

COMMENT FORM

Communities in Motion 2040

Comment Period: March 3 – April 27, 2014



The Community Planning Association (COMPASS) updates the regional long-range transportation plan for Ada and Canyon Counties every four years. These plans look 20+ years into the future to help ensure our roads, bridges, and transportation services (buses, etc.) are prepared for tomorrow’s growth. Since 2011, COMPASS has been working on the latest update to this plan – *Communities in Motion 2040* (CIM 2040).

COMPASS has provided ongoing opportunities for the public to keep abreast of the status of the plan, participate in developing elements of the plan, and comment on key decisions throughout the planning process. From **March 3 through April 27, 2014**, COMPASS is soliciting final public comment on the entire draft plan, before the COMPASS Board is presented the final plan for adoption in July. All comments received will be provided to the COMPASS Board of Directors for consideration before action is taken.

Please take a moment to review plan materials and provide comments on six key planning issues as described below, and/or on the draft plan as a whole. If you need additional space to comment on a particular issue, please use the last page of this form and note which issue you are commenting on.

Comments must be received by midnight, Sunday, April 27, 2014.

A high level fact sheet is attached to the back of this comment form.

View the entire draft plan, additional information, and all comment materials online at www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm#PublicParticipation.

To request a paper copy of the draft plan, call 475-2229 or email info@compassidaho.org.

CIM 2040 Vision

In 2012, the general public, interested stakeholders, and community leaders helped COMPASS develop a vision for Ada and Canyon Counties for the year 2040, called the CIM 2040 Vision. COMPASS forecasts that 1,022,000 people will call Ada and Canyon County home by the year 2040 and that the area will support 462,000 jobs. The CIM 2040 Vision shows where those households and jobs will be located. The CIM 2040 Vision map and Vision statement are on the back of this page.

1a. Do you agree with the CIM 2040 Vision? (Please circle)

Strongly disagree Somewhat disagree Neither agree or disagree Somewhat agree Strongly agree

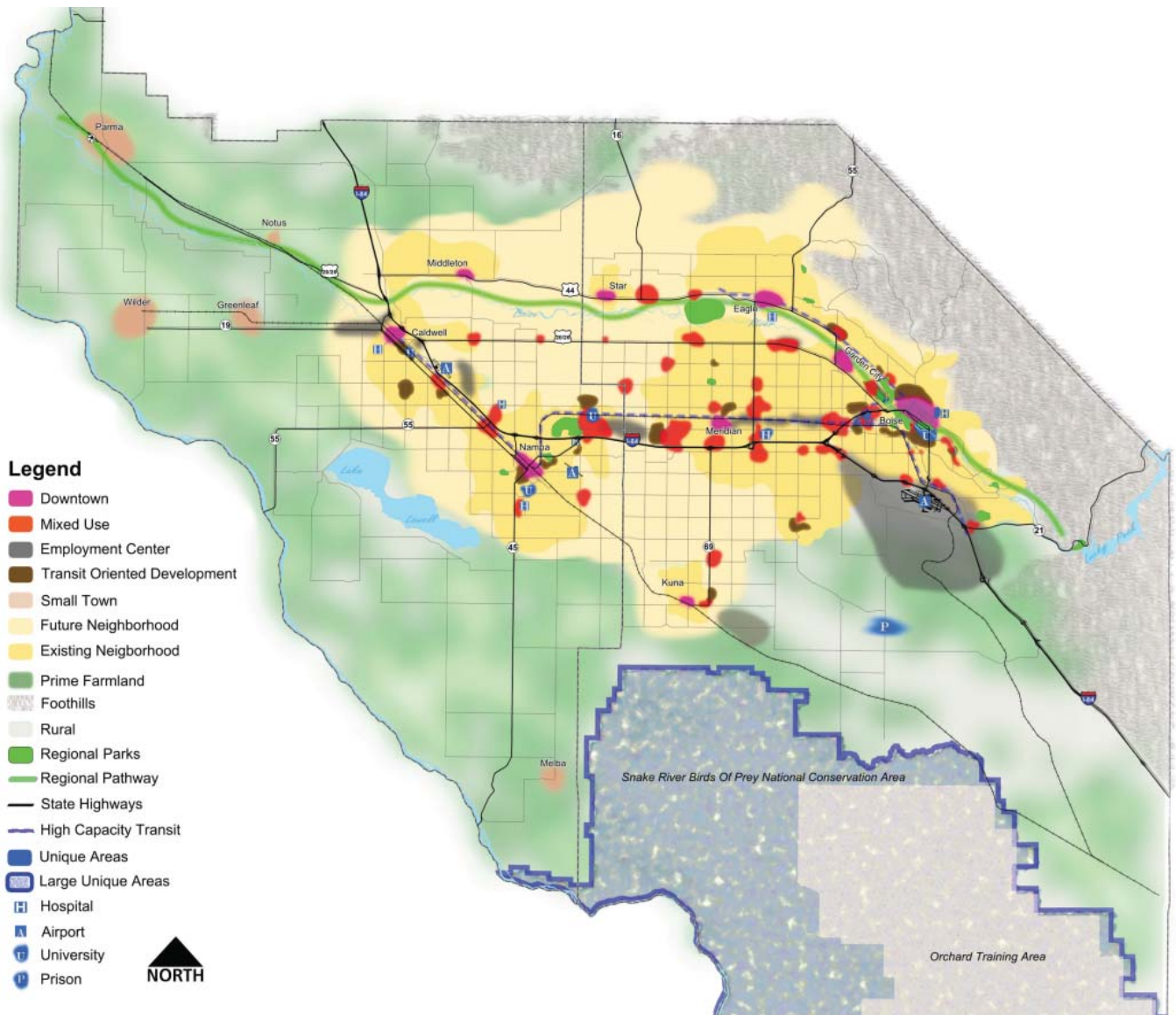
1b. Why or why not? Do you have any additional comments on the CIM 2040 Vision?

