few north/south routes increases. The completion of an alternative route to ID 55 as a north/south route in the Treasure Valley is critical to the successful operation of the improved east/west routes.</p> <p>Saying ID 16 is unfunded is true to the degree that it is not included as a priority in the Transportation Improvement Program. The completion of ID 16 to I 84 should be one of the top 10 priorities that are funded.</p> <p>Nampa, Idaho</p>
W016	7/5/2020	email			208-861-8891					<p>Project Name: Stop Light at Hwy 44 and Old Hwy 30</p> <p>How did you hear about us? Blank</p> <p>Comments: I am sure you have done traffic volume studies at the intersection of Hwy 44 and Old Hwy 30. A stop Light would allow traffic to flow better. Another option would be to add an exit ram at Sand Hollow Rd., thus eliminating some North bound traffic from the Hwy 44 and Old Hwy 30 intersection. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments.</p>
W018	7/8/2020	email			208 455 4734					<p>Good morning!</p> <p>Caldwell supports the improvement projects from Middleton to Indiana to widen SH55 and implement the ITD Corridor Plan. These projects are critical steps to enhance Safety, mobility, and economic opportunity on this significant corridor.</p> <p>Compliments to ITD for the foresight shown in performing the environmental analysis for future widening on SH55 beyond Indiana. This corridor is enormous importance as a statewide facility, regionally, and locally. These efforts by ITD truly fulfill ITD's Mission for safety, mobility and economic opportunity.</p> <p>Thank you!!!</p>
W020	7/8/2020	email								<p>There should be a 4 lane highway from Emmett to Star. There are only more people moving to Emmett and the traffic is increasing tremendously. The accidents are horrible and frequent with many fatalities, I don't even want my 16 year old son driving over it. Widening shouldn't even be a question and I don't believe that it is enough to solve the issue, but it would be a start.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
W021	7/8/2020	email								<p>Highway 16 - Freezeout Hill WideningDear ITD,</p> <p>Short answer: YES</p> <p>The non-stop gravel/construction trucks are creating a major hazard going 10-20 mph up the hill from Emmett towards Star. My family and I have seen numerous accidents and close calls over the last 4 years we have lived here. We moved from Meridian in 2016 and have noticed a MAJOR increase in traffic, not just from Emmett commuters, but Boise/Meridian/Nampa people coming to Emmett. It is only going to get worse as this whole area is growing at a rapid pace. Please, please, please just widen it and save lives!</p> <p>Thank you.</p>

W022	7/11/2020	email				2731 Orchard Ln. Emmett, Id 83	<p>Upon reading "Freezeout passing lane up for discussion" in the current issue of our Messenger Index I decided to express my views on the subject:</p> <p>I have lived at my home on Orchard Ln. near the base of Freezeout hill for about 25 years and use that road on my trips to Boise, Meridian, Nampa and other towns in the Gem Valley. I find that 2.2 mile stretch of highway very safe, well maintained and easy to negotiate as long as drivers have patience and pay attention to traffic. The only problems occur when an aggressive driver gets upset and tries to pass. I have seen drivers jump into the slow vehicle lane to pass on the right before the vehicle ahead can move over. I think that this action was instrumental in a recent death there. Traffic has increased and so has the number of aggressive drivers. Maybe reducing the speed limit to 45mph could make it safer.</p> <p>I do not want to see a passing lane up that hill for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It would encourage speeding which is a danger to other drivers, especially in the wintertime. 2. The current speed limit of 55mph is plenty fast enough to negotiate the hill safely. 3. Occasionally the speed is reduced due to about 45mph due to a loaded truck or car towing a trailer. (The dump is to the left at the top of the hill which many of us use) ... Today I drove the 2.1 miles uphill from the point that the two lanes merge at the bottom to the top where it is level. 2 min, 20 sec @55mph as opposed to 2 min, 55 sec @ 45mph. It
