

Leadership in Government, Ada County

City of Eagle Eagle Road Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge

The Eagle Road Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge opened to the public on Friday, May 19, 2023. In development for 10 years, the project started as a request from Eagle residents and gained form through COMPASS' Project Development Program process. The resulting bridge supports COMPASS' *Communities in Motion 2050* vision and goals by providing safety, convenience, economic vitality, and quality of life for all residents.

The detached pedestrian/bicycle-only bridge provides a dedicated off-highway crossing of the north channel of the Boise River at Eagle Road (State Highway 55), creates a crucial north-south connection over the river, and connects the east/west greenbelts on the north and south river channels. Due to the intensity of use and speed of the state highway (55 mph) and limited river crossings in western Ada County, the previous highway bridge forced pedestrian and bicycle traffic onto the 10-foot highway shoulder with no dedicated refuge for non-motorized users. The new pedestrian/bicycle bridge provides a safer off-highway crossing for walkers and cyclists over the north channel of the Boise River, connecting residential areas south of the river to commercial, civic, educational, and open spaces in the heart of Eagle.

The City of Eagle originally committed \$2.9 million toward construction, while also working with COMPASS to pursue outside funding sources. By the time the bridge was completed in May 2023, the city was able to obtain federal and state funding for all but \$200,000 of the final \$3.2 million price tag.