



News Release

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COMPASS Board Approves 2009 Legislative Positions; Transportation Funding Top Priority

Meridian, ID – The Board of Directors of the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) approved its 2009 legislative position statements at a regularly scheduled Board meeting on Monday, November 17, 2008.

Transportation funding tops the list of Board priorities, with four of six position statements highlighting support for funding issues, including:

1. Support for increased and diversified statewide transportation funding in general.
2. Support for legislation that provides general local option tax authority.
3. Support for continuation of the Idaho Transportation Board's GARVEE-related projects and associated funding.
4. Support for amending the State Tax Anticipation Revenue (STAR) financing mechanism to provide a more broadly applicable transportation project financing tool.

The Board also approved two additional legislative positions:

1. Support for legislation that will provide a mechanism for the Idaho Transportation Board, in cooperation with local planning entities, to define the access control standards for a given highway corridor.
2. Support for legislation and agency rules to address air quality challenges in the Treasure Valley.

In other business, the Board accepted the 2008 *Communities in Motion* Annual Performance Monitoring Report as prepared by COMPASS staff. *Communities in Motion* is the regional long-range transportation plan for a six-county region in southwest Idaho. The full plan can be found online at www.communitiesinmotion.org; the 2008 Annual Performance Monitoring Report can be accessed online at www.communitiesinmotion.org/Documents/databereports/2008PMRBoard.pdf.

The next COMPASS Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 15, 1:30 p.m., at the Nampa Civic Center.

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