

Communities in Motion 2040
Quarterly Email Update #6, January 2013

Happy New Year!

This is the sixth in a series of quarterly email updates about [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 process 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 health, as well as transportation.

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

Planning Process:

- The COMPASS Board approved the CIM 2040 financial forecast in October. The report analyzes financial information and forecasts costs and revenues over the next 25 years and will serve as the basis for financial assumptions in CIM 2040. [View the report online.](#)
- The COMPASS Board approved the recommended preferred growth scenario (*Communities in Motion 2040* Vision) at its October 15, 2012, Board meeting. COMPASS is working with a graphic artist and advisory committees to develop the *Communities in Motion 2040* Vision map. COMPASS is also working with advisory committees on five-year incremental growth forecasts for the vision. [Learn more about the scenario planning process.](#)
- The CIM 2040 Planning and Leadership Teams continued to work on performance measures for CIM 2040 goals. The [goals, objectives, and tasks](#) are currently open for public comment (see below).
- The Operations, Management and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) project continued; the consultant completed an inventory of existing ITS infrastructure in December.
- COMPASS staff worked with the CIM 2040 Planning Team to define 13 Transportation Investment Areas in the Treasure Valley, which were then forwarded to the CIM 2040 Leadership Team for review. These geographies will be used for modeling transportation demand between different parts of the valley and identifying needs and solutions at local and regional levels. The Transportation Investment Areas are currently open for public comment (see below). [View a map of the proposed Transportation Investment Areas.](#)
- The CIM 2040 Planning and Leadership Teams reviewed and recommended Board approval of a prioritization process for transportation projects. The COMPASS Board reviewed the recommended process in December and is expected to act on it in January. The prioritization process is currently open for public comment (see below). [View the proposed process.](#)
- The environmental review workgroup discussed reviewing environmental implications of the approved CIM 2040 Vision by using categories of environmental datasets and CommunityViz suitability analyses for each Transportation Investment Area.

- The Regional Technical Advisory Committee recommended four changes in the functional classification of roadways as shown below. The COMPASS Board reviewed these recommendations in December and will consider approving them in January 2013. The [functional classification map](#) is currently open for public comment (see below).
 - Change Ustick Road between Middleton Road and McDermott Road from a minor arterial to a principal arterial. (Canyon County)
 - Change Happy Valley Road north of Flamingo from a principal arterial to a local road. (Canyon County)
 - Change Midland Boulevard between Cherry Lane and US 20/26 from a minor arterial to a principal arterial. (Canyon County)
 - Delete all arterials shown south of Kuna Mora and east of Cloverdale. (Ada County)

Public Involvement and Outreach:

- **COMPASS began soliciting public comment on four key issues in CIM 2040 on December 27, 2012, and will accept comments through noon on Tuesday, January 15.** The issues we are seeking feedback on now are the CIM 2040 goals, objectives, and tasks; Transportation Investment Areas; the prioritization process; and the functional classification map. Visit <http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm> to learn more and comment online, or plan to attend an open house (Wednesday, January 9, 3 – 7 pm, Caldwell Public Library 1010 Dearborn, Caldwell or Thursday, January 10, 3 – 7 pm, COMPASS, 700 NE 2nd Street, Meridian). Be sure to comment and have your voice heard! All comments will be provided to the COMPASS Board.
- COMPASS launched "*Your Treasure Valley Future: Photo Challenge.*" COMPASS is challenging photographers of all abilities (yes, that means YOU!) to share photos that show values, ideals, and things in Ada and Canyon Counties that you'd like to see carried into the year 2040 or even changed for the better. We'll post them on our [web](#) and [Facebook](#) pages, use some of them to illustrate the [Communities in Motion 2040](#), and display some of them at the COMPASS office and at outreach events. The challenge will run for an entire year (through November 2013), so you have the opportunity to take photos during all seasons. Visit www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040_photochallenge.htm to learn more and upload your photos and check our [website](#) from time to time to see what else has been submitted.
- COMPASS continued to promote the "*Picture This! Treasure Valley 2040*" student video contest. Students in grades 7 – 12 in Ada and Canyon Counties are creating videos that showcase their creative talents and express their ideas of what their communities may look like in the year 2040. Visit www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040_videocontest.htm to learn more. Entries are due January 7, 2013.
- COMPASS continued to update CIM 2040 information online; visit <http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040.htm> for information on CIM 2040 and links to additional pages.

What will happen in the next three months?

Planning Process:

- The COMPASS Board will receive the CIM 2040 Vision map for action at its February 2013 Board meeting.
- The Leadership Team will recommend the CIM 2040 goals, objectives, tasks, and performance measures to the COMPASS Board for approval.

- Work on the Operations, Management, and ITS plan will continue. The consultant will begin to develop an ITS project list based on agency and system needs and begin to match the Operations, Management, and ITS plan visions (goals) to the CIM 2040 goals, objectives, and tasks. The plan is expected to be complete in mid-2013.
- COMPASS staff will meet with stakeholders from across the valley to discuss issues and needs in each Transportation Investment Area. The COMPASS Board of Directors will also review the Transportation Investment Areas recommended by the CIM 2040 Planning and Leadership Teams.
- The COMPASS Board will be asked to act upon the prioritization process in January. Staff will be working with stakeholders across the region in each Transportation Investment Area to determine transportation needs and prioritize those needs using the approved process, which will result in a draft list of funded and unfunded projects. The CIM 2040 Planning Team is expected to recommend the lists of funded and unfunded projects in July.
- The environmental review workgroup will review the Transportation Investment Areas for environmental implications of the approved CIM 2040 Vision in each.
- Staff will finalize the functional classification changes and ask local agencies to adopt the revised functional classification map. The changes will affect requirements for right-of-way and access management.
- A subcommittee of members of the Regional Technical Advisory Committee will meet to help design a grant program for member agencies to encourage small projects that will help implement CIM 2040 after it is adopted.
- A Complete Streets Level of Service (CSLOS) evaluation will be completed and presented to committee for review. The CSLOS evaluates auto, bicycle, pedestrian, and transit levels of service and provides score (A – F) for each.

Public Involvement and Outreach Opportunities:

- The *Picture This! Treasure Valley 2040* video contest will wrap up. Entries will be accepted through January 7, 2013. Visit http://www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040_videocontest.htm for more information, then watch for the winning entries!
- The COMPASS "*Your Treasure Valley Future: Photo Challenge*" will continue through November 30, 2013. Visit www.compassidaho.org/prodserv/cim2040_photochallenge.htm to learn more and upload your photos.
- Learn more about the plan and the planning process with a presentation to your club or organization. Contact Amy Luft at 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 to learn more.
- Follow COMPASS on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/COMPASSIdaho>.
- Read the Executive Director's blog at <http://www.compassidaho.blogspot.com>.

Why should I care?

Do you worry about how long it will take you to get to work? Fret over getting stuck in traffic and being late for an appointment? Instead of worrying about the problem, be part of the solution. Take matters into your own hands and help plan for your future transportation system to make it the best it can be.

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 <http://www.compassidaho.blogspot.com>. Check it out to see what everyone else is saying.

Watch for your next quarterly email update in April 2013. In the meantime, if you have questions, comments, or want to become more involved, contact Amy Luft at aluft@compassidaho.org.