

REGIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APRIL 23, 2008
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

****MINUTES****

ATTENDEES:

Clair Bowman, City of Nampa
 Sabrina Bowman, Ada County Highway District (*for Sally Goodell*)
 Jon Cecil, Capital City Development Corporation
 Phil Choate, Idaho Transportation Department-District 3
 Matt Ellsworth, City of Meridian, *Chair*
 Jim Farrens, Ada County Development Services
 Stephen Freiburger, Nampa Highway District #1 (*for Jim Buffington*)
 Jorge Garcia, Department of Environmental Quality
 Steve Hasson, City of Kuna
 Shawn Martin, Ada County Highway District
 Ryan McDaniel, City of Boise
 Brent Orton, City of Caldwell
 Tim Richard, Canyon Highway District #4, *Vice Chair*
 Deanna Smith, Public Participation Committee
 Sarah Stobaugh, Boise Independent School District
 Jenah Thornborrow, City of Garden City
 Toni Tisdale, COMPASS (*Ex-Officio*)
 Jarom Wagoner, Canyon County Development Services

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mary Berent, City of Middleton
 Wendell Bigham, Joint School District #2
 Jared Everett, Boise State University
 Anne Horn, Mayor, City of Notus
 Rob Howarth, Central District Health Department (*Ex-Officio*)
 Gloria Parkvold, Valley Regional Transit
 Nichoel Baird Spencer, City of Eagle
 Mary Shaw Taylor, City of Star
 Margie Watson, Mayor, City of Parma

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sonna Lynn Fernandez, Idaho Transportation Department -
 Headquarters
 Carl Miller, COMPASS
 Charles Trainor, COMPASS
 MaryAnn Waldinger, COMPASS
 Debbie Winchar, COMPASS

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CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ellsworth called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

None.

Introductions were made of all attendees.

OPEN DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Toni Tisdale stated that a list of speakers have been scheduled for the *2008 COMPASS Education Series*. Today, April 23, 2008, Donovan Rypkema, from Washington D.C., will speak on "Property Rights and Public Values." A reception will be held at the Doubletree Riverside Hotel, Laurel Room, at 5:30 p.m. and the presentation and questions scheduled for 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. The list of speakers, locations, and times can be found on the COMPASS website: http://www.compassidaho.org/comm/publicevents_connections.htm. If members would like to attend this presentation, please confirm your attendance with either herself or Terri Schorzman.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve March 26, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Clair Bowman moved and Tim Richard seconded to approve the March 26, 2008 minutes as written. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Introduce New Transportation Program Reporting Mechanism

Toni Tisdale stated that Ryan Head had a family emergency which prevented him from presenting this item. Toni presented a new version of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) managing database. An effort is being made to prepare a website where the most current project information can be accessed by member agencies. Through this site, agencies will be able to print reports, view project information, and download a static copy of the full database. This last option will be available only to agencies with Microsoft Access 2007. Future TIP information will also be made available on this site.

B. Status Report – Local Update Census Addresses (LUCA)

Carl Miller presented the status of the LUCA program to increase accuracy of the 2010 Census. The COMPASS website provides additional information regarding LUCA at: <http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/luca.htm>.

C. Discuss Progress on Traffic Impact Study Best Practices

Charles Trainor presented recent work done to evaluate best practices for Traffic Impact Studies (TIS). Charles commented that staff presented this new concept to the TIS workgroup. This is not intended to be a traffic impact analysis of itself. Deficiencies are not being identified in this approach. It is intended to be a tool to the agencies to establish an area of influence of a development. The COMPASS Board will be asked to accept a "white paper" in early summer 2008.

D. Discuss Changes to the Transportation Improvement Program Prioritization Process

Toni Tisdale presented comments received from Jenah Thornborrow, Garden City, as well as new criteria and changes received in previous meetings.

Discussion:

- Criterion: Service quality - 15 units per acre may be a little high.
- Introduce another concept of scoring; may want to use transportation or Transportation Land Use Implementation Plan (TLIP) levels of service (LOS) or LOS in general.
- Square footage is left blank. Any thoughts on what that number should be?

Toni replied the number was left blank for discussion sake in order to come to a solution.

- Does the criterion apply across the two counties? It may be more of a challenge to obtain that level of density in Canyon County. Is there a way to define it so it is not so subjective?

Toni replied that when scoring these projects, separate funding is being addressed (i.e., urban funding in Canyon County and TMA funding in Ada County). The projects are not being judged against each other, at least at this time.