Those needing assistance may call 208/475-2229 with 48 hours advance notice. *Personas que necesitan asistencia especial, favor de llamar al número 208/475-2229 con 48 horas de anticipación.*

This form is considered a “public record,” and, as such, could be requested via a public records request. It is illegal for anyone receiving public records via a public records request to use names received via that request as a contact list.

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Communities in Motion 2040 Vision

The *Communities in Motion 2040 Vision* provides new housing and jobs along transit corridors and in major activity centers with a strong focus on maintaining the region’s recreation and open space areas. New growth would be comprised of a variety of housing types, served by infrastructure, nearby services, and outside of prime farmland or environmental constraints.

This scenario supports local comprehensive plan goals and densities, and includes entitled developments as of July 2012. This scenario would support high-capacity transit for State Street (Highway 44) and a route parallel to Interstate 84, as well as multimodal infrastructure and services throughout the region.

Key goals include walkability, preserving farmland, minimizing congestion, increasing transportation options, improving jobs-housing balance, better access to parks, and maintaining environmental resources.

Find additional information on the CIM 2040 Vision online at www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm#CIM2040.

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CIM 2040 Goals

The COMPASS Board of Directors established 17 goals for CIM 2040, listed below, which address eight plan elements. Objectives and tasks were also created to achieve these goals. Find more detail at www.compassidaho.org/documents/prodserv/CIM2040/Approved_CIM2040_Goals_and_All_071513new.pdf.

Goals:

1. Transportation

- 1.1 Enhance the transportation system to improve accessibility to jobs, schools, and services; allow the efficient movement of people and goods; and ensure the reliability of travel by all modes considering social, economic, and environmental elements.
- 1.2 Improve safety and security for all transportation modes and users.
- 1.3 Protect and preserve existing transportation systems and opportunities.
- 1.4 Develop a transportation system with high connectivity that preserves capacity of the regional system and encourages walk and bike trips.

2. Land Use

- 2.1 Coordinate local land use planning, transportation planning, and development to maximize the use of existing infrastructure, increase the effectiveness of investment, and retain or enhance the vitality of the local community.
- 2.2 Recognize and more clearly define and support the regional role of all communities, including small communities.
- 2.3 Encourage infill development and more compact growth near community-identified activity centers.
- 2.4 Strive for more walkable, bikeable, and livable communities with a strong sense of place and clear community identity and boundaries.

3. Housing. Encourage mixed-use neighborhoods, town centers, and other development types that include a variety of housing options to meet the transportation and housing needs of all socio-economic groups.

4. Community Infrastructure

- 4.1 Promote land use patterns that provide Treasure Valley residents with safe, reliable, and cost-efficient infrastructure services.
- 4.2 Promote maintenance and preservation of existing infrastructure.

5. Health. Promote a transportation system and land use patterns that enhance public health, protect the environment, and improve the quality of life.

6. Economic Development

- 6.1 Develop a regional transportation system that connects communities, provides access to employment centers, and provides efficient truck, rail, and/or air freight movement throughout the Treasure Valley.
- 6.2 Maintain the vitality of regional centers, downtowns, and main streets through continued public and private investments in new and existing business, housing, and transportation options as appropriate.