W030	7/22/2020	email					<p>As the Board of Directors of the Heron River Subdivision in Star, we are responding to your request for comments relating to future modifications to Hwy. 44 between Hwy. 16 and Star Road.</p> <p>An apartment building has been approved on the south side of Hwy 44 (State Street) and between Hwy 16 and the Heron River subdivision and more commercial and residential development in that area, we are very concerned about ITD's plans for Moyle Road. Mismanaging traffic in that area could have near disastrous consequences for the people residing along Wildbranch Drive in Heron River.</p> <p>A traffic light has been installed at Hwy 44 and Plummer and a Ridley's grocery store is being constructed on that corner. The homeowners are excited to have a safe opportunity to make a left turn and right turn without fear of traffic across State St. not turning at the same time. A crosswalk will also give pedestrians a chance to cross State St. to enjoy dinner without risking our lives running across the street.</p> <p>Now that we have the street light at Plummer there will be a greater amount of cars using the light to enter State St/HWY 44. Ridley's market is due to finish construction by the end of the year and the store will attract more vehicle traffic into Heron River Subdivision. The danger is that if there is not a reasonable outlet at Moyle, this will effectively turn Wildbranch into a collector. Wildbranch is a narrow residential road with many children. Turning it into a collector will endanger children and make it very difficult for residents to back out of their driveways</p>
W031	7/21/2020	email					<p>The Heron River HOA recently requested input for you folks about what kinds of improvements we'd like to see on State Street (ID 44) between ID 16 and Star road. This family sees no need for a widening on SR 44 between ID 16 and Star Rd, other than to provide sidewalks on both the North and South sides of ID 44. Likely this is not within the purview of ITD, but we thought we'd mention it.</p> <p>Thanks!</p>
W032	7/20/2020	email					<p>I am a resident of Star, ID. The traffic on Hwy 44 just east of Star is substantial on any weekday. Traffic is especially heavy at rush hour in the morning and afternoon. Please consider widening, improving and additional lighting for this section of road.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
W033	7/19/2020	email					<p>We were told there would be a no outlet sign put up on the corner of Caribe Inlet and Streamleaf but still no sign. Also what is happening with our streets in our neighborhood with the water seeping out of the middle of the street?</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
W034	7/19/2020	email					<p>I don't want to see four lanes of traffic on SR44 between SR16 and Star road. I would like to see sidewalks on both sides of the street through that entire corridor. And maybe a couple more crosswalks.</p> <p>Thanks.</p> <p>Heron River</p>
W035	7/18/2020	email					<p>As information is gathered while planning future developments to Highway 44 between HWY 16 and Star rd, I would like to request a cement sound barrier will be put up along residential areas, specifically Heron River. Especially if the road is widened. With increase traffic flow due to increasing growth and commercial development it is understandable that accommodation be made for traffic flow. As a resident here prior to development, I would like the noise factor to those of us effected to be considered also. A wall such as the one going in on Chinden near Ten Mile would help to minimize noise pollution.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
W036	7/17/2020	email					<p>Subject: [EXTERNAL] Highway 16 connector to 44</p> <p>I'm a huge fan of this project! Good luck getting it done.</p> <p>Heron River</p>

W037	7/18/2020	email							<p>Hello,</p> <p>I live in Star off State St and Plummer Way in the Heron River Subdivision.</p> <p>A traffic light is being constructed as I write this note at State and Plummer. The homeowners are excited to have a safe opportunity to make a left turn and right turn without fear of traffic across State not turning at the same time. A crosswalk will also give pedestrians a chance to cross State to enjoy dinner without risking our lives running across the street.</p> <p>Now that we have a street light at Plummer there will be a greater amount of cars using the light to enter State St/HWY 44. Ridley's market is now under construction due to finish at the end of the year and the store will attract more vehicle traffic into Heron River Subdivision.</p> <p>When you widen Hwy 44 please include a sensor traffic light at Moyle so the homes, apartments and commercial properties in the 100 acres to Heron River's East can access State St without traveling through Heron River. Hwy 16 cut off access to that 100 acres and the only streets to exit the area are Moyle and W Wildbranch which leads into Heron River and is a small residential road.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration in keeping Heron River a safe family</p>