- Sense of Place as opposed to roadway projects – this could apply to pathways but be detrimental to many important regional roadway projects in both counties.
- Sense of Place may not be applicable to the historic, scenic, and environmental category.
- System Continuity should not be removed.

Jenah Thornborrow replied that there is more weight to the continuous movement of traffic. *Communities in Motion* focuses on creating a Sense of Place area so each individual city municipality has its core. The way it is now set up, the emphasis is on regionality.

- Is there an over-weighted category that could be deducted from to help keep the balance?
- Sense of Place, when it comes to densities, may be captured more in the land use category instead of System Continuity criteria.

Charles Trainor replied that Sense of Place is broader and more diverse than just densities.

- Move Sense of Place into the Bonus Points category.

Toni replied that it could be made subjective by having a range of points, 0 to 10 or 0 to 20, based on the narrative provided by the applicant.

- It may be helpful to obtain a better definition of indicators that may constitute Sense of Place.
- There may be a better definition than “Place” which is completely subjective.
- There is a need to consider the objectives regarding prioritization.

Toni stated that on page 2, one of the summary principles as stated in *Communities in Motion* is that maintenance and safety of transportation are highest priorities when considering funding allocations. This

has not been built into the prioritization process. Do we prioritize those types of projects or do they just go to the top?

- When scoring these projects, it was not taken into consideration how this implementation would improve safety.
- Sense of Place is moving away from what is being measured. Prioritization would be easier if it were based on the number of users.
- As a region, we are looking at air quality and it is important to utilize the land correctly, which warrants a high level of consideration.

There was a consensus among committee members present, that "Sense of Place" should be changed to a different title.

- Are typologies included? If land use includes some of those densities, that is a necessary component. Does the built environment include these elements?

Chair Ellsworth suggested that it may be helpful to identify those elements and bring them back for discussion at the next scheduled meeting.

Toni suggested that the committee also consider Table 6: Potential Points by the Evaluation Criteria and Project Category on page 12, where points were shifted. Did those points shift properly and if not, where should they shift from and to? Toni requested that any comments be emailed to her prior to the mailout of the May 28, 2008 meeting packet. This item will be brought back for further discussion.

Charles suggested that staff pose a series of questions to the committee where direction is needed (i.e., design element, density elements, definitions, etc.) and request a response via email before the next meeting.

E. Review Preferred Sites for a Downtown Boise Multimodal Center

Charles Trainor presented information on sites under consideration in the Treasure Valley High Capacity Transit Study. At the May 2008 RTAC meeting, a recommended site should be ready for presentation. The action taken by RTAC will then be presented to the COMPASS Board. A final decision will be given to the Federal Highway Administration by July 15, 2008.

F. Update of the Draft FY2009-2013 Transportation Improvement Program

Toni Tisdale presented a brief update and stated that the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) is in the process of working on budgetary issues which has caused a slowdown in obtaining the data to update all projects. Once urban balancing is done, it is anticipated that the first Idaho Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP), which ITD uses to produce the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), will be completed by May 11 or 12, 2008. RTAC will be requested to recommend the draft project list for public comment on May 28, 2008, with COMPASS Board approval to follow on June 16, 2008.

Toni stated that the public comment period is anticipated to open on June 23, 2008. If the IT Board makes major changes at their June 2008 meeting, the air quality conformity demonstration could be affected which would delay the public comment period.

G. Discuss Construction and Studies Coordination

Charles Trainor presented an update to the Studies and Construction Coordination efforts.

Toni Tisdale presented an update to the Studies Coordination changes. These changes will be available on the COMPASS website: <http://www.compassidaho.org/planning/studies-ongoing.htm>.

Toni asked the committee if the Studies Coordination webpage should act as a repository for city comprehensive plans.

An acknowledgement was made by members present, that inclusion of comprehensive plans on the Studies Coordination webpage would be appropriate.

Toni asked the committee if it was still their desire to keep completed studies on the "current studies" webpage for a period of five years, as previously requested.

Discussion:

- Leave completed studies on the webpage until there is an update of the data.
- Archive old information after a report is replaced.
- Add a link to ITD's corridor planning webpage. Sonna Lynn Fernandez will send the link.

Toni requested that all updated studies information, as well as a link to the respective comprehensive plans, be forwarded to her via email.

OTHER

A. *Next Meeting:* Wednesday, May 28, 2008, 9:00 a.m., at COMPASS.

Charles Trainor commented that a state sponsored public transportation conference entitled; "Mobility Idaho 2008" is scheduled for April 29, 30 and May 1, 2008, at the Doubletree, 2900 Chinden Blvd., Boise. For more information, go to their website: <http://itd.idaho.gov/mobilityidaho/>.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

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