7. Open Space. Promote development and transportation projects that protect and provide all of the region's population with access to open space, natural resources, and trails.

8. Farmland

- 8.1 Protect and enhance transportation routes for the efficient movement of farm equipment and products.
- 8.2 Protect agricultural land for food, fiber, and fuel production and support of agricultural/food-related businesses.

2a. Do you agree with the 17 goals? (Please circle)

Strongly disagree Somewhat disagree Neither agree or disagree Somewhat agree Strongly agree

2b. Why or why not? (Please specify which goal(s) you are referring to.) **Do you have any additional comments on the goals?**

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Priority Corridors and Projects

Through CIM 2040, COMPASS must identify needs and priorities for the future transportation system to serve the growing population to the year 2040. To that end, COMPASS has prioritized a list of 33 transportation corridors and projects. However, due to limited funding, the needs and priorities listed below are largely unfunded. They have been identified to serve as a starting point if and when additional funding becomes available. Keep in mind that these are only the unfunded needs – many other corridors or projects have improvements funded through local or state dollars or previously budgeted federal dollars. Some of these corridors/projects also have some funding for specific projects, but not enough to fulfill all of the needs. Descriptions of each of the corridors/projects listed below can be found online at www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm#PublicParticipation. Lists of funded projects can be found in Tables 6.2 and 6.3 in the draft CIM 2040 plan document.

CIM 2040 Priority Corridors and Projects (in priority order):

1. Interstate 84 (Centennial Way Interchange to Franklin Boulevard Interchange)	12. Treasure Valley High Capacity Corridor (study to determine locally preferred option)	23. State Highway 55/Midland Boulevard Bottleneck (<i>in City of Nampa</i>)
2. State Highway 44/State Street High Capacity Corridor	13. State Highway 45 reroute (in City of Nampa – <i>Bowmont Road to Interstate 84</i>)	24. State Highway 45 (Greenhurst Road to Bowmont Road)
3. US Highway 20/26 (<i>Chinden Boulevard</i>) (Middleton Road to Eagle Road)	14. State Highway 16 (Kuna-Mora Road to Ada/Gem County Line)	25. Victory Road (Happy Valley Road to McDermott Road)
4. State Highway 55 (Snake River to the City of Nampa)	15. Boise Downtown Circulator	26. US Highway 20/26 (City of Caldwell to City of Parma)
5. Regional park and ride lots (near-term improvements)	16. <i>valleyconnect</i> medium-term (capital/operating)	27. Three Cities River Crossing (preserving land for a future project – <i>bridge over the Boise River east of City of Eagle</i>)
6. Linder Road (includes river crossing and new overpass – <i>Lake Hazel Road to State Highway 44</i>)	17. State Highway 55 (State Highway 44 to Ada/Boise County Line)	28. Star/Robinson Road (Greenhurst Road to Ustick Road)
7. Franklin Road (bottleneck between Star Road and McDermott Road)	18. Middleton Road (State Highway 55 in City of Nampa to Main Street in City of Middleton)	29. CIM 2040 transit, long-term (capital/operating)
8. Caldwell/Nampa Boulevard (Linden Street to Orchard Avenue)	19. Overland Road (multi-modal corridor plan)	30. Greenhurst Road (Middleton Road to McDermott Road / <i>Happy Valley Road</i>)
9. Ustick Road (Montana Avenue to McDermott Road)	20. North/South Kuna Corridor (railroad crossing in the City of Kuna)	31. Happy Valley Road (Greenhurst Road to Stamm Lane)
10. Regional park and ride lots (medium-term improvements)	21. Cherry Lane (Middleton Road to Black Cat Road)	32. Bowmont Road to Kuna-Mora Road (new connection)
11. <i>valleyconnect</i> near-term (capital/operating)	22. Lake Hazel Road/Amity Road (as a corridor – <i>Lake Hazel Rd, McDermott Road to Linder Rd; Amity Road, Southside Blvd to Black Cat Rd</i>)	33. Beacon Light/Purple Sage (new connection – <i>preserving land for a future project</i>)

[Questions on priority corridors and projects are on the next page]

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3a. Do you agree with the prioritized order of these 33 projects/corridors? (Please circle)
Strongly disagree Somewhat disagree Neither agree or disagree Somewhat agree Strongly agree

3b. Why or why not? (Please reference which corridors/projects you are referring to) **Do you have any additional comments on the prioritized corridors/projects? Are there additional corridors or projects that you think should be added to the list of priorities?**

