

June 17, 2012

Community Planning Association of SW Idaho (COMPASS)
Attn: Amy Luft, Communication Coordinator
700 NE 2nd Street, Suite 200
Meridian, ID 83642

RE: *COMMUNITIES IN MOTION 2040* – Public feedback from TV Canopy Project Partnership

Dear Ms. Luft,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the *Communities in Motion 2040* planning process. The Treasure Valley Canopy Project Partnership (TV Canopy) is made up of several state and local agencies and organizations with an interest in the planning and management of our communities' existing and future tree canopy. For several years the TV Canopy Core Team has been collaborating on the creation of canopy assessment tools that are aimed at two primary goals:

1. Quantifying the economic and environmental benefits provided by tree canopy in the Treasure Valley; and
2. Development of decision-making tools for our partners to provide critical feedback and input into effective planning for: (a) the future of our community tree canopy and (b) maintenance of our existing green space and tree canopy.

Many of our core team members have reviewed the planning scenarios and completed individual comment forms for *Communities in Motion 2040*. While we each represent individual communities and programs within those communities we are also citizens and professionals within the greater Treasure Valley. We understand that green spaces and tree canopy provide great benefits to our communities, including: improved air quality; energy conservation; stormwater mitigation; economic development; and overall enhanced health for our citizens and the environment.

We are currently completing a multi-stage Treasure Valley Canopy Assessment that will provide information and resources valuable for future planning efforts at the local and regional level. We look forward to using the information and resources produced from this project to help our partner communities and organizations, including COMPASS, with planning efforts throughout the Treasure Valley.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the coordinator for the Treasure Valley Canopy Partnership – Lance Davisson with *The Keystone Concept, LLC* at (208) 994-1135 or lance.davisson@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Treasure Valley Canopy Project Partnership – Core Team members (*Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) - Community Forestry; Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) - Air Quality; Ada County Highway District (ACHD) - Stormwater; City of Boise - Forestry; City of Meridian - Forestry; City of Nampa - Forestry & Planning; SW Idaho Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D); The Keystone Concept, LLC*)