



## **COMPASS Establishes 2010 Legislative Positions**

*Meridian, ID* – The Board of Directors of the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) has established its positions on transportation issues likely to be on the table during the upcoming 2010 legislative session.

Three of the five official positions established by the COMPASS Board during its December 21, 2009, Board meeting deal with transportation funding, from expressing general support for increasing and diversifying transportation funding to supporting local option tax authority to supporting a fifth year of GARVEE bonding.

The Board also voted to support a mechanism for the Idaho Transportation Department to define access control standards for state highways; in other words, to better manage where and how intersections and driveways are built to improve safety and help traffic move more efficiently.

The final COMPASS Board position also concerns safety: support for legislation concerning inattentive driving, especially the use of cell phones and texting while driving.

The legislative positions are listed below. For additional detail, visit <http://www.compassidaho.org/documents/people/board/agenda12212009.pdf> and click on item V-D.

### **COMPASS 2010 Legislative Positions:**

#### 1. Transportation Revenue

The COMPASS Board of Directors strongly supports increasing and diversifying dedicated revenue for state and local transportation systems, including transit and alternative transportation modes.

#### 2. Local Option Tax Authority Legislation

The COMPASS Board of Directors strongly supports general local option sales tax authority legislation. The Idaho Constitution currently empowers the legislature to grant local option taxing authority to local units of government.

#### 3. Fifth Year Funding Approval of GARVEE Bonding Program

The COMPASS Board of Directors strongly supports continuation of the Idaho Transportation Board's proposed GARVEE-related project and funding package.

#### 4. Transportation Access Plan Legislation

The COMPASS Board of Directors strongly supports legislation providing a mechanism for the Idaho Transportation Department Board, in cooperation with local planning entities, to define the access control standards for a given highway corridor.

#### 5. Inattentive Driving Legislation

The COMPASS Board of Directors strongly supports legislation banning or restricting text messaging and cell phone use while driving a motor vehicle.