



**SUMMARY**  
**Payette County Workshops**  
**U.S. 95 Corridor Study**

Fruitland  
Sept. 29, 2008

Payette  
Sept. 30, 2008



**Idaho Transportation Department**  
**Prepared by RBCI**

## Payette County Workshops Summary

The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) hosted four public workshops in Payette County to gather input on the U.S. 95 Corridor Study. Two workshops were held in Fruitland on Sept. 29, 2008. The other two were held in Payette on Sept. 30, 2008.

### At a Glance

<i>Attendance</i>	54 in Fruitland and 63 in Payette.
<i>Comments</i>	15 in Fruitland and 22 in Payette.
<i>Stakeholder letter</i>	Sent to 52 stakeholders county-wide.
<i>Postcard distribution</i>	Mailed to 8,355 people county-wide. 7,855 by mail carrier route 500 to project database
<i>Media release</i>	Sent to local media outlets prior to both meetings.
<i>Display ad</i>	Ran Sept. 24 in Independent Enterprise and Sept. 28 in Argus Observer.
<i>Web site</i>	Notice placed on City of Fruitland, City of Payette, Payette County and ITD Web sites.
<i>Sandwich boards</i>	Placed at several locations along the corridor.

Details about notification methods are included in the U.S. 95 Public Outreach summary. Copies of meeting materials are included at the end of this summary.

## **Payette County Summary of Comments**

ITD asked the following questions at the Payette County workshops:

1. What highway improvements are needed on U.S. 95? Please be specific with improvements and locations.
2. What is the most important improvement needed?
3. Other comments: Have we missed anything?

This summary represents the main themes and opinions expressed by the public. It is not intended to be statistically reliable or represent a popular vote. A verbatim transcription of comments is included in the appendix.

### **At a Glance: Fruitland**

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Workshop participants identified the following overall needs and improvements. Specific locations are included in the detailed summary on the next page.

- Widen the highway for turning lanes.
- Reduce highway speed.
- Make U.S. 95 safer for motorists and pedestrians.
- Improve access on and off U.S. 95.
- Add traffic light at Palisades Junction.

### **At a Glance: Payette**

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Workshop participants identified the following overall needs and improvements. Specific locations are included in the detailed summary on the next page.

- Implement traffic lights in Payette.
- Widen the roadway for turn lanes, passing lanes and sidewalks.
- Replace or preserve Payette River Bridge.

In addition, workshop participants expressed the following overall comments and concerns:

- Address high speeds and general safety issues, especially between Payette and Weiser.

## Summary of Comments: Fruitland

Fifteen (15) people completed comment sheets at the Payette County workshops in Fruitland or returned comments by e-mail. Many people identified more than one suggestion or location in their comments. In these cases, all locations have been included in the summary.

### 1. Improvements

*What highway improvements are needed on U.S. 95?*

Fourteen (14) people responded to this question. The following improvements were repeated most often. Locations are identified where applicable.

- **Widen the highway for turning lanes.**  
*Locations:* General; all intersections or driveways  
Glenway Avenue  
Killebrew Drive  
Gay Way junction  
North of Payette  
Highway 30  
Anderson Corner (accel/decel lanes)
- **Reduce highway speed.**  
*Locations:* General; in heavily populated areas  
Fruitland to Palisades Junction  
Alden Road
- **Implement safe intersections, pedestrian crosswalks.**  
*Locations:* Payette River Bridge to Palisades Junction
- **Increase areas of double-yellow lines, no passing areas.**  
*Locations:* North of Payette  
General
- **Add traffic light.**  
*Locations:* Palisades Junction and U.S. 95.
- **Replace Payette River Bridge.**

## 2. Top priorities

*How should these improvements be prioritized?*

Eight (8) participants responded to this question. Answers included:

- Reduce speed limit.
- Improve safety, particularly for motorcyclists.
- Improve traffic flow.
- Replace bridge over Payette River.
- Install a traffic light at Palisades Junction.
- Build Council Alternate Route.

## 3. Concerns

*Do you have concerns related to the issues identified?*

Seven (7) participants responded to this question. The most often-repeated comments follow.

- **Speed limits and motorists are dangerous.**  
*Locations:* Palisades Junction to Glenway Avenue  
U.S. 95 and Anderson Corner
- **The speed limit is too high for people entering and exiting U.S. 95.**  
*Locations:* Palisades Junction to Glenway Avenue  
U.S. 95 and Anderson Corner
- **Pedestrian access is needed.**  
*Locations:* Payette River Bridge area  
Fruitland: To and from northwest section

## 3. Other comments

Six (6) participants responded to this question. Answers varied widely, including:

- Plan alternate route around Council or other areas.
- New subdivision on Glenway has multiple-vehicle households.
- Do not agree with method used to establish speed limits.
- Move Payette River Bridge to allow more rafting access.
- Bridge may be historic; will that be addressed?

## Summary of Comments: Payette

Twenty-two (22) people completed comment sheets at the Payette County workshops in Payette or returned comments by e-mail. Many people identified more than one suggestion or location in their comments. In these cases, all locations have been included in the summary.

### 1. Improvements

*What highway improvements are needed on U.S. 95?*

Eighteen (18) people responded to this question. The following improvements were repeated most often. Locations are identified where applicable.

- **Implement traffic lights.**
  - Locations:* General
  - Payette: Center Avenue
  - Payette: 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue (improve existing light)
  - Payette: NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Payette: Highway 52
  - Payette: 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue
  - Payette: 16<sup>th</sup> Street (both sides)
  - Payette: Palisades Junction
  
- **Widen the roadway for turn lanes or passing lanes.**
  - Locations:* General; high-traffic intersections
  - Payette to Weiser
  - Weiser to Marsing (passing lane)
  - North of Payette
  - Payette: U.S. 95 spur
  - Payette: Alden Road
  - Payette: 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue
  - Payette: NE 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue
  
- **Replace or preserve Payette River Bridge.**
  
- **Reduce speed limits; speed limits inconsistent or not observed.**
  - Locations:* General
  - Payette: Gate Way to Palisades Junction
  - Payette: North of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue
  - Payette to Weiser
  - Payette to I-84
  
- **Build sidewalks in Payette.**

## **2. Top priorities**

*How should these improvements be prioritized?*

Of the 14 participants who responded to this question, 11 indicated a clear priority list. The most often-repeated “top” priorities were:

- Add turn lanes and passing lanes; improve traffic flow.
- Reduce the speed limit, especially between Gay Way and Palisades Junction.
- Build sidewalks for pedestrians.
- Replace Payette River Bridge.
- Add stop light at 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

## **3. Concerns**

*Do you have concerns related to the issues identified?*

Of the eight people who responded to this question, comments included:

- Address high speeds and general safety issues.
- Access and traffic flow should be improved.
- Preserve the Payette River Bridge.

## **4. Other comments**

Answers varied widely between the eight people who responded to this question. A summary of each comment follows.

- Corridor should be safe and usable; especially between Payette and Weiser.
- Save the Payette River Bridge.
- Lower the speed limit from Payette to Weiser.
- Allow left turns near high school in the morning (6<sup>th</sup> Avenue)
- More ice removal is needed.
- Thanks for asking our input.
- There should be more than one stoplight in Payette.

## **Payette County Workshop Transcriptions**

- Public comments
- Corridor map comments
- Questions presented at workshop Q&A sessions

## **Payette County Workshop Materials**

The following materials were used for notification or meeting handouts as part of the Payette County workshops in Fruitland and Payette.

- Stakeholder letter
- Postcard
- Display ad
- PowerPoint presentation and unique display boards