



## MEMO TO CITY COUNCIL

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**From:** Miranda Carson, Comprehensive Associate Coordination Planner

**Date:** 5/3/2021

**Topic:** Community Development: Transportation Projects Update

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Below is a summary/update on some of the transportation and roadway projects City Staff has been involved with recently. This is not an exhaustive list, but rather highlights some of the more important activities that have recently transpired (or are about to occur) in the transportation realm. An updated list will be sent to Council monthly, and a City staff contact is listed where applicable. **I will be available at the upcoming May 11<sup>th</sup> Council workshop to discuss some of these topics in more detail.** Please feel free to contact me should you have any comments, concerns, or questions on any of these projects. The most recent information is in **bold**.

### **KEY ACHD PROJECTS:**

ACHD Integrated Five-Year Work Program: The 2021-2025 IFYWP was adopted by the ACHD commission on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 and can be found here:

<https://www.achdidaho.org/Departments/PlansProjects/IFYWP.aspx>

*City Staff Contact: Miranda Carson, Community Development*

Linder, Overland to Franklin: **City Council approved a budget allocation of \$2.5 million dedicated to building this critical overpass on April 20<sup>th</sup>.** After a joint ACHD Commission and City Council meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, a joint letter of support was sent to the Idaho Transportation Board requesting this project be added to the STIP. This project was submitted to COMPASS for consideration of a Project Development Grant for \$25,000. Widen Linder Rd to 5 lanes with curb, gutter, sidewalk and a Level 3 bike facility from Overland Rd to Franklin Rd as per the 2020 CIP and the Bike Master Plan. Project includes a new 4-lane I-84 overpass. Joint project between ACHD and ITD. This project is listed as future in the adopted IFYWP.

*City Staff Contact: Miranda Carson, Community Development*

Eagle Road, Amity to Victory and roundabout at Amity: **Zaldia is closed for roundabout construction; anticipated completion is by April 24<sup>th</sup>. There is an anticipated Amity/Eagle closure on May 10<sup>th</sup>.** Pedestrian crossing at Ten Mile Creek is functional. ACHD is now including shark teeth and additional signage in the design at Rome. City staff continue to advocate that the landscaping at Rome Dr. will create visibility issues. ACHD has not talked with Tuscany about possible efforts there to solve visibility obstructions as of yet; they plan to speak with them after other design/construction elements are complete. Widen Eagle to 5 lanes with curb, gutter, multi-use pathways. Includes a 2-lane roundabout with a slip lane at the northwest corner at Amity for southbound traffic turning west. Also includes enhanced crossings at the pedestrian pathway near the Ten Mile Feeder Canal, a pedestrian crossing on Rome Dr, and a roundabout at Zaldia Ln. Design will be done with in-house, ACHD resources. Construction is planned for 2021 in the IFYWP. NOTE: There is insufficient right-of-way on Amity

west of Eagle to allow the striping of the bike lane on the north side of the road, so it will only be the two travel lanes westbound, the center turn lane, and one eastbound travel lane until ACHD can program a project there in the future and widen to the south. The west side of Eagle Road will be fully improved including a multi-use path. Here is the project website:  
[http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_road\\_eagle-road-amity-road-to-victory-road.aspx](http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_road_eagle-road-amity-road-to-victory-road.aspx)

*City Staff Contact: Brian McClure, Community Development*

Ten Mile/Amity Intersection: **Utility work is complete. Irrigation work, milling, and excavating are ongoing.** The intersection will be closed beginning in early April for 60 days (until about early June). Local access on Amity Road and Ten Mile Road will be maintained up to homes and businesses but there will be no access thru the intersection. Detour routes are in place. Project was awarded to Central Paving; \$1.997M, with an anticipated completion date in June 2021. Construct a multi-lane roundabout at Ten Mile Rd and Amity Rd as per the 2020 CIP. Project includes Ten Mile Bridge #1182. Here is the project website:  
[http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_intersection\\_ten-mile-road-and-amity-road-roundabout.aspx](http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_intersection_ten-mile-road-and-amity-road-roundabout.aspx)

Ustick/Black Cat Intersection: Project is on the April 90 day bid list with a notice to proceed date of May 2021. Install an interim traffic signal at the intersection of Ustick Rd and Black Cat Rd. 95% design was completed February 2021. Construction is scheduled in 2021 in the IFYWP. Ultimately the intersection is planned to have a dual lane roundabout in accordance with the 2016 CIP.