Funding the Transportation System

The ultimate goal of *Communities in Motion* is to outline the needed future transportation system for Ada and Canyon Counties and how to pay for it. Financial projections indicate that there will not be enough revenue in the future to maintain our current transportation system, much less expand it to meet the needs of a growing population. COMPASS estimates a total need (maintenance + expansion) of \$9.7 billion (\$359 million per year) by 2040; however, we anticipate only \$200 million per year in revenue, from a combination of federal, state, and local sources. This leaves the area short by \$159 million per year. **Because of the anticipated shortfall, the COMPASS Board of Directors has chosen to focus all federal transportation funding allocated via CIM 2040 toward maintaining the existing transportation system.**

4a. Do you agree with the decision to focus federal funding on maintenance? (Please circle)
Strongly disagree Somewhat disagree Neither agree or disagree Somewhat agree Strongly agree

4b. Why or why not? Do you have any additional comments on funding our transportation system?

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Performance Measures

COMPASS has developed 56 performance measures to help determine if we are meeting the 17 goals of CIM 2040. You can access all of the performance measures and targets at www.compassidaho.org/documents/prodserv/PerformanceMeasuresBoardofficial.pdf. These performance measures have been grouped into general topic areas, as listed below, with examples from each.

Performance Measure Topic Areas:

Transportation infrastructure condition <i>Example:</i> Bridge maintenance	Traffic congestion <i>Example:</i> Miles of roadways that are congested
Transportation system reliability <i>Examples:</i> Automobile travel time from Point A to Point B, bus ridership, sidewalks	Freight movement and economic vitality <i>Example:</i> Travel time on roads commonly used by freight trucks
Community infrastructure (non-transportation) <i>Example:</i> Amount of sprawl	Environmental sustainability <i>Example:</i> Vehicle emissions
Land Use <i>Example:</i> Population in downtowns	Housing <i>Example:</i> Housing affordability
Farmland <i>Example:</i> Acres of irrigated farmland	Health <i>Example:</i> Households within a walkable distance to parks, schools, and grocery stores
Economic development <i>Example:</i> Jobs in export industries	Open space <i>Example:</i> Acres of parks
Transportation safety <i>Example:</i> Numbers of auto, bike, and pedestrian crashes	

5a. Of these performance measure topic areas, which do you see as most important? Please circle up to five in the list above.

5b. How do you want to see COMPASS use the performance measures? (Please circle)

	Yes	No	Unsure
Collect the data for reference only	Yes	No	Unsure
Report the information to elected officials, the public, and other stakeholders	Yes	No	Unsure
Make the information available for access by anyone at any time	Yes	No	Unsure
Use the information to inform land use decisions	Yes	No	Unsure
Use the information to inform transportation decisions	Yes	No	Unsure
Use the information to help prioritize the use of federal transportation funding	Yes	No	Unsure
Do nothing; don't bother collecting the data at all	Yes	No	Unsure
Other (please explain below)	Yes	No	Unsure

5c. Do you have any additional comments on the performance measures?

Communities in Motion 2040

In a Nutshell



COMPASS
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION
of Southwest Idaho

What is *Communities in Motion 2040*?

Communities in Motion (CIM) is the **regional long-range transportation plan** for Ada and Canyon Counties. The current plan, CIM 2035, plans to the year 2035. CIM 2040 is the next version of this plan, and looks to the year 2040.

Who is COMPASS?

COMPASS is the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho, an **association of governments** serving Ada and Canyon Counties. COMPASS serves as the metropolitan planning organization for Ada and Canyon Counties, meaning it is responsible for long-range transportation planning and allocation of federal transportation funds for the two-county area.

Why does COMPASS prepare a long-range transportation plan?

A long-range transportation plan is required for any area with a population over 50,000 to receive federal transportation funding. More importantly, it is **imperative to plan for the future**, rather than simple reacting to changes.

How much will Ada and Canyon Counties grow between now and 2040?

By 2040, it is expected Ada and Canyon Counties will have a **combined population of 1,022,000 and 462,000 jobs**. For comparison, in 2013, the area was home to 600,000 people and 276,000 jobs.

What types of issues did COMPASS consider when developing the plan?

COMPASS considered a host of issues when developing CIM 2040, including economics, housing, open space, preservation of farmland, and more, but the two most important issues were **growth** (how many people and jobs will we have, and where will they be) and **funding**. Looking at growth helps identify future transportation needs and looking at projected funding helps us identify what we can pay for, and what we can't afford.

Who has been involved in developing the plan?

