



Working together to plan for the future

News Release

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COMPASS Receives National Safety Grant

Meridian, ID – The Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) is proud to announce the receipt of a nationally competitive Safe Streets and Roads for All planning grant. The grant will enable COMPASS and its members to develop a regional safety action plan, which will then make local jurisdictions in Ada and Canyon Counties eligible to complete for a share of \$5 billion in national safety implementation funds over the next several years.

“This grant is a real game-changer for the Treasure Valley,” states COMPASS Principal Planner Hunter Mulhall. “It will provide us with the resources to develop a robust regional safety plan on behalf of all of COMPASS’ member agencies, which opens the door to significant additional funding to improve safety, and save lives, in our region.

“While safety has always been a top priority, our rapid growth and recent traffic deaths drive home the urgent need to address safety issues,” continues Mulhall. “The action plan will establish a regional vision and goals for reducing traffic fatalities and serious injuries for all modes of transportation. We will use a data-driven approach to identify high-risk intersections and roadways, as well as systemic safety issues, to prioritize regional and local safety projects based on proven strategies to reduce fatalities and serious injury crashes.”

COMPASS worked closely with its [member agencies](#) to write the grant; every one of COMPASS’ members submitted a letter of support to accompany the application. “That level of regional cohesion underscores the commitment of local agencies to identifying and implementing on-the-ground solutions to make our roads safer for all users – motorists, cyclists, pedestrians, bus riders,” explains Mulhall.

COMPASS plans to begin work on the plan as soon as the funds are allocated to the agency, in order to complete the plan in time for local jurisdictions to apply for implementation funds as soon as possible. “Our goal is to move the needle on traffic safety,” emphasizes Mulhall, “even one life lost is too many.”

The Safe Streets and Roads for All program – which includes both planning and implementation grants – was one portion of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, passed by Congress in November 2021.