

Working together to plan for the future

News Release

June 30, 2023

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COMPASS Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Transportation Projects

Meridian, ID – The Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) is seeking public comment on a draft seven-year budget of transportation projects in Ada and Canyon Counties and on a proposed amendment to Communities in Motion 2050, the regional long-range transportation plan for the two-county area. Comments will be accepted through Monday, July 31, 2023.

"The budget, called the regional transportation improvement program, outlines how federal, state, and, in some cases, local transportation funding will be spent over the next seven years in Ada and Canyon Counties," explains COMPASS Principal Planner Toni Tisdale. "The budget includes a range of projects to increase safety, provide transportation options, address congestion, maintain the transportation system, and more."

Each project in the TIP includes a brief description, information on costs and funding, and additional details. It is updated annually, with new projects typically added to the "end" of the budget. Projects then advance through the budget as time passes. The entire list of projects can be found online (see below); a small sample includes:

- Constructing numerous new multi-use pathways in the Cities of Boise, Garden City, Meridian, and Nampa.
- Widening portions of US 20/26 (Chinden Boulevard), Eagle Road, Ustick Road, State Highway 55 (Karcher Road), Lake Hazel Road, Linder Road, Fairview Avenue, Orchard Street, State Highway 44, and more.
- Replacing a six-legged intersection with a roundabout at State Highway 19 (Simplot Boulevard) and Centennial Way/Cleveland Boulevard/Blaine Street in the City of Caldwell.
- Designing and replacing the Five Mile Road overpass over Interstate 84 in the City of Boise.
- Implementing safety improvements on Homedale Road in Canyon County.

In addition, COMPASS is proposing updates to the list of "funded" projects in <u>Communities in Motion 2050</u> to add five new projects. Review the proposed updates, located with the TIP project list online (see below), and let COMPASS know if you agree, or disagree, with them.

COMPASS is also accepting comments on an air quality conformity demonstration for northern Ada County conducted on the proposed project lists. This required demonstration must show that the projects will not cause the area to exceed established air pollution "budgets."

Learn more and submit comments:

- Online:
 - https://compassidaho.org/ (follow the link to "public comment")
 - o Pre-recorded presentation: www.youtube.com/COMPASSIdaho
- By mail or email:
 - o Email comments to info@compassidaho.org
 - o Mail comments to COMPASS, 700 NE 2nd Street, Suite 200, Meridian, ID 83642
 - o Call or email to request materials be mailed to you: 208/855-2558 or info@compassidaho.org
- At an open house:
 - Tuesday, July 11: 3:00 6:00 pm
 - o COMPASS Office: 700 NE 2nd Street, Meridian, ID, 83642

Comments must be submitted in writing and received no later than 11:59 pm, Monday, July 31, 2023.

The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) is also requesting feedback on a statewide version of the same type of budget. ITD and COMPASS will share comments received on projects in Ada and Canyon Counties to ensure all comments submitted are considered by both agencies.