

**Community Planning Association**  
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# Keeping Up With COMPASS

*A newsletter for COMPASS members to keep abreast of COMPASS Board and committee actions.*

## Key August Board/Committee Actions

- > **Board:** Adopted FY2012—2016 Transportation Improvement Program, the COMPASS FY2012 budget, and 14 federal position statements.
- > **Executive Committee:** Provided guidance to staff regarding three federal competitive grants.
- > **RTAC:** Recommended composition of a planning team for the *Communities in Motion* update.

## COMPASS Board of Directors

The COMPASS Board met on August 15 and began with two new regular agenda items, both which are outcomes of the May Board retreat.

The first was a presentation by Nampa Mayor Tom Dale, discussing Nampa's successes and challenges. Each month, a different member agency will be highlighted with a presentation by one of its Board members. The purpose of the presentations is to foster better mutual understanding among COMPASS Board members and the issues their jurisdictions are facing.

The second new item was a presentation by Executive Director Matt Stoll. Matt gave a high

level overview of COMPASS programs as an introduction to a series of workshops on individual programs that will be conducted by COMPASS staff at upcoming meetings.

The first of three action items was the culmination of a three-meeting discussion of position statements on federal issues, mainly dealing with issues likely to be addressed through re-authorization of the federal transportation bill.

Ken Burgess of Veritas Advisors discussed the issues with the Board at the June and July meetings, then brought proposed position statements based on those discussions for approval

in August. The Board approved 14 individual position statements covering issues ranging from funding "silos" to gas tax to the minimum population size for a Metropolitan Planning Organization. Full language of all position statements can be found at [www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/legislative.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/legislative.htm).

The Board also approved the FY2012—2016 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and amendments to FY2012 in the FY2011—2015 TIP to match changes made for 2012 in the new TIP.

In addition, the Board approved the COMPASS budget — the Unified Planning Work Program

## Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on August 16.

The committee continued its July discussion regarding a request by the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) for COMPASS to take the lead on a "TIGER III" grant application for the reconstruction of Meridian Interchange. The committee instructed staff to not pursue this grant, due to concerns over lack of funding match and readiness of

the project. Staff will encourage ITD to take steps to ensure the project is ready for future grant opportunities.

The committee also discussed two other federal grants and directed staff to pursue a Community Challenge grant application for the State Street Corridor, but not to pursue a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant. This will allow staff and member agencies to focus efforts

and matching funds on one grant application to increase odds of success.

The committee provided guidance to staff on membership and logistics of a leadership team to guide the 2014 update of *Communities in Motion*.

The committee also voted to cancel the September Board and Executive Committee meetings due to light agendas and staff travel commitments.

September Meeting Dates	
TMA Balancing Committee	Sept 1
Blueprint for Good Growth Consortium	Sept 9
Board of Directors	Cancelled
Executive Committee	Cancelled
Regional Technical Advisory Committee	Sept 28
Demographic Advisory Committee	Sept 28



**COMPASS**  
 COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION  
 of Southwest Idaho

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## Regional Technical Advisory Committee

**The Regional Technical Advisory Committee advises the COMPASS Board on regional transportation and related planning issues.**

The Regional Technical Advisory Committee (RTAC) met on August 24. The group addressed one action — recommend members for a planning team for the *Communities in Motion* update.

RTAC will serve as the base of the planning team, with additional members representing interests and skill sets focusing on the sustainability issues to be addressed in the plan.

The committee voted to include eight additional

types of groups on the planning team; staff will seek interested individuals representing those target groups.

A kickoff meeting for the planning team will be held on September 14 at Eagle City Hall. All persons interested in serving on the planning team will be invited to attend, regardless of affiliation with the target groups. The composition of the planning team will be finalized after the September 14 meeting.

In other business, Clair Bowman, City of Nampa, reported on an access management plan for State Highway 55 between Marsing and Nampa. The plan was developed by the Idaho Transportation Department and has been adopted by the Nampa City Council.

In addition, Sabrina Anderson, Ada County Highway District (ACHD), updated the committee on corridor studies ACHD has planned for fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

## Public Participation Committee

The Public Participation Committee (PPC) is comprised of community volunteers who advise COMPASS on public outreach activities.

At its August meeting, the PPC reviewed the draft Public Involvement Plan for the *Communities in Motion* (CIM) update and recommended its adoption to the Board. The plan was developed with a subcommittee of the PPC. In September, it will be presented to the CIM planning team for information

and discussion and will be presented to the Board in October.

The PPC also discussed the potential for a COMPASS household knowledge/opinion survey. RTAC had previously discussed the survey and requested that PPC provide a recommendation to RTAC.

PPC voted to recommend to RTAC that the survey be included in the COMPASS budget. The survey, if conducted as presented, would be a statistically significant

phone survey that would take place every other year and be used to track COMPASS success in its outreach and education program.

The PPC also advised staff to explore other less formal/expensive options and to bring the topic back for further discussion.

The committee also received updates on the CIM and scenario planning processes; staff requested volunteers to assist with both of these.

The Public Participation Committee (PPC) will encourage community involvement in transportation planning issues in the COMPASS planning area...[and] will advise and assist COMPASS staff on the approach and delivery for public involvement activities.

- Public Participation Committee Bylaws



All meeting packets and minutes are available online.

## Where Can I Find More Information?

COMPASS Board and committee meeting schedules, packets, and minutes are available on the COMPASS website.

**Board:**

[www.compassidaho.org/people/board.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/people/board.htm)

**Committees:**

[www.compassidaho.org/people/committees.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/people/committees.htm)

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