

Full Public Comments
Draft FY2014-2018 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
and Associated Air Quality Conformity Demonstration

Online Comment Form

August 6, 2013
83703

Comment on TIP

My only comment is that ALL projects taken into consideration should include, as an essential element, planning compatible with the COMPLETE STREETS format, so as to provide SAFE alternate transportation options such as bicycling, walking, and public transit such as bus or light rail.

Comment on Air Quality

My only comment is that ALL projects taken into consideration should include, as an essential element, planning compatible with the COMPLETE STREETS format, so as to provide SAFE alternate transportation options such as bicycling, walking, and public transit such as bus or light rail.

Online Comment Form

August 8, 2013
Jim Pline, Pline Engineering
83704

Comment on TIP

The Eagle Road improvements do not come near meeting the capacity and traffic operations needs. A third lane is required from Franklin to the I-84 IC with a fourth lane for the westbound I-84 On Ramp. As a minimum it would be desirable to add the third lane from Magic View Drive to the westbound on ramp and then maybe make the other changes when the Interchange structure is expanded.

COMPASS response: forwarded to ITD

From: Toni Tisdale

Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2013 1:42 PM

To:

Subject: Thank you for your comment

Mr. Pline:

Thank you for taking the time to comment on the Draft FY2014-2018 Regional Transportation Improvement Program. I will forward your comments about Eagle

Road to ITD staff for consideration. Your comment will also be included for COMPASS Board consideration.

Online Comment Form

August 8, 2013
83705

Comment on TIP

I like that there are projects that encourage and aid active transportation.

Comment on Air Quality

Air quality must get better in the Treasure Valley. Whatever we must do, please let's do it.

Comment Form

August 15, 2013
83706

Comment on TIP

Support for all Greenbelt related projects: E306, 13514, E314, E308, E313, E307.

Comment Form

August 15, 2013
83702

Comment on TIP

Most road improvements should add bike lanes, carpool/bus lanes, and other options for mass transit modes.

Comments on Air Quality

Yes, we should do this so we get the federal funding.

Online Comment Form

August 19, 2013
83607

Comment on TIP

There are intersection improvements on each intersection with Homedale Rd except Indiana. With the low dollar figure attached I would assume (as explained at the Open House) that these are fairly minor changes and that Indiana is actually being studied for greater improvements later. If that assumption is correct, I must say that because of it's proximity to both high schools in Caldwell, it is extremely dangerous. There are 2 -3 accidents there a week...I can see it from my kitchen window. My son was one of them and I am just grateful no one was injured that

time. The next day there were fire trucks and ambulances that blocked the intersection for 3 hours. Maybe Caldwell will address this one on their own, but it's important to know why it is not included on this list.

COMPASS response: forwarded to City of Caldwell

Online Comment Form

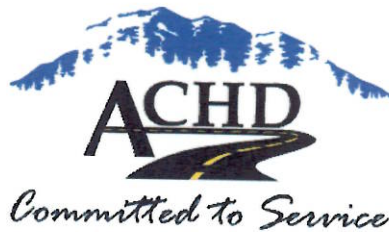
August 30, 2013

83705

Comment on TIP

I believe that VRT is doing a great job but we need more public transit and need to start acquiring land for dedicated public transit--rail or whatever--between Caldwell and Boise. Let's stop paving over America and give citizens a choice of public transit.

See letter from ACHD on next page.



Sara M. Baker, President
John S. Franden, Vice President
Rebecca W. Arnold, Commissioner
Mitchell A. Jaurena, Commissioner
Jim D. Hansen, Commissioner

September 4, 2013

Amy Luft
COMPASS
700 NE 2nd St., Ste. 200
Meridian, Idaho 83642



Dear Ms. Luft:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the ongoing efforts to update COMPASS' planning documents. ACHD offers the following comments for your consideration:

- **Communities in Motion 2035 Amendment** – ACHD supports the proposed changes to the Plan.
- **Draft FY2014-2018 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Update** – ACHD appreciates COMPASS' support for the District through grant funding. The federal funds programmed for ACHD will assist in meeting our mission of driving quality transportation for all Ada County. Specifically, ACHD supports additional federal funds to support maintenance of existing facilities.

We have the following comments regarding the TIP update:

ITD has done excellent work using GARVEE dollars through Connecting Idaho to improve I-84 and in initiating the Highway 16 Corridor Extension with the Boise River Crossing. Further, ITD has had great success in making critical improvements by partnering with ACHD and local developers to provide substantial congestion relief, most notably Eagle Road (SH 55) from I-84 to River Valley (13349 & 13473), SH 44 and Linder (now under construction), and the Eagle/McMillan Intersection (2015).

However, the Chinden Boulevard (US 20/26) corridor has received little or no attention. Of greatest concern to ACHD is the section between Eagle Road and Locust Grove. The directional lane volumes on Chinden currently exceed planning threshold in both the morning and evening peak periods, and this road is the most congested two-lane road in the area if not the entire state. The draft RTIP contains a project for a surface treatment on Chinden, Locust Grove to Cloverdale (H310), and eastbound right turn lanes at Meridian Road and at Locust Grove Road (H328).

While these projects are probably well justified from a safety and congestion standpoint, they do not address the nature and magnitude of congestion in the Chinden corridor. In order to take advantage of any available funds for construction, ACHD would encourage ITD to begin design of this corridor. Land development is increasing in north Meridian, and soon the parallel

ACHD roadways will not have the capacity to handle the traffic best served by the state highway system. ACHD is interested, where appropriate, in discussing partnership opportunities with the State to improve our joint intersections in this area. We believe projects such as SH44/Linder and Eagle/McMillan have provided wonderful templates for how partnerships can materialize.

- **Communities in Motion 2040 Priority Corridors** – ACHD appreciates the opportunity to participate in the identification and prioritization of the corridors to be placed in the long-range plan. The COMPASS Board shows foresight in directing available federal funding towards maintenance. This will aid the region in protecting the significant transportation investments it has made.

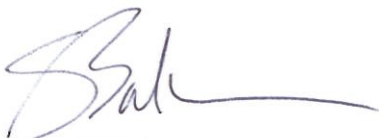
ACHD would add one voice of caution to the way the prioritized corridors are presented. It should be clearly noted that many improvements planned in ACHD's Capital Improvements Program were assumed in determining the priority corridors. Without the significant investment planned on the part of ACHD, the prioritization may look substantially different. It should be noted that the ultimate programming and construction of these planned improvements is dependent on future budgeting decisions. Where ACHD has actually scoped a corridor or project, we recommend a parenthetical annotation of the value we have determined. This will provide the COMPASS Board a clearer delineation of those corridor/project elements which have planning level values associated with them.

In addition, the focus in CIM2040 includes pedestrian and bicycle and transit projects. ACHD supports this holistic approach, but believes the scale of the planning for these efforts should be done by the implementing agencies. ACHD has a countywide prioritization process and numerous neighborhood plans both adopted and ongoing. We look forward to partnering with COMPASS to provide these outcomes.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide these comments.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ryan Head, Planning and Programming Supervisor, at rhead@achdidaho.org or 208-387-6234.

Sincerely,



Sara M Baker
Commission President
Ada County Highway District
3775 Adams Street
Garden City, Idaho 83714