

**Communities in Motion: Regional Long-Range Transportation Plan 2030**

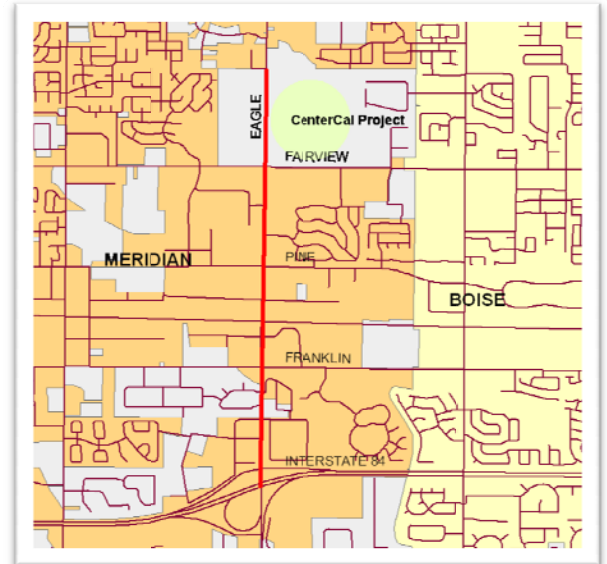
Amendment – Eagle Road Corridor

Comment period: October 8 - 23, 2007

Approved by the COMPASS Board on November 19, 2007

The City of Meridian requested an amendment to **Communities in Motion: Regional Long-Range Transportation Plan 2030** and the **FY2008-2012 Northern Ada County Transportation Improvement Program**. The amendment is for a proposed project that would result in three through lanes in each direction on Eagle Road from I-84 ramps to ½ mile north of Fairview Avenue (River Valley Street)—approximately two miles in length. The cost of the widening to Eagle Road and for associated operational improvements along Eagle Road and Fairview Avenue is estimated at \$15 million, which would be funded by a developer for a project at the northeast corner of the Fairview Avenue/Eagle Road intersection.

The amendment is required since Eagle Road is a regionally significant facility with its principal arterial status.



A public comment period was held from October 8, 2007 through October 23, 2007 with a public open house regarding the project on October 18, 2007 from 3:00 through 7:00 p.m. Out of a total of 49 comments received during the open comment period, 42 supported the improvements and financing method, 6 did not support the improvements and/or the financing method, and 1 supported the improvements with conditions.

The widening project would be funded under a Sales Tax Anticipated Revenue (STAR) mechanism recently enacted under Idaho Code 63-3641 and 40-201. No local or Idaho Transportation Department transportation funds will be used for the widening. The estimated \$15 million cost of widening and operational improvements would be paid by the developer, CenterCal, which would seek reimbursement from the State of Idaho based on sales taxes generated by its project. Additional work could include operational improvements such as medians and turn lanes, but these are not part of the amendment. Also, some work may be required on Fairview Avenue or other Ada County Highway District streets. Fairview Avenue is already shown in **Communities in Motion** for widening to seven lanes.

**Analysis**

The proposed development and roadway improvements were analyzed for consistency with **Communities in Motion** using the Community Choices land use scenario. The land uses in the Community Choices scenario are consistent with the proposed development at the corner of Eagle Road and Fairview Avenue. Amendments such as the addition of a regionally significant project to the long-range transportation plan and / or current Transportation Improvement Program require an amendment to the air quality conformity analysis. The Eagle Road widening project was tested and found to have a negligible impact on Northern Ada County vehicle emissions forecasts. All emissions forecasts for the various pollutants are below their respective budgets.

**Statement of Condition**

Should STAR financing not be available, the project would not be eligible for existing roadway funding.