



## **CORRIDOR PLANNING FOR IDAHO TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to implement Board Policy 4069 authorizing the Director to conduct a corridor planning process.

### **Legal Authority**

- Idaho Code 40-310 - The Board powers and duties over the state highway system.
- Idaho Code 40-311 - The Board powers and duties with respect to property acquisition and conveyance.
- Idaho Code 40-317 - The Board has authority to enter into cooperative agreements with the federal government and with local government.
- Idaho Code 40-320 - State highway construction and right-of-way costs to be borne by the state.
- Idaho Code 67-6508 - Duties of local planning and zoning commissions (land use).
- Idaho Code 67-6517 - Planning and zoning future acquisitions map.

Through corridor planning, Department staff and/or their contractors are encouraged to:

- Enlist cooperation with all governmental agencies having road jurisdiction and/or land use authority to promote a community-based planning effort, including Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), where appropriate.
- Promote partnerships among governmental jurisdictions and other stakeholders for the purpose of implementing acceptable and effective solutions to transportation problems, such as Context Sensitive Solutions, Access Management Plans, Development Agreements, and Practical Design.
- Identify and address applicable environmental issues at the planning level, and utilize the information for further detailed study in the NEPA process as appropriate.
- Identify future right-of-way needs over a 20-year planning horizon and target right-of-way acquisition for corridor preservation.
- Promote alternate means, such as access management, utilization of parallel roads, transit options, etc., to preserve and increase the capacity of existing transportation corridors, protect future corridors, and minimize the need for future capital investment.
- Develop consensus among stakeholders regarding transportation goals and recommendations for the corridor.
- Facilitate cooperation on federal, state, and local land-use decisions.
- Promote involvement of all local governmental and regional agencies, the private sector, stakeholders, and the general public during the corridor planning process in accordance with the Corridor Planning Guidebook and the ITD Guide to Public Involvement.

- Provide a forum to resolve planning issues.
- Ensure that corridor plan recommendations provide clear guidance for project prioritization and selection for placement in the Idaho Transportation Investment Program. Where a corridor plan exists, all expansion projects shall be included in the corridor plan to be eligible for placement in the Idaho Transportation Investment Program.
- Encourage local governmental and regional agencies to incorporate corridor plans into their comprehensive or long-range plans and future acquisitions maps.

The Division of Engineering Services shall:

- Provide overall coordination of the corridor planning process for state system transportation corridors;
- Maintain and update the Corridor Planning Guidebook;
- Provide data for corridor plans; and
- Annually review the transportation systems of Idaho and work collaboratively with the Division of Highways to achieve statewide consensus in the prioritization and selection of corridor plans to be undertaken.

The Division of Highways through each District shall work closely with local elected officials, local governmental agencies, the public, and others to identify the geographic study area and expected outputs.

The Districts are also encouraged to:

- Develop corridor plans utilizing the Corridor Planning Guidebook;
- Determine the portion of work to be done by consultants and/or department staff;
- Administer consultant contracts;
- Direct public involvement activities in concert with the Department's Public Involvement Coordinator;
- Assist local governmental and regional agencies in local corridor planning, with priority given to routes contained in, or parallel to, state system corridor plans currently under development;
- Participate with the Division of Engineering Services in collaborative prioritization and selection of corridor plans to be undertaken; and
- Utilize the results and recommendations of completed corridor plans to help develop regional or district-wide transportation plans.

The possibility of joint state/local/federal/private and other financing options shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. Joint financing could be based on the following criteria:

- 1) The number of local highway jurisdictions, state/federal agencies, private organizations, etc., contained in the corridor.

- 2) The number and miles of connecting and/or parallel roads and streets that other jurisdictions request to be analyzed.
- 3) The volume of traffic on the State Highway System compared to the local roads.
- 4) The population of local jurisdictions and the number of other participants included in the plan.
- 5) The entity initiating the plan (consideration as to whether a local governmental or regional agency, private sector party, Idaho Transportation Department, etc., initiates a study).

Proposed new corridor plans shall be considered and approved or disapproved during the annual update of the Idaho Transportation Investment Program.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date August 11, 2014

Brian W. Ness  
Director