

BUSINESS /PROPERTY OWNER ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #1 SUMMARY

February 18, 2026 (1:30 PM-3:30 PM)

Kittelison Project #30764

Project Name: Blue Lakes Boulevard & Pole Line Road Project (KN 24717)

Meeting Location: College of Southern Idaho, 315 Falls Ave, Twin Falls ID, 83301 (Taylor RM 276 & 277)

Project Team Attendees

Brock Dillé	ITD
Courtney Wagner	ITD
Bryan Burbank	ITD
Lee Glaesemann	City of Twin Falls
Mark Heisinger	Kittelison
Liz Kaniecki	Kittelison
Andy Daleiden	Kittelison
Brooke Green	Kittelison

Meeting Began: 1:30 PM

PRESENTATION

Presentation provided by Mark Heisinger, and Brooke Green with Kittelison. They introduced the Blue Lakes Boulevard and Pole Line Road project and its goal of improving safety and mobility in the area. It outlined the project process, schedule, and the role of the Business and Property Owner Advisory Group in providing feedback. Attendees were invited to participate in a Q &A session, participants shared input on current transportation issues and how potential improvements could affect local businesses and properties. After the presentation, the meeting followed an open house format, the open house display boards are shown in Attachment A. Sign-in sheets at the meeting indicated that there were 24 meeting attendees.

OPEN DISCUSSION-KEY THEMES

Attendees were asked why they attended the meeting and what they were hoping to learn. Attendees generally stated that they were interested in learning more about the project, potential impacts to their properties or businesses, or because they had concerns about congestion or safety in the area.

During the Q&A session, the conversation focused on the following themes:

1. Traffic Flow and Congestion

- Traffic congestion in the Blue Lakes Boulevard and Pole Line Road corridor is a major concern for businesses and property owners.
- New developments (such as In-N-Out and Raising Cane's) are already increasing traffic pressure in the area.
- Participants emphasized that improving traffic flow should be a primary focus of the project.

2. Safety Concerns on Pole Line Road

- Attendees expressed concerns about high speeds and crash history on Pole Line Road.
- Some attendees expressed that the current 45 mph speed limit may be too high for the level of activity and traffic. Safety issues related with people slowing down to access properties.
- Suggestions included lowering the speed limit (e.g., to 35 mph) and exploring other safety improvements.

3. Freight and Regional Transportation Importance

- US-93 is a major freight corridor, meaning any intersection improvements must accommodate heavy truck traffic.
- Businesses emphasized the impacts that freight has on their business operations (e.g., queuing on Pole Line Road ca driveways and signals).

4. Coordination with Other Transportation Projects

- Several participants questioned how this project relates to the proposed Third River Crossing project.
- Some felt the two efforts should not be studied separately, as they may influence one another and that removing freight traffic from Pole Line Road via a new river crossing the west should be the highest priority for improving the Blue Lakes / Pole Line Rd intersection.

5. Intersection Design and Operational Challenges

- Concerns were raised about medians and turn lane queues, which can create operational and safety issues.
- Questions were asked about possible alternatives, including changes to intersection design or traffic routing.
- Some participants noted that roundabouts can be challenging for drivers unfamiliar with them, including the one on Filmore.

6. Early Stage of the Project

- Mark & Brooke emphasized that the project is still in the early planning phase, however many participants expressed concerns about:
 - Potential alternatives
 - Funding for construction of improvements
 - Data collection (such as traffic cameras)
- Stakeholders expressed interest in remaining involved as the project develops.

Other questions asked by attendees (answers are in italics):

- How does this project interact with the proposed Third River Crossing Project? *ITD is approaching these as two different projects. They will rely on much of the same data and interactions between the projects will be considered. Improvements at Blue Lakes/Pole are probably needed regardless of new crossing. Having different projects make it so that, if one projects experiences delays, the other project can move forward. ITD has also begun project on SH 50 river crossing.*
- If improvements are made at this intersection, how will it affect traffic on Blue Lakes Boulevard? *This will be studied and considered as the project progresses, the project team has not evaluated intersection alternatives in detail yet.*
- When evaluating alternatives, are there any areas that cannot be impacted, such as CSI? *All potential alternatives will be evaluated and trade-offs considered (such as impacts to properties, cost and impacts to accesses).*
- Could a speed limit change on Pole Line Road improve safety in this area? *This will be evaluated as part of the alternatives analysis.*
- Are there ways to modify the medians on Pole Line Road to improve traffic operations and safety? *This will be evaluated as part of the alternatives analysis.*
- How can this project be separated from the River Crossing Study, and should they be connected instead? *The two projects will use similar data and methodology assumptions. The relationship between the projects will be evaluated as project schedules allow.*
- What happened to the comments submitted during the River Crossing Project open house last fall? *Those comments were primarily focused on the River Crossing Project. ITD received some initial comments on Blue Lakes/Pole Line which were used to help scope this project.*
- Does ITD have other alternatives being considered for this intersection? *The project team is just starting the alternatives evaluation, the results will be presented to this group in Summer or Fall 2026.*
- What is the budget for constructing improvements? *There are no construction dollar identified for this project at this time.*
- Why are there cameras installed along Pole Line Road? *Likely signal equipment that the City has installed, the project team will follow-up on this item.*



Pictures from February 18th Business and Property Owner Advisory Group Meeting

BLUE LAKES & POLE LINE COMMENT SUMMARY

ROLL PLOT OVERVIEW

Roll plots illustrating the Blue Lakes Boulevard and Pole Line Road study area were provided at the meeting. Participants were asked to place notes directly on the map to highlight traffic concerns, safety issues, and access challenges along specific corridors and intersections. General themes from the feedback included:

- Intersection congestion and traffic backups (especially in eastbound and northbound directions) at Blue Lakes/Pole Line intersection
- Access challenges to major businesses on Filmore Street corridor
- Need for signal phasing and timing improvements at Blue Lakes/Bridgeview intersection
- Multiple comments on safety issues at Pole Line Road/Filmore Street intersection
- High speeds and accessing properties are concerns on Pole Line Road to the west of Filmore
- Retail access circulation challenges near Canyon Springs Rd / Filmore Street intersection
- Driveway and entrance conflicts to Target and Costco retail areas

There were approximately 22 comments on the roll plots.

COMMENT SHEET SUMMARIES

Meeting attendees were also provided with comment sheets to provide feedback on the project. 15 comment sheets were received at the meeting. Key themes from the comment sheets include:

- What do you like about the current transportation system?
 - The wider 3-lane section on Pole Line Road

- Outside of peak times, the system mostly performs ok, signal timing feels consistent
- What don't you like about the current transportation system?
 - Freight and truck travel contribute to congestion and block accesses, can gridlock entire area
 - Congestion and delays
 - Localized improvements will have limited impact unless new river crossing provided
 - Turn lanes are too short and medians take up space that could be used for turn lanes
 - U-turns can cause problems (Filmore/Pole line)
 - Poor coordination between signals and often not enough green time
 - Access points can be challenging to access due to medians and traffic queues blocking accesses, can lead to safety issues
 - Taking a left-turn onto Blue Lakes Blvd
 - Roundabout and surrounding roadways on Filmore have lots of congestion
- How do you define a successful project?
 - Improve safety and congestion
 - Reduce truck traffic
 - Maintain or improve access to businesses
 - All parties agree to a solution
 - Feasible solutions that we can implement in near-term

Meeting ended at 3:30 PM