

Organization Completing Application:

Please include organization name, mailing address and a street address if different (We must have a physical address that is NOT a PO box).

COMPASS
800 South Industry Way, Suite 100
Meridian, Idaho 83642

Ada County Highway District (ACHD)
3775 Adams Street
Garden City, Idaho 83714

Contact person(s) in organization including email address and phone number:

This should include an **Idaho name and address**, but you may also include relevant Washington, DC representatives.

Sally Goodell
Ada County Highway District
3775 Adams Street
Garden City, Idaho 83706
208-387-6129
sgoodell@achd.ada.id.us

Ken Burgess
Veritas Advisors
802 West Bannock, Suite 401
Boise, Idaho 83702
208-385-1010 extension 101
ken@veritasadvisor.com

Location of project, including congressional district

Meridian, Idaho, Congressional District 1

Name of project

Linder Road Overpass, Meridian, Idaho

Type of project—Please circle one:

Highway/road

Bridge

Tunnel

Bicycle/Pedestrian project

Intelligent Transportation System (technology) project

Ferry Boats or Ferry Boat Facilities

Intermodal Freight Facility

Public Transit

Rail

Research project

Other

Please identify if:

- the project located on a Federal-aid highway?
[Linder Road north of I-84: SMA-9773](#)
[Linder Road south of I-84: STC-3773](#)
- the project located on the National Highway System?
[No.](#)
- the project located on the Interstate System?
[No, however this project provides a needed overpass over I-84](#)

If the project is a public transit project, please identify whether the project is: [N/A.](#)

- **Passenger Vehicles**
 - Transit Bus or Van
 - Transit Rail Car or Locomotive, including Streetcars
 - Transit Ferry
- **Transit Facilities**
 - Vehicle Maintenance or Administration Facility
 - Passenger Facility, including Intermodal Facilities, stations, and terminals
- **Transit Rights-of-Way**
 - Property Acquisition
 - Corridor Development
 - Rail Track Construction or Maintenance
 - Bus-only Lane Construction or Maintenance
- **Transit Equipment**
 - Vehicle-related Equipment
 - System-related Equipment
- **New Start Project** (a major new fixed guideway capital project seeking more than \$75 million in Federal funds.)

- **Small Start Project** (a new fixed guideway capital project seeking less than \$75 million in Federal funds and with a total estimated net capital cost of less than \$250 million)

If the project is a rail project, please identify whether the project is located on: [N/A.](#)

- **Intercity passenger rail**
 - If so, is the project located within a corridor previously designated by the Secretary of Transportation pursuant to section 104(d)(2) of Title 23, United States Code, or the Northeast Corridor?
 - If yes, which corridor?
- **Freight Rail**
 - Class I Freight Rail
 - Class II or Class III Freight Rail

If it is a research project, please identify which type by circling below:

- University Transportation Center
- Other (please describe)

Did the FHWA, FTA, or Idaho State Department of Transportation confirm that this project is eligible under Title 23 (Highways) or Chapter 53 (Transit) of Title 49 USC? If so, please provide a contact name, title, and phone number. [Yes.](#)

[Nathan Hesterman, Manager, Office of Transportation Investments](#)
[Idaho Transportation Department](#)
[208-334-8263](#)

Please identify the state, regional, or local governmental entity that is an eligible recipient of the funds.

[ACHD](#)

Please describe the project by identifying:

Specific terminus points of the project or activity

[Overpass at I-84 with connected taper improvements on Linder Road between Overland Road and W. Verbena Road](#)

Activities (construct, plan, design, etc.)

Concept design, environmental documentation, design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction

Total estimated cost of the project

\$11,700,000 with escalation considered for 2013 construction year
(\$10,000,000 in 2009 dollars)

Requested amount

\$9,360,000

Percentage of total estimated cost (request must finance at least 80% of the total cost)

80%

If the request is less than 80% of the total cost, how will the remaining funding be provided?

N/A

Please provide a BRIEF (five sentences) description of the project. Include why the project is needed and how funding will be used.

The Linder Road overpass is the only barrier to Linder Road becoming one of the longest north/south corridors in the region at 36 miles in length. Linder Road continues south of Kuna Mora Road as Swan Falls Road and provides access to a significant wildlife area, the Birds of Prey area and the cliffs at Swan Falls on the Snake River. Further, Linder Road to the north provides the only Boise River crossing between Eagle Road and Star Road – a seven-mile distance. Linder Road Overpass will relieve traffic pressure on the Ten Mile Interchange to the west and Meridian Interchange to the east. Current ACHD plans include widening of Linder Road to five-lanes north of I-84 within six to ten years. Funding will be used to complete the planning, environmental review, right-of-way acquisition and full project construction.

Is the project included in the State's Long-Range Transportation Plan?

If so, please provide the date of approval of the most recent version of the plan and the title of the plan.

Linder Road widening and the I-84 overpass are included in *Communities in Motion* (CIM), the regional long-range transportation plan in the “illustrative” funding category which is meant to illustrate that adequate revenues were not identified for the project. CIM explains the overpass at I-84 may be eligible for funding based on safety or traffic operations issues. Safety and traffic mobility issues are addressed in this application. CIM was adopted by the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) Board on August 21, 2006. (pages 94 and 123)

Is the project included in the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and/or State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)?

