# **Tier 2 Evaluation Results**



Below describes the major findings from the Tier 2 evaluation. Each remaining option was evaluated against the criteria and each other.

# **Boise Cut-Off** COMMUTER RAIL

#### **Benefits:**

- » Passes through key regional activity centers.
- » Provides exclusive and reliable service, as trains get priority at crossings and travel in dedicated right of way.
- » Fewer environmental challenges or impacts.



## **Benefits:**

- » Passes through communities with higher likelihood of using transit.
- » Serves a higher share of the region's jobs (current and future).
- » Provides exclusive and reliable service as buses

- » Requires the least amount of property acquisitions.
- » Track and crossing upgrades may improve freight efficiency.

#### **Considerations:**

- » Serves lower share of the region's population and jobs (current and future).
- » Feasibility dependent on negotiations with railroad owners and operators.

would operate in dedicated lanes.

- » Fewer anticipated traffic impacts.
- » Intersects many existing and future transit routes.
- » Fewer environmental challenges or impacts
- » Requires fewer number of property acquisitions.
- » Potentially lower cost to implement.

#### **Considerations:**

- » Passes through fewer key regional activity centers.
- » Intersects fewer existing and future pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

# **Fairview Avenue/Cherry Lane & Franklin Road**

#### **BRT-BAT & BRT-EXCLUSIVE**

Fairview Avenue/Cherry Lane and Franklin Rd (arterial routes) score similarly for numerous criteria. Both routes:

#### **Benefits:**

 Provides connections to key destinations, community resources, jobs, existing and future transit, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities. The analysis found that BRT-BAT (side) would have greater impacts compared to BRT-Exclusive (center).

- » Passes through communities with higher likelihood of using transit.
- » Serves high share of the region's population and jobs (current and future).

## **Considerations:**

- » Presents moderate to high traffic impacts.
- » Requires significant roadway widening to construct and high number of property acquisitions.
- » Impacts a large number of historic sites.
- » Potentially complex and costly to implement.

#### BRT-BAT requires the most amount of right-ofway to construct the corridor resulting in:

- » Greater number of historic sites impacted.
- » More property acquisitions.
- » More expensive to construct.

#### BRT Exclusive may result in:

- » More difficulty accessing businesses.
- » Greater impacts to freight operations.

## High-Capacity Transit Planning and Environmental Linkages Study

NOTICE: 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.

