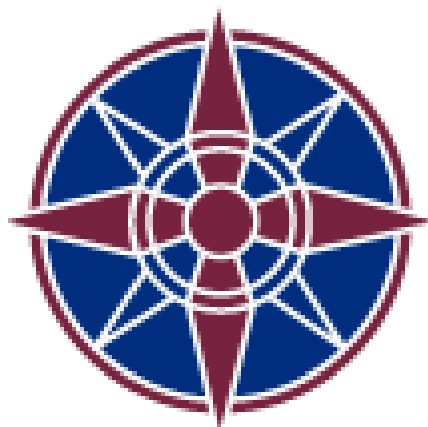


https://www.idahopress.com/meridian/news/planning_and_construction/compass-seeks-comments-on-regional-long-range-transportation-plan/article_970c4ea6-0a44-5728-b792-32e0fdbb2065.html

COMPASS seeks comments on regional long-range transportation plan

By Idaho Press staff newsroom@idahopress.com Sep 22, 2018



C O M P A S S
COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSOCIATION
of Southwest Idaho

From compassidaho.org

How will the 1 million people forecast to live in Ada and Canyon counties by the year 2040 get from here to there? The Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho, or COMPASS, has been working on a plan to answer that question and is seeking residents' feedback.

COMPASS is requesting comments on the draft Communities in Motion 2040 2.0, an update to the long-range transportation plan for Ada and Canyon counties. To receive federal transportation funding, COMPASS must update the plan every four years. The current plan, Communities in Motion 2040, was adopted in 2014.

The plan looks at four transportation components — roadways, public transportation, bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure and freight — and how they work together to provide a complete transportation system.

Communities in Motion 2040 2.0 is based on growth anticipated to the year 2040, the transportation needs to accommodate that growth, and other factors that influence, or will be influenced by, transportation, such as land use, open space, economic development and more.

“The plan includes \$1.6 billion in funded capital projects to the year 2040, from widening I-84 to building new bike paths,” said COMPASS Principal Planner Liisa Itkonen in a press release. “In addition, the plan includes funding to maintain and operate the transportation system, for a total investment of \$6.3 billion.

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“But, despite that significant investment, we still have a substantial transportation funding shortfall of \$5.4 billion — or \$235 million per year — to the year 2040,” she added. “Without additional funding, not only will the region be unable to accommodate growth and changing demand, but we will also not be able to keep up with routine maintenance and operations. Both of these will lead to longer commutes, more wear and tear on vehicles and fewer transportation choices.”

COMPASS has identified, and prioritized, 31 unfunded transportation projects to address regional capital needs.

“While we appreciate feedback on any part of the plan, we are particularly interested in feedback on these priorities,” Itkonen said.

Residents can view the draft of the plan, provide comments and learn more at www.compassidaho.org; click on “public comment.” Public comments will be accepted through Oct. 21 and then reviewed by the COMPASS advisory committees and board of directors, who are slated to adopt the plan in December.