If so, please provide the date of approval of the most recent version of the plan and the title of the plan.

The Linder Road Overpass is not yet included in the TIP and STIP because it is not funded. Upon notification of funding, the project will be added to the TIP through the amendment process. COMPASS will add the project in the FY2010-2014 TIP Update as an “illustrative” project with a Congressional High Priority application, and will go through the public involvement process in the summer 2009.

If the project is an intercity passenger rail project, is it included in the State Rail Plan?

If so, please provide the date of approval of the most recent version of the plan and the title of the plan.

N/A

Please describe the current status of the project and expected schedule for its completion. (Note whether the project is in planning, environmental review, final design, right-of-way acquisition, under construction, etc.)

FY2010/2011 Planning, environmental review

FY2011 Final design

FY2012 Right-of-way acquisition

FY2013 Construction

What is the expected date of completion for the project?

January 2014

Have you attached the required letters of support, as described in the cover letter? If not, please explain why not.

Attached.

Does the project have regional or national significance? If so, please BRIEFLY describe significance in 3 or 4 sentences.

Linder Road has regional significance. The forecasted population in 2030 within three miles of the Linder Road corridor could reach as many as 185,000 people, with sections of the corridor carrying 30,000 trips per day. The planned expansion of the road from two/three lanes to four/five lanes and the new overpass will enhance its ability to serve as a “reliever” for the surrounding corridors. As one of the longest north/south corridors within the region being established through this project, the overpass serves regional trips connecting the Cities of Eagle, Meridian and Kuna with connecting points to US 20/26 and SH 44.

BRIEFLY (500 words or less) describe the following:

- **Safety benefits**

The adjacent freeway crossings to Linder Road are at Meridian and Ten Mile Roads. Meridian is an interchange and Ten Mile is about to be converted to an interchange. A Linder Road overcrossing will provide a safer crossing of I-84 than either of the interchanges because it will not have conflicting ramp traffic.

Alternative Transportation

Regionally, Linder Road is identified on the ACHD Bike Master Plan as a mid-term recommendation for bike lanes as part of the route from Swan Falls Dam to Beacon Light Road, a distance of over 33 miles. Linder Road overcrossing is an important connection for bicyclists and pedestrians to serve the immediately adjacent land uses. A water park and another major recreational facility are on Overland Road between Meridian Road (SH 69) and Linder Road south of I-84. North of I-84 is a major residential subdivision area that creates a draw for children and youth to cross the freeway. Meridian Road has no shoulder or sidewalk for bicycles and pedestrians across I-84 and is especially difficult to cross from a traffic conflict standpoint with the loop ramp in the southwest corner of the interchange. The Linder Road project also establishes the potential for a new regional transit route.

- **Economic development benefits**

Today, the lack of an I-84 crossing is the only obstacle to Linder Road becoming one of the longest north-south arterials in the region. By constructing the Linder Road Overpass, commerce in western Ada County, particularly between the Cities of Kuna, Meridian and Eagle will be greatly enhanced.

Access across I-84 at Linder Road will open up the immediate area for new business opportunities and redevelopment of underutilized parcels. A lifestyle center and mixed-employment developments are envisioned by the City of Meridian along Linder Road; the Linder Road Overpass is critical in those projects coming to fruition.

- **Mobility benefits**

System Continuity

Linder Road with its extension to the south (Swan Falls Road) is the only route in Ada County with continuity from the Snake River to the Foothills, except that it lacks a crossing of I-84. A crossing of I-84 will complete a critical link in the arterial grid system in the City of Meridian and the Treasure Valley. Meridian has been the fastest growing major city in Idaho and the center of the largest and fastest growing major school district. On Franklin Road near Linder Road, major transportation hubs are located such as the school district bus barn and garbage truck parking areas that could benefit greatly from a freeway crossing.

Traffic Demand

The 20-year traffic forecast for Linder Road at the freeway crossing is 34,200 Average Daily Traffic (ADT) which is essentially the capacity of a four to five lane roadway. This is a higher volume than exists today on any of the existing overcrossings in Ada County and is more than the volume at any of the interchanges in Ada County except for Broadway, Eagle and Meridian - all state highways.

- Environmental benefits
The environmental benefit to constructing the Linder Road Overpass centers on air quality. When the overpass is constructed, motorists will not have to back track to Meridian Road or Ten Mile Roads to travel across I-84, a barrier to north-south traffic movements in this area. Thus, fewer vehicle miles will be traveled, resulting in reduced CO and NOx emissions, improving air quality.

Has the project received previous federal funding?

No.

Did the project receive funding in an authorization bill? If so, please provide:

- Name of bill
- Section
- Project Number
- Amount of Funding
- Amount Obligated

Did the project receive funding in an appropriations bill? If so, please provide

- Public Law Name
- Public Law Number
- Section
- Project Number
- Amount of Funding
- Amount Obligated

Did the project receive funding in other legislation? If so, please provide:

- Public Law Name
- Public Law Number
- Section
- Project Number
- Amount of Funding
- Amount Obligated

Has the project received any prior funding for a state, local, or private source? If so, please provide:

- Source
- Amount of Funding
- Amount Obligated

[It is requested that if funds are granted, they are in addition to the state's annual apportioned funds and come with additional obligation authority.](#)