W038	7/18/2020	email							<p>We are supposed to be a better community to live in we pay a higher average of dues. There are 5 holes where ATo Z removed trees but didn't replace them the front pond fountain hasn't worked for a while now and the entrance waterfall doesn't work. A lot of common area grass is dead. .. None of this is from the virus. So why don't you fix it ..this place has become no better than rock bridge . across the road.</p>
W039	7/18/2020	email							<p>Commissioners,</p> <p>We are writing and voicing our concerns and recommendations to your agency per your request for Public Input.</p> <p>As residents and wonders of a beautiful home in Heron River development, our primary concerns are Safety, Traffic Congestion, and Traffic Cut-throughs in front of and through Heron River.</p> <p>First, the amount of heavy truck construction traffic on 44 from Star Road to Crystal Springs has multiplied astronomically in less than 9 months. Near misses are a daily occurrence as residential vehicles attempt to turn onto or off of Highway 44, west or eastbound, as heavy trucks loaded with rock and aggregate speed through Seneca Springs and Plummer Road at over 60 MPH.</p> <p>Although the posted speed just west of Moyle westbound says 35 MPH, nobody seems to obey the speed limit.</p> <p>Then eastbound, ITD has a posted speed of 55 MPH before Plummer - so you have, by your posted speed policy, trained all traffic to accelerate to 55 MPH or more before you reach Plummer, which now is receiving a traffic signal light. Heavy trucks don't stop on a dime. This is very dangerous!</p> <p>So please accept our suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Post 35 MPH signs well before Crystal Springs or Moyle westbound, and Cosmo going eastbound.
W040	7/18/2020	email							<p>Hello.</p> <p>Hwy 44, otherwise known as State Street traffic is already congested/busy. With all the new construction planned, it will become a traffic nightmare. It pretty much is already a nightmare from Eagle Road going East.</p> <p>They need to widen 44 asap and ideally slow down the construction projects.</p> <p>I don't know what else can be done. Are there other options?</p>
W041	7/24/2020	email							<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am a resident of Heron River. I live on Wildbranch Dr, which would be affected greatly with any and all changes to the population and traffic pattern. With young kids I would like to have my street and home safe and traffic flow monitored. As such I feel that a right in right out at Moyle on Hwy 44 would create a highway of my quiet street with kids.</p> <p>I would propose a quick light with a cross walk, similar to what you find at Main St and Hwy 44 in Star. The light could change for pedestrians or cars that need to turn. Alternatively, a light there for traffic flow could be installed. The need for the light to change would not need to be often, and could easily be sensor dependent, with a quick timer. Being able to turn left onto Moyle, and then left out of Moyle to Hwy 44 would relieve congestion and diminish the flow of traffic through the Heron River neighborhood. This would also allow for a better flow both on and off of the interchange that is to be built at the Hwy 44 and Hwy 16 crossing.</p> <p>Thank you for your time in considering my concerns and fears for the traffic pattern changes at Hwy 44 and Moyle, and then also the Hwy 44 and Hwy 16 interchanges.</p> <p>Thanks.</p>

W042	7/24/2020	email								<p>I am a resident of Heron River and while I hate to see State Street widened I realize it's inevitable.</p> <p>Cross walks at various intersections are a must! Currently, while walking and attempting to cross at Seneca Springs Road and State Street is a suicide attempt and it's only two lanes of traffic with the speed limit at 35 mph! PLEASE allow for crosswalks, marked appropriately that "pedestrians have the right of way".</p> <p>I often walk to the Post Office and can safely cross by Star City Hall and the Post Office - speed is 25 mph - and most traffic will stop. It is a painted cross-walk with a yellow sandwichboard-type sign reminding traffic to stop for pedestrians.</p> <p>I know a traffic light is in the process of being installed at Plummer Wy but that won't help west of Plummer.</p> <p>Please consider this seriously. Thank you.</p>
