

## ***Communities in Motion 2040*** **Quarterly Email Update #3, April 2012**

This is the third in a series of quarterly email updates concerning *Communities in Motion 2040*, the next regional long-range transportation plan for Ada and Canyon Counties. Its purpose is to help you stay abreast of the behind-the-scenes planning progress and of opportunities for you to be involved.

The current long-range transportation plan for Ada and Canyon Counties is *Communities in Motion 2035*. This next version of *Communities in Motion* will look to a horizon year of 2040 and be ready for adoption by the Community Planning Association (COMPASS) Board no later than September 2014. Unlike the past and current versions of *Communities in Motion*, *Communities in Motion 2040* will be a long-range transportation and sustainability plan, with focus on housing, community infrastructure, and healthy living, as well as transportation.

All quarterly email updates are also posted online at [www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm).

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### **What has happened with *Communities in Motion 2040* (CIM 2040) since the last quarterly email update (January 2012)?**

#### Planning Process:

- COMPASS held three hands-on scenario planning workshops on February 29 (Nampa), March 1 (Boise), and March 2 (Meridian) at which participants worked in groups to create 27 different potential scenarios for growth in Ada and Canyon Counties between now and 2040. Those 27 scenarios are being condensed into three to five distinct scenarios that capture the main themes of the 27. Those three to five scenarios will be available for public comment in May and June. Visit [www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040\\_scenarioplanning.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040_scenarioplanning.htm) to view workshop summaries and other materials.
- COMPASS continued to work with a consultant (EDR Group) on the set up and use of economic benefits analysis software (TREDIS). The TREDIS software will help assess economic impacts, benefits, and costs of transportation projects. To become familiar with the software, COMPASS staff ran an initial "test case" project that evaluated the completion of the widening of I-84, the new Ten Mile interchange, reconstruction of Orchard and Vista interchanges, and the replacement of overpasses.
- COMPASS received proposals from five firms to enhance the congestion management process, update the intelligent transportation system strategic plan, and integrate operations and management strategies. A consultant team was selected and COMPASS is working with them to develop a final scope, budget, and schedule for the project.
- An environmental review workgroup has been evaluating regional environmental and resource data for how the data could inform long-range regional transportation planning. The group is comprised of local, state, and federal environmental and resource agency representatives. The workgroup is currently focusing on identifying additional and/or more up-to-date data sources.
- COMPASS has selected a consultant, Honey Creek Resources, to prepare a financial forecast for CIM 2040. *Communities in Motion* must be fiscally constrained, meaning it can only identify those projects that realistically can be funded between now and 2040. In addition, only funded projects can be used to evaluate future air quality conditions. To help determine what is realistic, Honey Creek is working on a financial forecast, which is scheduled to be complete by the end of April 2012.

### Public Involvement and Outreach:

- COMPASS announced the winners of the CIM 2040 youth art contest. View the winners online at [www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm) and watch for them at COMPASS events, the COMPASS office, and ValleyRide buses throughout the CIM 2040 planning process.
- We continue to strive to keep our website up to date with current activities. Visit [www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm) for a clearinghouse of information on our progress, including links to this and future emails.

### **What will happen in the next three months?**

#### Planning Process:

- The scenario planning process will continue to be the primary focus – both behind the scenes and working with the public. Consultants are analyzing the results of the scenario planning workshops (see above) and synthesizing the scenarios from the workshops into three to five scenarios for public comment.
- COMPASS will refine its original test case using TREDIS software (see above) to take advantage of some of the options the software has to offer. A smaller-scale test case will be completed by June 1.
- A contract will be signed with the selected consultant team and work will begin on the congestion management process, intelligent transportation strategic plan, and operations and management strategies.
- The environmental review workgroup will meet in late May to review and comment on the draft growth scenarios.
- Preliminary work will begin to develop a process to prioritize road and transit projects for CIM 2040.

#### Public Involvement and Outreach Opportunities:

- Three to five potential growth scenarios that emerged from the February and March scenario planning workshops will be presented to the public for review, discussion, and comment in May and June. Opportunities for review and comment include open houses, presentations, online review, and hosting a gathering with friends or colleagues (a “meeting in a bag”). Visit [www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040\\_scenarioplanning.htm](http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040_scenarioplanning.htm) for additional details.
- Learn more about the plan and the planning process with a presentation to your club or organization. Contact Amy Luft at [aluft@compassidaho.org](mailto:aluft@compassidaho.org) to schedule.
- Join the Public Participation Committee. This committee of citizen volunteers encourages community involvement in transportation planning issues in the COMPASS planning area and assists COMPASS staff with outreach efforts. It is a great opportunity to learn more about and become more deeply involved in the planning process. Contact Amy Luft at [aluft@compassidaho.org](mailto:aluft@compassidaho.org) to learn more.
- Follow COMPASS on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/COMPASSIdaho](http://www.facebook.com/COMPASSIdaho).

### **Why should I care?**

*Communities in Motion 2040* will impact your children’s future...and yours too.

COMPASS has been reaching out to youth as part of the *Communities in Motion 2040* planning process, as they are the ones who will be the adults when the plan reaches its horizon year of 2040.

However, youth aren't the only ones who will be impacted. COMPASS will begin implementing *Communities in Motion 2040* as soon as it is adopted by the COMPASS Board — in 2014. So, whether you are young or old, thinking long-term or short-term, there are elements in the plan that have the potential to affect you. The plan will influence where new houses are built, where new jobs will be located, and how and where we all commute – today and tomorrow.

\*\*Why do you think people should care? Reply to this email to share your reasons. We'll post them quarterly on the COMPASS Executive Director's blog at [www.compassidaho.blogspot.com](http://www.compassidaho.blogspot.com). Check it out to see what everyone else is saying.\*\*

Watch for your next quarterly email update in July 2012. In the meantime, if you have questions, comments, or want to become more involved, contact Amy Luft at [aluft@compassidaho.org](mailto:aluft@compassidaho.org).