McMillan/Black Cat Intersection: Signalize and expand the McMillan Road and Black Cat Road Intersection to a 3x3 configuration. Pedestrian facilities will be added at the intersection in the form of ADA-compliant ramps and signal infrastructure; no additional sidewalk will be constructed beyond what is needed for the pedestrian ramps. The new traffic signal at the intersection will accommodate the 3x3 configuration with flashing yellow arrow capability for the left-turn movements if desired. This project is currently programmed for ROW in FY 2021 and construction in FY 2022.

8<sup>th</sup> St at Meridian Middle: **Preconstruction meeting is scheduled for mid-May.** Project has been bid with two other enhanced pedestrian crossing projects. Construction is scheduled to start on June 7, 2021. Install enhanced pedestrian crossings at NW 8th St and Meridian Middle School.

Locust Grove Road, Victory to Overland: Notice to proceed has been issued for December 2021. Widen Locust Grove to 5 lanes with curb, gutter, sidewalk and Level 2 bike facility. Design is planned for 2019, right-of-way in 2020-2021 and construction in 2022 in the IFYWP with a cost of \$4.07M. PIM held 9/10/2019. Here is the project website:

[http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_road\\_locust-grove-victory-to-overland.aspx](http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_road_locust-grove-victory-to-overland.aspx)

*City Staff Contact: Brian McClure, Community Development*

Victory/Locust Grove Roundabout: Notice to proceed has been issued for December 2021. Construct a multi-lane roundabout. Designed in 2019, right-of-way acquisition in 2020-2021, and construction is planned for 2022-2023 in the adopted IFYWP with a cost of \$4.1M. Projects includes replacement/widening of bridge #2116 over the Tenmile Creek on Victory Rd and connection on the north end of a sidewalk gap to the west. This project will be done with in-

house design. Here is the project website:

[http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_road\\_locust-grove-victory-to-overland.aspx](http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_road_locust-grove-victory-to-overland.aspx)

*City Staff Contact: Brian McClure, Community Development*

Ten Mile Road, Victory to Overland and Ten Mile/Victory Roundabout: Design of bike facility is changing to sidewalk level bike lanes behind the back of curb (separate from the sidewalk). The sidewalk level bike lanes will continue on the south leg of the Ten Mile/Victory intersection. On the north side of the east leg and both sides of the west leg, ACHD is considering bike lane and sidewalk be replaced with a 10' pathway with 3' stamped concrete buffer. Notice to proceed has been issued for November 2021. Widen Ten Mile to 5-lanes with curb, gutter, sidewalk and a Level 3 bike facility. In the IFYWP, this project was designed in 2019, right-of-way in 2020-2021, and construction in 2022-2023 at a cost of \$3.9M. Here is the project website:

[http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_road\\_ten-mile-victory-to-overland.aspx](http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_road_ten-mile-victory-to-overland.aspx)

*City Staff Contact: Brian McClure, Community Development*

Eagle Road, Lake Hazel to Amity: After a traffic analysis to evaluate multiple alternatives and determine the appropriate design for the intersection reconstruction a multi-lane roundabout, design concepts will process with a multi-lane roundabout. Two intersection alternatives were evaluated with 2043 (design year) traffic conditions, a multi-lane roundabout and a conventional traffic signal. The level 3 facility will likely be upgraded for a full 10' multi-use pathway. Widen Eagle to 5 lanes with curb, gutter, sidewalk and Level 3 bike facility. Includes a roundabout at Eagle Rd and Taconic Dr. ROW is programmed in FY 2022. Construction is planned for 2023 in the adopted IFYWP with a cost of \$3.4M.

