



# MEMO TO TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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## Agenda Topic on the Transportation Commission Agenda

**From:** Miranda Carson, Coordination Planner      **Meeting Date:** August 2, 2021  
**Presenter:** Miranda Carson      **Estimated Time:** 10 minutes  
**Topic:** 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. Staff will be at the meeting to discuss some of these topics in more detail. Please feel free to contact staff should you have any comments, concerns, or questions on any of these projects. New information is in **bold**.

### KEY ACHD PROJECTS:

ACHD Integrated Five-Year Work Program: **The Draft 2022-2026 Integrated Five Year Work Plan comment period is now open through August 20<sup>th</sup>. The programmed projects are likely to change based on Commission direction on revenue. The ACHD budget adoption hearing is scheduled for August 25<sup>th</sup> after which changes will be made to the plan to reflect the revenue assumptions. The list of agency requests is attached.** 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: **A letter was sent in July 2021 to the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) Board requesting this project be included in the FY2022-2028 Draft Idaho Transportation Investment Program (ITIP).** An interagency Task Force has been established by the Mayor with the purpose of ensuring the Linder Overpass is realized. City Council approved a budget allocation of \$2.5 million dedicated to of building this critical overpass in April 2021. After a joint ACHD Commission and City Council meeting in October 2020, a joint letter of support was sent to the ITD 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: Work on the west side of Eagle Road is ongoing. Amity/Eagle is closed May 10<sup>th</sup> through early August. Zaldia roundabout is complete. 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. 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 a pedestrian crossing on Rome Dr. Design will be done with in-house, ACHD resources. 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: **Substantial completion. Intersection opened on June 19<sup>th</sup>.** 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: **Paving is nearly complete. Utility work ongoing. Concrete placements for curb, gutter and sidewalk are complete.** 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. **Here is the project website:** [https://www.achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_intersection\\_ustick-and-black-cat-intersection.aspx](https://www.achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_intersection_ustick-and-black-cat-intersection.aspx)

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: **Work began the week of July 23<sup>rd</sup>. ACHD reports they are working with the contractor to ensure that the work is completed prior to school.** Project has been bid with two other enhanced pedestrian crossing projects. Install enhanced pedestrian crossings at NW 8th St and Meridian Middle School.

Locust Grove Road, Victory to Overland: **The design has changed to include a multi-use path and at-grade side street crossings where the crosswalk is set back from Locust Grove Rd. The City sent a letter to the ACHD Commission in July requesting delay of any design/redesign with setback crossings until the Commission and City Council can have a joint discussion as to the reasoning of the design approach for pathways. The hawk signal will be moved from just south of Mastiff to north of Mastiff, between Mastiff and Puffin; despite City staff request, there is not a pedestrian refuge island currently**

**planned. ROW will now continue through FY 2022 and Construction will be in FY2023. The back of walk is the same as the original design except where the pathway swings out 25-ft at the public street intersections. Redesigned 95% plans should be received early August. Widen Locust Grove to 5 lanes with curb, gutter, multi-use pathway. 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: The design of the multi-use path connection with the roundabout is being revised. Redesigned 99% plans should be received in August or early September. The schedule has also changed. ROW will now continue through FY 2022 and Construction will be in FY2023.** Construct a multi-lane roundabout. 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: The design has changed to include a multi-use path and side street crossings where the crosswalk is set back. City staff expressed concerns to ACHD staff that this is not the design that was shared with the public during the open comment period.** 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, and multi-use pathway. 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: Design concept includes landscaped center medians. This design aspect is still under discussion, and it will be considered by City Council for cost share on August 10<sup>th</sup>.** Widen Eagle to 5 lanes with curb, gutter, sidewalk and a multi-use pathway. Includes a multi-lane 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. **Here is the project website:** [http://www.achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_road\\_eagle-lake-hazel-to-amity.aspx](http://www.achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_road_eagle-lake-hazel-to-amity.aspx)

*City Staff Contact: Miranda Carson, Community Development*

**Lake Hazel and Eagle Signal: The City sent a letter to the ACHD Commission in July requesting delay of any design/redesign with setback crossings until the Commission and City Council can have a joint discussion as to the reasoning of the design approach for pathways.** 95% design has been distributed to the project. 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: **This project was terminated by ACHD. Instead a more final full overhaul of the intersection under a larger project will likely be constructed in FY24 or FY25.**

*City Staff Contact: Brian McClure, Community Development*

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.

Ustick, Ten Mile to Linder: Project Team met on May 17<sup>th</sup> there was a discussion about Five-Mile Creek remaining open and design speed. Widen Ustick Rd to 5 lanes with curb, gutter, sidewalk and Level 3 bike facility from Ten Mile Rd to Linder Rd as per the 2020 CIP and the Bike Master Plan. Concept design will further clarify project scope. Design is planned for 2022. Construction is planned for 2025.

*City Staff Contact: Caleb Hood, Community Development*

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.

FY22 Arterial & Collector Capital Maintenance: 95% design was distributed to the project team. The two Meridian roadway segments are Victory Rd, Black Cat Rd To Ten Mile Rd & Amity Rd, Meridian Rd to Locust Grove Rd.

## 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: **All four lanes from Linder to Meridian are open. Motorists can expect periodic lane closures throughout the summer as crews continue work in the intersections and adjacent to the roadway. All work after July 8 will take place during off peak hours. Periodic flagger control at intersections is also anticipated in the evenings to complete stripping and landscaping. Locust Grove Road to Meridian is in the property acquisition negotiation phase. Construction is anticipated in 2022. All parties are committed to completing this work as soon as possible to achieve four uninterrupted lanes of traffic, two-in-each-direction, from Eagle to State Highway 16.**

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: **Construction of Phase 2 is funded and will begin in 2022. It is expected to take 2-3 years to complete. At this point, it is too early to know the location where ITD will begin construction. ITD is preparing construction plans and will work closely with the construction contractor(s) to complete the work as efficiently as possible. The “ultimate vision” will include interchanges with bridges over Franklin Road, Ustick Road, U.S. 20/26 and Idaho 44. ITD is beginning design of these interchanges. Once these interchanges are funded, ITD will begin construction as quickly as design plans are finished.** ITD is in the process of acquiring property now and anticipates this will continue through 2021. 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 has made interim improvements to restrict left turn movements from eastbound and westbound Calderwood onto SH69. ITD is studying options to improve safety, mobility and access on Idaho 69 between Kuna and Meridian. There is currently no funding identified in ITD’s seven-year budget for the SH-69 improvements. The current concept includes continuous flow intersections, median U-turn intersections, reduced conflict U-turn intersections, additional traffic lanes, and**

**bicycle and pedestrian facilities.** 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: **A draft list of projects has been posted for public comment. You can find more information on the plan and provide comments before August 4th here:**

[https://www.achdidaho.org/Projects/proj\\_program\\_south-meridian-neighborhood-bicycle-and-pedestrian-plan.aspx](https://www.achdidaho.org/Projects/proj_program_south-meridian-neighborhood-bicycle-and-pedestrian-plan.aspx) 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. 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 was 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: **The plan is currently open for comments until August 16<sup>th</sup>. You can find the information and survey here:** <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/1a2681632ba845c2b68e165945e053cb>. Ada County, working with consultant Kittelson & Associates, is creating 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. **Here is a link to the plan webpage:** <https://adacounty.id.gov/developmentservices/transportation-action-plan/>

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.