

MEMORANDUM

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



August 10, 2026

TO: Mayor and City Council

CC: Jacob Cluff, Community Relations & Policy Advisor
Kendall Nagy, Chief of Staff
Dave Miles, Community Development Director
Caleb Hood, Community Development Deputy Director
Brian McClure, Long-Range Planning Supervisor

FROM: Craige Bergman, Long-Range Associate Coordination Planner

RE: Comment Period for Draft ACHD 2027-2031 Five-Year Plan

On August 5th, 2026, the Ada County Highway District (ACHD) released the draft 2027–2031 Five-Year Plan (FYP) for public and partner agency review. ACHD’s summer public comment period remains open through August 20th, while partner agency comments may continue to be submitted up to the public hearing and adoption date. ACHD is scheduled to review partner agency and public comments on September 9th, making September 9th the practical deadline for Meridian to request changes that could be incorporated into the final plan. The condensed ACHD comment period does not allow for comments from Meridian Transportation Commission to be considered prior to City Council.

Meridian’s staff recommends the below schedule for the comment period:

- August 18th: Meridian City Council to review the draft FYP and provide direction to City Staff on any comments or requested changes to be submitted to ACHD.
- August 25th – September 7th: Staff and Council continue review and comments to be included in draft letter to ACHD; additional workshop, if necessary.
- September 8th: City of Meridian submits comments to ACHD staff for consideration at the September 9th ACHD Commission meeting.
- September 23rd: ACHD Commission anticipated adoption of the 2027–2031 FYP.

CITY OF MERIDIAN TOP PRIORITIES (CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM)

The published draft FYP does not assign an ordinal rank to individual Meridian projects; the comparison below focuses on the degree to which the draft programs and scopes the City's priorities.

Priority / Project	ACHD FYP 2026-2030	ACHD Draft 2027-2031	What changed?
1 – Amity Rd & Locust Grove Rd Construct an interim signalized intersection while preserving the intersection for future widening to accommodate 5-lane roadways in all directions.	Design: 2023-2027 ROW: 2030 Construction: TBD	Design: 2023-2027 ROW: 2028-2029 Construction: 2030 <u>Published FYP scope:</u> Multi-lane roundabout with pedestrian/bike facilities, crossings on all legs, and intersection lighting.	ROW moved earlier and ACHD added a committed 2030 construction year. ACHD also changed the published treatment from Meridian's requested interim signal to a multi-lane roundabout.
2 – Locust Grove Rd, Amity Rd to Victory Rd Widen Locust Grove Rd up to 5 lanes with curb, gutter, and pedestrian/bike facilities. Include pedestrian crossings at Palermo Dr and Wrightwood Dr.	Design: Future ROW: Future Construction: Future	Design: 2027-2028 ROW: 2029-2030 Construction: TBD <u>Published FYP scope:</u> Widen to 5 lanes with multi-use pathways on both sides.	The project moved from entirely unfunded/future into the five-year program for design and ROW.
3 – Locust Grove Rd, Fairview Ave to Ustick Rd Widen Locust Grove Rd to 4 or 5 lanes with curb, gutter, and pedestrian/bike facilities. Consider an enhanced crossing at Chateau Dr.	Design: 2028-2029 ROW: 2030 Construction: TBD	Design: 2030-2031 ROW: TBD Construction: TBD <u>Published FYP scope:</u> Widen to 5 lanes with center median/turn pockets and multi-use pathways on both sides.	The project was pushed further and lost a specific ROW year despite remaining one of Meridian's highest priorities
4 – Fairview Ave & Locust Grove Rd Widen the intersection.	Design: 2020-2023 ROW: 2025 Construction: 2028	Design: 2020-2023 ROW: 2025 Construction: 2028-2029 <u>Published FYP scope:</u> Widen east/west legs to 9 lanes and north/south legs to 7 lanes; add APS/LPI, pedestrian/bike facilities, and lighting.	Essentially unchanged. ACHD retained the project as a funded construction project, although the construction window is now shown as 2028-29.
5 – Victory Rd, Locust Grove Rd to Eagle Rd Widen Victory Rd to 3 lanes and include bike and pedestrian infrastructure.	Design: 2029-2030 ROW: TBD Construction: TBD Concept Study referenced for 2028	Design: Future ROW: Future Construction: Future Published FYP scope: widen to 3 or 5 lanes, replace Bridge #2117 over the Ridenbaugh Canal, and add multi-use pathways on both sides.	Minor downgrade, despite being Meridian's #5 priority, the draft no longer identifies a programmed design year.

SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE PRIORITIES

The comparison below summarizes Meridian's five highest Safety and Compliance priorities and their status in the ACHD draft or current ACHD implementation program.

Priority / Project	Meridian Request	ACHD Draft 2027–2031	Comparison / Issue
1 – Stoddard Rd, Victory Rd to Overland Rd	Reconstruct Stoddard Rd to 3 lanes with 7' attached sidewalks and bike lanes. Include Bridge #2085 and an enhanced pedestrian crossing at Victory Rd/Stoddard Rd. Bike lanes may be replaced by a pathway per the Bike Master Plan Update.	Design: 2023 ROW: 2026 Construction: 2027 Published FYP scope: reconstruct/widen to 3 lanes; curb, gutter and sidewalk on both sides; ADA ramps; street lights; bike lanes; signalized pedestrian crossing at Victory Rd; and widen Bridge #2085.	The project is fully programmed for 2027 and substantially incorporates Meridian's requested roadway, bridge, bicycle, pedestrian, and crossing improvements.
2 – East 03rd St, Franklin Rd to Carlton Ave	Construct streetscape improvements, including curb, gutter, sidewalk, and an improved UPRR crossing, consistent with the Downtown Meridian Neighborhood Plan.	Design: 2028 ROW: 2029 Construction: 2030 Published FYP scope: sidewalk and bicycle facilities on both sides, upgraded ADA ramps, and an improved Union Pacific Railroad crossing.	The project is programmed through construction in 2030 and generally matches Meridian's requested downtown streetscape and railroad-crossing improvements.
3 – Black Cat Rd Railroad Crossing, 625' N/O Aviator St	Reconfigure the railroad crossing to remove the stop signs and provide an alternative that maintains safety while improving traffic flow.	Design: 2026 ROW: N/A Construction: 2027 Published FYP scope: remove stop signs; install railroad safety lights and gates; and fill the sidewalk connection on the east side of Black Cat Rd.	Construction is scheduled for 2027, and ACHD has identified a specific option that addresses Meridian's request adding a pedestrian connection.
4 – McMillan Rd, Ten Mile Rd to Linder Rd	Provide detached concrete sidewalk with curbing between Goddard Creek Way and Wild Goose Way and an enhanced pedestrian crossing across McMillan Rd near Hunter Elementary/Palatine Way.	Design: Future ROW: Future Construction: Future ACHD tracking: project delayed to a future year pending funding/prioritization elevation.	Not programmed. Moved out of programmed years.
5 – Main St & King St Pedestrian Crossing	Install an enhanced pedestrian crossing across Main St at King St. Meridian identified the multi-lane northbound crossing as a safety concern.	Design: 2025 ROW: N/A Construction: 2026 ACHD status: completed as a Rapid Project Implementation (RPI) project.	Completed. The City's fifth-ranked Safety and Compliance priority has been implemented and does not require additional programming in the 2027–2031 FYP.

STAFF EVALUATION

Staff is seeking Council direction on the City's 2027-2031 FYP Initial Draft comments to share with ACHD.

- ACHD's most significant positive responses to Meridian's prioritization include:
 - Adding 2030 construction for Amity/Locust Grove and moving Locust Grove, Amity – Victory from Future considerations into design and right of way.
 - Retaining programmed construction for Stoddard Road, East 3rd Street, and Fairview/Locust Grove
- Identified priorities for additional City Council comment:
 - Locust Grove, Fairview – Ustick has been moved to later dates.
 - Victory, Locust Grove to Eagle lost it previously identified design year.
 - McMillan pedestrian improvements near Hunter Elementary moved entirely to future.