*City Staff Contact: Miranda Carson, Community Development*

Lake Hazel and Eagle Signal: **95% design has been distributed to the project team for a review meeting to be held May 6<sup>th</sup>. City staff continues to have concerns with pathway crossings behind and between cars at local streets, and the visibility conflicts it creates such as the one in this design at E Levin Dr.** Notice to proceed has been issued for January 2023. Widen and signalize intersection to 4/5 lanes on Eagle and 3/4 lanes on Lake Hazel. Design is happening this calendar year, right-of-way in 2021-2022, and construction in 2022 in the IFYWP. Design details are on the project webpage. Here is a link to the project website:

[http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_intersection\\_lake-hazel-and-eagle.aspx](http://achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_intersection_lake-hazel-and-eagle.aspx)

*City Staff Contact: Brian McClure, Community Development*

Fairview, Locust Grove to Eagle & Locust Grove Signal: 75% design review meeting was held February 9<sup>th</sup>. Bike lane treatment is an ongoing discussion; asphalt, concrete, and permeable materials and marking patterns are being considered. ACHD has a consultant that will be providing recommendations for how to handle bike crossings. Bike lane will likely be separated and elevated from the vehicle travel lanes. ACHD is planning to replace existing walks, to address ADA issues, but keep detached where possible in same locations to the degree possible. ACHD is not planning a crossing at Fairview and Stonehenge, with the reason cited being safety concerns. A Z-crossing just west of Fairview/Webb is being considered. There is a landscape island in Hickory Way (north leg) which may be removed to have an additional lane out to Fairview. VRT has requested consideration of a future bus stop on Fairview on the far side of Hickory Way. Widen intersection to 9 lanes on Fairview and 7 lanes on Locust Grove. Widen Fairview to 7 lanes with curb, gutter, sidewalk and Level 3 bike facility. Design in 2020-2021, right-of-way acquisition in 2021-22, and construction in 2023 in adopted IFYWP with a

cost of \$4.26M. There will likely be a virtual open house around March 2021 before 95% design is complete, and construction may be delayed to 2024. Additional business outreach is planned as well. Here is a link to the project website:

[https://www.achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_road\\_fairview-avenue-locust-grove-road-to-eagle-road.aspx](https://www.achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_road_fairview-avenue-locust-grove-road-to-eagle-road.aspx)

*City Staff Contact: Caleb Hood, Community Development*

Amity Rd and Locust Grove Rd Interim Signal: **50% design has been distributed to the project team for review and comment.** This project is to design roadway widening to accommodate left turn lanes on all four legs of the Amity Rd and Locust Grove Rd intersection and to design an interim traffic signal. Left turn storage lengths will be 150 feet plus 100-foot openings. Taper lengths will vary depending on posted speeds of each leg and if widening will occur all to one side or equally on both sides (still to be determined). There are no sidewalk or ADA improvements with this project. Estimated lifespan of the interim intersection improvements expected to be 10-years.

Lake Hazel Road, Eagle to Cloverdale: Widen Lake Hazel to 5 lanes with curb, gutter, and Level 3 bike facility. Design will be done in 2022. Construction is planned for 2024 in the adopted IFYWP with a total cost of \$2.3M.

Overland/Eagle Signal: Widen intersection to 7 lanes on Eagle and 9 on Overland. Project to be done in coordination with ITD. Design is indicated for 2025 in the IFYWP. All phases shown as Unfunded in the IFYWP at a cost of \$8.16M.

