

Working together to plan for the future

News Release

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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 <u>Communities in Motion 2050</u>, the regional long-range transportation plan for the two-county area. Comments will be accepted through Wednesday, July 31, 2024.

"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 budget 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 of new projects and changes includes:

- Constructing an overpass on Linder Road over I-84 in the City of Meridian.
- Studying a possible interchange to connect south of I-84 at State Highway 16 in the City of Nampa.
- Replacing buses and transit vans.
- Constructing numerous new multi-use pathways in the Cities of Boise, Garden City, Meridian, and Nampa.
- Replacing the interchange at I-84 and State Highway 44 in Canyon County.
- Planning for electric vehicle infrastructure in the City of Boise (project would be added to the current budget before the new budget is approved).
- Removing a project to build a weather station near the intersection of State Highways 16 and 44 (project would be removed from the current budget before the new budget is approved).

In addition, COMPASS is proposing an amendment to <u>Communities in Motion 2050</u> to add widening Linder Road from Pine Avenue to Ustick Road in the City of Meridian to five lanes and building three new pathways in the Cities of Boise and Garden City to the list of short-term funded projects.

Information on all of the proposed projects and changes can be found online (see below). COMPASS is requesting your feedback on these proposals.

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:
 - Email comments to info@compassidaho.org
 - 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:
 - o Monday, July 15: 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, Wednesday, July 31, 2024.

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.