



State Highway 21

SH 21 provides connections for Boise County.



WHY THIS CORRIDOR MATTERS

SH 21 runs from the City of Boise to SH 75 in Stanley, Idaho traversing through rugged terrain in the “back country” of central Idaho. SH 21 is one of the most important north-south corridors in Boise County. It provides access for Boise County residents to the jobs and services in Ada and Canyon Counties, but also provides access for tourists throughout the year into Boise County and beyond and for Ada and Canyon Counties’ residents to weekend at summertime cabins. State Highway 21 is also major freight routes, including logging trucks.

The two highways are connected via Garden Valley on a county road. The indirectness of this route has been a concern to Boise County residents and is addressed in a separate corridor write-up, Harris Creek/Centerville Road.

According to the 2000 Census, fifty-two percent of workers living in Boise County commute to Ada County during the week. The peak traffic may be driven more by the weekend travel and recreational trips, however. The ITD traffic report for July 2005 indicated average weekend traffic measured at Robie Creek was 4,188, compared to the average weekday traffic of 3,670 at that location. Average daily traffic in July 2009 was 3,664, down from 4,126 in 2001. COMPASS does not forecast volumes at this location, but the forecasted volume at the Boise River bridge near Warm Springs in 2035 is 15,000 trips per day.

Goals for *Communities in Motion* (CIM)

- Connections:** Provide options for safe access and mobility in a cost-effective manner for the region.
- Coordination:** Achieve better inter-jurisdictional coordination of transportation and land use planning.
- Environment:** Minimize transportation impacts to people, cultural resources, and the environment.
- Information:** Coordinate data gathering and dispense better information.

Recommendations for SH 21 Corridor to meet CIM goals:

- ❖ The proposed improvements provide safety on existing highway.
- ❖ Support from the Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho City and Boise County is needed.

Recommendations for SH 21 Corridor Public Transportation:

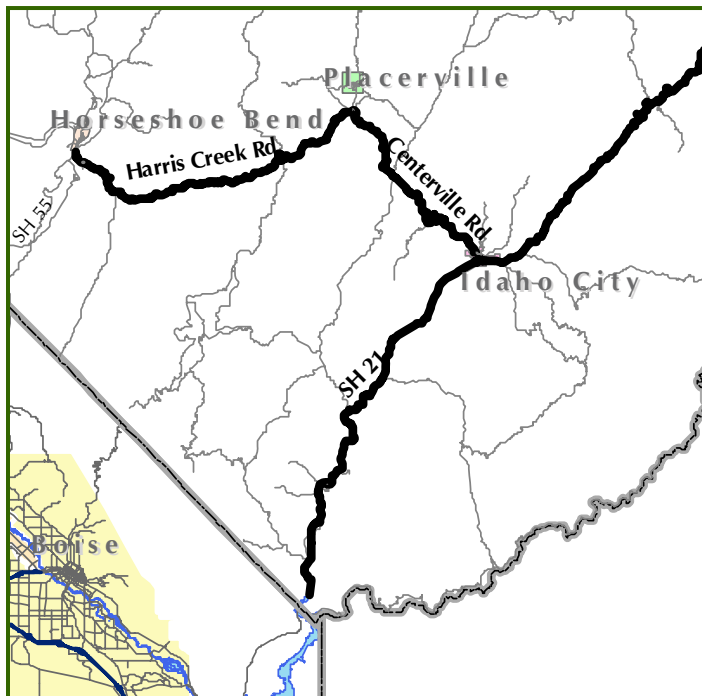
- ❖ Park-and-ride facilities should be considered.

Land use decisions needed to implement the plan:

- ❖ Corridor planning along SH 55 and SH 21 will enhance traffic flow and safety. Access management is essential.



Regional Connection



CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

SH 21 – This highway runs through the mountains with a tremendous amount of sharp curves. The proposed projects for the highway include additional passing lanes between the City of Boise and Idaho City to improve safety conditions.

There are distinct urban and rural portions of SH 21. West of the Boise River, right of way was purchased to accommodate a future widening. Access rights were also purchased or negotiated at that time. The route was designed for a future bridge to be constructed north of the existing bridge. No funds to widen and/or construct the new bridge are in the fiscally constrained plan.

Also see Harris Creek/Centerville Road Corridor.

Past and Current Investments through 2015	Funded Investments through 2035	Unfunded Improvements through 2035
None	Improvements to SH 21 involve safety and geometric improvements rather than adding lanes of travel. Accident data and traffic studies will be needed to identify needs such as passing lanes, guard rails, improved lighting at intersections, and horizontal and vertical curve improvements.	No projects are recommended at this time.