FY20 Capital Maintenance, Phase 1: Locust Grove, Ustick to McMillan **asphalt paving is complete. Remaining work includes manhole adjustments and permanent striping.**

## ITD PROJECTS

ChindenWest Corridor: This project will result in 4 travel lanes (two in each direction). Widening will take place to the south of the existing alignment and be constructed to accommodate future widening to 6 travel lanes (three in each direction) with high capacity intersections at roads with river crossings. Project website:

[www.ITDprojects.org/ChindenWest](http://www.ITDprojects.org/ChindenWest)

ID-16 to Linder: The widening of this section of Chinden Boulevard is complete. The new roadway includes four 12-foot travel lanes, two in each direction, and a detached 10-foot pathway to the south for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Locust Grove Road to Eagle Road: Four lanes opened December 2020. These changes come with new turning movements out of the Banbury and Bristol Heights neighborhoods.

Linder Road to Locust Grove Road: **Flaggers will control traffic in the intersection of Chinden Boulevard and Linder Road and reduce eastbound lanes entering the Linder intersection. This configuration will remain in place for the duration of construction, anticipated for later this summer, when this segment between Linder and Meridian Road will open to four lanes, two in each direction, with a center median. Eastbound traffic at Linder will be reduced from two through lanes, one dedicated right and one dedicated left, to one through-right lane and one dedicated left. The westbound traffic configuration will not be impacted. Eastbound motorists should expect significant**

**delays at peak travel time and allow extra time to reach their destination.** Crews are completing the earthwork to build up the road base on the Linder Road through Meridian Road section. After that, they will place a layer of asphalt pavement from the east end of the project to the west end. Traffic will be moved to this fresh pavement and the existing lanes will receive a fresh overlay to create a uniform driving surface. A ten-foot separated pathway will be constructed on the south side of the highway. A sound wall will also be constructed next to the pathway between Fox Run Way and Meridian Road.

Star Road to ID-16: Construction is planned for 2023.

*City Staff Contact: Caleb Hood, Community Development*

Idaho Highway 16 extension, U.S. 20/26 to I-84: ITD is preparing design plans now for an “interim” phase. Details will be posted later this year. Visioning and phasing documents have been posted to the project website. The Idaho 16 project will be completed in phases between now and 2045. ITD is in the process of acquiring property now and anticipates this will continue through 2021. ITD is investigating funding sources and options for construction. The Idaho Transportation Board has allocated nearly \$90 million to acquire right-of-way for the future highway. The remaining cost to design and construct the corridor is estimated to be \$350 million (in 2019 dollars). Project website: [www.ITDprojects.org/Idaho16](http://www.ITDprojects.org/Idaho16)

SH-69, Kuna to Meridian Traffic Study: **ITD will make interim improvements to restrict left turn movements from eastbound and westbound Calderwood onto SH69.** ITD has completed enough technical evaluation to now present a proposal to the public. ITD hosted an online public engagement in the summer to solicit feedback on the work to date. ITD will consider the feedback and make appropriate updates to the plan before presenting the plan for concurrence to the Cities of Meridian and Kuna and ACHD. A project team meeting was held on January 12, 2021. Grade-separated intersection evaluation at Overland Road and SH-69 is being evaluated. The proposed at-grade partial CFI will be evaluated that may better balance mobility and access. Concept layouts will be created for display purposed and planning-level cost estimates. Planning-level roadway section will be developed and a drainage analysis will be conducted to determine the approximate right-of-way needed on SH-69. High-level proposed vision exhibits for the length of the corridor will be developed to assist agencies with discussions with developers. The exhibits will include cross-sections, one-mile and half-mile intersections, median U-turn locations, and property setbacks. Exhibits will not include individual parcel access. The next steps to finalize the project are: Conduct supplemental analysis and further refine the corridor vision; compile draft report; present study findings to Meridian Transportation Commission, city councils and ACHD commission; and compile final report. Concept plans are scheduled to be complete Summer 2021. Here is a link to the project website:

<https://itdprojects.org/projects/id69corridor/>

## **PATHWAYS**

Rail with Trail: In the fall of 2012, the City applied for an \$85,000 grant to study the Rail with Trail (RWT) pathway crossing of streets (7 crossings; Black Cat to Locust Grove). Currently, there are funds for pathway construction in the Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) in 2022.

