

July 23, 2010

For Transportation Improvement Program: Toni Tisdale, 855-2558, ext. 228

For Air Quality Conformity Demonstration: MaryAnn Waldinger, 855-2558, ext. 275

For Media Inquiries: Amy Luft, 855-2558, ext. 231



COMPASS
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION
of Southwest Idaho

COMPASS Seeks Public Comment on Regional Transportation Projects

Project information will be on display at COMPASS on August 11, 2010

Meridian, ID – The Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) seeks public comment on transportation projects proposed for the next five years in Ada and Canyon Counties as listed in the *Draft FY2011-2015 Regional Transportation Improvement Program* and the required *Air Quality Conformity Demonstration for Northern Ada County*. Documents will be available for review beginning July 23, 2010, and comments will be accepted through August 23, 2010.

The Transportation Improvement Program allocates limited federal transportation funds for projects such as highways, transit, pathways, rail crossings, vanpooling, and other public transportation options.

The air quality conformity demonstration is required for air quality non-attainment and maintenance areas, such as northern Ada County, and demonstrates that projects listed in the Transportation Improvement Program and the regional long-range transportation plan, *Communities in Motion*, comply with state air quality plans. Federal approval of the air quality conformity demonstration is necessary to obtain final approval of the Transportation Improvement Program in northern Ada County.

Project lists and maps will be on display for public review:

Wednesday, August 11, 2010

10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

COMPASS

800 S. Industry Way, Suite 100 — Meridian, ID, 83642

To view a draft copy of the Transportation Improvement Program or the air quality conformity demonstration for northern Ada County, or for directions to COMPASS, visit the COMPASS website at <http://www.compassidaho.org>, or call 855-2558, ext. 228.

Send written comments by August 23, 2010, to COMPASS, attn: Toni Tisdale, 800 S. Industry Way, Suite 100, Meridian, Idaho, 83642, or ttisdale@compassidaho.org, or fax to 855-2559.

For special assistance, please call 855-2558, ext. 231 forty-eight (48) hours in advance. *Personas que necesitan asistencia especial para la junta, favor de llamar al numero 855-2558 ext. 231 con 48 horas de aviso.*

More

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FACT SHEET TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)

COMPASS prepares and adopts the TIP every year in cooperation with the Idaho Transportation Department, local highway districts, local governments, and other project sponsors.

What is the TIP?

1) The TIP is a five-year schedule and cost estimate of federally funded transportation projects in Ada and Canyon Counties and of other regionally significant transportation projects in Ada County. Projects in the TIP must meet air quality improvement standards for northern Ada County, where air quality did not meet federal standards in the past.

2) The TIP is an extension of the long-range transportation plan. The long-range plan suggests transportation improvements needed in the region over the next 25 years. The TIP illustrates those projects listed for funding and construction in the short-term. A project cannot be in the TIP without being consistent with the long-range plan.

3) The TIP is required by the U.S. Department of Transportation so our region can receive money from the federal government for transportation projects. Transportation projects are not eligible for federal funding unless they are listed in the TIP.

What is COMPASS?

COMPASS is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Ada and Canyon Counties, with responsibility for transportation planning and allocation of federal transportation funding. The COMPASS Board consists of elected officials representing cities, counties, the transit authority, highway districts, and special districts in the two-county region. Learn more at www.compassidaho.org.