



DEMOGRAPHIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
April 29, 2010, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
Community Planning Association of
Southwest Idaho
Meridian, ID

****MINUTES****

ATTENDEES: Brian Billingsley, City of Caldwell
 Stephen Coe, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
 Matt Ellsworth for Caleb Hood, City of Meridian
 Wendy Howell, City of Middleton
 Kathy Knapp, Association of Canyon County Highway Districts, **Vice Chair**
 Carl Miller, COMPASS
 Megan Rush, Ada County Development Services, **Chair**
 Nichol Baird Spencer, City of Eagle
 Jennifer Tomlinson, City of Boise

MEMBERS ABSENT: Margaret Havey, Valley Regional Transit
 Paul Hiller, Chamber of Commerce-Ada County
 Norm Holm, City of Nampa
 Dan Hunter, Canyon County Development Services
 Samia Islam, Boise State University
 Christy Little, Ada County Highway District
 Nathan Mitchell, Mayor, City of Star
 Maranda O Bray, City of Kuna
 Deanna Smith, Public Participation Committee
 Brad Snow, Idaho Power Company
 Jenah Thornborrow, City of Garden City

OTHERS PRESENT: Nathan Dale, COMPASS
 Amy Luft, COMPASS
 Jessica Wilson, COMPASS

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Rush called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

None.

OPEN DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve February 4, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Nichoel Baird Spencer moved and Brian Billingsley seconded approval of the February 4, 2010 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve 2010 Population Estimates

Carl Miller explained that population estimates were presented to the Demographic Advisory Committee (DAC) at the February 4, 2010 meeting. Several estimate methods and datasets were discussed to reflect current economic and housing market conditions in an accurate population estimate. After discussion at the February 4, 2010 meeting the DAC deferred the population estimates to the April 29, 2010 DAC meeting to include more recent United States Postal Service (USPS) data, decrease household sizes according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS), and then reconsider the population estimates.

COMPASS staff has prepared two population estimates for DAC review. Using household size and vacancy rate data from the 2006-2008 Census Bureau American Community Survey (interpolated for non-ACS communities) the population has decreased to 575,780. Using household vacancy data from the USPS and household size data from the 2006-2008 Census Bureau American Community Survey (interpolated for non-ACS communities) the population estimate is 563,540. These population estimates reflect calculations based on more current data than the 2000 Census rather than an out-migration of population.

Discussion:

- Matt Ellsworth suggested waiting for the census results and to be consistent in using the same data that has been used for the last nine years.
- Nichoel Baird Spencer does not feel comfortable using the USPS vacancy rate.

Nichoel Baird Spencer moved and Jennifer Tomlinson seconded to approve the 2010 Population with Census vacancy rate. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2009 Annual Development Monitoring Report

Nathan Dale informed the committee that the 2009 Development Monitoring Report (DMR), the historical permit data spreadsheet, previous DMR's, and permit shapefiles are available on the COMPASS website at:

<http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/gtism-devmonitoring.htm>

Nathan said the total new construction permits issued in 2009 were 1,943 compared to 2,663 permits issued in 2008. Even though this is a 27 percent decrease in total permits between 2008 and 2009, it is less than the 45 percent decrease between 2006 and 2007, and the 40 percent decrease between 2007 and 2008. Overall, the rate at which building permits are decreasing per year is starting to slow down, and could be an indication that total new construction permit activity may start to stabilize and/or increase in 2010 and 2011.

Discussion:

- Jennifer Tomlinson said non-residential improvement information is helpful for the City of Boise.
- Nathan Dale said that he will start keeping record of the non-residential improvement information in an Excel file and not the actual DMR.

After discussion, **the Committee recommended COMPASS staff to include the non-residential data in the Historical Building Permit Summary on the COMPASS website.**

B. Public Comment for *Communities in Motion*

Amy Luft informed the Committee that in 2006, the COMPASS Board adopted *Communities in Motion* (CIM). Since last year staff has been working on the required update to this plan, which must be completed by August 2010. One of the final steps in preparing the update is the public comment period, which is May 10, 2010, through June 18, 2010.

The public comment process will consist of five main elements:

1. Getting the word out (radio and newspaper advertising, email, Facebook, etc.)
2. COMPASS open houses (May 10 in Boise; May 12 in Meridian; May 13 in Nampa)
3. Public events (Cinco de Mayo [May 1] in Caldwell; Idaho Green Expo [May 8 and 9] in Boise; May in Motion [May 21] in Boise; Planning in the West [June 4] in Boise).
4. Stand-alone opportunities for comment – mainly online and in libraries in Nampa, Caldwell, Meridian, and Boise.
5. “Meetings in a Bag,” where individuals get meeting materials from COMPASS and host their own meetings with friends, coworkers, etc.

Amy encouraged the committee members and their organizations to comment on the draft plan and become involved in the public comment process. Amy especially urged them to host a “Meeting in a Bag.” It’s easy, fun, and a great way to get others involved in the planning process.

OTHER

Next DAC meeting: Thursday, October 28, 2010, at 8:30 a.m., at COMPASS.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