Two advisory committees (CIM 2040 Planning and Leadership Teams) were established specifically to assist COMPASS in developing CIM 2040. These committees include individuals representing a wide variety of interests, from cities, counties, and highway districts, to agriculture, housing, transit, and utilities. You can access full membership lists at www.compassidaho.org/people/committees.htm.

In addition, COMPASS worked with the **general public and specific stakeholders** to develop the CIM 2040 Vision (see "main issues, next page) and requested input from all Ada and Canyon County citizens at specific times during the planning process. Ultimately, the **COMPASS Board of Directors** is the final authority – they make the policy decisions that direct the plan and are the body that formally adopts it.

Does the plan really affect me?

Yes. The plan directly affects how federal transportation dollars will be spent in Ada and Canyon Counties, now and in the future, which has a direct impact on our roads, buses, sidewalks, bike paths, and more. It will affect us all.

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<p>What are the main issues in the plan?</p>	<p>While the plan covers a wide variety of topics, the key issues or topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goals, objectives, performance measures, and policies. Together, these articulate the desired outcomes of CIM 2040, what we need to do to get there, and how we will measure success. These can be found in Chapters 1 (goals/objectives), 10 (performance measures), and 11 (implementation policies). • Growth in the Treasure Valley. A broad vision for growth is expressed in the CIM 2040 Vision and is discussed in Chapter 3. • Financial projections. To plan for the future, we need to estimate future costs and future revenues. This is discussed in Chapter 4. • The current (Chapter 5) and future (Chapter 6) transportation system. After all, the purpose of CIM 2040 is to develop a plan for future transportation in Ada and Canyon Counties. • A key part of planning for the future transportation system is determining what improvements are needed. Many projects will be completed, but due to an anticipated financial shortfall of \$159 million per year, many of the needs are unfunded. These unfunded needs are outlined in a list of 33 prioritized corridors and projects (Chapter 6).
<p>Is this the first time COMPASS has asked for public input into the plan?</p>	<p>No. This is the fifth time COMPASS has asked for input into this plan. COMPASS invited the public to participate in all-day workshops in February/March 2012 to map potential scenarios for the future of Ada and Canyon Counties, then in May/June 2012, COMPASS asked for public input on the results of those workshops. COMPASS then asked for public input into the planning process and decisions affecting the plan in December 2012/January 2013, and again in August/September 2013. Learn more at www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm#PublicParticipation. This is also discussed in Chapter 2 of the draft plan.</p>
<p>How can I comment?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review materials and comment online at www.compassidaho.org. • Attend a hosted online virtual open house (log in at www.compassidaho.org): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Thursday, March 13, 2014; 3:00 – 4:30 pm ◦ Friday, March 21, 9:00 – 10:30 am • Review materials and comment at an “unhosted” online virtual open house any time between March 17 and April 27, 2014; log in at www.compassidaho.org. • Attend an open house in person (all are 4 pm – 8 pm): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ April 3: Library! at Cole/Ustick, 7557 W. Ustick, Boise ◦ April 9: Hugh Nichols Public Safety Building, 820 2nd Street South, Nampa ◦ April 10: COMPASS office, 700 NE 2nd Street, Meridian • Review materials at the COMPASS office (700 NE 2nd Street, Meridian) or at a public library (see list online; www.compassidaho.org) <p>All comments must be received by midnight, April 27, 2014.</p>
<p>What does COMPASS do with my comments?</p>	<p>COMPASS staff will review all comments received, respond to questions/comments when appropriate, and consider what changes should be made to the plan based on comments. Comments will also be provided to the CIM 2040 Planning Team and CIM 2040 Leadership Team for their review and consideration prior to either “team” conducting its final plan review and making a recommendation on the plan to the COMPASS Board. The COMPASS Board will also be provided all comments, with responses, and notes on any changes made, or recommended, as a result of comments. Comments will be posted on the COMPASS website and will be distributed to the COMPASS email list.</p>
<p>How can I learn more?</p>	<p>Online: www.compassidaho.org or www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm#PublicParticipation Email: info@compassidaho.org Phone: 208/475-2241</p>
<p>When will the plan be done?</p>	<p>Public comment will be accepted through Sunday, April 27, 2014. It is anticipated that the COMPASS Board will receive the plan for final approval in July 2014. The final plan will be formatted, printed, and posted online in fall 2014.</p>
<p>Will there be another plan?</p>	<p>Yes. COMPASS will begin work on <i>Communities in Motion</i> 2045 in October 2014. It is anticipated to be complete in summer 2018.</p>