

## **Idaho 44 Public Involvement Summary (2005-2012)**

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### **Stakeholder interviews | October – December 2005**

The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) and Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS) conducted 25 one-on-one interviews with homeowners and business owners within the corridor, highway users, city officials and planners and individuals who are involved in some aspect of managing the corridor. These informal interviews provided ITD and COMPASS with insightful information while engaging key stakeholders.

The interviews allowed ITD and COMPASS to communicate their commitment to public involvement, determine what does and does not work well on the current corridor, learn about stakeholders' vision for the corridor and identify potential environmental issues/concerns. The interviews began the public involvement process on a positive note by personally engaging the community early and asking for their input.

### **Public Workshops (Eagle and Middleton) | May 24 & 25, 2006**

ITD and COMPASS hosted two public workshops to receive input on the Idaho 44 Corridor Preservation Study. The workshops provided the public an opportunity to learn about the project, express their concerns and vision for the corridor, provide input about alternate routes for the cities of Middleton and Star and identify environmental issues and concerns. The format for the workshops included informational display stations, a formal presentation and small discussion groups.

### **Middleton Public Workshop | August 22, 2007**

ITD and COMPASS conducted a public workshop for residents of Middleton and key stakeholders. The purpose of the workshop was to gather community feedback about the level of support for an alternate route near the city of Middleton. The workshop also provided an opportunity to discuss the Middleton Comprehensive Plan and identify environmental issues that should be considered in the Idaho 44 Corridor Preservation Study.

Representatives from ITD, COMPASS conducted the workshop, which took place at the First United Methodist Church, located in downtown Middleton.

### **Participating Agency Meetings | November 8, 2007 & December 11, 2008**

ITD and COMPASS met with participating agencies. The first agency meeting focused on reviewing the study background, discussing scoping, and gathering comments on the draft Agency Coordination Plan and draft Purpose and Need.

ITD and COMPASS met again with the agencies to review the scope of project and what work had been completed. Together, ITD and COMPASS discussed the process for screening/evaluating alternatives and potential outcomes. Agencies who were involved included the Federal Highway Administration, Idaho Fish & Game, Environmental Protection Agency, Canyon County, Ada County Highway District, Valley Regional Transit and the cities of Middleton, Star, Caldwell, Nampa and Eagle.

### **Public Open Houses (Eagle and Middleton) | February 11 & 12, 2009**

ITD and COMPASS hosted two public open houses to receive input on the Idaho 44 Corridor Preservation Study. The purpose of the open houses was to provide the public with an opportunity to receive a study update and learn about next steps, and how to participate. Attendees also were able to review and give input on potential north, south and existing route options for Idaho 44 and comment on criteria for screening route alternatives.

Informational display stations and large maps of the project area were placed throughout the room and staffed by technical experts. Attendees were able to review the maps, talk with study experts, and submit written comments about any segments relevant to them. Public input helped ITD and COMPASS make critical decisions about the future design of Idaho 44 and the role of the corridor in the regional transportation system.

### **Noise Survey | June 2012**

As part of the Idaho 44 Study, ITD evaluated the Middleton southern bypass (as identified in the City of Middleton's Comprehensive Plan and the Communities in Motion Plan). This bypass was proposed to begin near Canyon Lane, continue east connecting to Middleton Road near South Kings Avenue, and connect back into the existing highway near Duff Lane. ITD mailed a survey to property owners in the area near the future bypass and residents of the Middleton Lakes subdivision.

The purpose of the survey was to determine whether residents would like ITD to construct a noise barrier if the state highway were to be relocated south of downtown Middleton. A total of 21 surveys were completed. All participants support building a noise barrier, but the majority of residents opposed relocating the highway near the Middleton Lakes subdivision.

### **Property Owner Workshops | July 31 & August 2, 2012**

ITD held a meeting specifically for property owners, residents and key Idaho 44 corridor leaders. The purpose was to provide property owners more information about the project, introduce them to staff, discuss their concerns about building an alternate route and learn about potential impacts. Input gathered assisted ITD to determine the level of support for the preferred alternative.