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**News Release**

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## **COMPASS Endorses Ada County Highway District's Vehicle Registration Fee Reauthorization**

*Meridian, ID* – The Board of Directors of the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) has officially endorsed the Ada County Highway District's vehicle registration fee reauthorization, which will be on the ballot in Ada County on November 6, 2018. The Board voted to endorse the reauthorization and encourage voter approval at its August 20, 2018, Board meeting.

COMPASS is a regional planning agency serving Ada and Canyon Counties and is responsible for transportation planning in the two-county area. The COMPASS [Board of Directors](#) is comprised of local elected officials representing COMPASS member agencies.

As part of its ongoing transportation planning, COMPASS forecasts regional growth, allocates federal transportation funds, identifies unfunded transportation needs, and calculates the difference between anticipated funding and regional needs. Based on current estimates, the agency projects a transportation funding shortfall of at least \$235 million per year to the year 2040.

"We are falling further and further behind in addressing our transportation needs, particularly in light of our rapid population growth," states COMPASS Chair Elect and Canyon County Commissioner Tom Dale. "It is critical that existing local, state, and federal revenues be maintained and enhanced to meet our growing region and support economic development opportunities."

The estimated \$7.5 million in annual revenue from this registration fee would be used to relieve congestion, undertake major road improvements and other large mobility projects, and continue the enhanced funding of neighborhood projects and safe routes to school in Ada County.

"Transportation funding is a combination of federal, state, and local funds," explains Dale. "Local funds are the one part of that equation where residents can have a direct impact on addressing transportation needs."