Nine Mile Creek, Linder to Meridian: The path is proposed to run from Linder to Meridian along the Nine Mile Creek drain just north of the railroad. City Parks Department is working with a consultant to negotiate easements for four (4) parcels from Linder to 8<sup>th</sup> St. The City currently has obtained all but one required easement from 8th to 3rd. We are currently pursuing acquisition of easements from 8th Street west to Linder, and from 3rd Street to Meridian Road as a future phase of this project.

Five Mile Creek Pathway: The City applied for a COMPASS grant to design and construct a portion of the Five Mile Creek pathway near the Wastewater Resource Recovery Center (WWRRC). The City informed COMPASS that we will pursue completion of this project with local funds instead of Federal. There has been purchase and development action on the properties north of Five Mile Creek, west of the WWRRC. Additionally, ACHD has purchased a parcel to the south of the WWRRC. It appears that the bulk of this pathway will be constructed by these new owners as a condition of development. The City plans to invest in pedestrian crossings of the Nine Mile and Five Mile Drains to skirt the WWRRC and achieve continuity with existing McNelis Pathway along the Five Mile Drain.

South Meridian Neighborhood Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan: ACHD and several partners including the City have been working on developing a plan to help improve walking and bicycling routes in South Meridian neighborhoods. This plan is complementary to the City's Pathways Plan with more of an emphasis on on-street bike facilities. ACHD is seeking feedback here: <https://communityremarks.com/southmeridian/> Here is a link to the project site: [http://www.achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_program\\_south-meridian-neighborhood-bicycle-and-pedestrian-plan.aspx](http://www.achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_program_south-meridian-neighborhood-bicycle-and-pedestrian-plan.aspx)

*City Staff Contact: Miranda Carson, Community Development*

## **MDC / OTHER PROJECTS**

2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Broadway to Pine: **This project will be submitted to COMPASS for consideration of a Project Development Grant for \$25,000.** The vision for 2<sup>nd</sup> street was presented to stakeholders and the ACHD commission in separate meetings in January. Discussions are beginning on how to activate 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Downtown Meridian to be a community place. This project will be done in coordination with the Civic Block redevelopment.

*City Staff Contact: Miranda Carson, Community Development*

Harvest Lifestyle Service: A public transit service focusing on seniors and persons with disabilities has been operating since December 2016. This Lifestyle Service concept, which includes two service zones, was presented to the Council in July of 2016. The service is operated by Harvest Church. An enhancement to the City Budget for FY2019 was approved by the Council for a third Harvest van. The third van is operational.

*City Staff Contact: Miranda Carson, Community Development*

Transit: **A new Rides-to-Wellness service for Meridian Veterans to schedule rides to the VA Medical Center in Boise will launch on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.** VRT has won a grant for electric buses. Staff from the City and VRT are coordinating infrastructure, capital and service needs for a route from the Ten Mile Interchange area through downtown to The Village. The launch will likely be delayed closer to October 2021. The TC will be actively involved in developing outreach plan, stops/alignment, and other service considerations (i.e. – time of day operation,

amenities/shelters, etc.) (This route is part of the ValleyConnect 2.0 plan.)

*City Staff Contact: Miranda Carson, Community Development*

Ada County Transportation Action Plan: Ada County, working with consultant Kittelson & Associates, is kicking off the development of the Ada County Transportation Action Plan (TAP). The purpose of the TAP is for Ada County to identify a broad set of transportation policies, goals, and strategies for the unincorporated parts of Ada County. This project is in the earliest stage, and the City has been invited to participate in the process.

Eagle Road Bike/Ped Project Development: COMPASS has contracted with Keller Associates to further develop a bicycle and pedestrian plan for the corridor. The boundaries of the project are Overland and Chinden.

Shared Vehicles: The City does not currently have an RFP out. Meridian Downtown Business Association (MDBA) will monitor the climate and recommend back to the City when they believe micro mobility is appropriate. Bird has expressed an interest in opening operations in Meridian in 2021. CD staff suggested they speak with MDBA to gauge further interest.