W047	7/27/2020	email								<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am a resident in Heron River and live on W. Wildbranch Drive. I am concerned with the proposed right hand turn only on Moyle onto State Street. This would cause a lot of traffic to come through on my street from the apartments that will be going up past Moyle. If Moyle is a right turn only the residents from the apartments would need to come down W. Wildbranch Drive to make a left onto State St. I have young children and live right on the corner and the proposed right hand turn only will increase traffic. My recommendation is to keep Moyle as it is or install a traffic light on State Street at Moyle so the people who will be in the Crystal Springs Apartments don't have to go through my road to easily turn left onto State Street.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p>
W052	7/28/2020	email								<p>Please stop allowing apartments and giant subdivisions to be built when the infrastructure is not there. Make the developers pay for it and have it built before their projects can start selling. That or get a train system or a beltway like most cities that are metros. Traffic gets worse every year. Either fix the roads via increase in bonds/tax increase/rental car Tax and hotel tax.</p> <p>Regarding Star, the city needs a bypass. State St/HWY 44 is not functional as is. If that can't be done make Chinden from Central Valley and the bypass.</p> <p>Please stop the rubber stamping of development</p>
W056	7/28/2020	website								<p>I don't see in any of plans plans to complete Hwy 16 from Chinden to I-84. That is unbelievable! Please advise reasons. There are so many reasons why that is such a vital link. Please begin planning for that.</p>
W061	7/30/2019	email								<p>Good Afternoon,</p> <p>My Wife and I live in the Heron River Development and really enjoy the area. As time has gone by and depending on the time day, it is getting tougher and tougher to enter highway 44 from any of the cross streets that exit onto 44. With the number of projects that are now being planned along 44, I can see the day coming that we will have traffic signal lights at every intersection to allow traffic to flow out of the housing areas.</p> <p>On the corner of Seneca Springs and 44, I have seen cars leaving the Heron River development go to the East and make a U-turn in the middle of 44 or into the businesses along the North side of the roadway so that they can go West. It is only going to get worse because the City of Star is going to allow a high density building project be built on that corner.</p> <p>With all of the traffic now, it is becoming unsafe for pedestrians to cross 44 even if they do it legally at an intersection. There are a number of people who like to walk to the few restaurants and shops that are available but are now shying away from that because of the truck traffic. I think it is time for both the city and state to step back and take a look at what is being planned right now. 44 is only going to become a bigger bottle neck once all of the building is done and by that time it will be too late to do anything about the traffic issue.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
W063	7/30/2019	email								<p>Idaho Department of Transportation</p> <p>July 31, 2020</p> <p>Subject: Input from Star residents concerning Highway 44 projects</p> <p>Dear Idaho Department of Transportation,</p> <p>The Heron River HOA Board of Directors advised us of your request for community comment about future Highway 44 projects. When I mentioned this request to two Star librarians last week, I became distressed by their comments. They indicated there is a community impression that IDT intends to construct a 4-lane high speed / greater traffic roadway through the center of Star. They seemed resigned that Star residents will have no influence over the decision. Community sentiment is that if IDT makes plans for a higher speed - higher traffic volume 4-lane highway through the center of Star, it will degrade Star.</p> <p>My wife and I decided to move into Star in a new section of Heron River a little more than a year ago. We liked the rural setting, beautiful views, and the obvious potential for Star to develop as a community. We also noticed the blighted properties on W. State Street and thought Star needed restaurants, stores, and a walk-able downtown. Then and now, we believe W. State St (Hwy 44) is the obvious place for development of a Star "downtown" with a community of restaurants, shopping, and</p>