



SAFETY REST AREAS AND OASIS PARTNERSHIPS

Purpose

The Board directs the Department to provide safety rest areas for the traveling public.

Legal Authority

Idaho Code 40-120(1) - Definition of “safety rest area”.

Idaho Code 40-313(3) - Board authorized to acquire and maintain areas adjacent to highways for rest and recreation of the traveling public.

Idaho Code 40-507 - Department authorized to construct and maintain information centers at safety rest areas.

23 Code of Federal Regulations Section 752.5 Landscape and Roadside Development, Safety rest areas

The Idaho Transportation Board adopts the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program that includes rest area improvements. Funding for the Safety Rest Areas and Oasis Partnerships Program is designated as a separate program entity funded at the discretion of the Board.

The Idaho Transportation Department shall provide safe, secure, sanitary, and reliable safety rest area facilities spaced at appropriate intervals at strategic locations on the state highway system. To accommodate the traveling public, safety rest area facilities shall be located directly on the state highway system's roadway right-of-way and ensure public access to appropriately sized, restroom-equipped facilities. Each safety rest area facility shall provide a viable service and convenience to the traveling public and make a favorable impression about the state of Idaho and the Department. Safety rest area facilities shall be refurbished or reconstructed to extend service life and improve safety as determined by the Safety Rest Areas and Oasis Partnerships Program, and normal facility life cycles as approved by the Board. Safety rest area projects shall be determined in accordance with ongoing statewide needs.

Joint funding and participation partnerships may be negotiated with other public entities on safety rest areas. Visitor Information Centers are the result of safety rest area partnerships and should be incorporated into Gateway Safety Rest Areas.

Interstate Oasis Program and other public and private partnerships may provide opportunities to improve and expand the services provided by safety rest areas. Interstate Oasis and other public and private partnerships should comply with the locations identified by the Safety Rest Areas and Oasis Partnerships Program or Corridor Management Plans. Locations for partnerships on both Interstate and non-Interstate routes should be encouraged.

Private agreements may be negotiated and entered into for operation and maintenance of safety rest areas and Interstate Oasis Program and private partnerships.

Each facility in the Safety Rest Areas and partnership program shall be reviewed annually to ensure that the desired purposes are being met and the negotiated services are being provided.

A map showing the location of existing and proposed safety rest areas and partnerships shall be reviewed annually. Each year, an updated map, along with a brief Safety Rest Areas and Oasis Partnerships Program status report, shall be presented to the Board for review and approval. Authority to close existing safety rest areas or construct new ones is retained by the Board.

Approved by the Board on:

Signed

Jerry Whitehead
Board Chairman

Date: November 20, 2013